

Highlights

of the Sayville School District

OCTOBER 2005

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 21.3
<http://www.sayville.k12.ny.us>

NEWSWORTHY

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR Daniel Capurso "Commended Student"

Congratulations to Daniel J. Capurso who has been named a Commended student in the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program. About 34,000 Commended students throughout the nation have been recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended students have placed among the top five percent of more than one million students who entered the 2006 competition by taking the 2004 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Looking Ahead in November

Elmer Rice's Pulitzer Prize Winning "STREET SCENE"

Nov 2, 3, 4, & 5 IN HS AUDITORIUM
A Sayville Players High School drama club presentation that features over 40 high school students in a variety of ethnic roles.

•Wed & Thurs 7p.m. - \$6 general admission
•Fri & Sat - 8p.m. - \$7 students/\$8 adults
Senior citizens - free admission
with district gold card. Call 244-6600 during school hours for more information.

A CHILDREN'S BOOK SIGNING

BY ELIZABETH C. WHITEHOUSE
RETIRED SAYVILLE ASTRONOMY/EARTH SCIENCE TEACHER
Sponsored by Friends of Sayville Library
Nov 9th 4-5P.M. SAYVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
Reading and signing her first book, *Squinty, the Squirrel, a Pancake and the Moon*, Mrs. Whitehouse will also discuss how she became a writer. Books may be purchased.

SAYVILLE'S WSAY PRESENTS Internet Radio & How to Access It

Nov 29th 7P.M. HS AUDITORIUM
Residents are invited to a FREE
DEMONSTRATION on accessing
Internet Radio--particularly WSAY!
Run entirely by students of Sayville High School,
WSAY Internet Radio plays Jazz and Standards
from the 30's to Today! Guests will learn how
"to tune in" using a home computer.
Come enjoy music for all ages, cake,
coffee, and a chance to win a donated
\$25 gift certificate to Starbucks!

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY LOWERING THE TAX RATE from 5.68% to 4.15%

Great news! For a second consecutive year, Sayville School Board of Education was able to set the tax rate even lower than originally proposed at Budget time. This means the tax rate for Sayville residents for the 2005-2006 school year has been reduced from 5.68 percent to 4.15 percent!

Last year, Assistant Superintendent John J. Belmonte, along with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rosemary Jones and the School Board members, worked closely with State and County legislators and the Town of Islip Assessor to pass a bill that would cap the potential shift in the **Base Allocations**.^{*} Under the current law, Base Allocations could shift up to 5 percent between the Homestead and Nonhomestead properties. However, through special legislation last year and this year, Sayville District has effectively stabilized the shift between Homestead and Nonhomestead property values, and is passing the benefits directly to Sayville residents in the form of a reduced tax hike.

Residents might recall last spring, when the community voted to approve the School budget, the projected tax rate increase was set at 5.68 percent. Since it was the first time in twenty years that New York State had passed a budget on time, it allowed school districts statewide to provide real numbers when presenting their spending plans to the public. However, until the Town of Islip assesses the value of all properties in Sayville and provides the classifications as either Homestead (Residential) or Nonhomestead (Business), the final tax levy to residents cannot be disclosed. School Districts usually receive this information sometime in August and prepare to set the tax rate prior to October 1st.

Sayville School District wants to assure our residents that we understand the difficulty of the fiscal climate and its impact on the economy. We are listening to you who continue to express your concerns, and we are dedicated to offering our children the best education. We can succeed only with community support. Join us at our monthly Board meetings and stay informed.

*What are Base Allocations?

They are the ratio or proportion of Homestead (Residential) and Nonhomestead (Business) values, called the "Base Property Tax Allocation." This is only one part of the formula for setting the tax rate. These values change annually based upon such things as the number of homes sold, new homes built, and developed properties throughout the year.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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



BOARD NOTES

AT THE OCTOBER 20TH BOARD MEETING:

STUDENT RECOGNITION was given to the following All-State Musicians for the 2005-2006 school year:

Gillian Bialer, Katherine Buono, Trevor Caverly, Katherine Donals, Conrad Jones, Kara Mason, Matthew Rivera, Garrett Fujarski, Alyssa Sciarrino

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

1. Tax Rate
2. Internet Safety
3. School Improvement Plan
4. Superintendent's Conference Day
5. District Website
6. School Accountability Report - Dr. Sullivan Keck
7. New Programs - Dr. Sullivan Keck

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION:

1. Building Visitation Reports
2. Fiscal Oversight Training Report
3. Wellness Committee Report
4. Policies
 - School Volunteers
 - Homeless Children
 - Code of Conduct

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov. 2-5 "Street Scene" Sayville Players
Drama Club, HS auditorium
- Nov. 3 Board of Education Workshop,
7pm, Admin Building
- Nov. 8 Superintendent's Conference Day -
Schools closed for students
- Nov. 10 Board of Education Meeting, 8pm,
Admin Building
- Nov. 11 Veterans Day - Schools closed
- Nov. 21 Summit on Cyber Bullying (TBA)
- Nov. 29 WSAY presents FREE
DEMONSTRATION on "Internet
Radio and How to Access It," 8pm,
HS Auditorium

Superintendent's Roundtable

A Meeting of Minds

Boardroom chairs had to be set up in rows, not circles, to accommodate the sizeable attendance at this year's first Superintendent's Roundtable discussion. Parents who wanted to know "*What's Really Going On After School Hours?*" came to listen, to question, and to comprehend the truth about "student life" after the school day ends.

As a way of improving communication, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rosemary Jones began scheduling Superintendent's Roundtables in 2004 to discuss timely topics that would interest parents. "We organize each program," Dr. Jones explained, "so parents, staff, and others can share insights in ways that help all of us fulfill our roles as members of 'Team Sayville'.... We will change timely topics and locations for each session, but every Superintendent's Roundtable will have four basic objectives in common: Meeting the Board of Education's goals; *Sharing expertise about a timely topic; Fulfilling our roles; and Helping all our children learn well and stay safe, so they can graduate and fully participate in civic and private life.*"

At the first Roundtable of this school year, a discussion panel comprised of Dr. Rosemary Jones, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Dr. Geri Sullivan Keck, along with High School Principal Joseph Buderman, Dr. Jen Doddato, Psychologist, Elizabeth Quilan, C.S.W., Shawn Foster, C.S.W., and Consultant Robert Richin addressed the sensitive topics. Questions were initially submitted anonymously via PostIt notes, but as the discussion developed, raised hands from the audience were also recognized.

This Superintendent's Roundtable was the beginning of a serious dialogue for staff and parents who shared concerns about underage drinking, drug abuse, vandalism, risky behaviors, gathering places, and the general climate of unrest or indifference that has caused social disorder among our youth.

While there are no simple solutions, the Roundtable offered the first step in the right direction by creating an active network of communication between educators, parents, and community members. The next Superintendent's Roundtable is scheduled for January 24th, 2006. For more details check, the Sayville Website, Sayville District *Highlights*, or notices that will be sent home.

Keeping you posted About Sayville's new Web Page

Web-savvy residents have already noticed. The Sayville School District Website has a brand new look. Launching a revitalized Web page has been the result of a Board of Education-approved joint venture between Sayville School District Administrators, the Technology Department, and the Web company **Schoolworld.com**. In addition, a website construction subcommittee solicited parent input on how an improved site could meet the needs of the community.

Now, the new District Website (sayville.k12.ny.us) is in the process of uploading pertinent information to include school news, calendar events, student artwork, lunch menus, homework postings, and much more. Information that had been on the previous web is still available, but the new features that are currently in the works will include a *dynamic* events

calendar, school forms and dance permission slips, Board of Education meeting Agendas and Minutes, school supply lists, District handbooks (programs of studies, athletic handbook), as well as Guidance Department forms and applications.

"For quite a while now," Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rosemary Jones admitted, "we've had this goal to create an attractive District web page that would reflect the District's vision for its students and capture the positive spirit of the community. We believe this newly improved Website will become the effective communication tool we have needed in Sayville schools, and also be easy to navigate." Sayville Technology Department Chairman Mike Taber added, "The best part of this new Website is that it allows for a select team of District Web personnel to update the site information in a more timely manner."

So, check out the web. Make Sayville School District's Website a favorite and keep yourself posted.

Finding Common Grounds in a Coffee House

In its planning stage, it was merely called the “coffee house,” a modest name for an ambitious Sayville School District endeavor—a faculty-supervised after-school activities center that would be attractive to Sayville High School students. The idea was to provide a safe place for students to play board and card games, listen to live music performed by their classmates, schedule poetry readings, utilize the computer Café, and enjoy foosball and “theme days.”

The project’s growth from seed to fruition was exponential, thanks to the vision of Superintendent Dr. Rosemary Jones, the support of the Sayville Board of Education, and the involvement of many key players, especially Pupil Personnel Director Stephanie Lamanno, who assumed the responsibilities of Project Coordinator. A schoolwide naming contest at the High School produced the winning appellation, *The Common Grounds*; the coffee house was no longer just a concept.

Originally, *The Common Grounds* was located in a classroom of the renovated Sayville Educational Facility, (formerly known as the High School/Old Junior High, and most recently the building has become the Sayville campus of Suffolk County Community College). Transforming the room from drab to fab was the result of many hands. Students selected the color scheme and décor theme, while art students designed and

Painted the wall mural. Enlisting the help of a High School Staff Advisory Board and with Buildings and Grounds cooperation, the space received a design-on-a-dime makeover. The refreshment cart, built by students in a Materials Processing class, was stocked by the Food and Nutrition Department with brewed coffee, tea, fruit juices, soft drinks, and



cookies. Coordinators for the program, Tammy Sinishtaj and Susan Censoplano, organized a student committee to work on themes, solicit student performers, and appoint a coffee house manager. Last year’s attendance indicated a successful launch. Twenty percent of the High School student body attended at least one time last year and this number is expected to rise.

However, when Suffolk County Community College recently leased the classrooms from Sayville District to create its Sayville Campus, *The Common Grounds* had to find a new home in a different section of the building. Once again, art students, under the guidance of art teacher Mr. Evan Hammer,

pooled their talents to recreate the attractive ambience.

Celebrating its Grand Reopening on October 27th, *The Common Grounds* will be open from 4-7 p.m. on Thursdays, and now with the new Sayville Website, special events will be posted on a link. This unique collaboration within the Sayville School District is helping High School students find common grounds in a coffee house.



Marie Amella-Pesko WLIW TV 55 Teacher of the Week



Eighth-grade English teacher Mrs. Marie Amella-Pesko was recently recognized as Long Island Teacher of the Week by WLIW TV 55 for her significant educational contributions both within and outside the classroom. Nominated by Middle School Principal Dr. Walt Schartner, Mrs. Amella-Pesko has proven to be a teacher who reaches. Volunteering to teach inclusion classes, “Mrs. Amella-Pesko has the ability to challenge the brightest students,” Dr. Schartner explained, “while meeting the needs of her special needs students through differentiated instruction.”

As a member of the excellent Middle

School English Department, Mrs. Amella-Pesko shared the credit for the Eighth-grade students’ top performance in Suffolk County on the NYS Intermediate English and Language Arts exam last year, which put Sayville among the best on Long Island (27 percent of our Sayville Middle School English students achieved the highest score of 4).

In addition to teaching regular Eighth-grade curriculum, Mrs. Amella-Pesko had her students participate in the *Newsday Kidsday* program, for which they wrote over eighteen articles published in the newspaper last year. Through the *Kidsday* program, her students expanded their academic horizons and applied the skills they acquired in the classroom to do celebrity interviews; write restaurant, movie and theater reviews; compose editorials, and create other media-related projects. To accomplish some of these assignments with her students, Mrs. Amella-Pesko was required to spend evenings or weekends supervising the travel and research. As part of the summer-school instructional and enrichment offerings, Mrs. Amella-Pesko motivated her students, including those in need of writing

support, to write articles for *Kidsday*. The joint venture was a huge success which boosted the confidence of all her students.

Among the school activities outside her classroom, Mrs. Amella-Pesko helps the self-contained special-needs students run the school store, use the cash register, and make change. She serves as chaperone for most school dances, helps organize the Frost Valley trips for the entire Eighth grade, and designs activities about which the students can reflect and write while on the trip. Mrs. Amella-Pesko also coordinates the decorations for the Eighth-grade semiformal dance. Off campus, Mrs. Amella-Pesko has organized the Cherry Avenue Elementary School Talent Show for many years and has run the Christmas Wrestling Tournament at Sayville High School.

Summarizing why he nominated her for Teacher of the Week, Dr. Schartner acknowledged that Marie Amella-Pesko makes Sayville Middle School “a better place for students. She challenges them academically while giving them a sense of community.” Congratulations, Mrs. Amella-Pesko!

Highlights

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Homecoming Major Cities In Sight



(Above and right) Freshman Class Hollywood skit and float



(Top middle and above right) Sophomore Class New Orleans float and skit.

Sayville Homecoming this year offered major "city sights" in a parade that floated down Main Street.

Once again, the Sayville Rotary Club hosted and judged the pageantry that began with the marching Middle School Band, followed by Sayville Football Mothers, as well as the SHS and SMS cheerleaders. In the procession to the High School football field, each class float depicted popular aspects of such cities as Hollywood, New Orleans, Las Vegas, and New York.

With an enthusiastic hurray for Hollywood, the Freshmen offered celebrity

personalities such as Jennifer Aniston, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis, and Hugh Hefner aboard their float and in their presentation. Although last spring the Sophomores had chosen the city of New Orleans as their "theme" city, they revised their original

REPRESENTING THE HOMECOMING COURTS

Freshmen: Hillary Higgins, Lauren Mulry, Jordan Stankovich, & Janice Banning

Sophomores: Dan Carlise-King, Melissa Connor-Queen, Kayleigh Holloway, Clarissa Maurelis, & Brian Wayne

Juniors: Zachari Gallo-King, Kristen Guadagni-Queen, Dan Moglia, Elliot Yates, Stephanie Rossi, & Lauren Boucher

Seniors: Sean Ryan-King, Jackie Kucera-Queen, Phil Petratos, Colleen Fitzpatrick, Verconica Guzik, & John Barrett

concept by collecting for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and by turning their New Orleans Mardi Gras float and skit into a savory "cajun" recipe of hope and reconstruction. Juniors went wild with Playing Cards, an Elvis impersonator, and show girls, gambling their dance routine and display of school spirit would be their lucky number. However, the New York moxi of the Senior float and comic skit, that included a Santa Imposter carrying off a Rockette, proved that loving "Nuw Yawk" was the winning combination. Sayville High School thanks the Rotary Club and the judges for all their efforts, including rendering such a tough decision.



(Left, clockwise) Senior Class New York skit, float, and (insert) Radio City Rockettes;



(Left and below) Junior Class Las Vegas skit and float.



WHAT IS SO GREAT about those GREAT DEBATES?

Excited their opinions could finally be heard, Middle School students in Jean Galima's *Communication Skills* and Jeanette Ainslie's *Current Issues* classes held a Great Debate in the school library and clashed intellectually and concisely on the following three topics.

1. **There should be a weight limit for the backpacks that students must carry.**
2. **Lockers should be larger so that kids can fit all their things in them.**
3. **There should be a community curfew requiring all individuals under the age of 18 to be in their homes by 10p.m.**

Using an ergonomically designed backpack and a scale, some students took a stand for a weight limit. In another demonstration about locker sizes, both sides created cardboard props to demonstrate the appropriateness of their arguments. Students discussed urban and rural areas throughout the United States, and how their communities are affected by mandated curfews. Watching these students present their well-argued debates, the small audience that included Principal Dr. Schartner, Assistant Principal John Amato, instructors, and library staff recognized the enormous pride the students had taken in preparing for their Great Debate.

It started as a simple idea several weeks earlier. Motivated to discuss issues that concerned them, the Middle School students in both *Communication Skills* and *Current Issues* classes were encouraged to hold a debate. Each class compiled ideas and examined which topics might allow for opinion-based discussions, thanks to the assistance of Middle School Librarian Pamela Rooney, who guided the research groups. Although some students were at first undecided about certain issues, they were eventually able to state a position after hearing others or reviewing research. While fine-tuning their subjects, the students practiced persuasive techniques, learned "active listening and appreciative listening" skills, the importance of body language, articulation, and word usage, and determined if props and examples



might support their positions on certain matters.

Exhibiting different skills for various tasks, some students showed more confidence as speakers and some were more capable of evaluating the performance of the speakers to determine the effectiveness of their arguments. Others were excellent at researching or designing the props. By finding a special talent, each student was able to make a significant contribution to the overall debate process.

At the Great Debate, their research paid off. The students held engaging debates in a polite atmosphere. Each topic was discussed with due seriousness, assisted by appropriate visual aids, and then evaluated by a panel of peer listeners who remarked on the qualities and persuasiveness of each position.

As Mrs. Galima and Mrs. Ainslie anticipated, the Great Debates were great for many reasons:

- **Students gained practice in cooperating with their classmates and respecting each other's ideas and opinions;**
- **Students explored the interpretations of a text;**
- **Students gained ease in speaking with others; defending their points of views logically, and putting forth ideas in a persuasive manner;**
- **Students saw the benefits of planning, utilizing self-directed questions, and applying the strategies of integrating text with experience and prior knowledge;**
- **Students conducted self-checks on speech preparation and evaluated their efforts, concentrating on the positive aspects—with constructive criticism only.**

While the student evaluations concluded: There *should* be a weight limit for backpacks; lockers *should* be larger; and there *should not* be a curfew, perhaps the biggest and most important lesson the students derived from the Great Debates was the realization that problems do not always have a clear right or wrong solution.

SSBAB Up and Running



Hurricane relief through the Salvation Army, the Costa Rica Experience for AP High School students, and honoring Workforce Builders were three topics presented at the first Sayville School Business Advisory Board (SSBAB) meeting of the academic year.

Guest speaker Paul Vincent discussed how the Salvation Army assists those in need locally and globally, such as the recent victims of natural disasters. On a happier note, Sayville Science Teacher Maria Brown showed slides of the Costa Rican research experiences of AP students who traveled abroad during February break last year. In addition, the SSBAB honored the following businesses for their exceptional involvement in the various SSBAB activities last year.

Able to Aviation
Albrecht, Viggiano,
Zurek & Company
Citibank
Dr. James DiNovis
Islip Tutoring
KeySpan Energy

LI Sports &
Rehabilitation Center
Prudential Douglas
Elliman Realty
Syntax Communication
The Sayville Inn
Typing Unlimited

Now beginning its seventh year, the SSBAB continues to make school-to-business connections by introducing the future workforce (Elementary and Secondary students) to internships, career chats, and field trips. Thanks to the assistance of committee members and through the diligence of Cochairs Ellen Potere (Sayville High School Business teacher) and Joanne Sturchio (Prudential Douglas Elliman Realtor), the Sayville School Business Advisory Board is up and running toward another successful year. If you wish to offer your assistance to this worthwhile board, contact Ellen at 244-6639 or Joanne at 589-8500 x236.

The Cherry Avenue

Great Pumpkin

It always proves true; the generosity of our Cherry Avenue families is above and beyond excellence. Last month, Sayville elementary schools adopted a school in Louisiana that had been hit hard by Hurricane Katrina. Since that time, the Cherry Avenue community has responded enthusiastically by collecting school supplies, clothing items, and backpacks. Everyone realized the importance of quickly getting these supplies to the school so that the students can continue learning and growing, but shipping costs were causing a roadblock. Through a joint effort with the faculty and PTA, Cherry Avenue has developed a way to fund the shipping of these items. "We proudly present the Cherry Avenue Great Pumpkin!"

Displayed in the main lobby, the Great Pumpkin has been donated by Ms. Melinda Moran, a Fourth-grade teacher at Cherry

Avenue. Students will have the opportunity to take photos with the pumpkin for a \$1 donation. But wait, it gets better! Each class will make a set of eyes, noses, and mouths to put on the pumpkin for the photo. In addition, children can donate another dollar to guess the weight of our giant friend and win a bag of treats. Finally, the Great Pumpkin will go home with the lucky winner of this raffle that was aimed at giving it a place to call home.

The PTA has been working hard with the faculty to create and complete this unique project. Mrs. Denise Wolmart and Mrs. Kathy Pelletier of the PTA board created the photo studio and are the Great Pumpkin photographers. Everyone at Cherry has rallied around this cause and made a new "friend" in the process. Thanks, Great Pumpkin!!

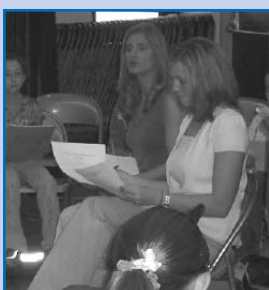


Logging in

with Lincoln

Students at each of the three Sayville Elementary Schools are assisting victims of Hurricane Katrina in a joint effort. Clothing and school supplies were collected and shipped to Greenbrier Elementary School in Baton Rouge, where hundreds of children of New Orleans have been displaced. To the students living in shelters, our Sayville students provided maroon shirts, and navy blue pants/shorts which are now serving as Greenbrier's newly adopted school uniform. In addition, our staff

members donated over \$1,700 dollars to assist in the purchasing of desperately needed washers and driers. Lincoln Avenue students Joseph Panzarino, John Reiss, Jack Weisheit, John Tama, and Ryan MacDonnell were proud to assist their mothers in packing up the collected items. The elementary principals would like to thank the community

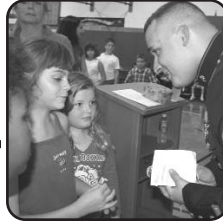


Meet the Senators Student "senators" are sworn into office at Lincoln Avenue's first student government meeting of the year. Led by teacher and Site-Based Team Member Mrs. Christine Longobardi, students learn responsibility and leadership through a variety of service projects that benefit their school and community.



PTA parents Lori Hess and Ginny Sullivan prepared for Lincoln Avenue's annual Fall Harvest, held on a beautiful Saturday this year. Many Lincoln families visited the Fall Harvest, an event that benefits the Lincoln Avenue Scholarship fund. Each year, two graduating seniors receive this award.

Sunrise Drive CARE-PACKAGE CAMPAIGN YIELDS A HAPPY RETURN



"I would like to say thank you for the numerous care packages that you have sent to us," Sgt. David Kaye had written in his letter this past May to the children in Sunrise Drive Elementary School. All last year, Sunrise Drive Social Worker Mrs. Toni Fabian, along with Teacher Mrs. Christine Engelbert and her Third-grade class, organized a schoolwide appeal that kept a continuous flow of cookies, candies, books, magazines, treats, cards, letters, drawings, even phone cards (more than 90 packages worth of supplies) for troops in Iraq. "In every package, we received a little taste of home," Sgt. Kaye had continued in his letter, "I can assure you that a *little taste* means the world to us. We are all touched by the support that you have extended to us. We are honored to serve you."

Recently, while on leave from his duty, Massapequa Park native Sgt. David Kaye, USMC, paid a very special visit to Sunrise Drive Elementary School. Representing his troop of 150 men in Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, a part of the 2nd Marine Division, Sgt. David Kaye gave a plaque to Sunrise Drive in gratitude for the school's support during their service in Fallujah, Iraq. "We have been touched by your generosity and support."

In person, Sgt. Kaye was a very impressive, extremely engaging man. Sporting his full dress Marine uniform, despite the sweltering humid day, Sgt. Kaye spoke at length and with great ease to all the students convened in the Sunrise Drive gym. The son of an educator, Sgt. Kaye knew how to encourage questions and converse age-appropriately with the children.

Flagging his attention, many eager hands were raised for questions. Asked

if he flies a helicopter or drives a tank, Sgt. Kaye answered "No, I am not licensed to use such equipment, but I have ridden in them." "WOW!" the students replied. Some asked him to explain his medals on his uniform. Most children wanted to know what it was like to be in the military, especially during a time of war. "War is a bad thing," he explained, "but there are bad people." When Sgt. Kaye told the students that he must carry 50-70 lbs of gear on his back while on duty, Principal Castello interjected, "the weight of a Third-grader!" To demonstrate this better, Sgt. Kaye easily lifted one of the many Third-graders who volunteered their services.

After the assembly, Sgt. Kaye made time to visit the older grades. His presence among the students made the idea of personal sacrifice and duty to one's country a reality. It was difficult saying goodbye to USMC Sgt. Kaye, but the students have become even more motivated to continue with their schoolwide care package program. Mrs. Faibian added that "Sgt. Kaye is just one of the many soldiers who received and acknowledged their appreciation for the care packages sent by our Sunrise Drive students."



Construction Update at Sunrise

Sunrise Drive's construction project—to build a much-needed larger cafeteria/auditorium—is well underway. Since school doors closed in June, the old cramped cafeteria and stage were demolished and the previously inadequate parking lot was expanded with 68 additional spaces. Already the foundation and slab have been poured and the steel girders have framed the new structure.

So far, this construction project has progressed with minimal disruption to the students and staff. Solid cinderblock walls divide the school side from the construction site. Both the former teachers lounge and adjacent rooms have become the temporary cafeteria. Additional lunch periods have been added to the day's schedule. One unexpected benefit: students and staff have noticed the noise volume has diminished during these smaller lunch groups.

What's ahead? The finished cafeteria/auditorium is expected to be completed and ready for students in September 2006. Most importantly, funding for this long-overdue project was made possible by the responsible fiscal management of the voter-approved bond referendum.

Save that Date!
November 21st
for a
SUMMIT on CYBER BULLYING.
Watch for flyers and check the Website for information and details.

Making another Fundraising Difference

Sunrise Drive student-driven initiative holds successful Car Wash Fundraiser

On their own initiative, the following children organized a car wash that raised \$200 for the Greenbrier Elementary School.

Adam Blandeburgo
Lyle Davison
Drake Davison
Rowan Davison
Joseph Fallica
Emily Fox
Everett Fox

Elizabeth Fox
Ashley Lavacca
Kelly McElroy
Eliot Simon
Katie VanDorn
George VanDorn



Highlights

SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
Linda A. Mittiga,
Producer, Writer, Editor, Designer
Past Winner of NYSPRA Awards

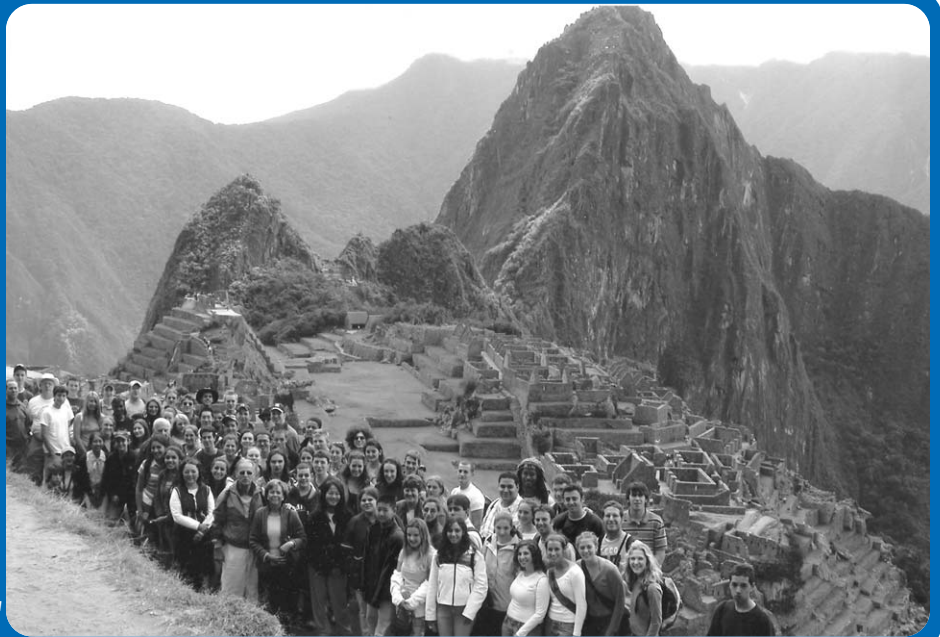
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SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

99 Greeley Avenue School Tax Code 566
Sayville, New York 11782
Dr. Rosemary F. Jones, Superintendent of Schools

****ECRWSS****
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Sayville's Music Ambassadors

This summer, three Sayville students, Trevor Caverly, Melanie Gudesblatt, and Jennifer Hasselriis departed on a four-and-a-half week tour of Latin America with the Long Island Youth Orchestra. Countries they visited included Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. For the past 35 years, the Long Island Youth Orchestra has toured with many of Long Island's finest student musicians. There is virtually no part of the globe where LIYO has not performed, bringing a symphony orchestra to many areas which had never seen one. Congratulations to these musical ambassadors.



Long Island Youth Orchestra
at Machu Picchu in Peru

Recognizing Sayville's NYSSMA students

Among the thousands of students who auditioned last spring at various solo and ensemble festivals throughout the state, the following Sayville students were selected to represent Sayville at the 2005 NYSSMA All-State Conference, to be held in Rochester, New York this December. Appearing in the photo with Mr. Bernstein are:

Gillian Bialer - Soprano
Katherine Buono - Soprano
Trevor Caverly - Violoncello
Katherine Donals - Alto, Jazz
Alto Voice
Gary Fusarski - Jazz Bass Voice

Conrad Jones - Trumpet, Jazz
Trumpet
Kara Mason - Soprano
Matthew Rivera - Jazz Baritone
Saxophone, Alto Saxophone
Alyssa Sciarrino - Violoncello



Congratulations also to the Sayville Music Students listed below who will be performing in the NYSCAME (New York State Council of Administrators of Music Education) Area All-County Grades 11-12 Concert on November 18th, 2005, Hauppauge High School, 8 p.m.

NYSCAME ALL-COUNTY BAND



Daniel Capurso/Tenor Saxophone;
Michael Cashman/Alto Saxophone; Cathleen Cook/Flute;
Conrad Jones/Trumpet; Michelle Quirk/Clarinet;
Matthew Rivera/Alto Saxophone; Jimmy Webber/Trumpet

NYSCAME ALL-COUNTY CHORUS



Gillian Bialer/Soprano; Lauren Bilich/Soprano;
Katherine Buono/Soprano; Michael Cashman/Tenor;
Katie Donals/Alto; Jeffrey Manno/Tenor;
Kara Mason/Soprano; James O'Connor/Bass

NYSCAME ALL-COUNTY ORCHESTRA



Trevor Caverly/Cello;
Marissa Green/Violin; Daniel Hahn/Cello;
Mike Saltzman/Trumpet;
Alyssa Sciarrino/Cello