



# LEAN

## CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"*

December 2008-January 2009

Volume 5, Issue 3



## OMS celebrates Red Ribbon Week

At the end of October, OMS celebrated Red Ribbon Week. The week-long drug-free celebration culminated with competitions between 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams. In the gymnasium as a school assembly, teams competed in wheel barrel races, scooter races, cup stacking relay races, and a tug of war.

The Gray Team (8<sup>th</sup> grade) placed first with the Purple team (8<sup>th</sup> grade) in second. It came down to the tug of war, the last event, for the second year in a row to determine the winners for this year Red Ribbon Competition. For their efforts the Gray team won a healthy party. The Gray Team also won the hallway decoration this year. This makes the Gray team undefeated two years in a row!

Mr. Shoup, the coordinator for the Red Ribbon Week stated, "The most important goal for this week was to show kids that 'We Can Have Fun Without Drugs.'" We believe we accomplished that goal. Mr. Shoup again thanks the team teachers, Ms. Soplop, and Mrs. Mohagen for all their help to make the Red Ribbon a success at the Middle School level. It takes everyone's efforts to make this program a success.



### Safety reminder: No parking in OMS bus lane

This is a reminder that there is **NO PARKING** allowed in the OMS Bus Lane at anytime. This includes off school hours and weekends. It is imperative this lane is kept traffic free for buses and emergency vehicles only. All violators will be ticketed and/or towed at their own expense. Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to make student safety our top priority.

**NO  
PARKING**

## Message from the Superintendent

# Partnering to develop career opportunities

By Colleen Taggerty,  
Superintendent

Our region has formed a coalition to secure the economic vitality of the Western Southern Tier through a well prepared workforce. The overarching goal of the Industry – Academic Partnership is “to assure that Western Southern Tier students graduate with the skills, knowledge and habits of mind that will allow them to contribute to the growth of the regional economy in the face of a globally competitive and rapidly changing world.”

In support of the formation of this coalition, I cite the work of Tony Wagner, author and researcher. He has researched the needed skill and knowledge sets needed for our students to be successful in a global market economy. He explains that we have entered an “information-age world,” and it is the school’s job to make sure students have these skills before graduation. Taken from his book; *The Global Achievement Gap: Why Even Our Best Schools Don’t Teach the New Survival Skills Our Children Need--And What We Can Do About It* ©2008, are the seven areas he deems to be the “survival skills” all students need to know and be able to do; problem-solving and critical thinking; collaboration across networks and leading by influence; agility and adaptability; initiative and entrepreneurship; effective written and oral communication; accessing and analyzing information; and curiosity and imagination.

While one might argue more skill sets are needed, it has become apparent that our students, along with the basics, need to know how to think through problems using fully developed critical thinking and reasoning skills. As educators, we must begin to integrate the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills into all of our content areas. This type of teaching and learning will not only promote student engagement, it will enable our students to develop skill sets that will prepare them for a world market that they have yet to encounter. According to Wagner, “Students of this generation are not unmotivated; they’re just differently motivated.” “They’re multi-taskers, they are drawn to graphics, they like instant gratification, they use Web 2.0 tools

to create, and they love collaboration,” he said. “If we can figure out how to grab their interest in learning, they’ll become great thinkers and be eager to learn the basics.”

Manufacturing and Pre-engineering programs are currently being offered through BOCES and our local colleges, along with Project Lead The Way (a pre-engineering program) offered at Olean High School and BOCES. The focus of the coalition is to add machining and welding, across a tri-county region, to the available program offerings.

As we look to adjust how we teach and what we teach, we also look to develop career path options for all of our learners. Collectively our local colleges, businesses, industries and community agencies are telling us that we need to develop a skilled labor market in the area of Manufacturing Technology and Engineering. In response to this plea, the Olean City School District, Allegany-Limestone Central School District and BOCES have joined forces with our local Community, Business and Industry partners to develop programs that will lead our learners into a career path of need. A career path that emphasizes the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills that Wagner defines as “survival skills” for today and tomorrow’s learners.

To help meet this goal, the coalition organized itself to develop a project that introduces our students to careers in manufacturing as a viable career choice. The project will work with 5<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> graders to give them industry tours, and career exploration activities. Additionally, the math and science curriculum will be emphasized, to give them the necessary skills for these careers. Our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders will be given the opportunity to go to BOCES to work towards a Certificate or Associates Degree in Pre-Engineering, Machine Tool Technology, or Welding. We believe this will educate them about the many career options in manufacturing. The project will have the additional benefit of providing industry with local talent to fill these jobs as their employees retire. The coalition is an excellent example of how the public and private sectors can cooperate to help meet local needs – to the benefit our students, school districts, businesses, and region.

## UNICEF drive is most successful ever!



In a combined effort, the Olean City School District, was able to raise over \$1,300 this year for UNICEF. The fifth-grade classes in the district raised \$418.73, the Olean High School Homeroom collection was \$266.88, and the OHS MUN neighborhood collections totaled \$670.63 ... way to go everyone!

Special recognition to the following: Best effort, overall to Ms. Matejka’s fifth-grade class with only 11 students who contributed \$117.02 to the fund; A special congratulations to Mr. Phillip’s homeroom

who collected the most in the high school homeroom competition; and congratulations to Matte Witte, Mike Witte, Elina Babar and Kara Frisina who raised the most money in the neighborhood collection. A special thank you goes out to Reed McElfresh, our 2008 UNICEF Chairperson, who did an outstanding job organizing the drive and counting the proceeds, as well as to Michael Liu, UN Treasurer and all his “helpers.” Thank you to everyone who participated and/or contributed to this worth cause.



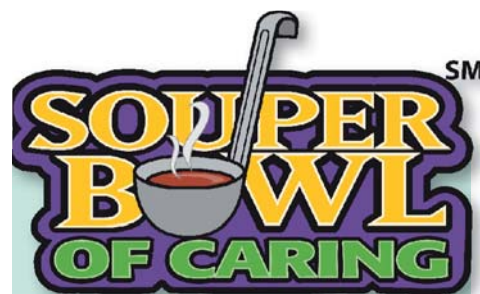


Student Activities Council members donated proceeds from the Homeless Huskies event to the Genesis House (above) and The Warming House (below).

## Homeless Huskies carry on giving tradition

Olean High School's "Homeless Huskies" took place on November 14, 2008. Approximately 150 students participated in this overnight event. The weather remained good until about 3 a.m., when it started to rain for the remainder of the event. The students were able to raise over \$6,200 in donations from local businesses and residents. These donations were then split between the Warming House and Genesis House, presented to each by the School's Student Activities Council.

Student participants that were involved in the activity created boxes to live in for the night, ranging from castles to log cabins, and were awarded prizes based on creativity. The top student fund raisers also received prizes from local area businesses. All the students and teachers involved received a Homeless Huskies T-shirt; and in the wee hours of the morning, doughnuts, hot cocoa, and apple cider were served. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this worthwhile event!



## 'Souper Bowl' looking for a touchdown

OHS senior Annie Skrobacz will once again chair the OCSD Souper Bowl Food Drive in conjunction with the National Souper Bowl Foundation. The drive takes place January 26-30, with all proceeds benefiting the Olean Food Pantry.

All OCSD and parochial elementary students will receive reminder bracelets from their teachers the week of January 19. When students arrive at home, parents are asked to discuss the Souper Bowl of Caring with their children. Children and their families need to know that every dollar collected, every can of food, and every non-perishable item is given to Olean families.

During the "Souper Bowl Week," all OCSD students, Southern Tier Catholic and Archbishop Walsh students are asked to donate canned foods and other non-perishables to the drive. PreK-5 classes will compete against each other, and the classes with the largest number of donations will win a pizza party donated by Seasons Card Store in the Olean Center Mall. District employees will have the opportunity to donate money and dress down during Souper Bowl Week.

Annie hopes to top last year's collection of over 5,000 non-perishables and \$500 given to the Olean Food Pantry.

"I am excited to get the OCSD Souper Bowl collection underway. This is a wonderful way for many of us to give back to our community. I am hopeful that we will be able to donate more to the Olean Food Pantry during this very difficult time in people's lives who live in our community," Annie concluded.



## OHS MUSIC NEWS

### **NYSSMA Conference:**

Congratulations to Christa Nianiatius and Carleigh Spiller who were chosen to represent Olean High School at the NYSSMA All State Convention on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Rochester Convention Center. Our own Ms. Jennifer Rhody accompanied the girls and said, "the performance was spectacular. The level of talent was amazing, and the bar of excellence was raised and these girls jumped over it!" According to Nianiatius, who qualified for this honor with her score of 100% at solofest for singing *Qui sedes*, a Latin piece by Vivaldi, "while we sometimes worked for several hours straight, it was a lot of fun to work with and meet new people who love music as much as I do."

### **Thankful for the Music:**

Olean High school orchestra students made Thanksgiving dinner special this season when they volunteered their time and talent to perform at the community Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Olean High School. These students dedicated numerous hours of practice, rehearsing everyday after school and arriving early in the morning on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to prepare for this performance. Thumbs Up to Michael Liu, Samantha Armstrong, Brady Gaynor – violins; Lil Kiffer, Kasey Boutwell – violas.

These students as well as Callahan McBride also performed for "Toys for Tots" another worthwhile cause, at the Olean Tops on Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup>, and at the Olean Center Mall.

# Foundation brings ideas to life

Dear Friends of Olean High School,

Great ideas supporting the education of Olean students immensely influence their growth. The Olean City School District Foundation (OCSDF) continues to help bring new ideas to life. The foundation provides funds and in-kind donations to support great ideas through a grants program. Through our mission, we can promote excellence in education by recognizing students for scholastic achievement, encouraging teachers to take innovative approaches to public education, and fostering community service. The Foundation's Board of Directors thought it appropriate to update you on the impact the foundation has made on the school and the community. Below are highlights of what the foundation was able to accomplish for the school year 2007-2008.

### **RENOVATION PROJECT**

The Olean City School District and the Olean City School District Foundation undertook a \$33,000 renovation project to upgrade the grounds and façade of Olean High School. The project included: cleaning of the school's sandstone base, removal of existing plants, lighting the pillars across the front of the building, renovation of the Marshall Eade fountain, addition of a brick plaza with picnic tables, benches, lamp posts, urns, new trees and shrubs. OCSDF assisted by selling bricks that were used to create a new OHS front plaza while also funding the other improvements. This gave the community and alumni an opportunity to support the project without use of taxpayer money.

### **GRANTS**

The Foundation was able to fund three grants: Games Grant; DDR Grant; and a Trailblazers Grant.

**The Game Grant** -- The grant provided funds for the purchase of board games that were purchased locally. Students are able to sign out games to bring home. The games will also be used at elementary family fun nights. The grant enhances family -- school relations and peer interactions. Students will spend quality time with their family as well as interact with others in the school community.

**DDR Grant** -- The grant provided funds to purchase a hardware system, the game, eight pads and four heart monitors. The grant will use technology to introduce students to the dance unit by providing a motivational and exciting experience to engage the students. The students will also discuss healthy heart rates by using the heart monitors.

**Trailblazers Grant** -- The grant exposed students in grades 10th and 11th to enrichment level experiences in the curriculum content areas of U.S. and World political and cultural events. The 40 students went on a field trip to Jamestown NY and visited the Robert H. Jackson Center and the Lucille Ball Museum and Playhouse. The students were then asked to complete enrichment projects based on the tour.

### **EVENTS**

**Gus Macker** -- The First Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball, America's largest outdoor basketball tournament, was a huge success in Olean. The three-day event was organized by both the Olean High School Sports Boosters and the Olean City School District Foundation. The event raised \$20,000 which enabled both the Sports Boosters and the Foundation to receive \$10,000 each! Some facts on Gus Macker Olean include: hometown of players -- 15% of the players were from Olean, 3% from Allegany/Portville, and 82% from elsewhere; farthest traveled player -- from Colorado Springs, CO; states of players -- Ohio, New Jersey, Michigan, North Carolina, Florida, Colorado, Pennsylvania and New York; age of players -- youngest was 8 with the oldest registered player 57.

**Book/Game Drive & Swap** -- October 4, 2008 at the Olean Middle School. All Olean Schools donated books to the book drive - more than 1,000 games and more than 60 games were collected. Most of the games and a great number of books were swapped out. The Foundation has redistributed the books to all Olean elementary schools, and eight other places in town.

We encourage everyone to send in their grant applications, new ideas, and programs. The Foundation is here to support the school in educating and enriching our students.

Sincerely,

Steven I. Pancio, OCSDF Board President








**Congratulations  
to the OHS  
Harold Dutton Student  
Spotlight Award winners  
for November: (back row, l-r)**

Greg Kahle  
Michael Padlo  
Dakota Spencer  
Melissa Vanness  
Shaylea Anderson  
Carrie Zeigler  
Kim Seaward  
and (middle row, l-r)  
Arron Anastasia  
Reed McElfresh  
Amber Carlson  
Antonio Bowers-Marietta  
Corey Marshall  
Jake Mallery  
and (front)  
Desmond White.



**Winners for  
December were (l-r):**

Brianna Martin,  
Jared Hamer,  
Kiera Rodriguez,  
Shelby Gadsen,  
Jillisa Bey,  
Andrew Mehmel,  
Julia Himes,  
Zack Gerhard,  
and Olivia Sorokes.

**Spotlight**



### ATTENTION CLASS OF 2009 PARENTS:

On February 19, 2009, seniors will be measured for their CAPS and GOWNS. Be sure to mark this on your calendars! Also on January 22, the distributor for the senior class announcements will be presenting packets and order information in an assembly for all seniors. Be sure to ask your child about order forms and due dates for ordering.





# Problem-solving in pre-engineering class

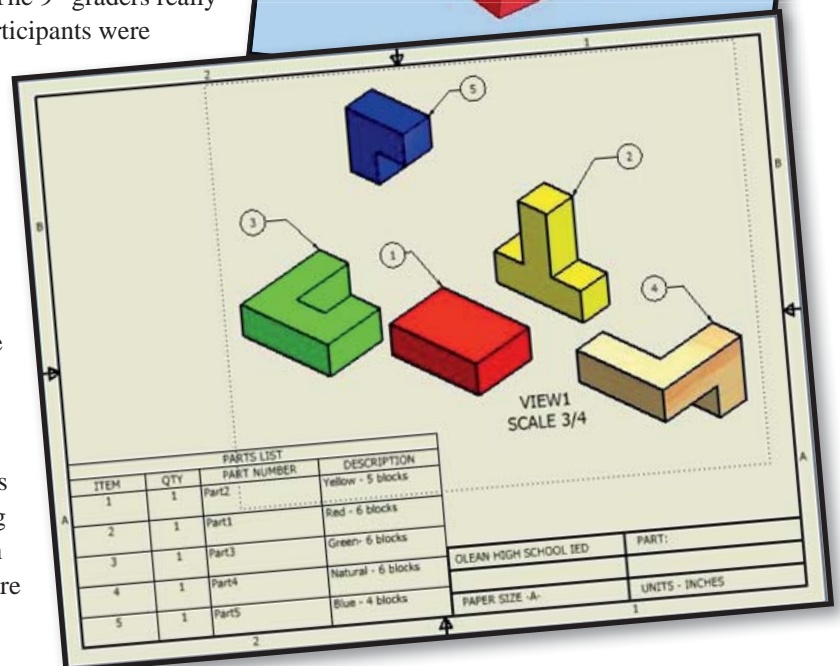
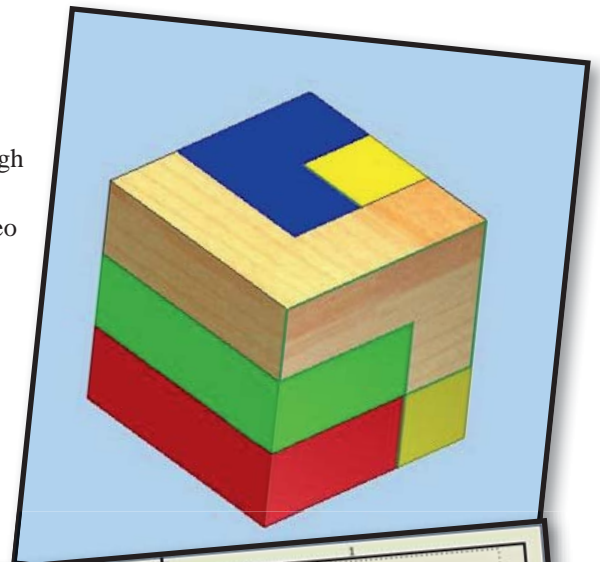
By Conner Charles,  
IED Student

Just before Thanksgiving, Mr. Welch's 9<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-engineering class got together with Mr. Zambanini's 8<sup>th</sup> grade Technology class to construct Puzzle Cube games designed by the pre-engineering students. For three weeks the high school students have been learning about the process of designing a puzzle cube, including designing the five pieces of the puzzle in order to make a video of how the puzzle cube goes together.

The high school class is called IED which stands for Intro To Engineering and Design and is offered to 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who have shown an interest and ability in Math, Science, and Technology. Each 9<sup>th</sup> grade student was asked to work with a small group of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and explain their design by showing working drawing that show how the puzzle is made and put together (solved). Students then worked together in taping together the wood cubes to show how the puzzle pieces are put together. The 9<sup>th</sup> graders really enjoyed being teachers for the day, and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade participants were very good students.

Mr. Zambanini's students will now use the working drawings from the High School pre-engineering students to glue, sand, and paint the pieces together. After the puzzle pieces are put together Mr. Welch's students will then design a box container to hold the puzzle cube which will be given away as a present.

IED is one of four classes that make up the PLTW curriculum at Olean High. The other class offerings are Digital Electronics, Civil Engineering, and Principals of Engineering. Each of these classes can qualify for college credit through RIT for students who excel and do well in the class. PLTW is a curriculum that is hands on and is project based. Computer simulations are a big part of the class which saves money in that students can experience how items are engineered through the software and not have to construct using costly equipment.





## Report safety concerns on web site

The Olean City School District Safety Committee is offering an electronic means for reporting any safety concern that staff, students or the public has while on school property. A new page has been created on the district web site with a form that can be completed and submitted stating your safety concern. All reported safety concerns will be routed to the school resource officer, Jason Hlasnick. He will notify the appropriate school personnel of all safety concern submitted.

The District Safety page is located on the main district page ([www.olean-schools.org](http://www.olean-schools.org)) with a link to the Safety Concerns form in the [Site Shortcuts](#) section.

## OHS students learn it's better to give than to receive

Once again students at Olean High School participated in the Eight Days of Giving, this holiday season. The themes for the eight days included:

- December 3 – Canned goods
- December 4 – School Supplies
- December 5 – “Toilet Trees”
- December 8 – Christmas Candy
- December 9 – Socks, Shoes
- December 10 – Girls’ Gifts
- December 11 – Boys’ Gifts
- December 12 – Winter Apparel.

Thanks to everyone who participated and donated. A very special thanks to SAC who organized, planned, and were at OHS in the wee hours everyday to collect!

In other holiday news, congratulations goes out to Rachel Painter and Katie Ludden for winning the “Deck the Halls” Art Contest sponsored by the office of the Mayor and the City of Olean. Approximately 70 students from OMS, East View Elementary and OHS created seasonal artwork for this display. The artwork will be exhibited at city hall until the end of December.



### Come on in, the water's fine!

The Olean Middle School Pool is now open every Tuesday and Thursday morning for Adult Lap Swimming from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. This wellness opportunity is made available by a small group of volunteer lifeguards who are donating their time to promote this worthwhile fitness activity for the school district. Any questions, call 375-8042.

## HUSKY HAPPENINGS

### KNOWLEDGE MASTERS COMPETITION

On Wednesday, December 3, the Knowledge Masters team attended its first competition. Knowledge Masters is an academic club that competes both nationally and internationally. This club meets weekly, under the direction of Mrs. Kopec. They work together to perfect their strategies in competition and to practice answering curriculum-based content questions. The team goes to competition twice a year. The following team members competed in this first competition of the 2008-2009 school year: Megan Dwaileebe, Amy Farris, Amanda Giermek, Jocelyn Huselstein, Matthew Johnston, Emily Kayes, Amanda Lasky, Michael Liu, Jason Mahar, Chris Mosher, Brad Nenno, JD Olson, Mike Powell, Mark Powers, Roger Wangelin, Jared Warren, Matt Witte, and Michael Witte.

### STUDENT ART ABOUT TOWN

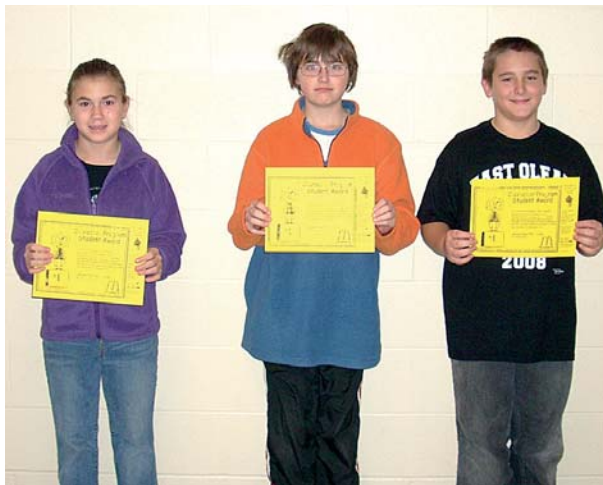
Several Olean High School Art students are currently creating murals for some of the empty store front windows on North Union Street. Matt Gardner, Kelly McKeown, Caitlin Goodwill and Summer Sawaya have all contributed their talents to this endeavor. Their current window theme is Winter. Be sure to sneak a peak at the wonderful artistic talents of these students as you cruise downtown! You don't want to miss this!

### GREAT AMERICAN SMOKE OUT

Throughout the week of November 17, students in Olean High School Health classes participated in the Great American Smoke Out (GASO) activities, led by Ryan Nawrot (health teacher, OHS). A table was set up in the front foyer of the school where students were encouraged to ask tobacco related questions, gather some important pamphlets and information and compete for prizes, which included water bottles, gum, bracelets and much more. A T-shirt contest was also held in as a positive peer influence and two Nintendo Wii's were awarded to the winning artists. The two luck winners were Meghan Murphy and Madison Ozzella. CONGRATS from all of us at OHS!!!







## RESPONSIBLE & RELIABLE

**Top left photo:** Students of the Month for Responsible & Reliable: Alex Mulryan, Mike Materna, Chance Anzivine, Zoe (l-r) Andy Gillespie, Jared McCarthy, Austin Stephen Volz.

**Bottom left photo:** Students of the Month for Responsible & Reliable: Ryan Evans, Ariel Brockel, Sophia Hendrix, and (back, l-r) Jared Sherman, Chance Anzivine and Ian Patrick.

**Middle left photo:** Students of the Month for Responsible & Reliable: Shawn Farrington.

**Above left photo:** Students of the Month for Responsible & Reliable: Nicole Raymond.

**Above right photo:** Students of the Month for Responsible & Reliable: Katelyn Messy.

## RAPPING WITH A FOREIGN FLAIR

On October 16, our OMS LOTE (Languages Other Than English) teachers attended a conference at St. Bonaventure University. The subject was enhancing teaching World Languages using "rap" rhythms. John DeMarco, a noted lecturer in the teaching of World Languages, presented this seminar. The teachers even wrote and performed their own raps in French or Spanish. In the photo at right are (l-r) Sheila Jackson, Kari Wilton, "Big D" (Mr. DeMarco), Meghan Sisson, and Debra Silver.





## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

responsibility include (back, l-r) Hannah Derwick, Ash-  
Mahler, Kelly Van Brunt, Will Gardner and (front,  
ns, Lindsay Bushnell, Monica Moses and Kevin

reliability include (front, l-r) Clare Sorokes, Jeffrey  
r) Eva Perry, Dana McElfresh, Konrad Morawski,

reliability include (l-r) Ally Rakus, Ethan Kelley and

responsibility include (l-r) Geoffrey Broadbent and

reliability include (l-r) Alyssa Abdo and Luke Hen-



## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Students in Ms. Dexter's academic lab met in Oak Hill Park (above) to learn about Colony Collapse Disorder from David Lake, a Beekeeper from Kane, Pa. Students impressed Mr. Lake with PowerPoint presentations and posters. Students shown (l-r) are: Austin Stephens, Chase Miller, Alex Rice, Kody Dragar and Grey Jones.

## PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARD

OMS Principal Gerald Trietley presents a Perfect Attendance award to Brandy Tucker, our winner for the first quarter. Congratulations!







## Athletic Department News

### Witte, Skrobacz named OHS Fall Scholar-Athletes and Section VI All-WNY Scholar-Athletes



#### Bantelman chosen as Athlete of Season

Congratulations to OHS Athlete of the Season for Fall 2008, Rachel Bantelman, Girls' Varsity Swimming

The Olean High School Athletic Department proudly announces that senior soccer player Michael Witte and senior swimmer Annie Skrobacz have been named as OHS Scholar-Athletes for the Fall 2008 Season. This award is given by the CCAA League and recognizes achievement in academics as well as athletics.

Additionally, Mike and Annie also have been selected for their respective fall sports teams for the Section VI All-Western New York Fall Scholar/Athlete Award.

The award, sponsored by Section VI, recognizes academic as well as athletic achievement. To be nominated for the team, students must have carried a 90+ average for the previous six semesters and been a starter or significant contributor in their sport.

Mike and Annie have distinguished themselves academically, as well as athletically. They both represent the finest qualities of a student-athlete and citizen. This is an outstanding accomplishment and one in which each student-athlete, his/her team, our school and our community can be very proud of. Congratulations!



### Fall 2008 All-Sportsmanship Team selected

Named to the OHS All-Sportsmanship Team for Fall 2008 were: (left photo, l-r) V. Girls' Tennis – Megan Wells, JV Football – Adam Marshall, Football Cheerleading – Catrina Miller, V. Football – Ethan Bird, JV Girls' Volleyball – Natalie Malick, V. Girls' Volleyball – Brianna Baker, and AD's Choice (Tennis) – Bridget Cooney. Absent from photo is V. Girls' Cross-Country – Ariel Shoemaker.

Also named to the team were (right photo, l-r) JV Boys' Soccer – Taylor Bold, V. Girls' Swimming & Diving – Samantha Huselstein, V. Boys' Soccer – John Samuelson, V. Girls' Soccer – Kelsey Pleakis and JV Girls' Soccer – Taylor Stephens. Congratulations and thanks for being a good sport!





**Salvation Army:** East View 5<sup>th</sup> Graders from Mr. Harvey, Mr. Crawford and Mrs. Ullman's classes continued the tradition of bell ringing for the Salvation Army's annual kettle collection.



**Fleece Blankets:** Students and staff are making fleece blankets and scarves (above) for children at the Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center. Much of the fleece was donated by staff members Diane Simon and Sue Grosso.

**Letters to Veterans:** Students from Mrs. Bowser and Miss Burns' Second Grade and Mrs. Keller and Mrs. Rogozinski's First Grade classes sent letters to local and family Veterans, thanking them for their bravery and willingness to keep us safe. Some of the Veterans responded with visits to the classes, letters to the students or a phone call to their teacher of how proud they felt that children were thinking of them. Pictured at right is World War II veteran, Phil Masi, talking with the classes.



**Cystic Fibrosis:** Earlier in the school year, students and staff participated in a fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

This project was done in honor of the son of one of our teachers who was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis when he was born.



# East View Elementary School

**An East View Tradition ... Giving:** As part of our Character Education program, the entire East View community continues to participate in various community service projects that provide the students with opportunities to demonstrate citizenship, kindness, compassion, and caring for others. A number of these activities take place during the holiday season but are not limited to only this time of the year. Pictured on this page are some examples of these community service projects.



**Gift Shoe Boxes:** Students in the PreK-3 classes at East View participated in bringing the magic of giving to children in other countries. Each classroom brought in items to fill a shoe box for a less fortunate boy or girl in another country (shown at left). We are sure that this will be a very special Christmas for 26 children around the world thanks to the kindness of our East View students.



**Food Drive:** East View collected over 800 food items (above) that were donated to the food pantry located at the Hillside Wesleyan Church. This food pantry serves many needy families in the East View neighborhood.





**Partnering for a Worthy Cause:** Students, parents, and teachers from Boardmanville and staff from our corporate partner, the Olean Medical Group, held a fund-raising walk to benefit the Child Advocacy Center, Genesis House, Meals-on-Wheels, and Interfaith Caregivers (left photo). Approximately 75 children and adults braved the pouring rain to raise over \$2,000 for these community agencies. In addition, the Medical Group generously donated \$1,000 to Boardmanville toward the future purchase of a school sign - What a wonderful partner!

## Boardmanville Elementary School

**Collecting for UNICEF:** Fourth-graders Trick-or-Treated for UNICEF, raising almost \$80 (right photo).



**Making Sock Snowmen:** Fifth-grade art students from Boardmanville created snowmen from socks (see photo below).



**Do the Macarena:** Second graders pushed their dancing skills to the limits in Physical Education class by mastering the "Reverse Macarena."





**A Thanksgiving Tradition:** Maintaining a long-standing tradition, BV third graders made napkin holders that look like turkeys and gave them to staff of Olean General Hospital to be used as decorations on patients' meal trays. The students and their teachers hope it brought a little joy to people who had to be in the hospital on Thanksgiving.



**Annual Thanksgiving Feast:** Kindergarten classes at Boardmanville Elementary got together to celebrate Thanksgiving at the Annual Kindergarten Thanksgiving Feast. There was turkey and all the trimmings...even pies for dessert! The children were stuffed! A special treat was made by the students...butter! They had a ball!



**Fire Safety Week:** Members of the Olean City Fire Department visited Boardmanville during Fire Safety Week. They taught students about safety and their jobs, even letting some students try on their fire protection equipment.



**Candy Christmas Tree:** Mrs. Bushnell's second grade completed the steps in the writing process to write a "How to Make a Candy Christmas Tree" report. After making their own trees (above) the students wrote step by step directions to teach Mrs. Stephens' kindergarteners how to make and EAT a candy Christmas tree. This has become a holiday tradition for both classes.





**Welcome Mrs. Whitney:** IJN welcomes Mrs. Kelley Whitney as our new Title I Reading Teacher. Kelly replaces Mrs. Pearl Bowker who accepted an administrative position in another district. Congratulations!

**IJN Cares...and means it!** Our principal, Mrs. Nottingham, issued a challenge to all of our students. Which two classes could bring in the most non-perishable items to donate to the OLEAN FOOD PANTRY? In just eight short days, the children donated almost 700 items. Mrs. Crawford's smiling second-graders, seen at right, were the Mighty-Mighty winners, followed closely by Ms. Stuff's ambitious fourth-graders. The REAL winner...the Olean Food



**Bahama Bound:** On January 8, 2009 Amanda Bess, 1st grade teacher, will be heading to the Bahamas! As part of our partnership with St. Bonaventure University, Ms. Bess will travel with the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Organization to Grand Bahama Island. The SIFE program offers St. Bonaventure students and teachers an opportunity to do volunteer work all over the world and to connect with the people who live there. Ms. Bess will join university staff and students in teaching fundamental skills in money, finance, and marketing. Ms. Bess has created "postcard/pen-pal" lessons to share with children in grades K-6. IJN students and those in the Bahamas will create and exchange these postcards specifically designed to highlight cultures, schools, places of interest, and activities. Ms. Bess will remain connected to her IJN family by using polycoms and sending daily e-mails.



**Spreading Holiday Cheer at JCC:** Mr. Lapallo and Mr. Samuelson's classes went to JCC to decorate their Commons Room for the holidays on Tuesday, December 9th. The decorations were made by all the students at Ivers J. Norton. IJN and JCC have a partnership which includes JCC hosting our 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation in June. JCC provided hot chocolate and candy canes which were enjoyed by the students after hanging the decorations.

## Ivers J. Norton Elementary School

**IJN Select Choir:** The "Ivers J. Norton Select Choir" (*at right*) has had a very exciting Holiday season so far. On December 9<sup>th</sup> the *Select Choir* sang the National Anthem at the YMCA for a Jamestown Community College basketball game and on December 11<sup>th</sup> the choir performed at Brookside Manor for the senior citizens. The *Select Choir* also performed on December 17<sup>th</sup> at Lincoln Park as part of the "Visit with Santa" series. In addition, the choir performed as part of the annual Ivers J. Norton Holiday Concert on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

The "Ivers J. Norton Select Choir" was created as an outlet for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who show exceptional abilities in music and singing. The choir consists of Tyrell Battle, Callista Bendinelli, Kyra Fowler, Gabrielle Huff, Kayla Johnson, Michaela McCall, Keyara Ramadhan, Rylee Juliano, Jared Slavin and Devin Washington.

The Select Choir is in its second year and is under the direction of Mr. Bill Hughey, Elementary Vocal Director.







### **Giving Back to Their Community:**

Mrs. Matekja's and Mrs. Monroe's husky pups recently took a trip to Eden Heights Senior Citizen Home. The students interacted with the seniors, helped them frost and decorate cookies and paraded through the cafeteria for all to see. What a wonderful experience for our students to do community service work with our seniors!



**Bedtime, Books . . . and Games!** Would you believe recently our Husky Pups in grades pre-kindergarten through second came to school one evening in their pajamas?! What was the occasion? Family Literacy Night! It was an evening of great fun and learning. Children snuggled with a loved one while reading a great book together while enjoying milk and cookies. Adults learned how to reinforce their child's reading skills by using questions and creating simple, fun center activities they can do together at home.



**Learning and Celebrating Friendship:** Second-graders in Mrs. Brooks', Mrs. Lewicki's, and Mr. Martin's classes have been meeting each month to work on developing character education skills. For November, they talked about friendship and what it means to be a "good friend." They made "friendship" bracelets and wrote letters to friends telling them why they are so special! The students were very excited to present their "special friend" with their bracelet and letter.

**Bringing Mexico to Olean!** Fifth-grade teachers Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Matejka and Mrs. Monroe team taught a social studies unit on Mexico. All of our fifth-grade students worked in one of three groups to appropriately challenge them at different levels. Mrs. Betsy Cashing, a retired OMS LOE teacher, came in twice a week for three weeks to introduce the students to the Spanish language. A grand finale included enjoying a Mexican fiesta and creating salt dough maps of Mexico. Referring to making their maps, Mrs. Monroe said, "Our students worked cooperatively and enjoyed learning about the geography of Mexico. Their finished products are awesome; come and see them in our hallway!" All three teachers agreed that their boys and girls did a super job, and they are very proud of them!



**"Virtual" Field Trips--Cool!** Students in Mrs. Charles' and Mrs. Hamed's fourth-grade classes have been poly-coming to extend their learning outside the walls of WW. First, they joined the "Hands-On Science Museum" in Ann Arbor, Michigan, for "Halloween Slime Time" (left photo). Secondly, they participated in "All Charged Up" by visiting a science center in Georgia to learn more about circuits and static electricity. Thirdly, students "ventured" to the Kansas City Zoo to learn about animal habitats and adaptations.

## **OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

410 W. Sullivan St.

Olean, NY 14760

[www.oleanschools.org](http://www.oleanschools.org)

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Gerald Trietley, Middle School Principal

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John White, Boardmanville Elementary Principal

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## **OMS student readies for inauguration**

In January 2009, outstanding middle school students from across the United States will take part in a truly American celebration — the Inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama. During the five-day program, the Junior Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference (JrPYIC) will provide scholars with a deeper understanding of the history behind the electoral process and the rich traditions surrounding the presidential inauguration. This year, Christian Gayton, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader from the Blue Team, has been chosen to attend this exceptional program.

Christian will have the opportunity to interact with a major presidential candidate, Sen. John Edwards, as well as White House officials, congressional staff members, political experts and other VIPs, such as former Vice President Al Gore and former Secretary of State Colin Powell. After watching the inauguration, he will experience the grandeur of the inaugural parade, as the President, Vice President and their families make their way down Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol Building to the White House. To further honor and celebrate Inauguration Day, Christian will attend a Gala Inaugural Ball.

In addition to participating in inaugural events and festivities, Christian will have the opportunity to explore the numerous historic sites and monuments in our nation's capital, as well as participate in activities designed to expand his knowledge of democratic principles and the presidential election process. It is truly an honor for such a young student to be chosen for this educational program.

We are very proud of Christian and excited for his opportunity!



**OLEAN CITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

#### **Mission ...**

"Home, School and Community  
Educating for Life"

#### **Values ...**

- Excellence
- Honesty/Integrity
- Learning
- Mutual Respect
- Resourcefulness
- Responsibility & Accountability
- Sensitivity to Diverse Needs
- Teamwork

#### **Strategic Themes ...**

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Facilities & Learning Environment
- Finance/Resource Management
- Building Relationships