



Orchard Park Central School District Community Report

June 2010

Congratulations to the Orchard Park High School Class of 2010 Top Ten

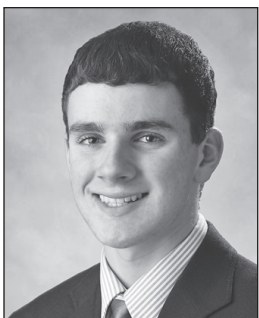
The Orchard Park Central School District is pleased to announce the Top Ten graduating seniors from the Class of 2010. Selected on the basis of scholastic achievement, these students also excel in the arts, athletics and service through volunteer work in the community. Their plans include attending college for various majors, from engineering to political science to medicine. Congratulations to these students and all our graduates. We wish them the best life has to offer.



The 2010 Top Ten are (row 1) Erin Hoover, Olivia Wasteney, Charlotte Saul, Emily Stott, Bethany Saul, (row 2) Kimberly Kucharski, Ross DiPronio, Evan Vaughn, Eric Bodnar and Taylor Ferguson.

Valedictorian

Eric Bodnar



College Plans: Cornell University for engineering.
Honors and Awards: Orchard

Park Pride, U.S. Army All American Marching Band, Boys' State Delegate, Harvard Book Award, NYSSMA Conference All-State, Rensselaer Medal, United States Achievement Academy Honoree, QMB Outstanding

Woodwind, QMB Drum Major.

Extracurricular Activities:

Quaker Marching Band, Masterminds, Pit Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, French National Honor Society, National Honor Society, Pep Band

Volunteer Work: Orchard Park Community Band, Appalachian Service Project, Erie County Fair Marching Band, Southtowns Youth Orchestra, Life Teen.

Best thing about OPHS: My favorite part of Orchard Park High School is the wide variety of people that I have had the

chance to meet and become friends with.

*Eric is the son of Karen and Cyril S. Bodnar, Jr.

Salutatorian

Ross DiPronio
College Plans:

Georgetown University for international relations/government.



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Ross DiPronio (con't.)

Honors and Awards: Boys' State of New York, National Merit Finalist, Business First All-WNY Academic Team (First Team), George Eastman Young Leaders Award

Extracurricular Activities: Quaker Marching Band, Model United Nations, The Voice, Pit Orchestra, Pep Band, Homeroom Representative, National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, Latin National Honor Society.

Volunteer Work: ECMEA and NYSSMA Festivals, Brass Quartet performances in OP Village and St. Mark's Church, independent school service (music department), Erie County Fair Marching Band.

Best thing about OPHS: The variety of classes and extracurricular activities that allow one to explore one's interests.

*Ross is the son of Jean and Richard DiPronio.

Taylor Ferguson



College Plans: University at Buffalo for engineering.
Honors and Awards: Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award,

Middlebury College Book Award, RIT Innovation & Creativity Award, Wellesley Book Award, Business First 2010 All-Western New York Academic Team (Second Team).

Extracurricular Activities: OPHS Yearbook (Editor), National Honor Society, Writer's Sodality, Windom Buddy Club Mentor, Princeton Model Congress, District 5AA Softball.

Volunteer Work: Hunter's Day of Hope Volunteer, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Activities and Community

Service Projects, WNY Kidney Foundation.

Best thing about OPHS: The best part of OPHS is all of the great opportunities available to expand your interests and challenge yourself. Whether it be a club, sport, class, teacher project or other activity, there is always something challenging to do.

*Taylor is the daughter of Marilyn and Robert Ferguson.

Erin Hoover



College Plans: Boston College for political science
Honors and Awards: Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony

Award, 2009 College Board AP Scholar, Outstanding Achievement in US History, Spanish, Global and English, silver and gold placement on National Latin Exam.

Extracurricular Activities: Quaker Marching Band, OP Educational Outreach, Mock Trial, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Latin National Honor Society, Student Connection, Model UN.

Volunteer Work: Summer Work Camp, Appalachian Service Project, Partners in Compassionate Service, Mayor Byron Brown's Buffalo Reads Program, Interfaith Hospitality Network/Family Promise, Orchard Park Community Youth Council, Religion Teacher.

Best thing about OPHS: I have always been impressed by our faculty and staff. Everyone has always been so supportive of me and my studies and I credit my teachers for my desire to pursue school with such ferocity.

*Erin is the daughter of Marianne and Robert Hoover.

Kimberly Kucharski



College Plans: University of Chicago for biological sciences (pre-med)
Honors and Awards: Section VI Scholar

(track and volleyball), Mount Holyoke College Book Award, Emedco Academic Excellence Award, AP Scholar Award, participant in WNY Chemistry Olympiad, Polish American Congress Award, Orchard Park Pride

Extracurricular Activities: SMILE Club, STAP Comm, Math Tutoring Association, Educational Outreach, National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, Eugenia's Dance Studio.

Volunteer Work: Orchard Park Youth Court, Msgr. Adamski Polish Saturday School of Buffalo, DARE Role Model, 2nd Grade Olympics, Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo, West Seneca Y.E.S.

Best thing about OPHS: The wonderful teachers who are constantly challenging me to think beyond limits.

*Kimberly is the daughter of Danuta and Casimir Kucharski.

Bethany Saul



College Plans: Boston University for a double major in international relations and political science
Honors and

Awards: Awards of Excellence in English, US history, French and global history, Excellence in Opinion Journalism, Excellence in Model UN General Assembly, Bryn Mawr College President's Book Award

Extracurricular Activities: Quaker Marching Band, Mock Trial, The Voice, Model United Nations, National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, Wind Ensemble, Homeroom Representative. **Volunteer Activities:** Orchard Park Educational Outreach, Orchard Park Youth Court, Buffalo City Mission, Habitat for Humanity, Cornerstone Manor, St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

Best thing about OPHS: I have thoroughly enjoyed my high school experience largely due to the amazing faculty at OPHS. I have had some amazing teachers and mentors at the high school who have helped me succeed in both my studies and my extracurricular activities. *Bethany is the daughter of Lisa and Christopher Saul.

Charlotte Saul



College Plans: Boston University for English and politics or business. **Honors and Awards:** 2010 Model United

Nations Excellence in Political Committee, AP Scholar, Russell Sage Book Award, Certificates of Excellence in global history, English, physical education and US history, New York State representative in the United States Senate Youth Program.

Extracurricular Activities: STAP Comm, Educational Outreach, Mock Trial, The Voice, National Honor Society, National French Honor Society, High School drama, Quaker Marching Band, soccer.

Volunteer Work: Buffalo City Mission, Cornerstone Manor, Habitat for Humanity, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Kaleida Health.

Best thing about OPHS: The teachers commitment to the success of their students.

Teachers have been so helpful and eager to help their students succeed.

*Charlotte is the daughter of Lisa and Christopher Saul.

Emily Stott



College Plans: Brandeis University or University of Rochester for biology. **Honors and Awards:** Gold and silver

placement on the National Latin Exam, Certificates of Excellence in Earth science and biology, National Merit Commended Student, LeMoyne College Heights Award, AP Scholar with Honor, Outstanding Student in Foreign Language.

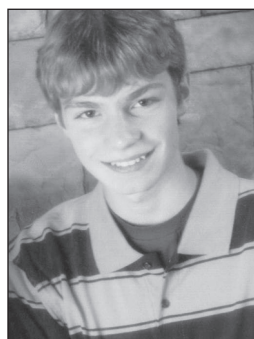
Extracurricular Activities: Yearbook, the Voice, Writers' Sodality, National Latin Honor Society, Model United Nations, National Honor Society.

Volunteer Work: Roswell Park Cancer Institute, vacation bible school, Sunday school teacher, local political campaign activities.

Best thing about OPHS: OPHS has given me the opportunity to participate in a multitude of activities and the flexibility to pursue whichever academic path I choose. My teachers have been incredible and have truly made me enjoy learning.

*Emily is the daughter of Susan and David Stott.

Evan Vaughn



College Plans: Belmont University for business administration/pre-law. **Honors and Awards:** VFW Essay Contest

Winner, RIT Creativity and Innovation Award, Saint Anselm College Book Award, College Board AP Scholar, Academic Achievement Awards for Earth science, global, geometry, trigonometry, Spanish, Media Productions and precalculus.

Extracurricular Activities: Mock Trial, QTV, Media Productions, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Computer Club, Guitar Club.

Volunteer Work: Project Serve, Wesleyan Church of Hamburg, Worship Bands

Best thing about OPHS: The dedicated staff and being a part of the championship Mock Trial Club.

*Evan is the son of Marietta and Holt Vaughn.

Olivia Wasteney



College Plans: Duke University for international comparative studies and the classics. **Honors and Awards:** Award of

Excellence for Latin, French, English, Earth science, algebra and geometry, AP Scholar with Honor, National Latin Exam 1st Place; All-WNY Scholar Athlete

Extracurricular Activities: Varsity Soccer, STAP Comm, Windom Buddy Club Program, OP Outreach, Model United Nations, Masterminds, Student Connection.

Volunteer Work: Habitat for Humanity, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, St. Phillip's Community Center, Vive la Casa Refugee Center.

Best thing about OPHS: The friendships I've made, my amazing teachers, and all the fantastic opportunities I've been offered are among my favorite elements of my time at OPHS. *Olivia is the daughter of Carol and Colin Wasteney.

Superintendent's Column

Farewell and Thank You

Dear Friends:

At the end of June, I will be completing my service to the Orchard Park School District. I am deeply grateful to have had the privilege of being part of this District as a teacher, K-8 science coordinator, building administrator and superintendent. Thank you for all of these opportunities! I believe we have accomplished many goals and this is a new beginning for me to explore other educational challenges. On July 1, Mr. Matthew McGarrity will assume the duties of superintendent and continue the tradition of excellence in academics, arts and athletics.

I am honored to have been a member of an outstanding team of teachers, administrators, school related professionals, Board trustees and parents who appreciate the importance of education and are willing to go the extra mile to provide a rich and positive learning environment. No one individual is the key to success. It is all of us together who can make an everlasting difference in the lives of children. As we move



Joan Thomas

forward, I have no doubt that this objective will remain a top priority.

We are all very proud of the accomplishments that have been made in the last five years. My first goal when I was appointed superintendent was to regain the trust of the community. Working together we have seen positive changes in curriculum and instruction, including the continuous improvement on standardized test scores. We also addressed our facilities with the newly completed science and athletic areas at the high school. The installation of our turf field is also a major point of Quaker pride. We continue the tradition of excellence in education and as a highly respected and ranked school district. I commend the entire community for their

dedicated support and high expectations.

I would be remiss to leave the District without taking time to extend thanks to many people throughout the school and community who have supported the school district during my tenure: the PTO's and their leadership, the leaders of our village and town, the Orchard Park Police and Fire Departments, Orchard Park Youth Council, Orchard Park businesses, Park Parsons, YMCA, and Boys and Girls Club. Finally, without the support and love of my husband Peter, sons, Chris, Scott, Andy and daughter Amy, and my wonderful daughters-in-law, son-in-law and grandchildren, I could not have devoted the time needed.

As I begin my tenure as president/head of school at Holy Angels Academy, I carry with me a wonderful sense of accomplishment, thanks in part to all of you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Respectfully,

Joan D. Thomas
Superintendent of Schools

Voting Results - May 18, 2010

Proposition One - 2010/2010 Budget

Yes
2149

No
1469

Proposition Two - Purchase and Financing of Buses

2294

1248

Candidates:

Natalie Schaffer - 2186 votes; Donna Omar (Bonitati) Omar - 1471 votes; Michael Talty - 1463 votes; Mitchell Nowakowski - 1282 votes.

District Appoints New Principals



Jeffrey Dolce



Dr. Lisa Krueger

The Orchard Park Central School District has appointed Jeffrey Dolce as assistant principal at the Middle School and Dr. Lisa Krueger as House III principal at the High School. Dolce, former curriculum and staff development coordinator for the District, has replaced former assistant principal Eleanor Payne, while Krueger will replace former House III principal David Lilleck, who was appointed Middle School principal late last year.

Dolce joined the District in 2006 after serving as coordinator of staff and curriculum development for Erie 1 BOCES/WNYRIC. He has also held positions in the classroom and as project leader at the Center for Applied Technologies in Education at the University at Buffalo. He holds certification in school district administration from Canisius College, and received a master's degree in education and bachelor of science in elementary education, both from SUNY Fredonia.

Krueger has served as principal of Eggert Road Elementary School since 2004, and as coordinator of the District's Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program since 2007. She has been honored with the Emerging Leader Award from D'Youville College and was twice recognized as a Leader in Education by Business First of Buffalo. She recently earned her doctoral degree in education from D'Youville College, having defended her dissertation on school bullying. Krueger earned a master of science in education administration from Canisius College and a master of science in elementary education from SUNY Buffalo, and holds certification in school district administration. Dr. Krueger will begin her position at the High School on July 1.



photo provided by: J. Baker

The Orchard Park High School Winter Guard completed a fantastic season with five 1st place finishes, including first place in the Northeast Color Guard Circuit Championships held at the Rochester Institute of Technology. In addition, the Guard placed 15 out of 40 Scholastic Open Guards at the Winter Guard International Competition held in Dayton, Ohio. The talented group is pictured above, including co-captains Erin Baker and Fidelia Radziwon, pictured in the front row.



It was a race to the finish as students at South Davis Elementary participated in the first "Moving and Grooving" walk, sponsored by the PTO. The fund raising event, which replaced the Niagara Chocolate sale normally conducted by the PTO, featured students running and walking laps around the South Davis track, then enjoying a healthy snack. To raise funds, students collected pledges based on how many laps they were able to complete. In all, an amazing \$6,300 was raised. Great job, South Davis!

Board President's Column

by Donald Sniezak



To the Community:

This will be my last column as president and trustee of the Orchard Park Central School District Board of Education. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the citizens of the District for this great experience. I started my journey with the District back in the fall of 1996 when I volunteered to help in the Ellicott Computer Lab. Little did I know where the road

would take me! Since my start in the lab, I have served on the District Technology Committee, and was later elected to the Board of Education. This year marked my fifth on the board, and my third as President. A lot has changed since I joined the Board, but one thing that has not is the commitment that the District has to providing the best possible education to our students.

During the time I spent between the Technology Committee and as a Board Trustee, I have had the pleasure of working with Mrs. Joan Thomas. Joan is a deeply caring, motivated, and down-to-earth person who has been the steady hand on the tiller guiding this school District back on track. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with her, and happy to call her my friend. She will be missed, but is leaving the District in the capable hands of Mr. Matthew McGarrity.

I would like to thank all the wonderful people whom I have had the opportunity to work with. The times shared, friendships forged and the incredible successes which we have enjoyed have been an extraordinary part of my life. I am very proud of what the District has achieved over the past few years, and I can truly say these have been times I will never forget.

During a recent chat, a friend noted "everything has a beginning and an end." The timing to end this chapter seems about as right as it could be. I thank you for allowing me to serve you and look forward to what is to come as the District works toward their mission of giving students the vision to reach for the stars, the skills and fortitude to climb the ladder, and the wisdom to appreciate the beauty of the journey.

Thank you and Good Bye,

Don

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Follow the District on Twitter

The Orchard Park Central School District is now on the social networking site Twitter. Twitter enables short messages of 140 characters to be shared with followers who are interested

in learning more about the District. Find the Orchard Park Central School District at twitter.com by searching for OPSchools, or visit www.twitter.com/OPSchools. Follow us for more information on upcoming events, reminders about school concerts and sporting events and updates on our award-winning students and staff.

On the Record...

Budding Artists

Under the direction of Paul and Diane Bond, Windom elementary art teachers, students participated in the Art Alive competition at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. The group of 5th grade students received an honorable mention for their description of the "Book of the Dead," which was presented to over 2,000 spectators at the event. The intent of the program is to promote student learning about art and history in an interesting way. Congratulations to these outstanding students on their accomplishment!

Outstanding Achievement in Foreign Language

The following students were recognized at a special ceremony held in April as they were inducted into the French, Spanish and Latin National Honor Societies. These organizations recognize high school students who have maintained excellent grades in language for at least two years.

2010 French National Honor Society Inductees:

Ashleigh Alessi, Nicholas Braun, Alex Christ, Kelsey Cole, Paige Cuddihy, Nicole Fitch, Emma Giblin, Mary Grady, Jessica Gumkowski, Alyssa Heath, Joanna Hider, Meghan Kearns, Estelle Legros, Jonathan McCauley, Amy Ressler, Amanda Reusch, Rebecca Shafer, Emily Smith, Valerie Spaeth, Steven Suddaby and Chelsea Wheeler



2010 Spanish National Honor Society Inductees:

Lyndsay Albert, Emma Arcara, Lindsay Carr, Allison Carriero, Cassie Clemente, Damian D'Arcy, Lauren Donohue, Alexandra Ellis, Olivia Hill, Christopher Jay, Anthony Khoury, Adam Kohl, Samuel Korach, Abigail LaPlaca, Christine Layer, Ryan Lindquist, Raquel Lopez, Rebecca Luterman, Emilee Matthews, Alexis Miller, Ryan Mraz, Nicholas Muscatello, Victoria Phillips, Brittany Porter, Charlotte Sanfilippo, Connor Vogan, Jacob Welch and Amanda Wylie.



2010 Latin National Honor Society

Inductees: Damian D'Arcy, Emily Frost, Camille Paladino, Genevieve Rainforth, Adam Tomich, Joshua Tryon, Emma Warsaw, Ross DiPronio, Jessica Dolnick and Lynn Schroeder.



Artsy!

Sadie Joba, a 4th grader at Eggert Elementary, has won first place in the World of Escher Tessellation contest. Students in Mrs. Wilcox's Spectrum class learned about M.C. Escher and his use of geometry to create wonderful art pieces known as tessellations. Sadie's artwork was selected out of over 230 submissions to be posted on the World of Escher website for voting. She was the youngest contestant, competing against elementary, middle, and high-school students as well as adults from all over the world. After over 3,700 votes, Sadie's tessellation, Masquerade, won 1st place. Sadie's artwork will be displayed in the World of Escher Hall of Fame and Sadie wins prizes from the website. Congratulations to Sadie!

Latin Honors

Congratulations are extended to the 31 Middle and High School students who received 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and Honorable Mention on the 2010 National Latin Exam. These students were joined by over 150,000 others from all 50 states and 13 foreign countries who took the exam. The awards are bestowed based upon the number of correct answers in the areas of Latin grammar, translation, derivation and Ancient Roman civilization.

Congratulations are extended to the following winners:

1st Place - Gold Summa Cum Laude Awards: Allison Carriero, (Grade 11), Kathryn Collins (Grade 8), Damien D'Arcy (Grade 10), Shannon Fitzgerald (Grade 12), Emily Frost (Grade 10), Benjamin Goodman (Grade 8), Emma Warsaw (Grade 10) and Taylor Zicarelli (Grade 8).

2nd Place Silver Maxima Cum Laude Awards: Waverly Colville (Grade 8), Ross DiPronio (Grade 12), Christine McCune (Grade 8), Genevieve Rainforth (Grade 10), Alanna Ross (Grade 12), Elizabeth Simson (Grade 9) and Adam Tomich (Grade 12).

3rd place - Magna Cum Laude Awards: Jessica Battaglia (Grade 9), Nicholas Dillon (Grade 10), Emily Saeli (Grade 10) and Emily Stott (Grade 12).

Honorable Mention - Cum Laude Awards: Liam Allman (Grade 11), Marissa DiPirro (Grade 11), Carley Doyle (Grade 10), Julie Frankiewicz (Grade 9), Heather Jones (Grade 11), Camille Paladino (Grade 10), Megan Roberts (Grade 11), Lynn Schroeder (Grade 12), Madeline Shiley (Grade 9), Stephanie Sieczkarek (Grade 12), Quinn Hennessy-Snow (Grade 9) and Joshua Zuccala (Grade 8).

A Notable Graduation Ceremony

By Dennis Fitscher
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Pupil Services

The graduation season is upon us and our school District recently recognized a cohort of students that completed program requirements for graduation from the Academy of Finance. I was fortunate enough to represent the District at the graduation ceremony (see photos on the next page). I feel compelled to brag a bit about this wonderful program, especially after reflecting on everything the students and the academy accomplished. We really do an amazing job as a District and community in providing such rich and diverse learning experiences for our children.

The Academy of Finance is a school within the High School that provides students with excellent foundational knowledge and skills for higher education in the field of finance. This program has a short history of just six years, but our teachers and community leaders have packaged together an amazing opportunity for students. Twenty-six seniors graduated this year from this nationally certified program.

Their journey began four years ago as a cohort homeroom group. During this time period, they have completed a rigorous and relevant curriculum including course studies in Microsoft Office, accounting, leadership, personal finance, banking and credit, and economics. Students also participate in a paid internship placement. It is interesting to note that our students were prepared and performed so well in their internships, 50% of the students continued to work at the same placement.

The graduation ceremony also highlighted the awarding of five scholarships secured by the Business Department and the Advisory Board. The recipients



were:

- Five Star Bank – Elizabeth Blackley and Robert Terreri
 - Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce – Ryan Rankin
 - Erie Community College Career Pathways Scholarship – Ryan Rankin
 - The Orchard Park Central Schools Federal Credit Union – Marissa Crapsi
- The Business Department boasted, and rightly so, that connections forged with area colleges allowed students to earn college credits for successful completion of their courses. It was announced that 23

students earned six college credits and three students actually earned 18 credits with these college partners.

Equally impressive was the fact that academy students gave back to the community as well. It was announced that volunteer service to the school and community resulted in support for:

- The Community Market Place sponsored by the Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce
- Ride for Roswell - \$48,000
- Goin' Bald for Bucks - \$16,000

As the dinner and program concluded at the La Galleria, it dawned on me how all of this was accomplished in six short years (rigorous and relevant curriculum, scholarships, college credit, paid internship placements and community service). It was not only the dedication and hard work of our six Business Department teachers, but it was also the expertise and energy of the advisory board. They freely and willingly came forward to support students interested in the finance industry. Our Academy of Finance Board has over 30 members that meet monthly and work behind the scenes securing paid internships in a poor economy,

serving as guest speakers in academy classes, soliciting scholarship funds and reviewing student resumes and conducting job interviews.

In closing, I want to recognize and thank the Business Department and the Advisory Board for their tireless effort to provide students with such a high quality and valuable learning experience. It is also fitting that our Finance of Academy students are congratulated one final time on their outstanding accomplishment.



Members of the Academy of Finance Board.

Academy of Finance Graduation Celebration Photos



Congratulations to the 2010 graduates of the Orchard Park High School Academy of Finance. Pictured above are graduates, from left to right, (row 1) Hayley VanLew, Angel Nardolillo, Melissa Lozanovski, Jessica Kreuzer, Abbey Kulikowsky, Sara Clouden, Elizabeth Blackley, Samantha Jemiolo, Claire Houghton and Anne Smith. Pictured in row 2 are Robert Terreri, Alex Popiela, Colin Ott, Lee Shular, Christopher Kerr, Kyle Jeziorski, Andrew Kossowski, AJ Witkowski, Evan Korn, Marissa Crapsi, Kayla Jaehn and Tara Balas. Ryan Rankin is in row 3; not pictured are Christine Heichberger, Daniel Selby and Jennifer Szmania.



Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Winner Ryan Rankin with Chamber President and Orchard Park High School Teacher Don Lorentz.



Five Star Bank Scholarship Winners Robert Terreri and Elizabeth Blackley were presented with certificates of achievement from bank representatives.



Ellicott Elementary held their annual 5th Grade Health Awareness Day, featuring a variety of stations where parents and volunteers in the health and fitness field reinforced the concepts of the 5th grade health awareness curriculum. The students pictured above learned more about the importance of regular exercise and physical activity from Donna Omar, owner of Anytime Fitness. The event also featured a keynote address by Dr. Michael Cummings from the Roswell Park Cancer Institute, and a station led by volunteers from Orchard Park High School.



Students in the 5th grade music classes of Mrs. Francis at Eggert Elementary were treated to a visit from Mr. Sal Agnello and Dr. Thomas Callaghan, pictured above. While visiting, Dr. Callaghan, a retired teacher and Orchard Park resident, performed several selections on the bagpipe. He was accompanied on drum by Mr. Agnello, a bus driver for Orchard Park. Their visit was just one in a series of guest musicians who visit the classes to teach the students the ways music can enrich their lives past their school years.

Talented Students Inducted Into National Honor Society

Congratulations to the 76 students listed below who were inducted into the National Honor Society at Orchard Park High School. Membership into the National Honor Society is based on a student's outstanding performance in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Inductees include: Laura Adinolfi, Lyndsay Albert, Ashleigh Alessi, Liam Allman, Maxwell Baldauf, Lauren Boyczuk, Nicholas Braun, Krista Camillo, Lindsay Carr, Allison Carriero, Alexander Christ, Cassie Clemente, Kelsey Cole, Paige Cuddihy, Sarah Delmont, Marissa DiPirro, Jessica Dolnick, Lauren Donohue, Michael Dushkoff, Holly Eisensmith, Anna England, Emily Feldman, Nicole Fitch, Alisa Harrison, Kayla Hartnett, Alyssa Heath, Shannon Heintz, Olivia Hill, Melanie Janulewicz, Heather Jones, Brian Kasprzyk, Meghan Kearns, Anthony Khoury, Madeline Klein, Adam Kohl, Samuel Korach, Kathryn Kozlowski, Robert Kugler, Angela Kuminecz, Abigail LaPlaca, Christine Layer, Ryan Lindquist, Rebecca Luterman, Gillian Macchia, Emilee Matthews, Johnathan McCauley, David Mellerski, Natalie Meyer, Tara Minogue, Sarah Moore, Kevin Mrugalski, Nicholas Muscatello, Matthew Nedimyer, Brittany Porter, Abigail Rave, Amy Ressler, Amanda Reusch, Megan Roberts, Ryan Roder, Jacob Rozler, Charlotte Sanfilippo, Joshua Saville, Christi Schultz, Rebecca Shafer, Donal Sheets, William Siegner, Savanna Skarbowski, Emily Smith, Valerie Spaeth, Kelsey Sweet, Trevor Vargo, Connor Vogan, Jacob Welch, Chelsea Wheeler, Amanda Wylie and Jessica Zdrowak.



Arrr! Students at Windom Elementary had a lesson in pirate English during a visit from Author/Illustrator Matt McElligott. Creator of "Blackbeard: Pirate for Hire," and "Blackbeard and the Birthday Suit," McElligott also penned and illustrated "Benjamin Franklinshtein Lives!," "Bean Thirteen," "The Lion's Share," and more. He spent two days at Windom, sharing information with students on the process of writing and illustrating picture books, and discussing his most current projects. Since much of his work is done digitally, McElligott spent time on the computer conducting a live animation demonstrating, and later answered questions for the many eager students. He is pictured above with just a few of the students and staff who got into the spirit of Blackbeard, donning their own pirate gear. For those who were wondering, "Arrr" is an exclamation: An expression of frustration!!!



Photo provided by: D. Rebmann

Middle School students in Mr. Rebmann's Social Studies Classes completed a study of the heritage of each student's family, the culmination of a unit on immigration. Each student took home a family tree outline and students were asked to interview their oldest living relative, then develop a family tree and audio or video project to keep for future generations. The students then chose two ethnic or racial leaves to add to a class tree, which visually shows the background of students on the Polaris Base. Many students found out that they had lineages that traced back to the earliest history of America, with several students tracing their family to the American Revolution and others finding that family members fought in the Civil War. One student even traced their family to 1200 AD. Several of the 7th graders who participated in the Family Tree project are pictured above.



Students in Miss Zimmerman's first grade class at Eggert Elementary have made friends with the birds! The class, working together with the parents and grandparents of one of their fellow students, created five bird houses to hang on the property around the school building. Each bird house was themed and painted by groups of students, then filled with bird feed by volunteers, who visited the class to assist with a hanging ceremony. One is even hung outside their classroom so they can spy on their new feathered friends. Miss Zimmerman's class is pictured above before their trek around campus.



The Class of 2010 continued a tradition set by previous senior classes as they sponsored a dance to raise money for a local not-for-profit. This year's recipient was Mercy Flight WNY, a provider of emergency air medical transport and supporting services. In total, the dance raised \$2,500 which was presented to Mercy Flight by the senior class officers. Pictured above are (row 1 from left) Elyssa Wiecek, public relations officer; Lauren Postula, vice-president; Elizabeth Brydges, president; Samantha Ryan, Mercy Flight representative, and Avery Hartmens, secretary. Pictured in row 2 are Mr. Biondo and Mr. Perrelli, co-advisers, and David Armstrong, treasurer.

Hasek's Heroes Sportsmanship Award Stays in Orchard Park



*F*or the second year in a row, the winner of the Sportsmanship Award from Hasek's Heroes is going to a member of the Orchard Park High School senior class. Class of 2010 Graduate Evan Korn was selected as the winner of the award which is presented to a player who shows academic excellence and consistently demonstrates superior conduct and sportsmanship on and off the ice. He was nominated by his coach, High School Teacher Derek Gilham, who noted that Evan is the "perfect candidate for this award and was an easy nomination for me." Sean Green, executive director of Hasek's Heroes, and Michele Iannello, Hasek's Heroes board president, presented the award to Evan in

mid-June. Pictured here (row one, left to right), are Evan's Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Korn, Evan, Sean Green and Michele Iannello. In row two are Jim Higgins, District athletic director, and Jay Maciejewski, volunteer coach for the Varsity Hockey team.

Resident

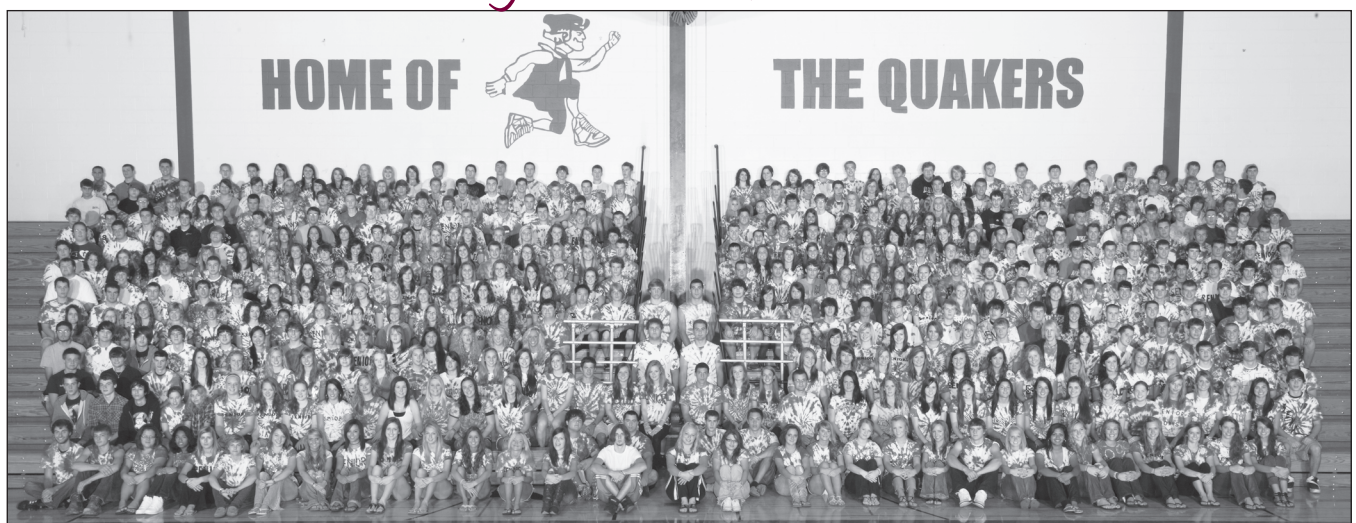
2010-2011 School Calendar Reminder

*P*lease note these important dates on your calendar:

September 7 - First Day of Student Attendance K-12
October 8 - Superintendent's Conference Day - NO Student Attendance K-12
October 11 - Columbus Day - NO SCHOOL
November 11 - Veterans Day - NO SCHOOL
November 25-26 - Thanksgiving Holiday - NO SCHOOL
December 23-31, 2010 - Holiday Recess - NO SCHOOL
January 3, 2011 - Classes Resume
January 17 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL
February 21-25 - Mid-Winter Recess - NO SCHOOL
March 21 - Superintendent's Conference Day - NO Student Attendance K-12
April 18-22 - Spring Recess - NO SCHOOL
May 27 & May 30 - Memorial Day Observance - NO SCHOOL
June 22 - Last Elementary Student Day
June 23 - Last Middle & High School Student Day

Please note the above list does not include Elementary and Middle School half-days and High School early dismissal days. To view the entire 2010-2011 calendar, please visit our web site at www.opschools.org and click on "Calendar."

Congrats Class of 2010!



www.opschools.org