



March 2013

Volume 20, Issue No. 8

A Spelling Bee Set to Music

H-I-L-A-R-I-O-U-S. Hilarious. Definition: Very amusing, extremely funny. I can use it in a sentence for you. “Wellsville High School’s spring production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* promises to be hilarious.” That’s right. It’s musical time once again! Performances are set for March 22-24 in the Wellsville High School Auditorium. This uproarious Tony Award winning musical, written by William Finn and Rachel Sheinkin based on a concept by Rebecca Feldman, is the story of six adolescents in the throes of puberty competing in the spelling championship of a lifetime. They are overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood with their sanity intact. The competition teaches these outsiders valuable lessons about life and about themselves.

Our production features some veteran actors and some newcomers as the six spellers. Senior Katie Recio plays Marcy Park, a Catholic School student who is a multi-talented over-achiever expected to deliver nothing less than excellence. Senior Sam Koch portrays Chip Tolentino, an athletic and social boy scout who was last year’s Putnam County Spelling Champion. William Barfé is portrayed by junior Drew Stonemetz. Barfé is boisterous and

has a unique spelling style -- spelling words out on the floor using his magic foot. A word (and dictionary) lover, Olive Ostrovsky is brought to life by sophomore Bailey Morse. Olive is a quiet child with parents who are

In addition to the student spellers, the show also features many other student and adult roles. The three main adult characters are Rona Perretti (played by Linden Miles), Douglas Panch (Sam Case), and Mitch Mahoney (Phillip Jones). Miles’ character hosts the bee and is a former champion herself. Case’s role is that of a Vice-Principal who was asked to be a judge for the competition at the last minute. Jones plays an ex-con doing community service as the bee’s Comfort Counselor, the one who helps the students come to grips with being eliminated from the competition.

Sam Koch says the show is not what you would expect. “The dynamics of the different characters are so unique that it creates a show that is surprising in its depth while still being quite funny.” He thinks that audiences will be pleased with the outcome.

This show has a twist to it -- it requires four audience members to come on stage and participate in the bee. Audience members will be solicited for these roles at each performance before the show starts. It gives spectators both on and off the stage a



frequently absent from her life. Sophomore William Parshall plays home-schooled Leaf Coneybear, who is unsure of his intellectual abilities and spells words while in a trance. Finally, freshman Bridget Christman depicts the youngest and most politically-aware speller, Logainne Schwartz-Grubenierre.

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Community All-Star Nominee For WHS

Independent Health and Business First have teamed up to identify and honor Community All-Stars, a group of Western New York high school seniors who exemplify outstanding qualities that make our community a great place to live.

Matthew Insley (ABOVE), Class of 2013, has been nominated by the Wellsville High School counselors and administration as a Community All-Star. Students nominated should demonstrate that they have made a positive difference in the lives of people at their school and in their community. Community All-Stars should exemplify the following qualities: be of good character, have made a difference in their community through their community service, embrace the diversity of students throughout the school, and be friendly and open to all.

Community All-Stars will be showcased in a special newspaper section to be published by Business First in June, 2013. Students recognized will also receive a commemorative plaque along with a \$50 award.

Congratulations to Matt on this outstanding nomination!

WCS Mission Statement

"Our mission is to prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of their communities through excellence in education."

Calendar of Events

March 1 - Elementary School Community Reader Day
March 4 - BOE Meeting, 6:30 p.m., MS/HS Cafeteria
March 8 - Elementary School Spring Picture Day
March 8-9 - Allegany County Honors Festival II
March 11 - **Superintendent's Conference Day – NO SCHOOL**
March 15-16 - Allegany County Honors Festival III
March 18 - PTA Meeting, Elementary School Library, 6:30 p.m.
March 18 - BOE Meeting, 6:30 p.m., MS/HS Library
March 19 - Middle School Marking Period 4 Ends
March 21 - Middle School Report Cards Mailed
March 22-24 - Musical
March 29 - **Good Friday – NO SCHOOL**
April 1-5 - **Spring Break – NO SCHOOL**
April 8 - BOE Meeting, 6:30 p.m., MS/HS Cafeteria
April 12 - Elementary School – End of Marking Period
April 16-18 - Grades 3-8 ELA NYS Assessment
April 19 - Elem. School Parent-Teacher Conference – Report Cards Distributed
April 22 - PTA Meeting, Elementary School Library, 6:30 p.m.
April 23 - BOE Meeting, 6:30 p.m., MS/HS Cafeteria
April 24-26 - Grades 3-8 Math NYS Assessment
April 25-27 - Senior Class Trip
May 7 - Budget Hearing, 6 p.m., MS/HS Cafeteria
May 7 - BOE Meeting, 6:30 p.m., MS/HS Cafeteria
May 8 - MS Marking Period 5 Ends
May 10 - MS Report Cards Mailed
May 14 - High School Concert, HS Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
May 18 - Junior/Senior Prom, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
May 20 - PTA Meeting, Elem. School Library, 6:30 p.m.
May 21 - School Budget Vote, HS Riverside Lobby, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
May 21 - Middle School Concert, 7 p.m.
May 21 - BOE Meeting, 9:15 p.m., DO Conference Room
May 27 - **Memorial Day – NO SCHOOL**
May 28-31 - Grade 4 NYS Science Performance Test

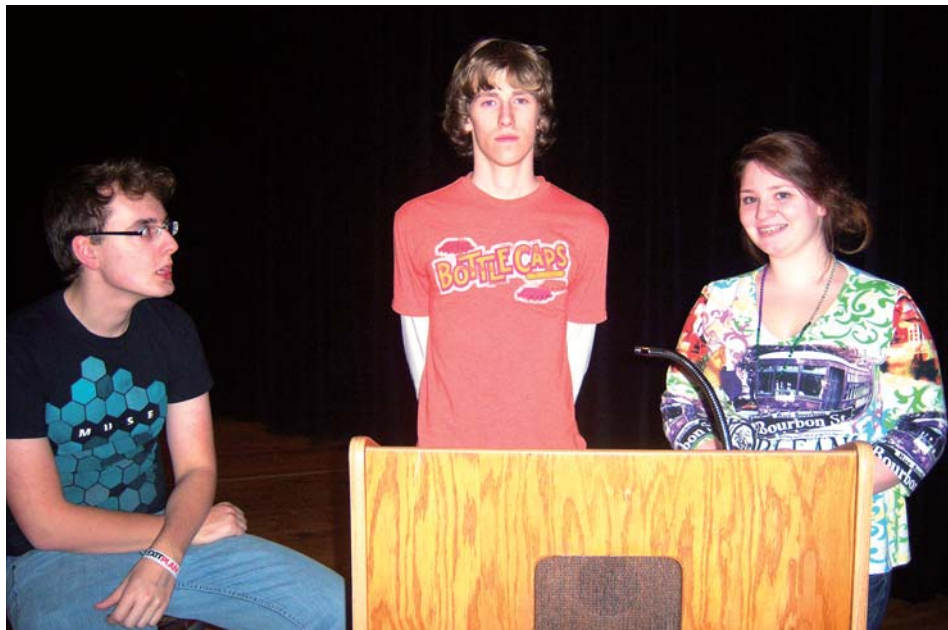


Set to Music-- From Page 1

chance to have a different perspective on the show. Linden Miles thinks this aspect of the show will be comical and will make the production more engaging. "This is not

your typical musical, with big plot lines and large dance numbers." She feels the show is delightful and edgy and very entertaining.

Performances are set for 7:30 p.m. on March 22 and 23, and 2 p.m. on March 24. Tickets will be \$7.00 for general admission and \$6.00 for students and senior citizens.



THE ADULTS in charge of the spelling bee: Mitch Mahoney (played by Phillip Jones), Douglas Panch (played by Sam Case), and Rona Perretti (played by Linden Miles).



THE SPELLERS are an odd but excited group. Shown left to right are: back row - Marcy Park (Katie Recio) and Chip Tolentino (Sam Koch); middle row - William Barfee (Drew Stonemetz); and front row - Logainne Schwartz-Grubenierre (Bridget Christman) and Leaf Coneybear (Willam Parshall).

Tickets can be purchased in advance from Brand Name Appliance on Main Street in Wellsville or from the Wellsville High School Main Office. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Practices for the production are in full swing and the students are excited about their roles. Now all they need is for you to be in the audience to see them perform. So mark your calendar and set aside time to come and see *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. It is guaranteed to be F-U-N!

Welcome!



Dena Hess (ABOVE) has been hired by the district as a new speech-language pathologist. She has a master's degree in her field. She was previously employed for nine years as a speech pathologist by Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES working in grades Pre-K-12. She has also worked for 14 years as an independent contractor with the Allegany County Department of Health in the area of Pre-K speech.

Dena and her husband, Charles, live in Wellsville. They have three children: Sarah (11) and twins Matthew and Ryan (9). Dena enjoys spending time with her family and friends. Her hobbies include reading and skiing.

WELLSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

50-98 School Street, Wellsville, NY 14895

585-596-2122 www.wellsville.wnyric.org



Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Registration

We are beginning to plan for the next school year.

To help us in our planning, we will be conducting our annual

Pre-kindergarten/Kindergarten registration at the Elementary School. To be eligible to attend our grant-funded Universal Pre-Kindergarten program in September 2013 a child must be **4** years old by December 1, 2013. To be eligible to attend our Kindergarten in September 2013, a child must be **5** years old by December 1, 2013. It is very important that you register your child for these classes.

Please fill out a "Registration Form" which appears on our web page, www.wellsville.wnyric.org and then select the Document Manager link on our District Homepage. There is a registration form for Pre-Kindergarten and one for Kindergarten. If you would like the school to mail one home to you, please call 596-2104 or you may stop by and pick one up.

On the day of registration please bring the following documents with you:

- *Proof of Residency in the Wellsville Central School District (a utility bill (gas or electric), tax bill, or statement from landlord)*
- *Completed Registration Packet*
- *Copy of Birth Certificate*
- *Parent/Guardian Photo Identification*
- *Copy of Immunization Records*
- *Documentation of any Allergies or Health Conditions*
- *Copy of Custody Papers and/or Order of Protection (if applicable)*
- *Department of Social Services Foster Placement Form (if applicable)*

Registration dates are:

Monday, March 18, through Wednesday, March 20, 2013 from 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

We will also hold an evening registration on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 from 6-8 p.m.

The Wellsville Preschool HEAD START will also be accepting referrals for the 2013-2014 program year at these sessions.

Registration forms completed beforehand can shorten your registration time. At registration, someone will meet with you to review all of the documents that you have brought. You do not need to bring your child to register him or her. Parents who register their child(ren) will be notified of the upcoming parent meeting to review the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Screening process.

*For more information on Head Start, please contact Katrina Carr at 268-7605, ext. 1525.
Don't just give your child an education; give him or her a HEAD START to life!*

Hip, Hip, Hooray! First Grade Celebrates 100 Days!



On Wednesday, February 13, the entire first grade celebrated the 100th day of school by doing numerous activities. One activity was sorting and counting 100 different objects that students brought in to school. Some of the objects included beans, pennies, noodles, cereal, candy, marshmallows, chips, buttons and rocks! The first grade team and the students would like to thank all of the parents who donated items and The Beef Haus Restaurant for supplying containers. We had a fantastic 100 Days of School celebration!

AT LEFT - Parker and Kayden use cups to sort and count objects.

AT RIGHT - Vinny, Ariel, and Myya.



BELOW - Madison, Hailey, and Mia.



THE OVERVIEW

will be produced monthly as a service to district residents, taxpayers, students, parents, and employees. Staff members and others can submit information on significant events via e-mail to the designated reporter for their building by the following deadline(s):
April 2013 **March 11**



Middle Schoolers Get iPads



Wellsville Middle School took a giant step into the 21st Century by issuing sixth grade students iPads for daily classroom use on Friday, February 1, 2013. Our first goal in taking on this pilot program is to have our students collaborate, communicate, create, and innovate using a tool that connects them instantly to the digital world. Over the past two years, students have had limited access to iPads in school via iPad carts that are shared between grades and between teachers. This project will allow our students to have their own device for the entire school day.

It is our hope that in the near future we will have procedures in place to allow students to bring the iPads home. Until we are ready to launch that portion of the project, students will pick up their iPad in the morning before their first class, and plug it back in the charging cart before they leave at the end of the school day.

Guidance News

Important Calendar Dates



- March 1** - Deadline for Allegany County Area Foundation Scholarship
- March 1** - Class of 2013 meeting – 7:50 WHS Auditorium
- March 8** - High School 3rd quarter progress reports available on the parent portal
- March 11** - **NO SCHOOL – Superintendent Conference Day**
- March 22-24** - Spring Musical
- March 25** - Penn York College Night – Reilly Center, St. Bonaventure University, 6-8 p.m.
- March 29 - April 5** - **NO SCHOOL - Spring Break** (The guidance office will be closed during the break)
- April 5** - Registration deadline for May 4 SAT College Entrance Exam to be given at WHS
- April 16** - MP 3 report cards are available on the parent portal
- April 19** - Late registration deadline for the May 4, 2013 SAT College Exam to be given at WHS
- April 22** - Senior Data Sheets must be returned to the guidance office to be eligible for local scholarships.
- April 25-27** - Senior Class Trip to New York City

Penn-York College Night

The annual Penn-York College Night will be held at St. Bonaventure University's Reilly Center on Monday, March 25, 2013, from 6-8 p.m. There will be over 100 colleges, universities, and technical school representatives available to provide information and answer questions.

Making Schedules For 2013-2014

Counselors will begin meeting with students in grades 8-11 to prepare class schedules for the 2013-2014 school year. During the meeting, students will receive a general orientation to schedule preparation including a review of their individualized graduation plans and Wellsville High School graduation requirements. Parents are cordially invited to attend these meetings, but will also receive a copy of their student's course request post meeting, if they choose to not attend. You may call 596-2160 to schedule an appointment with a counselor, or if you have any questions concerning your child's schedule and/or graduation requirements.

Special Notes For Seniors

- Please bring a copy of all college acceptance letters and scholarship offers to the guidance office.
- Be sure to apply for financial aid! You must complete and submit a FAFSA form to apply for federal student aid for college. You may apply online using FAFSA on the Web at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Contact your college's financial aid office to learn more about your particular college expenses.
- If you have not yet applied to college, it's not too late. See your counselor NOW!

Scholarship Deadlines

- March 1** - Allegany County Area Foundation Scholarship, Community Foundation Scholarship of Greater Buffalo
 - March 2** - Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York
 - March 13** - NY Rural Water Association Founder's Scholarship, Allegany County Counselors' Association Scholarship
 - March 15** - The Firemen's Association of NYS
 - March 18** - NY Water Environment Association Scholarship
 - April 1** - Benjamin Teater Memorial Scholarship, Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation Scholarship, and Eighth District Federated Garden Clubs of NY Scholarship
 - April 12** - NYS Association of Agricultural Fairs, Inc. Scholarship
 - May 1** - Friends of Allegany Arc 2013 Scholarship
- For more information on these scholarships, please see guidance. Local scholarship applications will be available in the spring. Free reputable scholarship searches are also available at: www.fastweb.com, www.collegeboard.com, and www.srewxpress.com.

Odyssey of the Mind Teams Preparing for Competition

On Saturday, February 2, nine Wells-ville Odyssey of the Mind teams participated in a Spontaneous Camp at the Middle School. The morning was filled with team-building activities that will help improve the scores of our teams on competition day.



The teams were challenged with problems like having to untie shoes, stack chairs, and build a Lego house all while having their hands tied together. Another problem was to creatively explain to a store manager why you have been caught carrying a large plastic cow out of the store.

Teams are preparing for the regional competition that will take place on Saturday, March 9, at Wellsville High School.

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Buy Books, Support Scholars!

By Christie Waterman, Media Specialist

The middle and high school libraries and Allegany County Area Foundation are joining forces and holding a community book fair open to the public on Saturday, March 9, during the Odyssey of the Mind event hosted by Wellsville Middle School. All proceeds from the book sales on the day of the event will go towards ACAF scholarships. Please visit the book fair to support literacy, enlighten young minds, and contribute to the collegiate bound.

Wellsville Central Schools
126 West State Street
Wellsville, NY 14895

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A Unique Look into Italy for the WHS International Club

By Linden Miles, Senior

Wellsville High School's International Club was thrilled when **Giacomo Filisetti** (AT FAR RIGHT) consented to present about Italy, his native country. Filisetti, bet-

ter known to the students of WHS as Jack, is a yearlong exchange student who is serving as the co-president of the International Club with fellow senior Linden Miles.

During his presentation, Filisetti touched on many of the different aspects of the Italian culture in a way that utilized information that went from basic facts to what he knew based on his own experiences. Filisetti stated in a later interview that the most important part of his presentation was when the club members had time to ask questions. That way they could "actually know what they wanted to know and not just what I thought was important to know."

Although he wished that he could have presented more on his own home town and where he lives, he gave a very comprehensive look into Italy. An interesting topic that was discussed was the differences between the education systems of Italy and the United States -- for example in Italy the children remain with the same group of children throughout their school years unlike in the U.S., where children are placed with different groups each year. Each has their own merits, but for Filisetti, it is the people that make the place: "I think that my favorite thing about Wellsville is my friends that I found here. I think that it's the same for Italy. My friends are still the best part of both."



CABOCES
Design & Print Publication

THE OVERVIEW

The individuals listed act as reporters for their respective buildings or departments.

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Lenore Braunscheidel, H. S. Guidance Office

Jeffrey Joslyn, Music

Dennis Miles, Athletic Schedules

Mary VanEtten, Special Services

To submit information or offer constructive suggestions for improvement, please contact the reporter for your building or department. Remember, these "reporters" can't report what they don't know -- so please keep them informed!

When questioned about the International Club as a whole Filisetti said that "it's a very good club. I know that it could go very far and try new things every week. I just think that other people should be more involved in it."

It can be said with confidence that advisor Mrs. McCartney should be seeing an increase in membership as more people become aware of the club through such activities as Giacomo's presentation on Italy.