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THE OVERVIEW

To prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of their communities, through excellence in education.

126 West State St., Wellsville, NY 14895 -- 585-596-2170 -- www.wellsvilleschools.org

June 2015

Volume 22, Issue No. 10



By Cody Hampton, Choral Instructor

In March of 2015, the Wellsville A Cappella Vocal Ensemble, commonly known as W.A.V.E., traveled to Ann Arbor, Michigan to compete in the International Championship of High School A Cappella for the second consecutive year.

While preparing for this event, W.A.V.E. was invited to participate in a program called the Vocal Connection. W.A.V.E. was paired up

with Rochester Institute of Technology's 8 Beat Measure, an all-male a cappella group that regularly releases CDs and annually competes in the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella. The program featured three meetings between the two groups. In January, 8 Beat Measure traveled to Wellsville High School to spend the afternoon with W.A.V.E. In February, W.A.V.E. made a visit to the Rochester Institute of Technology, where we received a tour of the campus and learned about college life.

At both meetings, the improvement of our competition set was the main focus.

The final connection with 8 Beat Measure took place in Vestal, NY, with a concert featuring six college and high school a cappella groups from around New York State. On April 8, the Wellsville Vocal Music ensembles paired with ensembles from Cuba-Rushford Central School and Scio Central School for the 2nd annual Choirs for the Cure Concert. The concert raised \$450 for the Ronald McDonald House.

Vote Results . . .

Thank you, Wellsville! We sincerely appreciate the support you provide to our students. With your support, we are able to provide our students with the education necessary to fulfill our mission . . . "To prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of their communities through excellence in education."

Budget – Passed
Bus Purchases - Passed
Public Library - Passed
Reduction in BOE (9-7) - Passed

BOE Seats
 Jeff LaBenne
 Carol English
 Clint Gilkey



THE OVERVIEW

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

Elementary School

Dean Giopulos, Ann White

Middle School

Mary Ellen O'Connell, Kasey Riley

High School

Jeffrey White, Cindy Chapman

Additional Staff

Dawn Youmans, District Office

Lenore Braunscheidel, H. S. Guidance Office

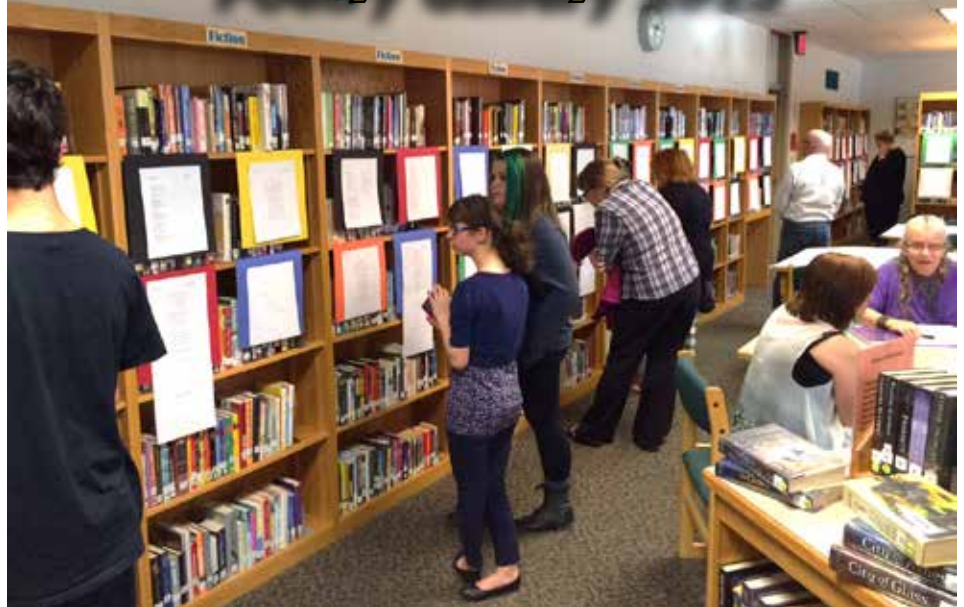
Jeffrey Joslyn, Music

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!

Poetry Gallery 2015



An evening to celebrate poetry -- Poetry Gallery 2015 -- took place on April 29 in the high school library. More than 100 poems were on display for students, teachers, families, and community members. The event was hosted by the Wellsville Chapter of the National Honor Society. It was an edifying evening for all. *Great writing!*

WCS Calendar of Events

May 20-29 - NYS Science Performance Test, Grades 4 & 8

May 27 - High School Spring Concert, HS Aud., 7:30 p.m.

June 1 - NYS Science Written Test, Grades 4 & 8

June 1 - BOE Meeting, MS Room 212, 6:30 p.m.

June 2 - Senior Scholarship Night, HS Auditorium, 7 p.m.

June 4 - "June in Bloom" Jazz Festival

June 9 - Elementary School Spring Concert, HS Auditorium, 7 p.m.

June 11 - Jump Day

June 11 - "An Encore Performance," David Howe Library, 7 p.m.

June 12 - Jump Day (Rain Date)

June 13 - ACT College Entrance Exams

June 16-25 - Regents Exams

June 16 - PTA Meeting, Elementary School Library, 6 p.m.

June 19-22 - WMS Final Exam Days

June 23 - MS End of Year Celebration Awards Ceremony 8:30 a.m.

June 23 - MS Dismissal 10:40am

June 23 - Elementary School Report Cards sent home

June 26 - Graduation, Wellsville High School, 7 p.m.

June 26 - High School Report Cards available on parent portal

June 30 - Middle School Report Cards mailed



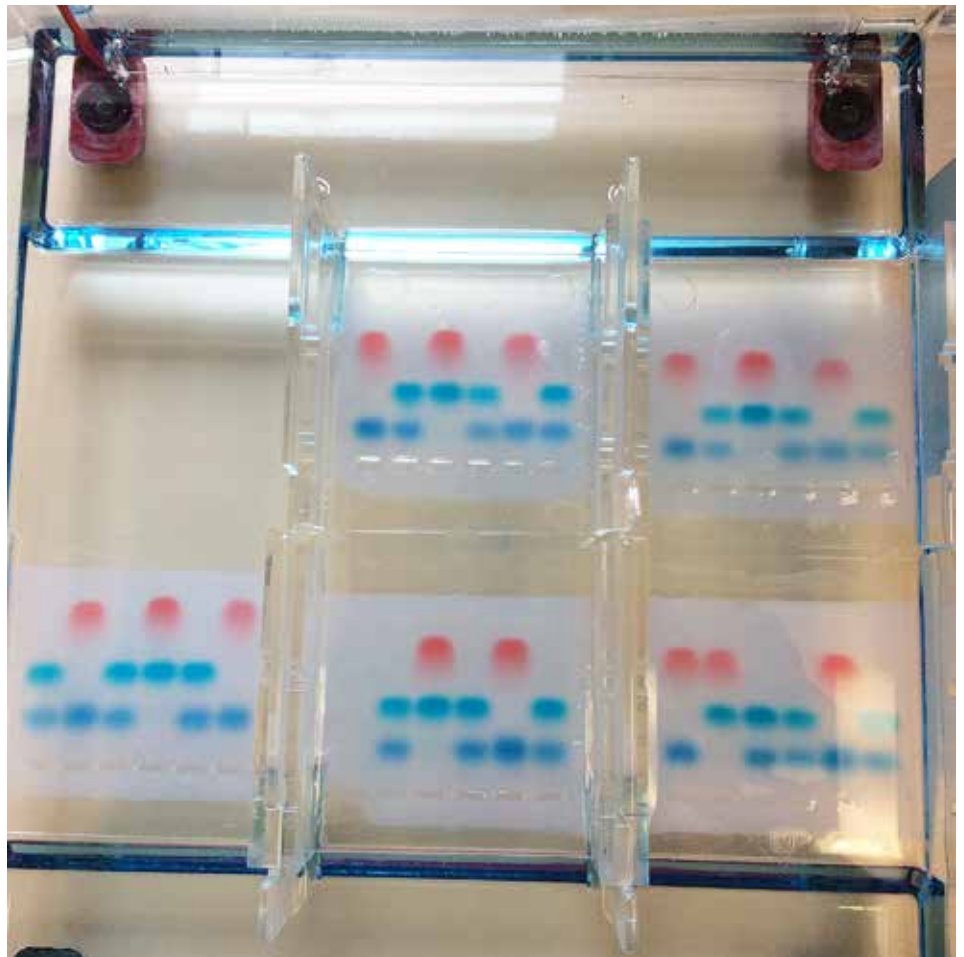
WCS Mission Statement

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

Living Environment Students Perform Paternity Test

Mrs. Sandra Quick's Living Environment lab class at the high school recently performed gel electrophoresis for a simulated paternity test.

According to Mrs. Quick, "Most high school students are only able to complete a simulation of this procedure. However, our students were able to complete the actual test recently, thanks to a grant from Dresser-Rand. The hands-on experience they received is very beneficial for the Regents Exam on June 16th, but also very valuable for continuation of their education at the college level. The students really enjoyed the opportunity this experience provided. They encountered the problems that many college students encounter attempting to complete this task for the first time, but were able to overcome the challenges. This will be very beneficial for those students who will be pursuing a career in science. Thank you very much to Dresser-Rand for making it possible for this unique opportunity to happen! Your continued support of education in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) is greatly appreciated!"



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):
July 2015 **June 30**

Women's Rights National Historical Park Dreaming Big!

The Women's Rights National Historic Park is dreaming big this year. The exhibit will be up from May 1 - June 28, 2015. It is located at the Women's Rights National Historical Park, 136 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, NY, 13148, (315) 568-5302. This year's event will be big enough to display 60

pieces of art created collaboratively by 341 individuals from AZ, FL, KS, MA, NJ, NM, and NY. The exhibit includes pieces from 11 schools in New York State. One of those pieces was created by 11 Wellsville High School students from the Graphic Arts class.

This show is part of the International Fiber Collaborative's latest endeavor – *The Dream Rocket Project*. Thousands of artworks from various regions of the world are being collected through *The Dream Rocket*

Continued on Page 6



The Dream Rocket Project student artwork: (shown left to right) top row - Cooper Buckley, Alyssa Dailey, Justin Fisher, and Kiana Kalkbrenner; second row - Garrett Gardner, Alexandra Watson, Courtney Buentello, and Joelle Nunziato; bottom row - Kayla Pinney, Mr. Corwine, William Ebert, and Daniel Recio.

AT RIGHT - Wheeler Dahlgreen and his grandfather plant a flower in the new garden box.

IN BOTTOM PHOTOS - Sophia Vogel paints and Kyra Young plants with their mothers.



Havens Takes 3rd in Skills USA, NY Competition 2015

The Career and Technical Education Center at Belmont sent 13 students to the New York State SkillsUSA competition held in Syracuse on April 22-24. The students were given the opportunity to compete against their peers from across the state in various competitions based on their individual career area.

The competitors from the BOCES Center at Belmont represented Allegany County very well. Along with many students finishing near the top levels in their competitions, one team took home bronze with a third place finish in the Skills USA Chapter Display Design Competition. Juniors **Gary Havens** (*at left in photo ABOVE*) from Wellsville and Haylee Burdick from Bolivar-Richburg competed against primarily seniors from across New York State. Both students are enrolled in the Media Communications Class taught by Mr. Steve Pettenati.



Community Parent Adventure Held at Elementary School

By Tiffany Grimes, Pre-K Teacher

Wellsville Elementary School hosted a Community Parent Adventure on May 15. We had a wonderful turnout. Fassett Lane donated pressure treated lumber, and Mr. Grimes built the garden box for the event. Parents and children came to plant flowers and vegetable seeds in the box. They also engaged in outdoor activities, such



as painting our picnic tables, reading and snacking under one of our beautiful trees by the playground and having fun with gigantic bubbles! We wanted to do something to remind everyone our school community is important and that together we can make it beautiful and enjoy it! The garden box is for the entire elementary school to use for years to come. We ask that you enjoy the beauty of the box, and help to maintain it, if you notice that it needs care. *But PLEASE . . . do not pick or trample over the flowers.*

Guidance News

Important Calendar Dates

June 2 - Senior Art Show, 5:30 p.m.

June 2 - Senior Scholarship Night, WHS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

June 13 - ACT College Entrance exam to be given at WHS. Students should be at the high school by 7:45 a.m. Please bring your admission ticket, photo identification, two #2 pencils, and a calculator.

June 14 - Baccalaureate

June 17-25 - Regents Exams and Tests

June 26 - Final report cards are available on the parent portal.

June 26 - Graduation, 7:00 p.m.

July 1 - Driver Education Session I begins and runs through July 23

July 27 - Driver Education Session II begins and runs through August 18

July 7 - BOCES Summer School Program begins and runs Monday through Thursday until August 11. Summer school will entail two periods: 8-9:55 a.m. and 10-11:55 a.m.

August 12 & 13 - Regents Exams

BOCES Summer School Program

High School students who fail a course or examination and do not retake it in Summer School may face spending more than four years to complete a high school diploma. Graduation requirements call for additional courses to earn 22 ½ credits. This makes it difficult to make up classes the following year if any courses must be repeated. This is especially true for students who are working toward a vocational/technical high school diploma.

Please call your guidance counselor at 585-596-2160 if you need information about Summer School.



Was that a Horse at School?

The entire second grade is learning about plants and animals in their science unit this month. As an enrichment activity, Mrs. Lund brought her horse, Randall, to school. Students enjoyed learning about Randall's behaviors, his features, how to be safe with a horse, and how to care for a horse. Students were very excited to see a horse and many students were able to see a horse for their very first time! Thank you, Mrs. Lund, for providing this great learning opportunity for our second graders!

Dreaming -- From Page 4

Project. Eventually, all submissions will be connected side by side to wrap the skeleton of a 385' Space Launch System (SLS) rocket replica, and will be placed on temporary exhibit at locations around the United States. The SLS is NASA's dream rocket—to Mars and beyond.

Also currently on display at the Wells-ville David Howe Public Library is the District Art Show with work from the Elementary, Middle and High Schools. This is an annual event and the opening was held the evening of Thursday, May 14th to a well-attended and appreciative audience. The show remains up until Friday, June 5th.

Summer Food Service Program

The Wellsville CSD announces its participation in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Meals will be provided to all children 18 years and under without charge. Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

Persons interested in receiving more information should contact: Wellsville CSD, Cafeteria Manager Bob Meyers, 50-98 School Street, Wellsville, NY 14895 or call 585-596-2111.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Form, found online at

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request a form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S.

Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities, may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Meals will be provided at the following sites:

Wellsville Elementary School				Wellsville High School			
Site Address				Site address			
Begin Date	End Date	Meals Available	Service Times	Begin Date	End Date	Meals Available	Service Times
6/29/15	8/21/15	Breakfast	9:00-10:45am	7/6/15	8/14/15	Breakfast	8:00-9:30am
		Lunch	11:00am-12:30pm			Lunch	11:00am-12:30pm

Menus shown on the next two pages . . .

**Free Breakfast and
Lunch Summer Meals
for ages 18 and
younger**

SUMMER MEALS START
AT THE ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL JUNE 29TH
SUMMER MEALS START
AT HIGH SCHOOL JULY 6

**This institution is an
equal opportunity
provider and employer**

JUNE JULY AUGUST
LUNCH

Fat Free or 1% Milk is
offered with all meals

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29 MINI CINNIS ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	30 MINI PANCAKES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	1 MINI WAFFLES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	2 BREAKFAST BAR ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	3 TOASTED BAGEL CREAM CHEESE ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE
5 BREAKFAST ON A STICK ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	7 LA CINNAMON BREAD ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	8 BREAKFAST BURRITO ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	9 BREAKFAST PIZZA ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	10 ULTIMATE BREAKFAST ROUND ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE
13 MINI CINNIS ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	14 MINI PANCAKES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	15 MINI WAFFLES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	16 BREAKFAST BAR ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	17 TOASTED BAGEL CREAM CHEESE ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE
20 BREAKFAST ON A STICK ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	21 LA CINNAMON BREAD ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	22 BREAKFAST BURRITO ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	23 BREAKFAST PIZZA ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	24 ULTIMATE BREAKFAST ROUND ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE
27 MINI CINNIS ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	28 MINI PANCAKES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	29 MINI WAFFLES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	30 BREAKFAST BAR ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	31 TOASTED BAGEL CREAM CHEESE ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE
3 BREAKFAST ON A STICK ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	4 LA CINNAMON BREAD ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	5 BREAKFAST BURRITO ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	6 BREAKFAST PIZZA ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	7 ULTIMATE BREAKFAST ROUND ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE
10 MINI CINNIS ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	11 MINI PANCAKES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	12 MINI WAFFLES ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	13 BREAKFAST BAR ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	14 TOASTED BAGEL CREAM CHEESE ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE
17 BREAKFAST ON A STICK ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	18 LA CINNAMON BREAD ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	19 BREAKFAST BURRITO ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	20 BREAKFAST PIZZA ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE	21 ULTIMATE BREAKFAST ROUND ASSORTED FRUIT JUICE



SUMMER MEALS START AT THE ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL JUNE 29TH
SUMMER MEALS START AT HIGH SCHOOL JULY 6

Fat Free or 1% Milk is
offered with all meals

JUNE JULY AUGUST LUNCH

This institution is an
equal opportunity
provider and employer

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29 CHICKEN NUGGETS PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY GREEN BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	30 STUFFED CRUST PIZZA PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY TOSSED SALAD CHILLED FRUIT	1 HAMBURGER ON A BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CORN CHILLED FRUIT	2 MOZZARELLA STICKS PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BROCCOLI CHILLED FRUIT	3 TURKEY SUB PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BABY CARROTS CHILLED FRUIT
6 CHICKEN PATTY SANDWICH PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BROCCOLI CHILLED FRUIT	7 HOT DOG ON A BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BAKED BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	8 HOT HAM & CHEESE ON BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY GREEN BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	9 RIB B QUE / BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CORN CHILLED FRUIT	10 CHICKEN & CHEESE QUESIDILLA PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CARROTS CHILLED FRUIT
13 POPCORN CHICKEN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY TOSSED SALAD WLSV CHILLED FRUIT	14 BBQ PORK / BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CORN CHILLED FRUIT	15 BIG DADDY'S PIZZA PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY GREEN BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	16 TURKEY SUB PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BABY CARROTS CHILLED FRUIT	17 BBQ CHICKEN SANDWICH PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BAKED BEANS CHILLED FRUIT
20 CHICKEN NUGGETS PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY GREEN BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	21 STUFFED CRUST PIZZA PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY TOSSED SALAD CHILLED FRUIT	22 HAMBURGER ON A BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CORN CHILLED FRUIT	23 MOZZARELLA STICKS PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BROCCOLI CHILLED FRUIT	24 TURKEY SUB PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BABY CARROTS CHILLED FRUIT
27 CHICKEN PATTY SANDWICH PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BROCCOLI CHILLED FRUIT	28 HOT DOG ON A BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BAKED BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	29 HOT HAM & CHEESE ON BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY GREEN BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	30 RIB B QUE / BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CORN CHILLED FRUIT	31 CHICKEN & CHEESE QUESIDILLA PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CARROTS CHILLED FRUIT
3 POPCORN CHICKEN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY TOSSED SALAD CHILLED FRUIT	4 BBQ PORK / BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY WL CORN CHILLED FRUIT	5 BIG DADDY'S PIZZA PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY GREEN BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	6 TURKEY SUB PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BABY CARROTS CHILLED FRUIT	7 BBQ CHICKEN SANDWICH PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BAKED BEANS CHILLED FRUIT
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17 CHICKEN PATTY SANDWICH PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BROCCOLI CHILLED FRUIT	18 HOT DOG / BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY BAKED BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	19 HOT HAM & CHEESE ON BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY GREEN BEANS CHILLED FRUIT	20 RIB B QUE / BUN PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CORN CHILLED FRUIT	21 CHICKEN & CHEESE QUESIDILLA PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY CARROTS CHILLED FRUIT



Elementary School Hosts Family Literacy Nights

By Elissa Burke, AIS Instructor

On April 20 and 21, Wellsville Elementary School held its first Family Literacy Nights -- based on the theme, Camp Read-A-Lot -- for parents and families of intermediate and primary grades, respectively. Each evening began with the AIS Reading Coaches, Holly LaBenne and Elissa Burke, providing parents with an overview of the guided reading program that has been implemented at WES, as well as the Learning Targets initiative that every teacher in the building is using within their curriculum. Parents, with their children, were then able to rotate through three of five offered learning stations, targeted to provide families with activities that provided them with ideas of how to easily incorporate various aspects of literacy into their families' routines. A team of teachers directed each station, providing information on topics from phonics and phonemic awareness for the primary grade to "text talking" with the intermediate grades.



The S'Mores station (*shown ABOVE*) was a big hit with the students, wherein

Continued on Next Page



Literacy -- From Page 8

everyone was able to make the traditional camping treat, and parents were given tips on how to promote incidental reading every day with their youngsters.



Both evenings were a tremendous success, with many children asking if there

would be another Camp Read-A Lot next year!



Naturalist/Author/Illustrator Visits Elementary School

By Scott Vonderheide, WES Librarian

Jim Arnosky, naturalist, author and illustrator of children's books visited Wellsville Elementary School on Tuesday, May 5. He presented three times, reaching all grade levels. He also autographed books, attended an early morning teacher reception, and was the guest at an ice cream party for several students who were winners of a trivia contest based on his books. Before he arrived, fourth and fifth-grade students had an opportunity to write questions for the author to answer. The following are his responses to some of those questions, which he gave during an interview with Mr. Vonderheide, the elementary librarian.

Wyatt Taggart: Why do you write books about nature for children—to make them learn, or to make them happy? *I like to do both. I think learning about nature will make you happy.*

Toryn Cline: What inspired you to be an author? *It's hard work to write well so that others will enjoy it. That challenge inspires me.*

Ellie LaBenne: Out of any job you could have, why did you choose to be an author? *I didn't choose it. I started by keeping a journal about what I was observing in nature. The practice of writing in the*

journal helped me to become a better writer. The better I became, the more I wanted to share with others what I wrote. Since I was already illustrating for other authors, it was a natural step for me to start illustrating my own writing.

Isabella Sparatta: Are all your books about nature? *Yes. That's my expertise.*

Grace Morehouse: Did your mom or dad ever push you to be your best? Did you ever crack under the pressure? *No, they didn't. My father was very talented. I had some of the same innate artistic ability that he had.*

Erin Johnson: How did you become such a good artist? *I was born with the talent. I am very thankful for it. Still, I have had to work hard to get better at it.*

Taylor Feltz: Did you go to college to get a degree? *No, I didn't go to college. After high school, I joined the Navy.*

Kylie Fanton: How did you meet your wife? *I met Deanna while she was attending a radiologist school in Philadelphia. She and her roommates were having a party. A friend of mine was invited. He asked me to come along. I met her at the party. I am eternally grateful to him and he is still my friend.*

Gavin Murphy: What would your back-up job be if you weren't an author? *I have always made a living by drawing.*

When I was younger I told Deanna that if I couldn't get any illustration work, I would take my guitar into cafes that featured folk music and play for a living.

Dakota Clark: Are your children good at drawing too? *We have two grown daughters. One is a published author. The other is a graphic artist who designs decorations for granite monuments.*

Gracie Hirt: Has your wife ever tried to write a book? *Deanna likes to write about our travelling adventures. These are stories that are shared with friends, but not something that she wants to have published.*

Caitlin Bittner: How many books have you written? *I am the author and illustrator of 136 books. I have also illustrated 47 books for other authors.*

Ashden Hyslip: How long does it take to draw the pictures in your books? *It usually takes me about four months to create the original paintings for a picture book.*

Connor Osborne: How long does it take you to write a chapter book? *Chapter books come easier because there is a flow to the story. The tricky part is deciding when to stop each day. It's important to have a good starting point for the next morning.*

Colbin Rhodes: Do you write your books or do you type them? *I don't know*

Continued on Next Page

Naturalist -- From Page 4

how to type. I write them in longhand on loose leaf paper. My wife Deanna types them into the computer for me.

Sara Reitz: How do you write about all these animals? Do you use the internet? I like to observe animals in their natural habitat. That's the primary way I learn about them. I don't use the internet because I want to learn firsthand about the animals that fascinate me.

Alyssa Dorrough: Did you go and watch the animals in real life that you write about? Yes. If I haven't seen them in the wild, I go to zoos to observe and draw them.

Jaylynn Mess: Do you find some animals hard to draw? *Squirrels and horses.*

Lilian Shoup: Do the animals you watch and draw get angry when you keep looking at them? No, because I don't let them see me. I sneak up on them. I approach them downwind and stay low or behind cover.

Lexi Armstrong: Is there any animal that you have not made a book about but would like to? I would like to do a book about monkeys and one about tropical birds.

Evan McDowell: How do you come up with your songs? I think the songs are gifts. They come into my mind, usually words and music together. I have to hurry to write them down so I don't forget them.

Alia Kurdi: Do you like writing songs better than writing books? I love writing

songs. A lot of my books are in song-like form. Books such as *Deer at the Brook*, *Come out Muskrat*, *Raccoons and Ripe Corn* were at first songs. They had rhythm and rhyme. I took the rhyming out but the rhythm is still there.

Matthew Carlton: What was your favorite book to illustrate or write? I love my new book *Frozen Wild*, which is coming out this fall. The cover features a red fox. I think it's the best painting I have ever done.

Austin Stirk: How much money do you make per book? There is an elaborate formula that determines how much I receive for each book sold. It is approximately 10 percent of the wholesale price. So, for a hardcover book I receive about 90 cents. For a paperback, I only get 10 cents.

Lindsey Slocum: In your book *Wild Tracks* how did you know what tracks belong to which animal? I have studied animal tracks for most of my life, so I know a lot about animals and animal behavior from them. As a young man, I started with a field guide that helped me to identify them, a book like my own.

Jarron Smith: What is your favorite animal? I love water birds, especially wood ducks and pelicans.

Abby Elias: Are you scared of snakes? Yes!

Ashton Jennings: Why did you create the character Crinkleroot? I created him when I was writing my first book about nature. I felt I was much too young to be believed for the knowledge I was sharing. I thought if it came from a wise old man readers would be more accepting.

Kate O'Neill: Did you base Crinkleroot after you? No, he's based on Deanna's father, mixed with some qualities of my friend Jim Brett, a naturalist who was my mentor, and host of other old bearded gentlemen of literature including Santa Claus to Grandpa Smurf. As I have grown older I have started to look more and more like Crinkleroot.

Riley Graves: Do your kids ever go into the wilderness with you and explore? They have always gone with us on walks and hikes in the outdoors. Now my grand kids join me.

Cheyene Dickerson: Do you hunt? No. I tried it. I wasn't good at it because I wanted to watch the animal rather than shoot it. My sons-in-law and my grandsons all like to hunt.



Grace Stonemetz: What do you like to do in your spare time? I love being on my boat and fishing. At home, I like to watch funny movies.

Matthew Bittel: What kind of motorcycle do you like to ride? My last one was a Harley Davidson Road King, which is a big bike. I named it Cowboy Up. I no longer ride because I have a bad knee and cannot support it.

John Harrington: What is your favorite color? Sage, it's a grayish green color.

Tristyn Rowe: Have you written any books for adults? I have written some fishing books that adults like. I have also written four books about outdoor sketching, which came from a college course I taught. Mostly, I write for children.

Skylar Totten: Have you ever written a book that's been rejected by your publishers? Yes. I send in ideas all the time to my publishers. They don't outright reject them. They want to keep me as one of their authors. So, they nicely say the market isn't ready for my ideas yet.

Andrew Fanton: Did you ever get lost in the woods? Once. It was very frightening.

Braedan Ratzel: Do you like to camp outside when you are observing nature? No. I come home every night.

Elijah Schmidt: Why do you love the woods so much? I have a lot of woods near my home in Vermont. I like to wander through them. I feel comfortable there.



Wellsville Central Schools
126 West State Street
Wellsville, NY 14895

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Elizabeth Sinski, Middle/High School Assistant Principal
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Karen Cunico, Elementary School Assistant Principal
Emory Roethel, Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology
Mary VanEtten, Coordinator of Special Education and Student Services



WHS Seniors Rewarded for Taking "No 55" Challenge

Wellsville's English 12 students made history this year and were rewarded with a catered breakfast in April.

"For the first time in my 15 years at Wellsville, no English 12 student took the 55 option during the first marking period," Ms. Figura said. The district policy states that a student who fails the first marking period can score no lower than a 55.

"When I realized that no student was coasting toward a 55, I challenged the students. If everyone passed English 12 in the first marking period, I would buy them breakfast," Ms. Figura said.

Everyone met the challenge, so in April, the WHS cafeteria staff prepared a special breakfast of eggs, sausage, and, by the students' special request, cinnamon twists.

Ms. Figura stated that by passing the first marking period, more students are in good shape to pass English 12 and graduate. She plans to offer the incentive again next year.

AT RIGHT - WHS seniors Deb Stadelman, Krystal Bestine, Anna Haxton, Desarae Currier, and Zach Brooks celebrate with cinnamon twists after winning the No 55 Challenge in English 12.

