

# Chenango Forks Central Schools *Newsletter*

November 2006 Vol. VII, No. 3

## National Merit program commends student



Nick Ballard

Congratulations to Nicholas Ballard (CF '07) for being named a Commended Student in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC).

Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.4 million students who entered the 2007 competition by taking the 2005 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

"Recognition of academically talented students and the key role played by schools in their development is essential to the pursuit of educational excellence in our nation," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "The young people being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive program."

-Diane Wheeler-Busch, HS Principal

## They punt, they pass, & they kick

All the 4th and 5th grade students recently competed in our annual Punt, Pass and Kick contest. Congratulations to all our students for their best efforts.

Special congratulations to four finalists who competed at the Johnson City YMCA against other students from Broome County. In the 10-11 year old category, **Robert Story** placed fifth and **Emily Abdallah** placed third. In the 8-9 year old category, **Dillon Rohmann** placed fifth and **Allison Dibble** placed first.

Allison advanced to the statewide sectionals which will be held during half time at a Buffalo Bills game on November 5th. Allison is our third girl to make it to Buffalo. Great job!

-Kelly Hillis, KI Physical Education

Photo, top: Allison displays her award.

Photo, bottom: Allison Dibble, Dillon Rohmann, Emily Abdallah, and Robert Story.



**Have a Great Thanksgiving Break**  
**November 22 - 24, 2006**

*A community where learners excel!*

## PROJECT UPDATE

At their October 2006 meeting, the Chenango Forks Board of Education approved the following propositions which will be presented to the voters on Wednesday, January 31, 2007:

### PROPOSITION NO. 1

1. The Board of Education of Chenango Forks Central School District is hereby authorized to the acquisition of school buses and a passenger vehicle, including any preliminary and incidental costs related thereto; and

2. The total estimated maximum cost of such purpose, including other related expenses, is Two Hundred Four Thousand Dollars (\$204,000). The Board of Education is authorized to expend for such purpose an amount not exceeding such total estimated maximum cost; and

3. A tax in the amount of \$204,000 being the total of the cost authorized to be expended for such purpose shall be levied upon all the taxable property in the School District in order to raise the monies required for such purpose and such tax shall be levied in annual installments which shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education; and

4. The Board of Education is hereby authorized to issue bonds or other obligations of the School District in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$204,000 in anticipation of the collection of said tax and a tax shall be levied to pay the interest on said bonds or other obligations as the same shall become due.



CF students enjoy safe, up-to-date transportation on our buses.

### PROPOSITION NO. 2

1. The Board of Education of the Chenango Forks Central School District is hereby authorized to reconstruct, renovate and equip the elementary, middle and high school buildings and athletic fields for the School District (the school buildings being of Class "A" construction, as that term is defined in section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law), including the acquisition of any applicable equipment, machinery, apparatus, land, rights-in-land, the costs of architects, engineers, attorneys, and any other preliminary costs and incidental costs related thereto; and

2. The total estimated maximum cost of such purpose, including other related expenses, is Ten Million Nine Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$10,927,000). The Board of Education is authorized to expend for such purpose an amount not exceeding such total estimated maximum cost; and

3. A tax in the amount of \$10,920,000 being a portion of the total of the cost authorized to be expended for such purpose shall be levied upon all the taxable property in the School District in order to raise the monies required for such purpose and such tax shall be levied in annual installments which shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education; and

4. The Board of Education is hereby authorized to issue bonds or other obligations of the School District in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$10,920,000 in anticipation of the collection of said tax and a tax shall be levied to pay the interest on said bonds or other obligations as the same shall become due.



The project includes a renovated High School auditorium with greatly improved ventilation and air conditioning.

*(continued on next page)*

## PROJECT UPDATE (continued)

### PROPOSITION NO. 3

1. The Board of Education of the Chenango Forks Central School District is hereby authorized to (i) expend \$6,968.30, plus interest accrued to December 31, 2006 (estimated to be \$331.70), in the total estimated amount of \$7,300, from moneys in a capital reserve fund established by the School District on May 24, 1995 for the reconstruction, repair and renovation of capital improvements and the acquisition of equipment, purposes for which the Building Project qualifies and (ii) extend the probable term of such reserve fund for a period of three years from May 24, 2005, retroactively.

The Board of Education also established the following dates and times to conduct informational meetings concerning the details of the project, which will be part of the regular Board meetings. Meeting dates and times are **Thursday, November 9, 2006 at 7:15 p.m. in the Middle School Activity Area; Wednesday, December 13, 2006 at 7:15 p.m. in the Middle School Activity Area; and Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. in the Middle School Activity Area.** Please note that the regularly scheduled BOE meeting on December 14, 2006 has been moved to December 13, 2006 and the January meeting originally scheduled for January 11, 2007 has been moved to January 16, 2007.

The District will provide a detailed flyer of the proposed work to be accomplished at the November informational meeting. Additional copies will be available in all of the main offices and school events or by calling Kathy Blackman at 648-7564. The flyer will delineate the work to be completed in each of the four school buildings, the bus garage, and the athletic fields. The publication will include information on the work to be performed in upgrading the indoor air quality, security upgrades, refurbishing the High School auditorium, reconstruction of the Harshaw playground and upgrades to make the facilities more handicapped accessible.

Community residents also will need to consider the purchase of two (2) replacement 66-passenger buses and one (1) replacement nine-passenger vehicle at a cost not to exceed \$204,000. Ninety percent of this cost will come from state funding. The bonding for the buses is over five years. On the average full value home of \$108,168, the proposal would cost approximately \$2.00 per year.

The building project is valued at \$10.9 million of which 90.2% is covered by state aid. Using the average home in the District, the project would cost the taxpayer \$34.91 per year for 15 years or 9.5¢ per day.

I would ask that all eligible voters become familiar with the propositions by reading the materials being made available, attending the informational meetings and by asking questions. I can be contacted at 648-7543 or at [bundyr@cforks.org](mailto:bundyr@cforks.org). I'm also prepared to meet with groups concerning the propositions. Please call to arrange a meeting.

-Bob Bundy, Superintendent of Schools



Steve Korutz, Safe Schools Coordinator, monitors the High School's surveillance system. The security systems will be improved in the proposed project.



### Did You Know That:

- Academic performance is strongly related to youth substance abuse?
- Compared to weaker students, students

with better performance are more likely to refrain from substance use?

#### Want More Information?

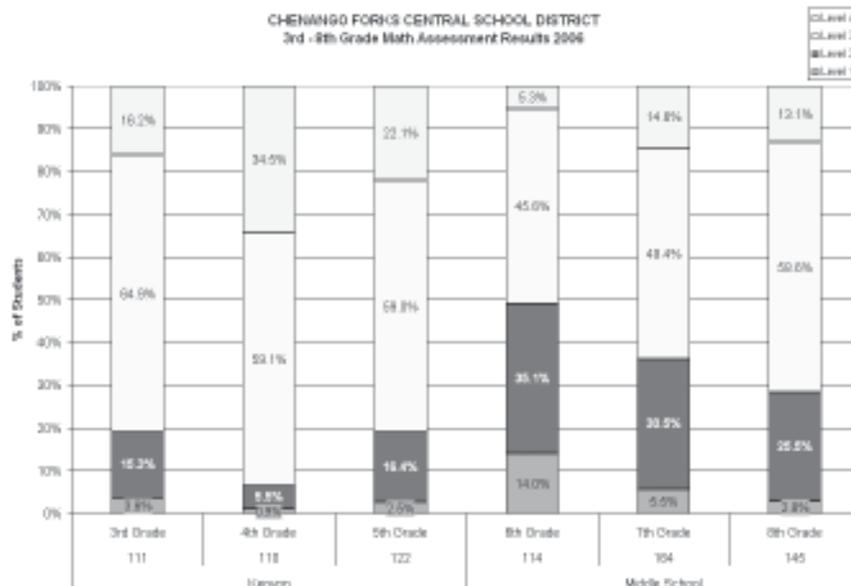
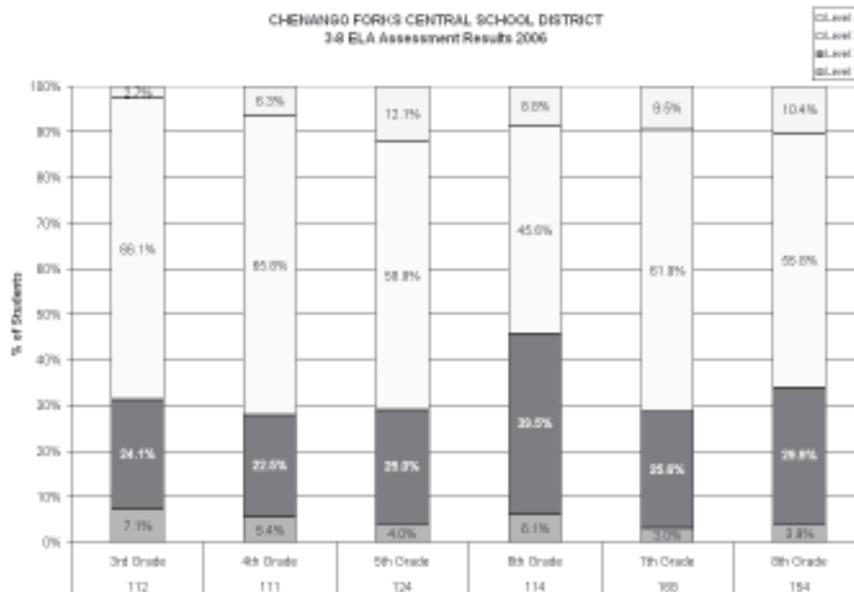
If you have a school-aged child or are interested in finding out how YOU can help prevent youth substance abuse, please contact the  
**KYDS Coalition at 607-778-1146.**

# New York State 3-8 Grades English Language Arts (ELA) and Math Assessments

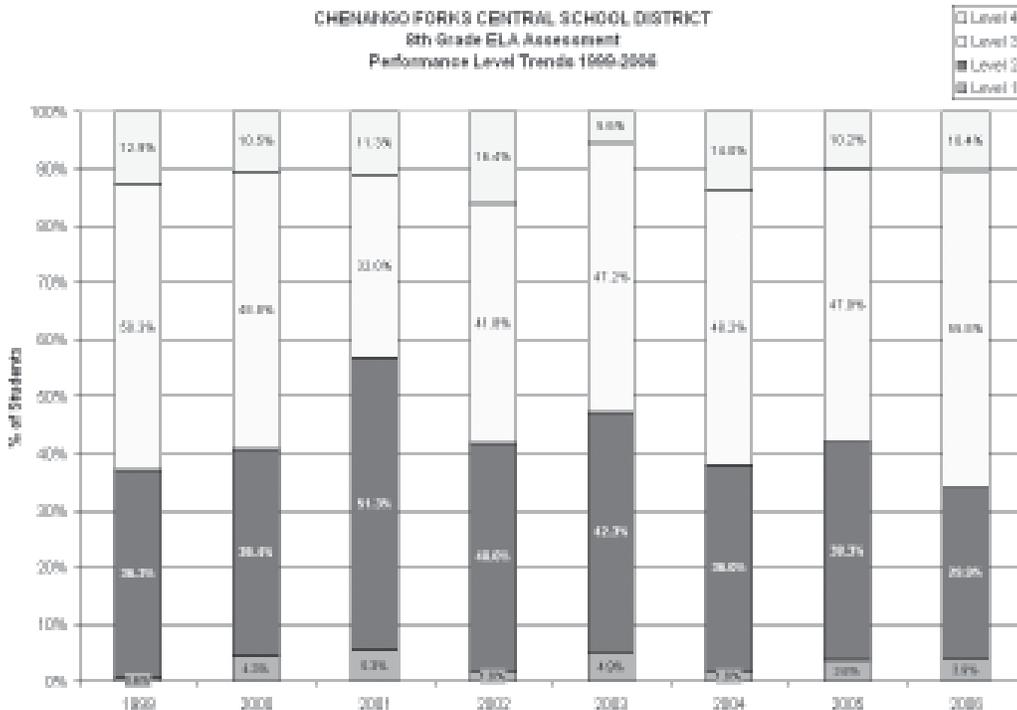
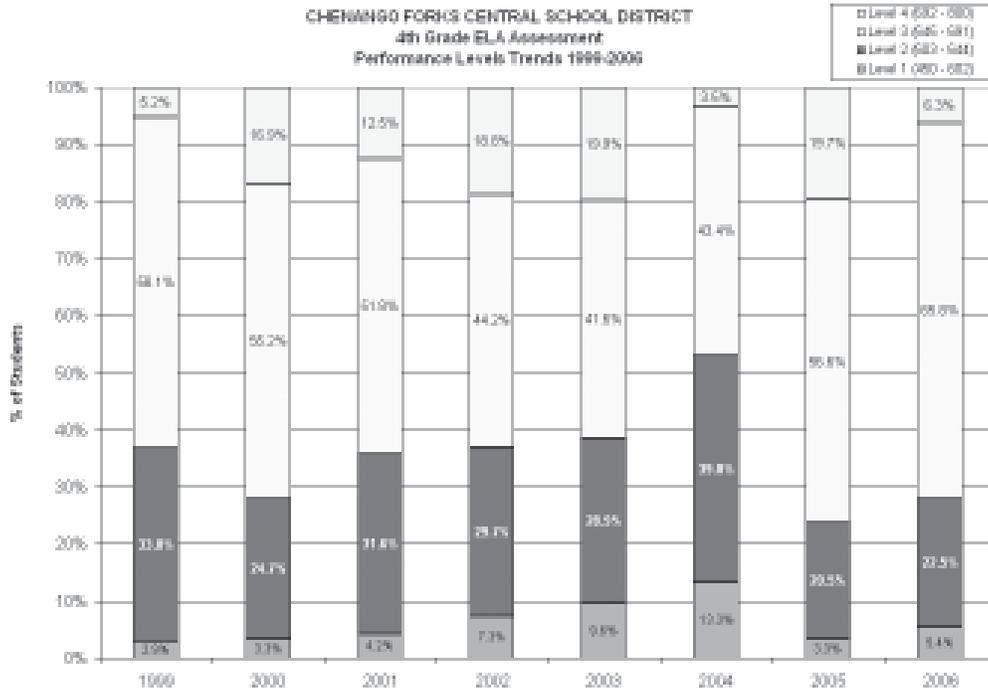
The New York State 3-8 assessments in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math are a fact of life with the requirements of “No Child Left Behind.” This is the first year that all students in grades 3-8 were tested in ELA and in Math. Previously, these tests were given in grades four and eight only. Our district results show our overall continuous improvement due to the hard work of our students and teachers and the strong support from you, the parents and guardians. We continue to meet and exceed the state accountability targets with both our MS and Elementary recently recognized by the New York State Education Department as “high performing/gap closing schools.” We will continue to use these assessments as a tool to pinpoint academic problems and improve student performance.

Student performance is identified by the levels described below. Level 4 - These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance. Level 3 - These students meet the standards and with steady growth will continue to meet these standards. Level 2 - These students need extra help to meet the standards. Level 1 - These students have serious academic deficiencies. Students not making appropriate progress towards the standards receive appropriate services based upon their needs.

-Carol Denz, Assistant Superintendent



# New York State 3-8 Grades English Language Arts (ELA) and Math Assessments (continued)



## Face of winter cheerleading to change

On June 13, 2006, the Chenango Forks School District was notified by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) that a complaint had been filed against the district which stated, "The Chenango Forks Central School District discriminates against female students by failing to provide equal publicity/promotional services to female and male athletes, including cheerleader and band support services at athletic events."

At about this time, 16 other districts in the Southern Tier Athletic Association (STAC) were notified of similar complaints.

Over the four months that followed, OCR conducted their investigation in the Chenango Forks School District concerning the complaint. On October 3, 2006, the following resolution agreement was presented to the district.

### RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

Case No. 02-06-1191

To resolve the issues raised in Case No. 02-06-1217, The Chenango Forks Central School District assures the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) that pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, 20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.* (Title IX) and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 106, the District will take the actions indicated below. The District's signing of this resolution agreement shall not be construed as an acknowledgment or admission that the District has discriminated on the basis of sex in the application of its policies and procedures.

The District will provide publicity and promotion for girls' athletic teams equivalent to the publicity and promotion provided for boys' athletic teams, including but not limited to the following:

- The District will provide cheerleaders at girls' and boys' athletic events in an equivalent manner. At a minimum, at the high school level, the District will ensure that cheerleaders are provided at girls' basketball games if cheerleaders are provided at boys' basketball games.

### REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

By December 31, 2007, the District will provide the following information to OCR:

- A listing of dates and times of athletic games/events at which the cheerleaders cheered during the 2006-2007 and the 2007-2008 school years.

Upon advice of legal counsel, I signed the agreement.

During that week I met with the cheering coaches, the Athletic Director, and the High School Principal to inform them of the resolution agreement and to discuss how the District could comply with the resolution.

The following week I conducted a meeting to inform the cheering community and the basketball community of the complaint, the resolution, and to receive input on how to comply with the resolution.

At that meeting the overwhelming opinion was to form a Winter Season Cheerleading Competition Squad and to leave an option available for the squad to cheer at selected girls' and boys' basketball games as the coaches and the athletic director see fit. This is the avenue in which we will proceed to satisfy the OCR resolution agreement.

**What does this mean?** For now the long-held tradition of cheerleading occurring at only boys' basketball games will no longer exist.

**How could you do this?** I'm compelled by the Office of Civil Rights to take this action or risk losing federal funding to the District which amounts to over 1 million dollars.

**Why don't you fight this?** Upon advice of our legal counsel, this is a fight that we would not win as the Title IX law requires that we support girls' and boys' athletics in an equal fashion. If the fight occurred, it is anticipated that it would be very expensive and the chances of prevailing are minuscule. I will, however, pursue legal action against OCR with my professional organization. By not providing cheerleading at the girls' basketball games, the District has clearly violated the law, as do most other districts in New York State and the Nation.

**Why the Forks?** Because an individual brought a complaint against the district, which OCR has investigated and found in the individual's favor. Once a complaint is determined to be founded, OCR is obligated to ensure that the District complies with Title IX.

**What good will come of this?** The formation of a competitive cheerleading squad will elevate cheerleading from support to a sport, a distinction that the cheering community deserves.

-Bob Bundy, Superintendent of Schools

## Day of Caring

In remembrance of 9/11, the United Way coordinated a volunteer service effort called "Day of Caring" in September. CF was fortunate to have the Hillcrest Rotary adopt our ropes course to spread wood chips under the elements and on the trails. Their efforts have made our ropes course and nature trails much more enjoyable and usable. Additional thanks to **Mike Kwartler** from the Chenango Highway Department for having the wood chips delivered and CF High School students for helping out.

### PARTICIPANTS

#### *Rotarians*

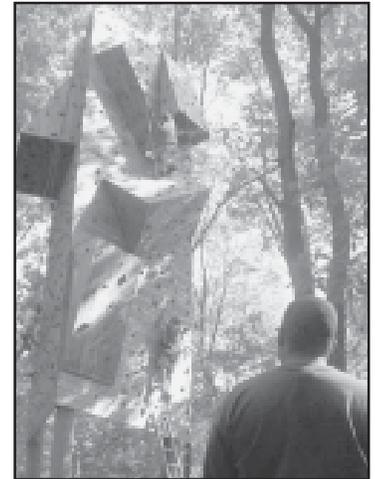
Cory Jacobs, Doris Render,  
Mark Whiting, Russ Sanaeko,  
Teddy Bryant, Barb Gallo,  
Diana Robertson, JoAnn Livermore

#### *CF Students*

Mike Allen, Sierra Slocum,  
Nicole Sweeney, Kelly Blair

-Steve Busch, HS Physical Education

(Please note that this event happened too late to be included in the October *Newsletter*.)



CFHS students climb the wall on the ropes course.

## PTA Fall Events

This year's Fall Fest revolved around the musical "Seussical," which is based on the works of children's author Theodore Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. The show brought Dr. Seuss' books to life and demonstrated the power of believing in oneself, something we hope all our children learn to do. The show was presented by SRO, a local community theater group, and contained selections from the full performance they will be opening in November. The night was full of other fun activities as well, including games, crafts, face painting, and, of course, the always popular basket raffles! Families also had the opportunity to view their children's Dr. Seuss artwork that was displayed throughout Harshaw. After the wonderful "Seussical" performance, the night ended with lots of refreshments. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make this happen!

- Thanks to all who helped make our Book Fairs a huge success. Profits from the book fairs go back to our schools, helping to ensure terrific programs continue to be brought in by the PTA. In addition, our libraries benefit from the many new books and items.

- Once again, the PTA sponsored an assembly by Motivational Productions, enabling our entire student population to see their powerful multimedia program. Motivational Productions programs are designed to encourage character building skills. Please visit their website at [www.motivationalpro.org](http://www.motivationalpro.org) to learn more about their programs.

- The Reflections Program is being offered to all students in grades 6 through 12. This year's theme is "My Favorite Place." Reflections is a cultural arts program of National PTA designed to interest children, parents, teachers, and communities in the arts. The program encourages students to express their thoughts and feelings through creative arts. There are six categories: literature, visual arts, photography, music, dance choreography, and film/video. If you are interested in learning how to submit work to this program, please contact Michelle Timms at 648-2687.

Thank you to everyone who has put in so much time already this school year to help make our PTA successful. The PTA meets the **second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the CFE Library**. Please join us at our next meeting on November 14th. The Crime Victims Assistance Center will be at this meeting to share the parent portion of their program that will later be presented to Harshaw students. We hope to see you then! The CF PTA represents all grade levels and always welcomes new members.



Recently, our students experienced another 3-D production sponsored by the CF PTA. The message from "Freedom Calls" drove home several important points regarding personal freedom in making conscious choices which affect one's life.

Here are some highlights:

- \*Conviction: "Defining what you believe is right and wrong, and being prepared with a plan of action when compromising situations arise."
- \*Courage: "Having the inner strength to follow those convictions in the face of pressure to compromise."
- \*Ambition: "Learning to focus on specific goals that will lead to success and positive personal growth."

This presentation contained a number of actual student interviews, dramatizations, and other inspirational messages. We appreciate the PTA funding this endeavor.

-Diane Wheeler-Busch, HS Principal



## Harshaw is Thankful for Many Things

### Knowledge

#### Site Council supports academic improvement plan

The Harshaw Site Council met with Sean Brady of Prism Decision Systems to plan and prepare the Harshaw 2006-2007 Academic Improvement Plan. Highlights of this year's plan include the following activities:

- Providing professional development on how to use assessment data to design differentiated instruction that meets individual student's needs,
- Collaborating with parents and community members to provide grade-level instructional materials for home use,
- Designing and implementing a student progress form to help manage student progress and interventions,
- Optimizing Academic Intervention Staff time

Subcommittees for each activity were created. These committees will report their progress to the Harshaw Site Council at the monthly meetings. The Council meets the **second Tuesday of every month at 2:45 p.m. in the Harshaw Office Conference Room** to discuss ways to support academic achievement for every child. Meetings are open; please join us.

-Kathleen Keir, HP Principal



At Morning Program, students were introduced to facts about pumpkins, including identification of the different parts of the plant. Mr. Sutton capped off the lessons by doing his own unique brand of pumpkin carving, complete with shovel (to lift the heavy pumpkins); miner's light (to dig way in); plastic coat (for cleanliness); and goggles (for safety).

#### Harshaw November Dates

11/15 & 16	Kindergarten Discovery Center Field Trip
Fri, 11/17	Noon Dismissal, Parent Conferences
Tues, 11/21	Harshaw Site Council Meeting, 3 pm



#### What's happening in the Math Lab?

What do pirates, treasure chests, and second graders have in common? Why, they were all at the Harshaw Math Lab during October when "Treasure Island" was our theme for interactive mathematical learning!

Throughout the month, students worked with money; "fish"; treasure chests; and "bones" (dominoes) as they learned various money concepts (coin identification/coin value/counting money); reviewed number order to 100; and practiced basic addition and subtraction facts. Only the doubles (8+8; 4+4) had to "walk the plank" as second graders became more fluent in important math skills while talking like pirates!

-Sue Johnson, Harshaw Math Coordinator



Michael Panko, Tara Merrell, & Autumn Webber play the coin trading game.

#### Accelerated readers



Aidan Houlihan, Katilyn Donahue & Maya Reynolds enjoy their book selections.

Second graders began the Accelerated Reader Program in October. Students choose books to read from a large Accelerated Reader selection located in a special section of the library. They pick books at their independent reading level, read the book carefully, and then take a multiple choice comprehension test on the computer. Points are awarded for correct responses. When students earn 25 points, they are recognized at Morning Program and become members of the 25 Point Club. A few boys and girls might earn 50 points and are then presented with a specially designed Accelerated Reader T-shirt. This program encourages children to read and think about books!

-Sheila Dalke, 2nd Grade Teacher

#### Wise as owls

The Morning Program Character Carousel continued for the month of October with this month's theme of "Knowledgeable"; our animal character was a wise owl. In October we saw the introduction of our special area teachers to our students, an exciting "Pumpkin Challenge" and carving, a colorful presentation on school bus safety, fun Halloween face painting as a safer alternative to masks, "Knowledgeable Recognition Awards," and a Halloween holiday safety presentation by the American Red Cross.

-Eric Sutton, Guidance Counselor

## Kenyon state exam results

We recently received our results of the English Language Arts (ELA) and Math exams given earlier in 2006. Under the federal legislation for "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB), the goal by 2014 is for all schools to reach 200 in ELA and Math.

Overall our students are progressing well. We are pleased to announce that in Grade 4 Math, Kenyon had the highest score in the region out of the 15 component districts that make up the Broome-Tioga BOCES.

For more information parents can visit [www.NYSParents.com](http://www.NYSParents.com) to find the following:

- Learning activities at home
- Tips for communicating with your child's teacher
- Information on the NYS Mathematics Learning Standards, Content, & Process Strands, as well as the testing program
- Information about academic intervention services and tutoring programs

### Kenyon November Dates

Thur, 11/9	Photo Make Ups in a.m.
Wed, 11/15	Grade 5 NYS Social Studies Exam
Thur, 11/16	Grade 5 NYS Social Studies Exam Report Cards issued
Fri, 11/17	Noon dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences
Tues, 11/28	Kenyon Site Council Meeting in Kenyon office, 3 p.m. (Date Change from Annual Calendar Printing)



-Bernie McDermott, KI Principal

### Websites to Visit

- [www.Quizhub.com](http://www.Quizhub.com) is a fun K-12 online interactive learning center that covers a variety of topics.
- **Figure This!** (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics): <http://www.figurethis.org/index.html>. This award-winning website provides exciting, family-friendly ways to become involved in learning math. It offers 80 challenges with hints, answers, and ways to think about math problems.
- **Ask Dr. Math** (Math Forum): <http://mathforum.org/dr.math/>. Ask Dr. Math is a math question-and-answer service for students of all levels. You can ask a specific question or search the archives for questions and their solutions.
- **Math League Help Topics** (Math League Multimedia) : <http://www.mathleague.com/help/help.htm>. This website provides useful information, examples, and problem-solving tips for various math topics in Grade 4 through Grade 8.
- **Cyberchase** (PBS): <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/parentsteachers/>. Based on a PBS television show, this website offers home-based math activities, book suggestions, and web-based math games.



Members of the C.B Fire Company and "Sparky."

## Fire company visits

Our thanks to the **Chenango Bridge Fire Company** for giving presentations to our elementary students on fire safety and prevention. The company annually spends two days educating our children and engaging them in fun-filled activities.

## Healthy living at Kenyon

Kenyon Elementary partnered with the Activ8Kids! program during the last week in September and first week of October as part of the District's efforts to engage our students in activities that promote a healthy lifestyle.

Activ8Kids! was launched in June of 2005 to fight childhood obesity. The goal of the program is to instill in children a daily routine that includes consuming at least five fruits and vegetables; engaging in at least one hour of physical activity a day; and reducing screen-time (television and video games) to fewer than two hours a day.

Kenyon teachers devised a variety of activities to support the initiative. A coloring book, cook book, and healthy snack suggestions introduced our third grade students to the "5 a Day" fruits and vegetables rule.

Fourth grade students participated in "Bike Across New York State," taking a virtual trip from Long Island to Albany (a distance of 260 miles). Students kept a physical activity log for each day during the bike ride week, with every 60 minutes of physical activity equalling 60 miles. Their progress was noted on the state map hanging in the Kenyon lobby.

Fifth graders were given pedometers to wear for physical education class, and encouraged to rack up one to one and a half miles running around the track, playing dodge ball, and just having a great time MOVING.

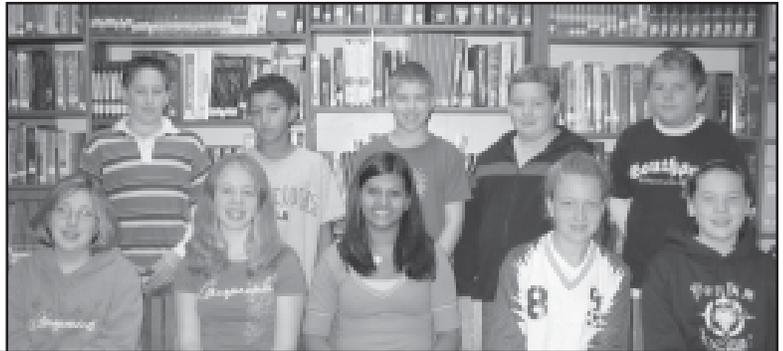
-Kelly Hillis, CKI Physical Education

Fifth grade students in Mrs. Hillis' physical education class keep moving even as they pause to have their photo taken.



## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

STUDENT	SUBJECT	TEACHER
Ashley Williams	Technology 6	L. Baxter
Taylor Juran	Technology 7	L. Baxter
Patrick Reardon	Technology 8	L. Baxter
Nathan Zweig	Math	J. Bender
Ben Haskell	Home & Career Skills 6	L. Breck/Scales
Matt Caganek	Home & Career Skills 7	L. Breck/Scales
Kaitlin Hulbert	Home & Career Skills 8	L. Breck/Scales
Lauren Gridley	Regents Earth Science	L. Brooks
Taylor Juran	English 7	L. Chestnut
Charles Evans	Science 7	C. Church
Keenan Conrad	Science 6	K. Church
Jessica Bradley	English 8	M. Condon
Victoria Eastman	Regents Earth Science	T. Conner
Nate Zweig	Reading	Crandell/Stark
Ryan Alford	Health	S. Deuel
Janelle Di Pierri	French 7	N. Dimatos
Kaitlin Hulbert	French I	N. Dimatos
Derek Battista	Band	J. Dybas
Kyle Payne	Band	J. Dybas
Krystyanna Fuller	Physical Education	P. Dykeman
Amber Villecco	Physical Education	P. Dykeman
Natasha Malchak	Physical Education	P. Dykeman
Tom Dybas	Physical Education	N. Fersch
Stephanie Pettis	Academic Achievement 8	R. Fortier
Ben Daniels	Social Studies	K. Green
Zachary Jeske	Spanish 7	M. Gregrow
Erik Johnson	Social Studies 7	P. Griffiths
Eric Yonda	Physical Education	D. Hogan
Paige Stanton	Academic Achievement 7	L. Hulbert
Crystal Evanchof	Academic Achievement 8	L. Hulbert
Taylor Lindsey	Reading	P. Kamp
Katelyn Luke	Math	D. Lynch
Nick Shannon	Art	E. McMahon
Alexis Castaldo	Art	E. McMahon
Marissa Gorenflo	Written Expression	M. O'Hearn
Emily Barnett	Spanish 1B	J. Pepples
Victoria Eastman	Spanish IB	J. Pepples
Mehtasim Mahfuz	Spanish IB	J. Pepples
Carolyn Holtzmaster	HS Band	K. Robertson
Becky Broderick	HS Band	K. Robertson
Natasha Malchak	Science	A. Rullo
Cassandra Forsyth	Science	A. Rullo
Lauren Gridley	Math 9A	M. Rullo
Jimmy Miller	Math 8	M. Rullo
Haley Sterling	Social Studies	S. Severson
Ashley Roman	Reading/Writing	Stark/Crandell
Adam Grove	Academic Achievement	P. Swartout
Ronni Crandle	English 7	K. Taylor
Kyle Payne	Math 7	M. Tio
Seth Lake	Math 6	T. Urda
Alexandra Barvinchak	Computers	T. Vermaat
Kelsie Carter	Music	N. Wildoner
Jordan Gokey	Music	N. Wildoner
Brittany Lavergne	English 7	M. Zappia



## Welcome to Science Night

Middle School students and their parents are invited to the fourth annual Science Night from 6 to 8 pm on November 14th in the High School Science Department. There will be hands on activities, shows, giveaways, and demonstrations from all areas of science presented by high school science students and staff. A fun night is guaranteed for all; middle school students who attend will receive extra credit from their teachers.

Tim Conner, Science Chair

Photo: Students identify and receive mineral samples at a previous Science Night.



## Middle School Thanksgiving

November is dominated by the Thanksgiving holiday. We all know the story of the Pilgrims and the Indians and their little party where they gave thanks for all that they had. By today's standards some might think that the Pilgrims and their guests should have been down right angry about their station in life. What with no Nintendo, TV, microwave, cd player, video games, Thanksgiving football, oven-basted turkey, cable, Direct TV, TEVO, cell phone, instant messaging, Internet, or computer, how did they survive? Not to mention no automatic heat system, electric lights, dental care, modern medicines, or indoor plumbing. By the way, dinner outdoors, late in November, in New England - is that such a good idea?

On the other hand it could be said that the Pilgrims and party were truly blessed because they and their children had not been afflicted with the modern curses of TV and video games. In any case, as Principal of the Chenango Forks Middle School I can say that I have much for which to be thankful. First I am glad I was born closer to 2006 than 1626. That Pilgrim Thanksgiving of 1621 really didn't look that neat to me. I'll take Thanksgiving in 2006, and I am thankful that I will celebrate it with my family and friends.

I am also extremely grateful for the culture and community of the Middle School. I am thankful that I am part of a faculty that believes a more humane place for kids is a more humane place for the rest of us. I am glad I work with a staff and faculty that has faith in kids and that understands that a good school is a school where students are seen as people worthy of respect.

I am thankful that our teachers and students do understand that we must have discipline, but there is discipline with dignity. I am glad that our teachers believe in that cliché that says all children **can** learn, but even more importantly, they believe all students **must** learn. And of course, I give thanks for all of the parents, grandparents, stepparents, single parents, and guardians who support us in our efforts to make this a great place for our children to learn. Oh and yes, I am thankful that our New York State English Language Arts test scores were the **very highest in the region for last year's 7th and 8th graders.**

There is a connection there somewhere. Could it be that the attitudes and beliefs listed above enabled the students to achieve? I think so. Also, I do think I should not forget about thanking the Pilgrims. Without them and their little party, we might not think to say thanks. And we do have much for which to be thankful.

- William Burke, MS Principal

### Middle School November Dates

November 6	Site Based Council Meeting, 2:15 pm
November 9	End 10 Week Marking Period
November 14	Picture Make Ups



## Girls modified soccer supports Special Olympics

The girls' modified soccer teams were enthusiastic fans at this year's Special Olympics event held in Binghamton on October 7th. Both the blue and white team showed up in force on a beautiful Saturday morning to cheer on the soccer participants at Otsiningo Park. They watched some excellent soccer and had a wonderful time as "cheerleaders" for the hard working athletes.

The girls attended this event as part of their annual community service project with the CF girls' modified soccer program. Events such as these offer a wonderful opportunity for our young people to learn compassion, empathy, and a commitment to positive community involvement. The girls are learning to care about their world and make a difference in the lives of others.

-Michael O'Hearn & Sunnie Reardon, Coaches



CF Modified Girls' Soccer team at the Special Olympics.

## Attention all seniors!!

### Important scholarship information

This year the PTA will have two \$500 scholarships (an increase over last year's dollar amount) for graduating seniors planning on attending college. To be considered, a student must (1) have a parent who is a current member of PTA and (2) volunteer at PTA events.

There are so many fun ways students can help the PTA, or maybe you already have helped and would like to "clock" some additional volunteer hours. If you would like to be added to our list of volunteers, please contact Melissa Gaworecki at 648-9351. We hope to hear from you!

-Melissa Gaworecki, PTA President



## Students' artwork published

The *Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin* and New York State Art Teachers Association-Region 4 (NYSATA) sponsor an exciting program entitled "Young at Art," a feature that runs weekly in the Living Section of the newspaper. NYSATA members who teach within the readership counties are eligible to submit original artwork by their students to be considered for publication.

Congratulations to our students who have been selected over the years, and our thanks to CF art teachers **Diane Sheehan** and **Keith Rosko** for their efforts in getting recognition for the excellent work CF students produce. This year alone, 15 CF students had their artwork published in the newspaper. "The student artwork featured every week exhibits the creativity and excellence in art education in your school," commented a spokesperson for the program.

-Diane Sheehan, HS Art



Mrs. Sheehan and Mr. Rosko with students in Mrs. Sheehan's painting class.

## Geology students tour Northwestern Adirondacks

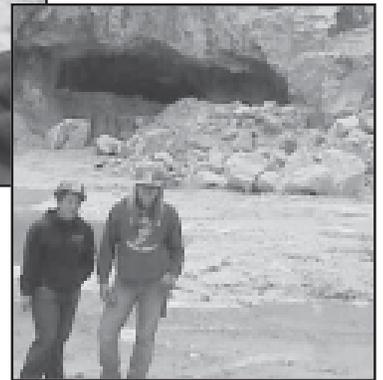
The CF High School BCC Geology class toured the Northwestern Adirondacks, solving structural problems, meeting with mining geologists, touring three mines and attending lectures at two colleges. The class spent a day at several unique mineral locations with **Dr. Stephen Chamberlain**, retired Syracuse University professor. Time also was spent in two of Gouverneur Talc's mines with their chief geologist, **John Kreider**, and at St. Lawrence Zinc's mine with chief geologist **Bill DeLorraine**.

At St. Lawrence University, the class attended a lecture by **Dr. Jeff Chiarenzelli** of the St. Lawrence Geology Department on his fieldwork in the Canadian Arctic. As a special treat, the class also heard a lecture from 1999 Chenango Forks graduate and Clarkson University graduate student **Ryan Adams** entitled, "Mercury in Seston Zooplankton and Benthic Invertebrates of Adirondack Lakes in Northern New York." At Syracuse University, **Dr. Connie Weyhenmeyer** gave the class a lecture on climate change and water resources.

Science articles submitted by **Tim Conner**, Science Chair



Glen Wood listens to Gouverneur Talc's chief geologist John Kreider.



Patty Artman and Rachel Snyder prospect in Gouverneur Talc's Valentine Wollastonite Mine.

## Young foresters make the grade

State Forester **Jerry Kachmor** visited Chenango Forks High School's BCC Environmental Science class to evaluate student wood lot management plans. The class was divided into six teams with each team having a week to develop a woodlot management plan for a portion of the school's nature preserve. Mr. Kachmor evaluated each team's plan as well as the members' knowledge of tree species and their ability to quantify timber.

Photo: **Elliott Cook** shares his woodlot management plan with State Forester **Jerry Kachmor**.



## The importance of persistence

### or "How to Evolve into a Successful Adult"

In my Alumni Corner articles I have the opportunity to highlight the outstanding accomplishments of our former CF graduates. These young men and women have placed continual challenges and goals in their pathway as they strive for excellence, inventing and reinventing themselves into productive adults and upstanding citizens. Some common threads stand out as reasons for their achievement.

In many cases, these were average students who have developed great "people" skills, self-reliance, expertise in problem-solving, and the ability to "bounce" back from failure and disappointment. They kept trying, developing a different approach to accomplish their goals, creating a system for deadlines, and enjoying pride in the finished product. I am gratified when former students visit or we receive information that they have reached a milestone in their lives, such as college graduation, completion of boot camp, starting a masters program, or other great pursuits.

I am proud of all who have chosen to "reach for the best they can be" and wish them continued success.

-Diane Wheeler-Busch, HS Principal

### HS November Dates

11/9	MS/HS End of 10 Week Marking Period
11/14	MS/HS School Photos Retake Date
11/15	ASVAB test ; 8:00 a.m.; HS Auditorium
11/21	"All That Jazz" Presentation



## On literacy

I am very pleased to report that our Summer Reading Program was a success! Approximately 25% of our students participated in this program that included a nice mix of fiction and non-fiction. They subsequently scheduled a book review with the staff member who recommended the selection. I thoroughly enjoyed my three book discussion sessions with all 29 students! We hope the trend of reading for pleasure continues and would like to increase the percentage of summer reading participants.



-Diane Wheeler-Busch, HS Principal

## CF Upstagers presents

### *The Wonderful Adventures of Don Quixote*

Directed by Tina Opie

Friday, November 17th & Saturday, November 18th, 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday Matinee, November 19th, 3:00 p.m.

Students under 5 - Free; Students - \$5; Adults - \$7

Come one and all to enjoy a comedy fit for all ages. CFHS Upstages' production of *The Wonderful Adventures of Don Quixote* is on the horizon. If you enjoy comedy and other Upstages productions, please reserve a date to attend.

Photo: Act I players take a break during rehearsal to pose for a photo. Floor: Brooke Robertson. Seated, L-R: Jackson Lesko, Kelly Blair, Dallas Hogan, Andrew Schultz, Carmella Ciacelli, Abby Ponterio. Standing, L-R: Steve Stermer, Calvin Lesko, Jason Waterman



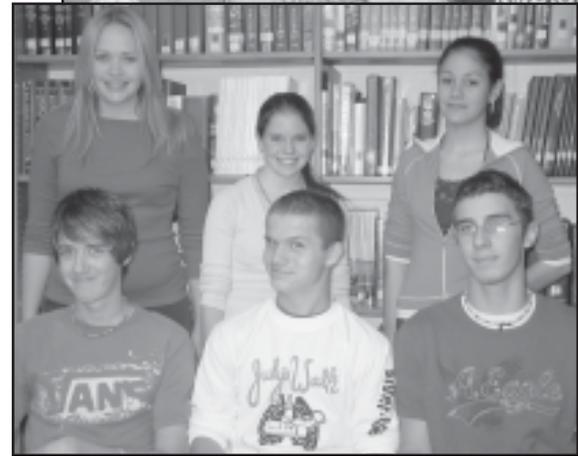
### The Cast

Dallas Hogan	Don Quixote
Andrew Schultz	Sancho Panza
Julia Wickersheim	Dulcinea
Kelly Blair	Josefina
Carmella Ciacelli	Teresa
Calvin Lesko	Dr. Carrasco
Melissa Butkiewicz	Alicia
Jason Waterman	Master Nicholas
Bob Phelps	Master Pedro/ Rocinante
Steve Stermer	Leandro/ Rocinante
Abby Ponterio	Sanchita
Charles O'Connor	Miguel
Rachel Snyder	Antonia

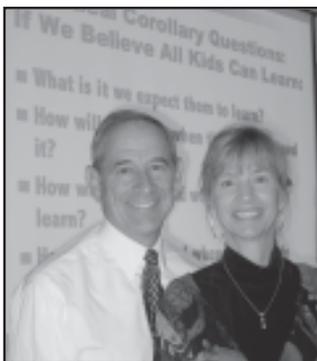
Villagers & Country Folk  
Jackson Lesko, Sierra Barnett, Meg Faughnan, Alex O'Connor, Jessie Jones, George Stark, Brian Kaminsky, Don Osorio, Alex Koulikas, Lacey Mann, Joseph Furey

## Student of the Month

STUDENT	COURSE	TEACHER
Christina Feldpausch	Spanish III	M. Black
David Languidey-Montoya	Spanish IV	M. Black
John Phillips	Regents Earth Science	L. Brooks
Rachel Snyder	BCC Geology	L. Brooks
Carmella Ciacelli	Physical Education	S. Busch
Katie Paine	Reconnecting Youth	D. Daniels
Megan Walsh	Physical Education	C. Giblin
Christina Feldpausch	Regents Biology	T. Gioenco
Corinna Ridgeway	AP Biology	T. Gioenco
Paul Bartlett	Regents Earth Science	T. Gioenco
Adam Mills	English 11R	A. Gumble
Rachel Strauss	AP English 11	A. Gumble
Michael Sackett	French III	J. Myers
Michael Baggerman	Math 11B	D. Palmer
Colin Jenks	Living Envir./Biology	M. Phillips
Colin Wheeler	Band	K. Robertson
Matthew Roloson	English 9	J. Sarpolis
Jennifer Koulikas	Reconnecting Youth	K. Shapiro
Christina Feldpausch	Health Education	K. Shapiro
Aaron Phelps	Video Production	D. Sheehan
Abbie Stafford	Studio Art 2-D	D. Sheehan
Calvin Lesko	Architectural Design	D. Sheehan
Jimmy Haley	English 9	K. Taylor
Emily Silverio	English 10	K. Taylor



## Team attends workshop



Richard & Rebecca DeFour

On October 4th and 5th, a team of administrators and teacher leaders from CF attended a workshop entitled, "Building Collaborative Cultures and Critical Priorities in Building a Professional Learning Community," presented by Richard and Rebecca DuFour. The DuFours are nationally recognized authors and leaders in helping school practitioners apply the principles of professional learning communities (PLC) in their schools. The characteristics of PLCs include having a

shared mission, vision, values, and goals. It requires that collaborative teams focus on student learning and use of best practices in instruction; it requires commitment by all for continuous improvement to occur.

CF is well on the way towards development of an effective professional learning community. We have a number of district and building level leadership teams that provide the needed short term and long range goals for student achievement and provide the actions needed for achieving those goals.

The leadership teams will be able to take the information from the conference and improve upon our collaborative efforts. They will continue to review student assessment data and curriculum design, as well as maximize the collaborative time needed for continuous school improvement.

-Carol Denz, Assistant Superintendent

### Administrators and Teacher Leaders Attending

Bill Burke: MS Principal, CDEP Team, Curriculum Mapping Team, MS Site Council, District Literacy Team, MS Literacy Team  
 Laura Chestnut: MS Dean of Students, English teacher, Literacy Leader, Curriculum Mapping Team, MS Site Council, District Literacy Team, MS Literacy Team  
 Karyn Church: 6th Grade Teacher, CDEP Team, MS Site Council  
 Carol Denz: Assistant Superintendent, CDEP Team, Curriculum Mapping team, District Literacy Team  
 Mary Emm: 5th Grade Teacher, Kenyon Literacy Team, CDEP Team Alternate  
 Mike Flynn: HS Assistant Principal, CDEP Team, Literacy Leader, Curriculum Mapping Team, District Literacy Team, HS Literacy Team  
 John Hillis: HS Social Studies, Literacy Leader, HS Literacy Team  
 Kathleen Keir: Harshaw Principal, CDEP Team, Curriculum Mapping Team, Harshaw Site Council, District Literacy Team, Harshaw Literacy Team  
 Mary Madigan: Kindergarten Teacher, CFTA President  
 Anne Marie Martino: 1st Grade AIS Teacher, CDEP Team, Harshaw Site Council  
 Bernie McDermott: Kenyon Principal, Curriculum Mapping Team, Kenyon Site Council, District Literacy Team, Kenyon Literacy Team  
 Dan Palmer: HS Math Teacher, HS Site Council  
 Lori Pourby: Elementary AIS Math Teacher, Curriculum Mapping Team  
 Diane Sheehan: HS Art Teacher, CDEP Team, HS Literacy Team  
 Barb Slocum: Harshaw Speech Teacher, CDEP Team  
 Patti Sweeney: MS and Kenyon Librarian

Available Daily at Breakfast: Assorted Cereals OR 2 Slices of Toast		November 2006 Sports Calendar/Elementary Menu			BRUNCH AT LUNCH MENU Pancakes, French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Applesauce, Fruit, Milk	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<i>DAILY ALTERNATES</i> Yogurt, Carrots, Fruit, Milk OR Munchable Lunch OR Uncrustable Peanut Butter/Jelly OR Choice of Tuna or Ham Sandwich OR Lunch Box Magic OR Chef's Salad (CK Students Only)	<i>MENU ALTERNATES (K-5)</i> Monday: Macaroni & Cheese Tuesday: Grilled Cheese Wed.: Cheeseburger on Roll Thursday: Dipper Day (Bread Stix, Mozzarella Stix) Friday: Cook's Surprise	Cinnamon Roll, Vanilla Frosting, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Nachos & Cheese, Soft Pretzel, Tossed Salad w/Croutons, Assorted Fruits, Milk <b>BRUNCH AT LUNCH - HP</b>	Breakfast Pizza, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Chicken Strips, Pita or Italian Bread, Tossed Salad, Corn, Assorted Fruits, Milk	Muffin Squares, Bread, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Red Pizza, White Pizza, Bread, Pasta Salad, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fruits, Milk	Average Lunch Nutrients Calories ..... 663 Sodium ..... 951 Mg Protein ..... 26.7 G Total Fat ..... 17.9 G Saturated Fat ..... 5.9 G	
Bagel, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Taco Salad, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Rice, Corn, Assorted Fruits, Milk	School Biscuit, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Ham & Cheese Melt, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Assorted Fruits, Milk	Cinnamon Roll, Vanilla Frosting, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Build a Sub, Turkey or Ham, French Fries, Carrot Sticks, Fruit Bars, Milk <b>BRUNCH AT LUNCH - KI</b>	Breakfast Pizza, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Red Pizza, White Pizza, Bread, Pasta Salad, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fruits, Milk	<b>No School Veterans Day</b> 	Average Lunch Nutrients Calories ..... 656 Sodium ..... 977 Mg Protein ..... 27.6 G Total Fat ..... 18.0 G Saturated Fat ..... 6.5 G	
Donut, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Cheeseburger on Roll, Condiments, French Fries, Corn, Assorted Fruits, Milk	School Muffin, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Pasta, Meat Sauce, Italian Bread, Tossed Salad, Frozen Fruit Pushup, Milk	Cinnamon Roll, Vanilla Frosting, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Roast Turkey & Gravy, Bread Stuffing, Potatoes, Peas, Cranberry Sauce, Roll, Ice Cream, Milk	Breakfast Pizza, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Red Pizza, White Pizza, Bread, Pasta Salad, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fruits, Milk	Soft Pretzel, Cheese Sauce Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk <b>HP/CKI Noon Dismissal No Lunch Parent Conferences</b>	Average Lunch Nutrients Calories ..... 705 Sodium ..... 948 Mg Protein ..... 32.3 G Total Fat ..... 18.0 G Saturated Fat ..... 7.7 G	
Muffin Squares, Bread, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Chicken Fajitas, Baby Carrots, Lettuce, Tomato, Mashed Potatoes, Assorted Fruits, Milk	School Biscuit, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk French Bread Pizza or White Pizza, Baby Carrots, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fruits, Milk	<b>No School Thanksgiving Break: November 22 - 24</b> 			Average Lunch Nutrients Calories ..... 598 Sodium ..... 862 Mg Protein ..... 31.4 G Total Fat ..... 19.8 G Saturated Fat ..... 6.3 G	
Bagel, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Build a Burger/Roll, French Fries, Vegetables, Assorted Fruits, Milk	School Muffin, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Mozzarella Stix, Bread Stix, Pasta, Dipping Sauce, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fruits, Milk	Cinnamon Roll, Vanilla Frosting, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Nachos & Cheese, Soft Pretzel, Tossed Salad, Broccoli Florets, Assorted Fruits, Milk <b>BRUNCH AT LUNCH - HP</b>	Breakfast Pizza, Juice or Fresh Fruit, Milk Red Pizza, White Pizza, Bread, Pasta Salad, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fruits, Milk	<b>BREAKFAST MEAL PRICES</b> All Schools: \$0.95 <b>LUNCH MEAL PRICES</b> MS/HS: \$1.80 Elementary: \$1.65 Milk Varieties: \$0.50 Skim, 2% Whole, 1% Chocolate, 1/2% Fat Strawberry	Average Lunch Nutrients Calories ..... 698 Sodium ..... 917 Mg Protein ..... 29.9 G Total Fat ..... 21.1 G Saturated Fat ..... 8.2 G	

## Offices . . .

Superintendent	648-7543	Bus Garage	648-7573
Asst. Superintendent	648-7540	Special Education	648-7589
Athletics	648-7515	Nutrition	648-7519/648-7524
Computer Services	648-7578	Tax Collector	648-7561
Business Office	648-7564	Building & Grounds	648-7545
		After Sch. Child Care	648-8067

## Schools . . .

<b>Harshaw Primary (HP)</b>	<b>Kenyon Intermediate (KI)</b>	<b>Middle School (MS)</b>	<b>High School (HS)</b>
Office 648-7580	Office 648-7520	Office 648-7576	Office 648-7544
Attend. 648-7579	Attend. 648-7529	Guidance 648-7553	Guidance 648-7528
Nurse 648-7531	Nurse 648-7522	Attend. 648-7551	Attend. 648-7542
	Counselor 648-7525	Nurse 648-7551	Nurse 648-7521



# Chenango Forks



# Central Schools

## Annual Christmas Basket Program

As the wintry weather blows in and we begin our holiday planning, please remember to add CF's annual campaign to collect cans for the CF Student Council Christmas Basket Program to your list. We appreciate any food products you are willing to bring in, but certain products are in high demand: flour, pancake mix, hash, hamburger helper, and similar foods. Please bring non-perishable items to the classrooms in each of our four buildings; Student Council members will help collect them. Collection dates: **December 4, 2006 – December 15, 2006.** Monetary donations also will be gratefully accepted at the schools.



Through your generosity, we will be able to help make this Christmas a happier time of year for our Chenango Forks families (approximately 100) who are experiencing the hardship of meeting needs in terms of food, toys, clothing, blankets, etc. The items will be distributed on **December 16th at the CF Fire Station from 9:00 a.m. until the items are gone.**

Please call **Bonnie Pokorak (648-7572); Donna Brady (648-7522); Eric Sutton (648-7525); or Cindy Bucker (648-7531)** if you have questions. Thank you in advance for what is typically a generous outpouring of support.

## FUNDRAISERS

### Band Boosters: Blanket, Scarf, & Coffee Mug Sale

The CF Band Boosters are selling Blue Devil blankets, coffee mugs, and CF scarves to help support our terrific musicians. The blankets are \$30 each and have a choice of a devil or French horn logo. The scarves sell for \$16.25 each and are embroidered with "Chenango Forks Blue Devils." The stainless steel travel coffee mug holds 14 ounces of coffee, has a blue devil logo, and sells for \$7.00. Contact **Carol Butkiewicz at 648-7096** for purchase.

### Swim Boosters: Wendy's Night

Support our boys' and girls' swim teams by having dinner or a snack at **Wendy's on Upper Front Street on Monday, November 6th from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Wendy's will generously donate 20% of your order to the CF Swim Boosters. So eat great for our CF swimmers! *(Only inside orders will count [no drive through], but you can get your food to go.)*

## Family Swim Night

November 17, 2006  
7 - 8:15 p.m.  
CFHS Pool



Open to All Students K-5 and Their Families\*  
\$1.50/Person or \$5/Family  
Sponsored by the CF Swim Boosters

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

*\*Students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian*

## Foster grandparents needed

Foster Grandparents play a vital role in Broome County school districts. Many schools have Foster Grandparent volunteers who bring gifts of friendship and caring. Foster Grandparents are an extra set of eyes and ears, someone who can work one-to-one with children to help them succeed. They play with the children, read with them, help reinforce lessons taught by the teacher, and offer encouragement and praise. As one teacher recently said, "The last several years that our school has been involved with the Foster Grandparent Program has shown me how vital and important the Grandparents can be to the well-being of a child, both socially and academically."

The Foster Grandparent Program offers income eligible seniors, age 60 and over, the opportunity to receive a non-taxable income, free daily lunch, and paid time off. In return, they spend time with children in schools, Head Start programs, and day care centers. The Foster Grandparents enjoy socializing with others, feeling useful and needed, and having an impact on a child's life.

To find out if this is something you would like to do, or if you are a teacher and are interested in having a Foster Grandparent in your classroom, please call **Deb Stewart at the Broome County Office for Aging at 778-2089.**

## Walking program

The Senior Walking Program will begin on **November 1, 2006 and run through April 27, 2007 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the CF High School halls.**

## MEETINGS

Board of Education	11/9; 7:15 p.m.	Middle School Library
PTA	11/14; 7 p.m.	CFE Library



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Or Current Resident

ECRWSS