



Chenango Forks Central Schools Newsletter

September 2009

A community where learners excel!

Vol. X, No. 1

Spending an enriching summer at the Forks



One class was learning how to play the guitar.

While the weather didn't make it feel like summer, students in The Chenango Forks Elementary Summer Enrichment Program enjoyed some summer fun anyway.

Summer Enrichment is a program for students in grades K-5. This year approximately 300 students participated with each able to choose from some 24 courses. Students were involved in courses such as Circus Arts and Performance, Beginning Guitar, Kid Concoctions, and Let's Get Physical, just to name a few. The students could also take classes in reading, math, music, foreign language, sports, drama and science.

A number of parents, as well as students, liked the fact that there were new courses to choose from. Summer Enrichment ▶



A new class was Circus Arts and Performance.

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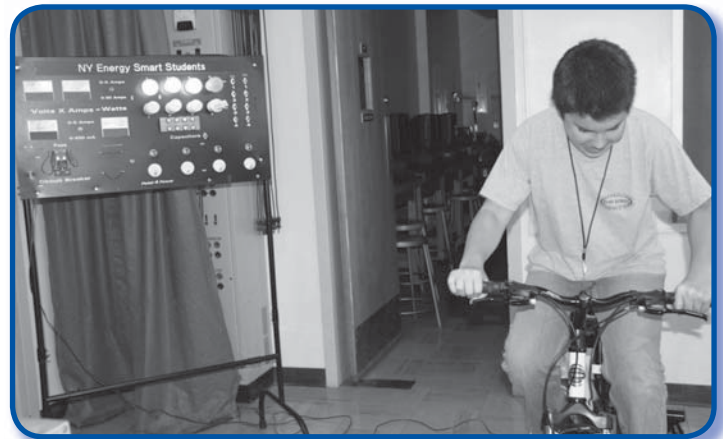
GOING GREEN!

Once again, Chenango Forks had student representation at Binghamton University's Go Green Institute, a summer science program designed to excite students about science, math and engineering. This was the program's second year.

Alex Niman participated in The Go Green Institute in July, which brought together about 50 of the Southern Tier's brightest seventh-graders for an intensive 10-day, hands-on learning experience centered on the theme of a greener living environment.

Through Go Green, students explored issues of science, math and engineering as they relate to creating a sustainable living environment. They experimented in the lab and took field trips to the BU Nature Preserve and BAE Systems, working with Binghamton University faculty members and graduate students as well as teachers from local school districts.

Go Green, led by Wayne Jones, professor of chemistry, involves a dedicated group of graduate students, middle



Alex Niman rides a bike to learn how physical energy can make a light bulb work.

school science teachers, and faculty working closely with the seventh-graders. "Middle school is often a time when students turn away from science because it's not perceived as 'cool' enough," Jones said. "We want to capture these talented students' interest early and give them an opportunity to see ▶

Continued on page 3.

Board of Education: Don Edwards-President; Jack Sines-Vice President; Melissa Stephens; Donald Vredenburgh; Judy Warner.Superintendent of Schools-Robert Bundy; Assistant Superintendent of Schools-Carol Denz.

Welcome to Chenango Forks

Christopher Spencer *Social Studies, High School*



Chris Spencer earned a B.S. in social studies adolescent education from SUNY Oswego and possesses

an Initial New York State Certificate to teach 7-12 social studies. He is currently pursuing a master's in literacy education, 5-12 at Binghamton University. He has two years of experience teaching ninth- and tenth-grade global history at Greene Central School District and served as CF Boys Junior Varsity Basketball coach for the past two seasons. He has also served as the CF Junior Varsity Football assistant coach and offensive coordinator. ■

Jonathan Edwards *Social Studies, High School*



Jonathan Edwards earned B.S. in social studies adolescent education from The College of Saint Rose

and possesses an Initial New York State Certificate to teach 7-12 social studies. He is currently pursuing a master's of history political science.

He has one year of experience teaching ninth-grade social studies with the Binghamton City School District. He has coached swimming for the Chenango Forks School District for one season. ■

Pamela Felix, Speech *Kenyon & Middle School*



Pamela Felix earned a B.S. in medical technology from SUNY Upstate Medical University and

a M.S. in speech language pathology from Marywood University.

She is also a New York State licensed speech language pathologist. Her experiences include providing long-term sub services, October 2007-June 2008 at Vestal Central School District's Glenwood Elementary School through G & E Therapies. Prior to her work as a speech pathologist, she worked as a medical technician with Lourdes Hospital. ■

New assistant high school principal

In July, the Board of Education approved the appointment of John Hillis to High School assistant principal. Hillis began his career at CF in 1995 as a social studies teacher in the High School teaching AP European history, ninth- and tenth-grade global history and geography, participation in government, psychology and international terrorism. In 2007-08 he did his administrative internship at Chenango Forks.



He was a member of the CFTA executive and negotiations committees, the HS safety team, and the district health and safety committee. He was also the HS literacy coordinator, served on the district literacy team, and was the sophomore class advisor. He was the director of the Summer Enrichment aquatics program and chairperson of the HS site-based council. For the last 13 years, Hillis coached girls and boys varsity swimming and was the STAC coordinator for girls and boys swimming.

Before his career in Chenango Forks, Hillis taught social studies, psychology, sociology, global studies and American History in the Afton Central School District. From 1991-98 he served as an Infantry Officer in the U.S. Army and the N.Y. Army National Guard.

He received his B.S. in secondary education from SUNY Oswego, his M.S. in social studies education from Syracuse University and his Certificate of Advanced Study SBL and SDL certifications from SUNY Cortland. ■

-Linda Myers, communications coordinator

Substitute teachers needed

The Chenango Forks School District has openings for substitute teachers. New York State Teaching Certification is preferred. Applicants who can provide documentation that they are attending an approved and registered NYS teacher education program and have fingerprint clearance for employment will be accepted.

If interested, please send a resume, CF teaching application and copy of teaching certificate or documentation of attendance in an approved and registered NYS teacher education program to:

Carol Denz, Assistant Superintendent
Chenango Forks CSD
1 Gordon Drive
Binghamton, NY 13901

E-mail: callans@cforks.org. ■

-Carol Denz, assistant superintendent

Swine flu H1N1 update

On July 2, 2009, the State of New York Department of Health issued new guidelines concerning the exclusion of persons from school, work and related activities, which appear below. Prior to the issuance of these guidelines, schools were required to exclude students and staff for seven days when flu-like symptoms were present. This is no longer the case.

“A person with influenza-like illness (ILI) should be excluded from school, work and related activities and should not go into the community, except to seek medical care, until they are symptom-free (no fever without fever control medications and feels well) for at least 24 hours. Longer exclusion for up to seven days should be strongly considered in settings that have significant numbers of vulnerable individuals (those who have high-risk conditions for influenza complications). As a reminder, the residual cough that is often associated with influenza should not be considered reason to continue exclusion. This guidance applies to health care workers but does not apply to patients in health care facilities. All such patients should be continued on proper transmission based precautions for seven days or until resolution of symptoms, whichever is longer.

Symptoms of ILI and possible novel influenza A(H1N1) include fever (measured temperature of 100°F or more) and either cough or sore throat. In addition, illness may be accompanied by other symptoms, including headache, tiredness, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, diarrhea and vomiting.

Green, from page 1.

scientists and engineers as real people who engage in exciting projects and solve problems in everyday life.”

CF Middle School Principal Bill Burke said, “The Go Green showcase was interesting. The students did an excellent job presenting their research and the adults were very impressed with the work. It appears that the Go Green Institute has launched a whole cadre of future biologists, scientists and engineers.”

The institute culminated in a poster session and celebration where students showed what they learned through interactive displays of their solutions to self-selected environmental issues.

The University’s Center of Excellence in Small Scale Systems Integration and Packaging (S3IP) co-sponsored the program with Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and a grant from the STNY-13 Work Force New York Program. ■

-Linda Myers, communications coordinator

People at high risk for influenza complications include:

- ◆ Children younger than five years old (especially those under two years old)
- ◆ Pregnant women
- ◆ People with:
 - ◆ Lung conditions (especially asthma)
 - ◆ Heart conditions (except hypertension)
 - ◆ Chronic kidney and liver disease
 - ◆ Blood disorders (including sickle cell disease)
 - ◆ Neurologic disorders (including intellectual and developmental disability, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries, seizure disorders or other neuromuscular disorders)
 - ◆ Metabolic disorders (such as diabetes mellitus)
 - ◆ Immunosuppression (including those who have immune systems that are weakened by medications or HIV/AIDS)
- ◆ Children and adolescents (younger than 19 years) who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy and who might be at risk for experiencing Reye syndrome after influenza virus infection
- ◆ Persons aged 65 years or older
- ◆ Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities

Please visit the home page of the CF Web site and look for the red cross and find the “School Illness Update” page for the latest information and Chenango Forks’ history with the swine flu. ■

-Bob Bundy, superintendent

Emergency response plans

The Chenango Forks Central School District has a district Emergency Response Plan in effect and individual Building-Level Emergency Response Plans in place that are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure compliance with the Commissioner of Education’s Regulation 155.17.

This regulation was put into place to address emergencies that must be handled in an expeditious and effective manner. Schools are at risk for acts of violence as well as natural and man-made disasters. To address these threats, the State of New York has enacted the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) law. The district and school response plans address the prevention, response and recovery with respect to a variety of emergencies in schools. An executive summary is available by making a written request to Carol Denz, assistant superintendent, 1 Gordon Drive, Binghamton, New York 13901. ■

-Carol Denz, assistant superintendent

PTA at the Forks

The Chenango Forks Parent Teacher Association (PTA) works alongside our school's administration to ensure a quality education and nurturing environment for every child. Our purpose is to promote the welfare of our children at school, at home and in the community. In particular, we seek to strengthen the relationship between parents, teachers and school administrators so as to foster a consistent and positive learning experience for our children.

Join the PTA and make a difference.

Joining the PTA allows you to get connected with the school and your children's education, and to meet and share concerns with other parents and teachers alike. Being part of the PTA not only gives you a voice on important school issues, but sets an example for your child by demonstrating the importance you place on their education. And without your active support, the PTA cannot sponsor and manage the range of activities and programs that make a difference in the quality of your children's education. If you'd like to join, call Membership Chair Laurie Forker at 648-9715.

We are also looking for committed and energetic parents who would like to lead important initiatives on behalf of the PTA, such as fundraising, program leadership and school Site Council representation. If you want to be a part of our team, please call or e-mail our PTA President Jim Wachter.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Call or e-mail any one of our new 2009-2010 PTA officers and we'd be glad to help:

President:	Jim Wachter jlwj@att.net 656-8831
Vice-President:	Heather Lake HLake28@yahoo.com 206-4559
Treasurer:	Christine Webb duffy-webb_c@sunybroome.edu 222-7520
Secretary:	Theresa Callahan Collier callahant@cforks.org 648-8985
Membership Chair:	Laurie Forker 648-9715 ■ -Theresa Callahan Collier, PTA secretary

S.A.F.E. at the Forks

Coming this fall, the S.A.F.E. (School and Family Enrichment) Project will again be offering free, confidential emotional health screenings for students in grades K-8. As parents and educators, we all want our children to be successful. As children develop, emotional and behavioral issues can affect their ability to achieve and succeed, both academically and socially.

The S.A.F.E. Project will help to identify challenges students face and help connect them to the support they need to be successful at school, home and in their community. Parents have found that they are able to keep an eye on their children's well-being by participating in the screening on a yearly basis, just like having yearly physical check-ups. If a change in screening scores occurs, they are able to respond to their child's needs right away.

Look for the consent letters and screening forms to be sent home later this fall. If you have questions about the project, contact Joyce Kelly, project ICM/screener, at 778-1109 or Jkelly@co.broome.ny.us. You can also contact your child's building administrator with any questions.

This opportunity is provided through grant funding and the district's partnership with the S.A.F.E. Project. ■

-Carol Denz, assistant superintendent

Alumni corner

Karen Ruston, 1989 CF graduate, was recognized by the Cayuga Radio Group as one of 20 Outstanding Women You Should Know in Tompkins County.



She was chosen because of her volunteer efforts in her community, including her work with Love Knows No Bounds (LKNB), a local organization that provides relief to Katrina survivors in the 7th Ward of New Orleans. She also volunteers with the Grassroots Festival and the Cayuga Waterfront Trail/Finger Lakes Film Festival.

She is currently a special educator/co-coordinator for the Ithaca City School District Elementary Transition Program, where she works with children who need extra support to be successful in a mainstream elementary school classroom. She is also a certified trainer in therapeutic crisis intervention. She graduated from SUNY Oneonta in elementary education and completed graduate studies in special education at Buffalo State College. She is the daughter of Judy and Gordie Ruston. ■

-Linda Myers, communications coordinator

Dollars For Scholars

The Ninth Annual Coughlin & Gerhart Golf for Scholars Tournament demonstrates the law firm's commitment to community involvement and the education of our students.

The law firm of Coughlin & Gerhart hosted its ninth annual tournament at Hiawatha Landing and awarded \$13,560 in scholarship funds. The Chenango Forks team, pictured at right, placed fourth out of 22 teams and presented the Chenango Forks Dollars for Scholars Foundation with a check for \$870.

The CF Dollars for Scholars Foundation is seeking community members to participate in its annual fundraising campaign. Please contact Assistant High School Principal John Hillis to discuss the part you can play in this worthwhile organization.

A special thank you to Louis Picciano & Son for helping sponsor the Ninth Annual Coughlin & Gerhart Dollars for Scholars tournament and making the scholarship awards possible. ■

-Bob Bundy, superintendent



Team members: Lars Meade, attorney with Coughlin & Gerhart; Tim Dayton, Louis Picciano & Sons, district resident and volunteer; Bob Bundy, superintendent, and Gail Wrighter, CF retired teacher and BOE member.

Summer construction at the Forks

This summer marked the conclusion of the second phase of our most recent capital project. Currently, the work is ahead of schedule with no concerns about being ready for the teachers' return on Tuesday, September 8, followed by the students' return on September 10. Be sure to attend your child's open house to see the upgrades firsthand.

High School

Major work in the High School focused on the installation of an elevator from the science wing to the first floor to satisfy handicap accessibility requirements. Along with this, the security system received upgrades,

work on heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) in the auditorium continued, and fire alarm upgrades were completed. The library received replacement windows, gym wall pads were added, and terrazzo floor patching throughout the building was completed. Installation of an electronic message board occurred in August to service the High School and Middle School.

Middle School

The bulk of the district's efforts occurred in the Middle School where much

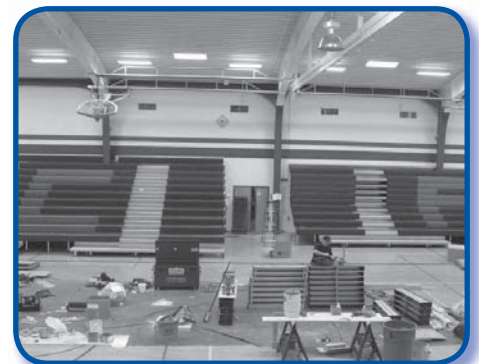
of the floor was replaced along with ventilation and heating upgrades.

Upgrades were done on the security system, fire alarm system, student rest rooms and the Middle School Main Office.

CF Elementary School

Construction work was limited in the CFE building. New concrete was installed at the entrance to the Harshaw building, along with lighting improvements to the entrance canopy. A new electronic message board was installed for the Charlotte Kenyon Intermediate School and the John R. Harshaw School in August. ■

-Bob Bundy, superintendent



Welcome back

Summer Staff Development

On behalf of the administrative team we welcome back students and staff. It has been a busy summer for administration and many of our teaching staff as time is dedicated to strategic educational planning to keep our students and district on a path of continual improvement. Our work continues in each of the following areas:

Comprehensive District Education Plan (CDEP)-In June, the CDEP team met to review student assessment data and to review and revise the long-range district plan of priorities and strategies. Noting positive trends, particularly in ELA and math, the team recognized that the district priorities and strategies are on target with the addition of supporting the integration of instructional technology. Building-level teams met in August to develop academic improvement plans to support the district priority and strategies.

District priority-Maximize student achievement by using the Professional Learning Communities (DuFour) model of collaboration:

- ◆ Exactly what is it we want all students to learn?
- ◆ How will we know when each student has acquired the essential knowledge and skills?
- ◆ What happens in our school when a student does not learn?

2009 –2012 District Strategies

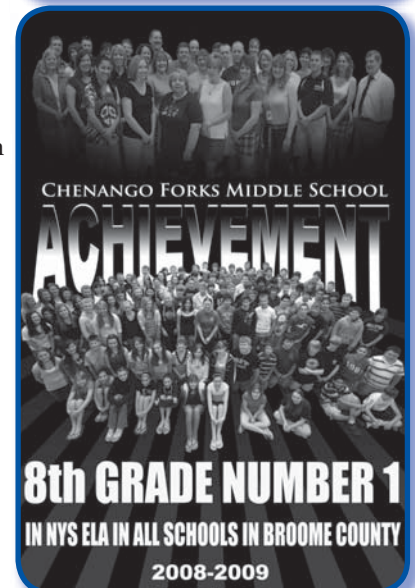
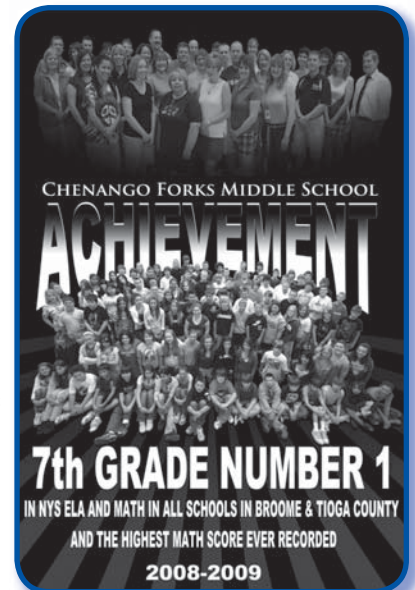
- ◆ Identify the academic and nonacademic needs of pre-K to 12 students to provide interventions that improve their performance (Response to Intervention) with emphasis on dropout prevention.
- ◆ Implement pre-K to 12 professional development initiatives that align with this strategic plan's priorities and meet teachers' needs.
- ◆ Use curriculum mapping to align content and skills to state syllabi, curriculum and assessments pre-k to 12.
- ◆ Continue to develop and implement frequent assessments to benchmark student academic progress and to use data to inform instruction.
- ◆ Continue to provide regular achievement information to parents to enable collaboration between parents and the school.
- ◆ Implement the District technology plan: integrate technology to support student access to the curriculum and to improve student learning pre-K to 12.

S3TAIR (Supporting Successful Strategies to Achieve Improved Results)-After an extensive review by the NYS Education Department in spring 2009, the district has been approved as a S3TAIR validated effective practice site. The district received the recognition based on effective implementation of evidence-based practices that resulted in positive outcomes for our students. Grant funding is available for continued support of our best practices. The district is also committed to supporting implementation of best practices in other districts. During the summer, a team of teachers from the MS/HS presented a workshop on best literacy practices at the Sullivan County BOCES. The team of teachers included Andrea Gumble (HS English), Carol Church (MS science), Mandy Black (HS Spanish), Keith Rosko (HS art), and Alison Sheridan-Brennan (HS science).

Literacy-Our elementary literacy coordinators, MS/HS literacy leaders, and teachers at ▶



Front, l to r: Superintendent Bob Bundy & Assistant Superintendent Carol Denz. Back, l to r: Superintendent's Secretary Gail Wilson & Assistant Superintendent's Secretary Shelly Callan.



Posters, created by district counselor Eric Sutton, recognize 7th- and 8th-grade students and staff for their performance on state exams.

Continued on next page.

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all levels met to review data and to further the development of frequent assessments, curriculum alignment with NYS standards and mapping.

Math-Our elementary math coordinators, elementary teachers, and MS/HS teachers reviewed data and worked on the development of benchmark assessments, curriculum alignment with NYS standards and mapping. Two HS math teachers were able to attend BOCES regional workshops supported by the district's participation in the EETT (Enhancing Education Through Technology) Grant. Ann Biddle attended a workshop on advanced graphing calculators for secondary math. Dan Palmer attended a regional workshop to develop integrated algebra curriculum.

Response to Intervention (RTI) & Academic Intervention Services (AIS)-Building-level RTI/AIS teams met at every level to plan for continuing implementation of RTI. RTI is a

model for a systematic approach to identifying, defining and resolving students' academic and behavioral difficulties.

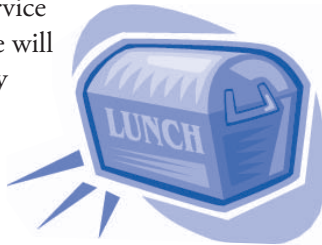
Physical Education-The P.E. department has aligned curriculum and assessments to the National Standards and NYS Standards for Physical Education.

Instructional Technology-The MS literacy team met to explore technology-based project ideas to engage students in writing, reading, vocabulary and comprehension. Our librarians, Melissa Santacrose, Pat Sweeney and Nicole Waskie, updated the online library automation catalog so students can easily access an accurate book inventory. They also enhanced the administrative module, allowing staff to check out materials more efficiently and to better assist students with research. ■

-Bob Bundy, superintendent & Carol Denz, assistant superintendent

Food services information

Welcome from the food service department. This year we will continue with our weekly salads as an alternative meal and we are continuing with stealth-healthy nutrition.



On average, the menu provides, as planned, 30 percent or fewer calories from fat, 10 percent or fewer calories from saturated fat, and we're striving to make half of the grains that we serve whole grains. Best of all, you can't beat the price of a school lunch. Check it out:

Example of a Homemade Lunch Cost:

\$2.50 per lunch

Based on a turkey sandwich with cheese, 4 oz. juice box, 1 oz. of pretzels, apple and purchase of an 8 oz. milk from school.

School Lunch Cost:

\$2.10 per lunch for grades K-5

\$2.25 per lunch for grades 6-12

Provides at least 2 oz. protein, a serving of fruit, a serving of vegetables, 1 or 2 servings of grains and an 8 oz. milk from school.

Prepay online.

It's a convenient option for a small convenience fee. Best of all, you can monitor how your child is using the money.

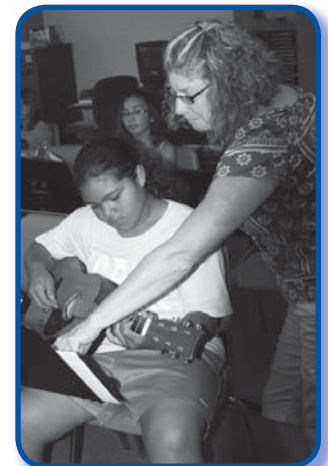
For more information, go to www.cforks.org and click on District Services then Food Service. ■

-Fran Pierson, food services director

Summer, from page 1.

principal Marty Olsa said they try to add new courses each year for the elementary students to choose from. He added, "Any time students are given a chance to explore fun and unique courses I feel it can only help to make them an informed learner."

A thank you goes out to the students, parents and teachers for their support during the year. This program benefits a large number of our elementary students. ■



Cindi Ferranti, Summer Enrichment teacher, gives some pointers to a student learning guitar.

-Marty Olsa, Summer Enrichment principal



Movie Maker was a new course offered this year.

Wellness Policy Annual Review

The Chenango Forks Central Schools Wellness Policy requires a yearly review of the policy by the District Health Advisory Council (DHAC). The DHAC met throughout the 2008-09 school year. The council's task is to implement, monitor and review the district's wellness policy. The council also makes decisions in regards to grant resources available to support implementation of the wellness policy. The partial list below indicates areas in which the committee has worked to provide activities and resources to accomplish this during the 2008-09 school year.

Nutritional Health & Food Services Initiatives

Here's a partial listing of changes that have occurred with our food services:

- ◆ Ordering beef patties that are lower in fat.
- ◆ Eliminated the double entrée portion. Students are encouraged to eat the offered fruit and vegetable.
- ◆ Implemented recommendations for healthier meals in schools that include beans or legumes weekly; orange fruit or vegetable weekly; and dark green vegetable weekly.
- ◆ Continued to work with the Rock on Café to improve nutrition acceptance for elementary students. Intermediate grades again this year participated in the "Classroom of the Day" and reading of menus on Channel 34.
- ◆ MS/HS: reducing sodium and fat, portion packets for condiments, limiting cheese to reduce sodium and fat, and removing salt shakers from the serving lines.
- ◆ HS: working with students to show healthy portion sizes and increasing fresh vegetables choices.

Community Partnerships

- ◆ The district continues a partnership with the KYDS Coalition through participation on the executive board and the school committee. KYDS representatives were available at the beginning of the school year open houses to provide information to our parents and students. We support KYDS activities by providing information through our newsletter and a link to the coalition Web page via our Web site. The "School Mapping Project" completed in 07-08, outlines resources, programs, instruction programs, and activities that we have in place to provide for a safe school environment and was updated in 08-09. The completed map is available on the district Web site. (www.cforks.org).
- ◆ Also in partnership with KYDS, students in grades 7-12 participated in the Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) in December, 2008, with the results due to the

district this fall. The survey is designed to improve our understanding of children's strengths (protective factors), our community supports, and also the risks they may face for problems such as smoking, underage drinking, and drug use. This survey is administered every two years. The district will have three years of data to review.

- ◆ In September 2008, the district hosted a town hall meeting organized by the KYDS Coalition on underage drinking. A panel including counselors, health care, law enforcement, youths in recovery, and a parent of a youth in recovery presented their perspectives.
- ◆ A number of Chenango Forks students once again entered into the KYDS Coalition Commercial competition. The topic of the 30-second commercial was underage drinking.
- ◆ In October 2008, the Rachel's Challenge Program was presented to HS and MS students, staff and community. The cost of the program was supported through State Senator Thomas Libous Grant money. It is a program designed to help school administrators, parents and students create safer and more productive places to learn and achieve. The goal is to motivate and equip students to embrace the values of kindness and compassion so that no child is left behind because of fear and violence in their school. The program is based on an essay entitled "My Ethics, My Codes of Life", written by Rachel Joy Scott, one of the students killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. The "Friends for Rachel" ongoing component of the program has met with some success.
- ◆ The district collaborated with the School and Family Enrichment (SAFE) Program to promote early identification of the strengths and difficulties that children in K through 8 may be experiencing. Parents were provided the opportunity to complete a questionnaire to identify emotional issues that can affect family relationships, how well a child does in school, and their ability to make friends. Most recent data indicated about a six percent response rate (15.5 percent of the surveys completed), resulted in services provided to students and families. The district looks forward to continuing the partnership during the 2009-10 school year and has already begun working with the project coordinator to strategize for a more effective outreach to our families.
- ◆ **Sixth-Grade D.A.R.E. Program.** The D.A.R.E. graduation was held on November 25, 2008. Thanks to Trooper Chris Cody, MS Principal Bill Burke, the sixth-grade teachers, and School Safety Coordinator Dave Burdick for their support of the program. ▶

Continued on next page.

Wellness, from page 8.

- ◆ **Lourdes Youth Services.** The district began a second year of partnership with Lourdes Youth Services with the All-Stars and FAST programs. The All-Stars program provides students with alcohol and drug awareness education and prevention. The FAST program is a student and family outreach program. Unfortunately, due to funding cuts, both programs were not able to be completed.
- ◆ **Fitness Trail.** Expect a fall 2009 completion. The funding source was from a 07-08 Steps to Healthier NY grant through a partnership with the Broome County Health Department.
- ◆ **Partnership with the Broome County Health Department-Childhood Healthy Lifestyle Project.** The purpose of the partnership is to conduct FitnessGram/Micro Fit physical fitness testing and report data to the health department. A public health epidemiologist will analyze the student data for individual school districts and regionally and share results with students, parents, and staff. The goal is to improve the nutrition of our students through education and parent communication, increase their physical activity and assist the district in monitoring the rates of childhood obesity.
- ◆ **Libous Grant 08-09 Funding.** Continued training through High 5 Adventure on the ropes course. Three P.E. teachers

will be attending the Adventure Basics program at High 5. This training will enhance the staffs' ability to sequence and offer more comprehensive adventure programs. The Kenyon faculty recently had their monthly faculty meeting on the ropes course. The HS is interested in involving the "academy" students and teachers in the fall of 2009. We continue to use the ropes course for P.E. classes, offer it to other schools and community organizations, for and summer enrichment.

Wellness Policy Evaluation

The district wellness policy was adopted by the BOE on 3/9/06. Included in the policy is the following: "The School Health Index (SHI) or similar index will be completed every three years to help review policy compliance, assess progress, and determine areas in need of improvement in nutrition and physical activity policy." The DHAC completed the SHI and reviewed the results. The DHAC took particular note of improvement in the district's nutrition services. The council discussed the strengthening of collaborative efforts with food services and health instruction as a focus for 2009-10. Significant improvements were also noted in areas of school health services and family and community involvement. ■

-DHAC members

Anti-discrimination policy

The Chenango Forks Central School District does not discriminate in employment or in education programs and activities which it operates on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, religion, race or disability in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, or § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and New York State Human Rights Law.

If any person believes the School District or any of the District's staff has failed to apply or has inadequately applied the principles or regulations stated above, that person may bring forward a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the District's compliance officer, Bernie McDermott. Mr. McDermott can be contacted by telephoning 648-7520 or by addressing a letter to his attention at 6 Patch Road, Binghamton, NY 13901. ■

-Kathy Blackman, business executive

Pesticide notification

In accordance with regulations issued by the New York State Office of the Attorney General, we are providing written notice to the public of the following:

- 1) Pesticides may be used at school facilities or on school grounds throughout the year;
- 2) The school is required to maintain a list of staff and parents who wish to receive 48 hours' advance written notice of pesticide applications. To keep our records current, a new letter is required annually;
- 3) Instructions on how to register to receive such notice and inquiries for more specific information should be directed to **Kathy Blackman, school business executive, at 648-7564, ext. 3529.**

Please contact Kathy Blackman if you want advance notification of pesticide use or if you have any questions regarding this notice. ■

-Kathy Blackman, business executive

Anti-sexual harassment policy

The Board of Education recognizes that sexual harassment of students and staff is abusive and illegal behavior that harms victims and negatively impacts the school culture by creating an environment of fear, distrust, intimidation and intolerance. The Board further recognizes that preventing and remedying sexual harassment in schools is essential to ensure a healthy, nondiscriminatory environment in which students can learn and employees can work productively.

The Board is committed to providing an educational and working environment that promotes respect, dignity, and equality and that is free from all forms of sexual harassment. To this end, the Board condemns and strictly prohibits all forms of sexual harassment on school grounds, school buses, and at all school-sponsored activities, programs, and events, including those that take place at locations outside the district.

Because sexual harassment can occur staff to student, staff to staff, student to student, male to female, female to male, male to male, or female to female, it shall be a violation of this policy for any student, employee, or third party (school visitor, vendor, etc.) to sexually harass any student or employee.

In order for the Board to effectively enforce this policy and to take prompt corrective measures, it is essential that all victims of sexual harassment and persons with knowledge of sexual harassment report the harassment immediately. The district will promptly investigate all complaints of sexual harassment, either formal or informal, verbal or written. To the extent possible, all

complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Limited disclosure may be necessary to complete a thorough investigation. Please contact **District Compliance Officer Bernie McDermott at 648-7520 or 6 Patch Road, Binghamton, NY 13901**, if you think you have been a victim of harassment.

If, after appropriate investigation, the district finds that a student, an employee, or a third party has violated this policy, prompt corrective action will be taken in accordance with the applicable collective bargaining agreement, district policy, and state law.

All complainants and those who participate in the investigation of a complaint of sexual harassment have the right to be free from retaliation of any kind.

The superintendent of schools is directed to develop and implement regulations for reporting, investigating, and remedying allegations of sexual harassment. These regulations are to be attached to this policy. In addition, training programs shall be established for students and employees to raise awareness of the issues surrounding sexual harassment and to implement preventative measures to help reduce incidents of sexual harassment.

This policy shall be posted in a prominent place in each district facility and shall also be published in student registration materials; student, parent, and employee handbooks; and other appropriate school publications. Adoption date: 6/25/92 (prior policy 9010.2). Revised: 11/20/03. ■

-Kathy Blackman, business executive

Section 504 – Annual Notice

In accordance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 commonly known as Section 504, the School District hereby notifies disabled children and their parents of the School District duty under the Regulations to Section 504.

The School District shall provide a free appropriate public education to each qualified disabled child who resides in the School District regardless of the nature or severity of the disability. The School District shall educate each qualified disabled child with children who are not disabled to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the disabled child, and shall also ensure that disabled children participate with non-disabled children in nonacademic and extra-curricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate. A disabled child shall be afforded an equal opportunity for participation in such services and activities.

The School District shall provide disabled children an equal

opportunity for participation in physical education courses, interscholastic, club or intramural athletics.

The School District shall conduct pre-placement evaluations, and shall establish standards and procedures consistent with Section 104.35 for the evaluation and placement of children who need or are believed to need special education or related services. Periodic reevaluation shall be conducted of children who have been provided special education or related services.

Placement decisions shall draw upon information from a variety of sources and shall be made by a group of persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement options. The School District shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards that includes notice, an opportunity for the parent to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with the opportunity for participation by the parent and representation by counsel, and a review procedure. ■

-Maggie Nugent, school psychologist

School notice to parent of rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal Law, requires Chenango Forks Central Schools, with certain exceptions, to obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Chenango Forks Central Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with district procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Chenango Forks Central Schools to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill showing your student's role in a drama production.
- The annual yearbook.
- Honor roll and other recognition lists.
- Graduation programs.
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, New York State Education Law § 2-1 and two federal laws require school districts

receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), in which Chenango Forks Central Schools participates, to provide military recruiters, upon request, with student names, addresses and telephone listings, unless parents have advised the school district that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want Chenango Forks Central Schools to disclose some or all directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing within 30 days after the publication of this notice. Chenango Forks Central Schools has designated the following information as directory information:

1. Student's name
2. Address
3. Telephone listing
4. Electronic mail address
5. Student's Image
6. Date and place of birth
7. Major field of study
8. Dates of attendance
9. Grade level
10. Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
11. Weight and height of members of athletic teams
12. Degrees, honors, and awards received
13. The most recent educational agency or institution attended. ■

-Kathy Blackman, business executive

CAGO fall season sign-up

Chenango Aquatics (CAGO), a competitive swim club, will hold sign-ups for the fall season on Tuesday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m for returning members and Monday, September 14, at 6:30 p.m. for new members, at the High School pool. Swimmers of any age who are able to swim two lengths (50 yards) of the pool unaided are eligible to join. A swim test will be given to all swimmers at sign-ups, so come prepared to swim. There are insurance and training fees involved to join.

For more information, please visit our Web site at www.cagoswim.com. If you have any questions, contact Annheleen Wasko-Smith at 692-7312. ■

-Annheleen Wasko-Smith, CAGO member chairperson

Newsletter mailings

Residents who have questions regarding the Chenango Forks School District Newsletter mailings should contact the CF business office at 648-7564. ■

Are you moving?

If you are planning to move, please call the business office at 607-648-7564, ext. 3629 to report this change or complete the census form on our Web site at www.cforks.org/census. ■

District Calendar

This year one district calendar will be mailed to families who have students enrolled in the CF school district. If you do not have a student enrolled in the district, but would still like a calendar, please call any of the main offices to receive one. ■

-Kathy Blackman, business executive

Cyber bullying-It's on the rise

Technology is a wonderful thing, but it is moving at such a fast pace that it is hard for the average person to keep up with all the new devices coming out almost daily. As the old saying goes, "with the good also comes the bad." Alas, the advent of cyber bullying. Cyber bullying is defined as using cell phones, computers or any other types of electronic communications for verbal and mental bullying. To help keep your family safe, here are some important safety tips from A New Hope Center in Owego.

Safety Planning

It is always okay to turn off or not answer your phone and to screen calls. Just be sure to communicate with your parent/guardian and let them know how to contact you in an emergency. Almost all cell phones come equipped with GPS locators intended to locate lost phones, children or 911 callers. These can also be used by abusers to track and stalk, usually when the abuser owns or has access to the account. There is a way to turn off the locator and we suggest talking to your specific carrier to discuss when and how to do this. Anyone who has access to your cell phone account can also track, stalk and monitor calls using the statements or call histories.

Be wary of calls from unknown numbers. Abusers can easily call from another line. Do not respond to hostile, harassing, inappropriate, or abusive texts or messages, with the possible exception of an initial response to "stop texting/calling me." You can also ask the police to contact the abuser and warn them to stop making contact. Then, if they continue, sometimes criminal charges can be applied.

Many phone companies can block up to 10 numbers from texting or calling. Contact your phone company or check their Web site to see if you can do this on your phone.

It may seem extreme, but if the abuse does not stop, sometimes changing your phone number, user name, or e-mail address can be the best option.

Save and keep track of abusive, threatening, or harassing comments, posts, texts, calls, or messages.

Report inappropriate behavior to site administrators (terms of service violations). Or contact the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's Cyber Tipline at www.cybertipline.com or by calling 1-800-843-5678.

Trust your instincts. If you think something is wrong or are feeling threatened, tell someone who can help you.

Safer Choices

Remember that pictures on cell phones can easily be shared and distributed. Be careful what images you take and send as well as allow to be taken and sent of you. Be aware of local and national laws regulating these activities. Impersonation on the Internet is easy. People may not be who they say they are. Information published online, just like anywhere else, may be inaccurate or misleading. Consider and check out the sources. Think long-term. Once it's on the Internet, it is there forever. Future employers, colleges and other important groups will likely search the Internet for background information on you.

Don't do or say anything online that you wouldn't do or say in person. Set all online profiles to the most private setting.

Do not give your password to anyone. Choose passwords that are not easy to guess and change your passwords regularly. Include both letters and numbers in your password.

Don't open files from senders you don't recognize. Keep your anti-virus software and anti-spyware installed and up-to-date.

Don't post your name, address or telephone number online. Even your school name or mascot, landmarks, and photos can make it easy for abusers to find out where you live, hang out, or go to school.

Remember that it's not just about you. Posting personal information about your friends and family online can put them at risk. ■

-Jane Warren, MS counselor

Chenango Forks School District awarded \$97,630

The Chenango Forks School District was successful in receiving \$97,630 from the U.S. Department of Education for the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) discretionary grant program. The money will enable the district to improve plans that address all four phases of emergency management: prevention-mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. It is an 18-month program and the funds will be used

for training and supplies that will assist the district with preventing and responding to emergency situations.

Chenango Forks was one of only 108 schools nationwide to receive the grant and one of eight in New York state. Dave Burdick, safe school coordinator, submitted the grant and will serve as program manager during the grant process.

Funds may be used to coordinate with local emergency ▶

Continued on page 16.

What's in a name?

Each year our students come to school with many wonderful items: backpacks, new shoes or sneakers, binders, folders, trapper-keepers, lunch bags, and special 'treasures' from home. As the year moves ahead, our students bring snow pants, boots, hats and mittens, special sweaters and sweatshirts, and, believe it or not, an unmatched sock or two. During the second half of the year, our students have swim trunks, goggles, towels and miscellaneous items that you may not even know have left your home and come to school for the day, week or month.

Perhaps you may also know that every year we have to donate, discard or salvage bags and bags of items simply because we don't know who the items belong to.

This year, as we have every year, we will have our lost and found shelves in the main hallway. However, we are asking that our students come to school with their name (first and last please) on EVERYTHING that can be labeled and potentially lost. Our goal is to have nothing in the lost and found because we were able to look at the item, see a name



Harshaw Principal Kathleen Keir, Building Secretary Terri McCall & Attendance Clerk Lynn Rosko.

(first and last please) and return it directly to the student or the parent.

So, what's "IN" a name? The most important thing that a name can be "IN" is the items your child brings to school from home everyday. Please work with us to make names an "IN" thing at Harshaw this year! ■

Harshaw Open Houses

Our teachers and staff are pleased to invite all Harshaw parents/guardians to come and meet our classroom teachers and staff. It's an opportunity to visit the classrooms, for the teachers to share brief presentations specific to grade level curriculum and classroom routines, and for you to learn about and sign-up to help with important events that will take place during the year.

Dates and times are listed as a reminder. Please feel free to join us.

Morning Pre-K classes

Wednesday, September 9, 6-6:30 p.m.

Afternoon Pre-k classes

Wednesday, September 9, 6:30-7 p.m.

Kindergarten

Wednesday, September 9, 5:30-6:30 p.m. in classrooms

First and Second Grade

Tuesday, September 29

-RTI/AIS Parent Information Meeting, 6-6:30 p.m. in auditorium

-Open House, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in classrooms

Parent Handbooks to be "Hand Delivered"

This year our Parent Handbooks will be sent home with the students on Thursday, September 10. The handbook is also available on our district Web site, www.cforks.org.

Our Harshaw parent handbook is intended to be a resource for you to check for information about our school, programs and procedures. If you did not receive a copy or would like another, contact the Harshaw main office at 648-7580 and one will be sent to you. ■



Knowledge

Volunteers welcome

We cordially invite all parents, guardians and grandparents to join the Parent Volunteer Program for the current school year. There is a variety of tasks that may be done in or out of the school by our volunteers.

Anyone interested in volunteering at Kenyon may obtain a sign-up form in the Kenyon main office or request it from your child's teacher. For those interested in volunteering at Harshaw, please remember to return the Parent Volunteer form from your August mailing. If you have any questions,

please contact the Kenyon main office at 648-7520 or the Harshaw main office at 648-7580. ■

-Kathleen Keir, HP principal & Bernie McDermott, KI principal

Harshaw September dates

9/9 Open Houses: Kindergarten @ 5:30
Morning Pre-K @ 6 p.m.
Afternoon Pre-K @ 6:30 p.m.

9/10 First day of school. Welcome back!

9/15 Site Council meeting @ 2:45 p.m., room 124

9/24 Parent Volunteer Orientation @ 3:30 p.m.,
CFE Auditorium

9/24-30 Book Fair

9/29 Grades 1 & 2 AIS Parent meetings @ 6 p.m.
Grades 1 & 2 Open House @ 6:30 p.m.



Student donates locks

It seems each year a CF student or staff member donates locks to the American Cancer Society's Locks of Love program and this year is no exception.

Kaileigh Phillips, who finished kindergarten at Harshaw in June, had been growing her hair out for over two years just for the purpose of donating it to Locks Of Love.

In July, the long locks were cut off and donated to Locks of

Love. It was a long, hard struggle to grow it out. Her mother, Landis Phillips, recalled, "Many mornings she would get tears in her eyes while brushing her hair because of the knots in it as it got longer and longer. I would say to her 'You don't have to do this.' But she would say, 'No, I want to give my hair to a child who needs it, so I am going to do this.' I was very proud of her." Kaileigh is a wonderful example of the caring community we have here in the Chenango Forks School District. ■

-Linda Myers, communications coordinator



Kaileigh shows how much hair was cut.



Kaileigh's short, new hair style.

Welcome to Kenyon

Welcome back to school. This year all our classroom teachers are returning. We welcome Pam Felix who will be the new speech teacher. She replaces Margaret Beaudoin who retired in June.

We look forward to seeing students and their families at our Kenyon Open House on October 1. The Kenyon parent handbook will be distributed to third-grade parents at this time and an electronic copy is available on the CF Web site under student registration.

Parent conferences will be conducted using substitutes to cover classes. We will not have half-days. Teachers will have their scheduled days and time slots available at Open House on October 1.

This summer some Kenyon teachers met in teams to continue planning for the academic success of our students. Grades 3-5 math master curriculum maps were created. These maps give all teachers in these grades the same "road map" to follow for instruction. Our site council reviewed our academic improvement plan and set strategies for improvement for the upcoming year. To continue our implementation of the Response to Intervention procedures, a team of Kenyon teachers met with Harshaw teachers to align our interventions for struggling students K-5.

Throughout the year, parents are often invited to attend special classroom functions and celebrations. Watch for specific information that will be sent home with your child throughout the year or check the Kenyon calendar on the district Web site. Also, look for separate mailings with locator cards and details about the school day and year.

We look forward to seeing Kenyon students and to a wonderful, exciting year filled with learning and fun. ■

-Bernie McDermott, KI principal



Principal Bernie McDermott, Building Secretary Laura Smyder & Attendance Clerk Ruth McClure.

Accelerated readers at Kenyon

Our top three winners were:

Grade 3 - Katelyn Church with 260.9 points

Grade 4 - Nicholas Dimatos with 627 points

Grade 5 - Anthony Silvanic with 395.7 points

One way we promote reading at Kenyon is with the Accelerated Reader program. The benchmark awards are listed with the number of students who achieved them in June. Congratulations!

-25 points - 224 students

-50 points - 120 students

-100 points - 52 students

-250 points - 11 students



Katelyn Church.



Nicholas Dimatos.



Anthony Silvanic.

Kenyon September dates

9/3 New student tour @ 10 a.m.
3rd-grade tours @ 9 a.m. & 1 p.m.

9/10 First day for students. Welcome back!

9/22 Site Council @ 2:30 p.m.
School Photos



9/23 School Photos

10/1 Kenyon Open house/parent night/academic intervention services meeting.
More details to follow.

Testing dates at Kenyon and Middle School

The NYS Board of Regents made changes to many state testing dates for the 2009-10 school year. All the English language arts (previously in January) and math testing (previously in March) moved to late April and early May.

This was an unexpected policy change by the Board of Regents in late June, just as school was finishing for the year. At right are the testing dates. All of the testing periods have make-up times so if a child is unable to come to school the test can still be taken. In the past, these tests were given over five days. Now they will be administered in three days. ■

-CF administration

Social Studies for fifth grade only

Monday, November 16 and Tuesday, November 17

Science for fourth grade only

-Performance test: Monday, May 24 -Thursday, June 3
Each class is scheduled for a half day.

-Written Exam: Monday, June 7. All students.

ELA for grades 3-8

Monday, April 26 - Wednesday, April 28

Math for grades 3-8

Wednesday, May 5- Friday, May 7

Grant, from page 12.

responders, and the district will be working in partnership with the Town of Chenango, NYS Police, Broome County Health Department, Broome County Mental Health, and the Chenango Bridge Fire Company.

In addition to addressing the four phases of emergency management, plans must commit school districts to coordinate with officials in law enforcement, local government, public safety, public health and mental health; train school officials in emergency management; and provide a method for communicating emergency and reunification procedures to parents and guardians. Projects should support the implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and include plans designed to prepare districts for infectious disease outbreaks and take into consideration districts' special-needs populations.

Look for more details and information on this grant in our newsletters throughout the school year. ■

-Carol Denz, assistant superintendent

The birds

No, it wasn't the Alfred Hitchcock movie. It was an exciting class students could participate in as part of the Summer Enrichment Program. Wild About Nature - Bird Watching, taught by Theresa Callahan Collier and Roseanne Lapham, gave students an inside look at the world of birds.

During class students got a special visit from some bird experts. Jerry Acton, wildlife photographer, and Roma Rae, a local bird enthusiast, talked with students about all things birds.

Students learned about various local bird species in our area, how to make bagel bird feeders, looked through a bird blind to observe birds and saw actual bird nests, feathers and specimens.

Each student went home with a bagel bird feeder they made in class. ■

-Theresa Callahan Collier & Roseanne Lapham, Summer Enrichment teachers



Local bird enthusiast Roma Rae shows students nests, bird specimens and feathers.



Students make their bagel bird feeders.



Alexa Walling, Emma Fox, Charles Syron and Ryan Ehrets with their bagel bird feeders.

Welcome back!

It has been a busy summer in our middle school. Our classrooms and halls have been re-floored with vinyl tile and our heating and air-circulation systems have been updated. The contractors did a very professional and impressive job. Our own maintenance people repainted, re-patched and repaired. The physical operation of our multi-million dollar building is in top shape and ready to go. We thank all parents and taxpayers for their support. We truly appreciate your interest in maintaining a building that will serve our students now and for decades to come. We promise to use it wisely and effectively.

Our teachers met this summer to establish educational planning goals, to undergo benchmark training, to review and select new math text books, to plan academic intervention services, and to develop our response to intervention program. Additionally, and as always, our teachers have individually refined and refocused their curriculums to meet the needs of our children.

We expect another good year and fully expect to continue the success of last year. Our 2008-09 New York state test scores showed Chenango Forks Middle School as the highest ranking school in eighth-grade English language arts in Broome County. We were also the highest ranking school in seventh-grade ELA, and very close to the top

in sixth-grade ELA. Our seventh-grade math scores were the highest ever recorded for a public school in the area (99.1 percent proficient). Additionally, our eighth-grade math proficiency scores were very high as were our eighth-grade science and social studies New York state scores. And on top of all that, over 95 percent of middle school students who were taking high school credit bearing-courses in foreign language, integrated algebra, and earth science received high school credit with very good scores on their Regents exams.

However, we are not consumed with a need to chase high test scores. We understand and are most concerned with providing an education that is fit for today's middle school children; all of them, and in every way. Our Middle School provides avenues of exploration and success in technology, computers, home and career skills, health, and music. We have a fine physical education program and an outstanding modified interscholastic sports program. All of these programs will be part of your child's middle school experience.

Our teachers understand that your child is more than a test score. We understand that middle schoolers may struggle and may not be perfect;

they can also be very energetic and enthusiastic. Middle school is a time of change; physically, socially and intellectually. Our teachers and staff are experienced and well prepared for dealing with this change and that mysterious middle school mind. We consider our teachers and staff as very important people. However, the most important people in our Middle School are your children. We are ready for your children and can't wait to get started on another exciting year. Please join us in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration as together we support and guide your child through this exciting time of change – this time in the middle. On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Chenango Forks Middle School, I have the privilege and honor to say welcome back! ■

-Bill Burke, MS principal



Front, l to r: Administrative Assistant Kathryn Knapp & Attendance Clerk Vicki Mikeska. Back, l to r: Principal Bill Burke & Dean of Students Laura Chestnut.

Middle School September dates

- 9/8 Grade 6 AIS Mtg. @ 5:30 p.m.
Grade 6 Open House @ 6 p.m.
- 9/10 First day for students. Welcome back.
- 9/23-24 MS Photos



Welcome back!

The Chenango Forks High School staff looks forward to welcoming back our returning students as well as the Class of 2013. The summer has been an exciting one with the return of Principal Michael Flynn and the promotion of John Hillis to assistant principal. These two longtime employees of the district have worked successfully together as social studies teachers at the high school and now look forward to continuing their professional relationship helping students as administrators.

Members of the high school teaching staff have been busy working on the Response to Intervention and Comprehensive District Education Plans, attending workshops in

mathematics, and presenting at professional conferences.

Construction continued over the summer. While the bulk of the physical construction took place last summer, some changes occurred in our building such as improved signs, painting, flooring, and a new elevator that will increase access to the science wing.

Also, a warm welcome to our new HS staff members. Jon Edwards and Chris Spencer will both be teaching social studies. Please join me in welcoming them to our high school family.

Finally, we look forward to beginning the new school year with the 550-plus students who will make up the community of learners at the High



Front, l to r: Administrative Assistants Gigi Snow & Kathy Luke. Back, l to r: Assistant Principal John Hillis, Administrative Assistant Colleen Kresge & Principal Michael Flynn.

School for the 2009-2010 school year. Welcome all! ■

-Mike Flynn, HS principal

Students to receive HS Agenda

High School Agendas will be provided to each student on the first day of school at no cost. The high school agenda is a valuable tool to help students structure their academic and personal activities. It is unique and user friendly since it is

personalized with reference pages in various subject areas for their convenience. These sections include math and science reference table, maps, helpful strategies for studying and writing term papers, French and Spanish vocabulary, and much more. ■

-Mike Flynn, HS principal

Students attend Boys State

School ended in late June, but for two High School students it wasn't for long. That's because Christopher Parsons and Zachary VanKuren attended American Legion Boys State of New York this year at SUNY Morrisville, June 27 through July 3.

Each morning (5 a.m. to be exact) they had to get up, make their beds military style, tidy their quarters, and complete calisthenics with members of the U.S. Marine Corps.



Zachary VanKuren.



Chris Parsons.

Afternoons were filled with meeting local and state officials, participating in mock legislative

sessions, and learning about county caucuses and state party conventions.

Christopher and Zachary were nominated by our high school and selected by our local legionnaires to represent Chenango Forks High School. They joined over 1,000 other young men from across the state of New York. This annual event has been sponsored by the American Legion since 1938 and is dedicated to teaching citizenship and leadership.

They were both in wonderful company as past Boys State participants have gone on to have world famous careers. Well-known public figures who have participated in Boys State include: Meet the Press moderator and former NBC Nightly News anchor Tom Brokaw, former President Bill Clinton, NBA superstar and Olympic gold medalist Michael Jordan, former Vice President Al Gore, and astronaut Neil Armstrong.

Our appreciation and gratitude is extended to the American Legion for sponsoring Christopher and Zachary. ■

-Linda Myers, communications coordinator

Freshmen welcomed to High School

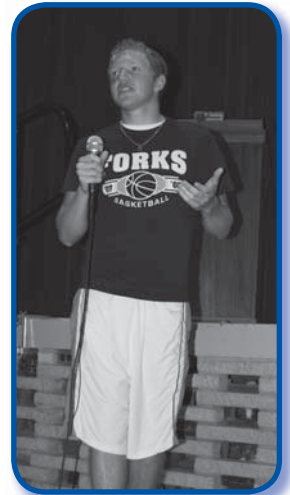
Entering high school can be a daunting experience. Eighth-graders entering their freshmen year this fall got a welcoming experience from some High School students. Getting ready for high school was the topic for the CFHS SADD chapter's eighth-grade assembly held in June. The distinguished SADD students who presented were Kevin Hamilton, Kate Gitchell, Mike Jeske, Kelsey Heller, Mary Kamp, Liz Tiffany, Emily Barvinchak, Christina Feldpaush, Liz Page and Stevie West.

The SADD students reached out to the eighth-grade students to welcome them to the HS and share some strategies for success. Topics included making the right choices, dealing with peer pressure, being yourself, overcoming stress, having fun without drugs and alcohol, getting involved by joining clubs or sports teams, and dealing with the responsibilities that come with more freedom.

They also shared some academic strategies that included asking for help, making up work when you miss a class, the benefits of taking college classes, (class ranking starts in ninth-grade - so don't wait), time management, and getting enough sleep. Words of wisdom were also shared by MS Principal Bill Burke, HS Principal Mike Flynn and MS/HS Guidance Counselor Rick Gumble.

We wish the best of luck to the class of 2013. ■

-Vicki Moschak, HS R.N. & SADD advisor



2009 senior Mike Jeske talks with incoming freshmen about coming to the high school.

CF coach receives national award

Longtime Chenago Forks wrestling coach Rick Gumble was named the USA Wrestling Developmental Coach of the Year. Gumble was honored in July at the Cadet and Junior Nationals in Fargo, N.D. Previously honored as the Northeast Regional Developmental Coach of the Year, Gumble was one of six finalists for the national award. Gumble has been involved in coaching at all levels for 25 years.

"This award is like a lifetime achievement award," said Gumble. "It has been a blessing and honor to be part of an athletic community that has worked so hard to earn the respect of

the USA Wrestling community. I can remember the time when our goals were to simply challenge our strong wrestling neighbors for league and sectional honors. Now our passion is to maintain a standard in which our student-athletes can continue to fulfill their LARGE wrestling dreams."

Gumble has also served as event coordinator for the USA Wrestling Northeast Kids/Cadet Regional Championships, and for the last 19 years has been a state coach for New York USA Wrestling, working with athletes at the Junior and Cadet Nationals.

Gumble is also a member of the USA Wrestling Coaches Council and a co-chairman for Section 4 Wrestling. He has coached nine New York state high school champions, including five-time state champion and 2009 NCAA champion Troy Nickerson.

"You achieve this award based on the success of others, and being involved with good people," Gumble said. ■

-Linda Myers, communications coordinator



High School September dates

9/2	Freshmen Orientation	9/12	ACT test given
9/7	Labor Day. Offices closed.	9/14	Site Council meeting @ 2:15 p.m. Yearbook sales begin @ 7 p.m., HS Lecture 1
9/9	Registration deadline for October SAT. First day of classes for students enrolled in BOCES programs. If you have not made transportation arrangements, please call Jerry Hartman at 648-7550.	9/16-17	9th-grade Personal Best Day @ C.V. State Park
		9/18	Personal Best Day (rain date only) Registration for October ACT
9/10	First day for students. Welcome back!	9/23-24	HS/MS photos, HS Auditorium





1 Gordon Drive
Binghamton, NY 13901

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Superintendent of Schools
Bob Bundy

Assistant Superintendent
Carol Denz

Business Executive
Kathy Blackman

ECRWSS
Postal Patron

Communications Coordinator
Linda Myers

Emergency Locator Card

Each year Chenango Forks Schools sends home a preprinted Emergency Locator Card at the end of summer. Parents are asked to correct any necessary contact information on the front of the card. The back of the card contains medical information that is important for nurses and in times of emergencies. Please fill in both sides of the Emergency Locator Card completely and return it to your child's school within the first week of classes. ■

-Cheri Panko, CIO/educational communications specialist

Free dental care

"Doctor's With a Heart Day" will be held on

Saturday, September 12, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Those with urgent dental needs who have no money, job, means of welfare health care or health insurance are invited to visit Chenango Bridge Dental, 528 Main St., Chenango Bridge (648-4113).

Locations in Conklin, Endwell and Norwich are also available. Please contact Michelle Roberts at 754-2273 for more information. ■

Below is a phone list to cut out and place in a convenient location so it is handy throughout the school year.

CF offices and schools

Superintendent.....	648-7543
Assistant Superintendent	648-7540
Athletics	648-7515
Computer Services	648-7578
Business Office	648-7564
Bus Garage.....	648-7573
Special Education	648-7589
Nutrition.....	648-7524
Building & Grounds	648-7545
After School Child Care	648-8067

Harshaw Primary (HP)

Office.....	648-7580
Attendance.....	648-7579
Nurse	648-7531
Counselor.....	648-7525

Kenyon Intermediate (KI)

Office.....	648-7520
Attendance.....	648-7529
Nurse	648-7522
Counselor.....	648-7525

Middle School (MS)

Office.....	648-7576
Guidance.....	648-7553
Attendance.....	648-7551
Nurse	648-7551

High School (HS)

Office.....	648-7544
Guidance.....	648-7528
Attendance.....	648-7542
Nurse	648-7521

Meetings and reminders

9/8-9 Teacher in-service days.

9/9 First day of classes for students enrolled in BOCES programs. If you have not made transportation arrangements, please call Jerry Hartman at 648-7550.

9/10 First day back for students.
Board of Education @ 7 p.m., MS Library

9/14 CFCA Board Mtg. @ 7 p.m., HS lecture 1