

**COXSACKIE-ATHENS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**“Good News” - - - June 2010**

High School

The following Juniors (class of 2011) have been nominated for awards sponsored by Colleges and Universities:

**Bryan McDonald** - RPI's Rensselaer Medal Award for Math and Science.

**Priscilla Court** - University of Rochester's Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award in Humanities and Social Science.

**Jennifer Donovan** - University of Rochester's Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award.

**Jessica Rivenburg** - University of Rochester's George Eastman's Young Leaders Award.

**Joshua DeVinney** - University of Rochester's Xerox Award for Innovation.

**Elizabeth Kissam** - Russell Sage College's Student Sage Award for academics and leadership.

**Brian Bishop** - Clarkson University's Leadership Award.

**Andrew Baker** - Clarkson University's Achievement Award.

**Brittany Williams** - St. Lawrence University Book Award for academics and community service.

**Jocelyn Gao** - RIT Creativity and Innovation Award.

**Carly Haeussler** and **James Frauenberger** - Saint Michael's College Book Award for Academic Achievement with a Social Conscience.

The Ecommerce class has won another award from Genium Corporation for the “Most Entrepreneurial website of the year:”. The C-A scoresup website also finished second in number of hits for the year.

Kaylen Dayter sold an artwork exhibited at the Greene County Council of the Arts

The boys' tennis team had a strong push at the end of the season and advanced to Sectional play. As the #6 seed in the Class B Sectional team tournament, C-A travelled to and defeated #3 Taconic Hills 6-1 in the quarterfinals. C-A came up just short, losing 3-4, to Schuylerville in the semi-finals.

In the Section II individual tennis tournaments, C-A fared very well. The doubles team of Nathan Tailleir and Jacob Boeri won their first round match and then fell to tournament #7 seed in the second round. However, C-A's Dan Hanson advanced as far as any Patroon Conference or C-A player ever has in the tournament. Hanson received the tournament #7 seeding (out of 32 players from 6m all over Section II, a major accomplishment in it's own right) and proceeded to win his first 3 rounds, advancing him to the quarterfinals on Day 2 of the event. In the quarters, Hanson fell to the tourney #2 seed. Dan Hanson leaves C-A as our all-time career victories holder (78-17 record over 5 years) and is the school's only Patroon Conference Singles Champion, winning that title as the league's best player each of the past 2 seasons!

### Middle School

6th grade social studies is an exciting subject toward the end of the year as we wind down the centuries. One of the favorite units is the Middle Ages with the kings, knights, and monks. Some of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade social studies classes enjoyed a special activity called monastery day. The students enter the room in silence and while monks are chanting in the background, create a reproduction of an illuminated manuscript.

Another exciting activity toward the end of the year is our 6<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. As one of the largest museums in the world, this museum contains collections based on the periods of history that the 6<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum covers throughout the year including ancient Egypt, ancient Greece and Rome among others. It was so great to hear the students make connections between what was learned in the classroom and the authentic artwork viewed in the museum!

6<sup>th</sup> graders are finishing up their Big6 projects in ELA. Big6 is an information problem-solving curriculum which was implemented this year with the support and guidance of Dr. Fulmer. The Big6 Model is one approach to teaching information literacy skills. Students were able to choose from a variety of topics. Then using the Big6 steps: Task Definition, Information Seeking Strategies, Locating Sources, Using Information, Synthesis-putting it all together, and Evaluation-produced well organized, well researched papers. Thanks to Ms. Bayzon who helped all of us through our first experience with Big6.

### Coxsackie Elementary School

Our PTO had another successful Basket Raffle during the “Budget Vote” for May 18. Through the generous efforts of many, over \$1,000 was collected from this activity.

Our second graders presented their play “Keepers of the River” to our school community and parents during the past month. In addition, they were invited to give the performance at Olana, overlooking the beautiful Hudson River. This presentation could not have done without the efforts of our second grade teachers, Miss Cardany, Mrs. Pieruzzi, Mrs. Rausch, Miss Fournier, our music teacher, Mrs. Greenaway and support staff of Mrs. Evers, Mrs. Shauger, and Mrs. Sabine. Our parents were supportive as well with costumes and helping with the props.

We had kindergarten screening for incoming kindergarten students for next year. We are now in process of organizing and setting up classrooms for next year.

Our fourth graders also gave a superb Spring concert. This year’s theme focused on dancing. Our students and guests were entertained with some dancing, musical instrument playing and their delightful singing. They did a wonderful job of sharing their musical talents with our other students and parents.

Our fourth graders have finally completed the last of their assessments – that being the Science Assessment. In the meantime, they are now enjoying activities such as the

“Canals to the Hudson” Program, the annual Bike Rodeo, followed by their trip to the Bronck Museum.

A number of our classes are finishing up with end of the year trips. Our third and fourth grade scholars visited the State Museum in Albany, along with their counterparts from EJA.

Our second graders went on a nature trip to Cohotate. This trip follows their curriculum maps, as did the scholars trip.

We are anxiously awaiting our Field Day and PTO Picnic. The event is scheduled in the next day or so, rain/shine. It is always the highlight of our June events. Students, staff and Parents always look forward to this day. It wouldn't be successful without the support of our PTO. They are always so much part of our school activities.

As we begin to bring this school year to a close, we look forward to a number of end of the year activities. Some of these events include our school wide Primary Assembly. Each grade level will perform one more time.

Our third grades will be sharing their country reports to parents, as well as cooking some special native dishes.

The third and fourth grade awards assembly will recognize the academics and good citizenship of our students at a special assembly.

Our kindergarten and fourth graders are practicing for their Moving-Up Ceremonies as well.

The Building Level Action Team met to review our goals for the next school year. Discussion included building level meetings that we hope to have on further improving the Reading & Writing of our students.

All in all, we are pleased with the efforts of our students. They have worked hard and given their best efforts. As we prepare to say “good bye” to them for the summer, we hope they have a safe and enjoyable few months.

I extend the same hope for all of us that the summer will bring some time for relaxation and enjoyment with family and friends.

#### E. J. Arthur Elementary School

**Update on Shriners Can Tabs -** This year our fourth grade students offered a free fundraiser to the parents. Over the past seven months students at EJA have been bringing in can tabs for Shriners Hospital. One pound of tabs is approximately 1,640 tabs and we collected 78 pounds of tabs this year. Children brought in zip lock bags full of tabs. It

was a true building service project. EJA will continue to collect tabs, so please save them all summer long.



**PTO Art Show and Ice Cream Social** – Parents and students enjoyed an evening of student art work as well as make your own sundae. The event was sponsored by the EJA PTO.

**Fourth Grade Band Recruitment** – Fourth grade students were introduced to the middle school band. Interested fourth graders were able to ask questions as they make choices for playing an instrument next year in Middle School.

**First Grade Play** – First grade students did an outstanding job performing in their play with a focus on Oceans, a curriculum theme covered in first grade. Thank you to all the first grade teachers, Mrs. Mozzillo and first grade parents for all the work that went into the play.

**Kindergarten Screening** – It was exciting to see a preview of the newest members of the Coxsackie-Athens CSD. Next year kindergartners were screened and given an overview for when they come to school next year. Our new students were excited.

**Kindergarten Parent Orientation** – Parents attended an evening session with the kindergarten team as well as support staff. The session gave parents an overview of kindergarten, what to expect, demystifying any questions and allowing parents time in the kindergarten classrooms.

**AIS Hot Dog Night** – Students and their families were treated to a meal (hot dogs, salads and desert) and allowed AIS teachers the opportunity to recognize the work being done by our AIS students.

**Fourth Grade Science Assessment** – Fourth grade students participated in the State assessment (both written and practical exam). Students seemed confident in both

assessments and were able to “showcase” the work they have been doing in science over the past five years.

**Beacon’s of Light** – Second grade students enjoyed nice weather on their field trip to the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse. Students learned about the importance of the Hudson River as well as learn about the history of the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse.

**Kindergarten Bronx Zoo Trip** – Kindergartners learned about different animals and habitats while at the zoo. A number of parents (and teachers) are in awe of the kids as they have learned so much about different animals. This was surely an educational trip that will last a lifetime for many of our students.

**Veterans Assembly** – K-4 students honored those who served at our Friday Morning Assembly prior to Memorial Day. Students sang songs and read poems. Fourth grade students also walked in the Athens Memorial Day parade and performed “In Flanders Field”.

**Perfect Homework** – K-4 students enjoyed ice cream sundaes provided by Stewart’s in Athens for students who have had perfect homework for the entire school year – congratulations!

**Field Day** – Led by Coach Poetzch, students participated in eleven stations where students were able to compete in sack races, javoodle and tug of war. The weather was great and the students enjoyed the event.

**Fourth Grade Spring Concert** – Fourth graders gave their final performance as elementary students at the spring concert. Fourth graders gave it their all, sang loud and proud as parents and family members looked on and enjoyed the show.

**Sandy Crowley Picnic** – Students enjoyed a morning of bumper cars, swings, games and picnic sponsored by our PTO. Students with the top reading logs were able to have an opportunity to “dunk” Mr. Martino for their success.