



WESTHILL

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hill & Vale

Vol. LXXXVII • No. 1 • October 2017 • A Publication of the Westhill Central School District

Seniors Recognized in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program

WHS is proud to announce that seniors, Clayton Markham, Madeleine Jones and Shannon Celeste, have been named as Commended Students in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program. As a result of their scores on the PSAT/NMSQT, they ranked among the top 50,000 of test takers in the nation.

Alaina Kenny has been selected as a Semifinalist in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program. Of the more than 1.6 million juniors who take the PSAT/NMSQT, approximately 16,000 are selected as semifinalists. With this distinction, Alaina can be considered for a National Merit Scholarship. Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of competition.



Clayton Markham, Madeleine Jones, Shannon Celeste and Alaina Kenny

Walberta Park School

Art Happenings

Ms. O'Brien's kindergarten and first grade art students are learning about line, an element of art. We sure do like to create!



Kindergarten Math Fun

Kindergarten students are using five frames to compose numbers in multiple ways. This is an introduction to exploring addition and subtraction within 5. Leah Boronczyk is demonstrating the number 4 on her frame.



Johnny Appleseed Day

Mrs. Merritt's class celebrated Johnny Appleseed Day with apple activities. Each student tried red, yellow and green apples, and then chose their favorite variety. After graphing results, we learned that green apples were most popular followed by yellow!



Walberta Park School

Second Step Lessons

Mrs. Hollis-Breen, school social worker, and Ms. Lucera, school social worker intern, visited kindergarten classrooms to teach Second Step lessons, which teach skills for learning, empathy, emotion management and problem-solving.



Stop, Walk and Talk

During the September Friday Program, students learned how to advocate for themselves when they are confronted with bullying. School social-worker, Tammy Hollis-Breen, and Principal Kramer demonstrated strategies to help students deal with difficult situations.



Music Room Activities

First grade music students started the school year by reading the book *Froggy Goes to School* by Jonathan London. They used classroom instruments like wood blocks, maracas, bells and stir drums to represent the sound effects written in the story. Students also had the opportunity to be actors, reciting lines and singing songs. Their project culminated with a final performance for their classroom teachers and their principal. Way to go, first graders!



Walberta Park & Cherry Road Schools

Meet the Teacher Night

Alexandra Files, a new kindergarten teacher, introduces herself to parents during meet the teacher night.



Fitness Fridays

Our first session of Fitness Fridays began this month. The Site Based Team is pleased to welcome Midge Regier who is teaching YogaKids before school on Fridays. The classes helped the children to focus on mindfulness, flexibility, coordination, body awareness and being calm. What a wonderful way to start the day!



Positivity Project Launch

Cherry Road School is very excited about the launch of the Positivity Project. The project was co-founded by one of our very own Cherry Road graduates, Mike Erwin. Based on the research on positive psychology, students learn about 24 character strengths as they begin to discover these in themselves and in others. The motto for the project is "Other People Matter!" We recite our new Cherry Road Promise everyday, which ends with our motto. Monthly, we have "P2 Team Time", which is a chance for us to get together as a whole school and review and reinforce our strengths while we build community. For regular updates, please like and follow us on Facebook – Cherry Road Positivity Project. Pictured are third graders using their reflection journals to think and write about the strength of Open-Mindedness.



Cherry Road School

Playground Rules

Students at Cherry Road School have been having a ball playing outside on the playground during recess time. Students watched a "Playground Rules" video created by CRS teachers that outlined playground rules, expectations and examples of appropriate recess behavior. They have been putting what they've learned to practice outside with their friends. In addition, a beautiful new recess cart loaded with lots of new equipment for student use was made possible by W.E.S.T.!



Cherry Road Artists Hard at Work



Mrs. Dennis's third grade class painted beautiful fall birch trees!



Lucy DeMore is proud of her creation!



Inspired by this summer's solar eclipse, third graders from Mrs. Persons's class are hard at work on their half sun and moon drawings!

Cherry Road & Onondaga Hill Middle Schools

Symphoria Visits Westhill

On the morning of October 4, Cherry Road and Onondaga Hill Middle School students in grades two through six attended a performance by Syracuse's professional orchestra, Symphoria. Conductor Christian Capocaccia, presented an exciting repertoire of superhero music, including themes from *Batman*, the *Avengers* and *Star Wars*. Mr. Capocaccia encouraged students to listen for musical motifs that represent an archetypical hero or villain. He taught students listening actively and engaging in music is what makes it such a meaningful art form.

While reflecting on their experience, third graders in Miss Wells's class said the music was "exciting" and they learned "you can get really good at an instrument". They were interested in learning more about the conductor's baton and about the glockenspiel because they liked the "twinkling sound" it can make.



Thank you to the Westhill Educational Foundation for securing funding for this event. Westhill students are fortunate to live in a community that values and continuously supports music education.

NYS Fair Art Show

What a wonderful Westhill representation at the NYS Fair Art Show this past summer. OHMS students had their artwork on display at the Fair. Many students won ribbons, including Katelyn Sainsbury who won a blue ribbon. Amazing job, artists!



Row 1: Liam Mahar, Abby Miggiani, Vada Austin; Row 2: Mary Snyder, Maya Wollen, Morgan Kohanski, Lauren Formica, Mica Klamm, Anna Rosenberger, Jill Eckert, Natalia Houck; Row 3: Kate Heinrich, Clare, Gracelyn O'Connell, Charlotte Roth, Madison McKeon, Morgan Bealer, Madison Scheirer, Julia Milham, Lauren Zollo, Ian Maroney; Other participants not shown: Liz Mueller, Maya Fredette



Katelyn Sainsbury with her blue ribbon winning artwork.

Onondaga Hill Middle School

Positivity Project

Wassily Kandinsky painted an abstract work in 1923 titled *Composition VIII*. This work inspired a Positivity “#otherpeoplematter” Project! The creative 5th graders wrote down nine P2 character traits, drew the symbols for those, tweaked them and voila, a Kandinsky-P2 artwork was born, as well as a dive into working with mixed-media! Working on their artwork are Claire Valenti and Nami Sierra.



Mannequin Challenge

As part of the 6th grade figure and observational drawing unit, the artists were asked to draw a pair of mannequins in a setting. The students used colored pencils to blend and shade warm/cool color schemes and develop a background using collage. These clever 6th graders created dancers, rock climbers, ninjas and more! They'll finish it up with a video of a “mannequin challenge”, so stay tuned! Art pictured here was designed by Caitlyn Knohl, Emma DeSanto and Jane Stanton.



Digital Footprints

A collaboration with Ms. Gullotto’s home and careers class and librarian, Ms. Feeney, helped OHMS 7th grade students gain a better understanding of their digital footprint. After watching a video and having class discussion, the students were given the task of choosing producers for a new show titled, “The Trillion Dollar Footprint.” Each group was given the digital profiles for two candidates, and based on that information, they had to choose the best person for the job. After reflecting on this experience, the students discovered that their information can be searched, copied, shared and seen by a large audience of people. They had a better understanding that their digital profiles can be helpful or harmful to their reputation. Our students understand that they can control and choose what they want their footprint to look like in the future.



Onondaga Hill Middle School

French Club

On Thursday, September 21, OHMS held its first French Club interest meeting of the year. The club welcomed students in grades 5 through 8 interested in speaking French and learning more about the French culture. Following the first meeting, students participated in a friendly game of "pétanque", a game that originated in the South of France. Over 30 students enjoyed this exciting game and the beautiful fall weather. The OHMS French Club is excited to be working with our new French teacher, Mr. Paul Zimmerman. French students at OHMS are thrilled about the upcoming events that are going to be held throughout the year.



French Club Officers Announced

The French Club is proud to announce the following officers:

President: Lauren (Élisabeth) Lyons

Co-Vice President: Tyson (Timéo) Burdick

Co-Vice President: Sofia (Juliette) Benderski

Co-Secretaries: Colleen (Isabelle) Patrie & Mary (Marie) Snyder

Treasurer: Delaney (Stéphanie) Walker

Félicitacions! Congratulations!

Solar Eclipse Party

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse crossed the continental United States from Salem, Oregon to Charleston, South Carolina. The last time a total eclipse crossed the United States from coast to coast was June 8, 1918. During a total solar eclipse, the moon blocks the solar photosphere, the blue sky darkens and we can see the faint outer part of the sun that is normally too faint to see.

OHMS was the place to be on August 21 to view this rare event. For those of us in Syracuse, only about 70% of the sun was eclipsed by the moon. Future, current and former students, along with their families, came to witness this spectacular natural phenomenon. Even a family of deer showed up! Many came with eclipse glasses, welding helmets and homemade pin-hole projectors. Refreshments included Sun Chips, Capri Sun juice boxes and "Cosmic" cupcakes. Thank you to Mrs. Derrenbacher for putting this event together, we had a blast!

Mark your calendars. On April 8, 2023, another solar eclipse will occur and Syracuse, NY will be in the path of totality. You won't want to miss it.



Superintendent Barduhn views the eclipse.

Onondaga Hill Middle School

Welcome New Students

OHMS welcomed 27 new to district students during our first assembly of the year. Thanks to Mrs. Piseigna and the generosity of the Westhill Foundation, we were able to supply each of them with a “Westhill Pride Package”. This package included a Westhill bag, t-shirt, water bottle and some school supplies to start the year. We are eager to make our new students comfortable at OHMS and part of the Westhill family!



Saving Endangered Species

Last spring our 5th graders conducted research on an endangered animal and made a plan to save this animal. As a culmination, they learned about a current project conducted by FORCES, a division of the NYS Parks Department, to save the Chittenango snail whose habitat is Chittenango Falls. Cheryl Sadrow and Patrick Macko visited the 5th grades and introduced them to the snail, its dangers, its purpose in the ecosystem and efforts to save them. The students role-played the effects of a loss of resources on animals. Students and teachers enjoyed this presentation and learned about an animal that is endangered in our own backyard.



Embracing the Fall Season

Embracing the fall season, Mrs. Prince’s and Miss Tooley’s 6th graders learned how to make homemade applesauce. Move over KitchenAid and make way for the 1920s food mill! These exceptional scholars learned a valuable lesson in healthy food choices, the importance of buying local produce and supporting local organizations. The students also analyzed numerous cross-curricular connections that cooking offers and tapped into their five senses to engage in sensory imagery writing. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Clearview Orchard for their perfectly crisp and flavorful apples!



Onondaga Hill & Westhill High Schools

Summer Band Camp and Masterclass Workshops

Over two weeks in August, sixty camper-musicians, forty counselors and eight music educators from Westhill, Baldwinsville, East Syracuse-Minoa, Fayetteville-Manlius, Skaneateles, Bishop Ludden, Holy Cross, Marcellus, Fabius-Pompey, Chittenango, Ithaca College, St. John Fisher, SUNY Geneseo, Cabrini University and Syracuse University performed together in the second annual Westhill Band Masterclass Workshop and fifth annual Westhill Summer Band Camp at Westhill High School. The camps were hosted by Westhill Instrumental Music Department teachers Mrs. Elizabeth Buell and Mrs. Erin Tapia.



The Westhill Band Masterclass Workshop took place from August 1-3 and was an outgrowth of the Westhill Master Artist Series sponsored by the Westhill Educational Foundation in 2016. The concept for both programs was to create a more personalized and targeted instructional experience held in small like-instrument classes taught by exceptional educators specializing in that instrument. The three day summer workshop culminated in a final performance featuring flute, clarinet, saxophone, high brass, low brass, and percussion performances in a variety of configurations as well as performances throughout the camp by our eight amazing masterclass band teachers and coordinators: Mrs. Buell (camp coordinator), Mrs. Lutters (percussion), Mr. Mastrobattisto (saxophone), and Mrs. Tapia (camp coordinator and flute) from Westhill CSD, Mrs. Mastrobattisto (clarinet) from East Syracuse-Minoa, Mr. Lutters (percussion) from Fayetteville-Manlius CSD, and Mr. Wilber (trumpet/French horn) and Mr. Riley (low brass) both retired and current band directors from Skaneateles CSD.

From August 7-11, the Westhill Band Camp student-musicians joined together for a week long concert band program and culminated their week of rehearsals with a band concert for friends and family, conducted by Mrs. Buell and Mrs. Tapia, and assisted by the Westhill Camp Counselors. Sixth through ninth grade students rehearsed in two separate ensembles for five evenings on a fun and challenging variety of concert band pieces featuring works by Clark, Balmages, R.W. Smith, and Frank, and medleys from *Hairspray*, Pixar Movies and *Grease*.

We would like to thank the Westhill Booster Club for sponsoring this camp, the Westhill Custodial Staff for their hard work and assistance throughout the week, the Westhill Board of Education and Administration for supporting this educational and musical endeavor and the campers' families for encouraging their children to make music a year-round part of their life. A special thank you to our high school and college volunteers who gave freely of their time, talent, leadership and enthusiasm throughout the week while working side-by-side with the campers.

Westhill Band Masterclass Workshop: Flute Ensemble: Sydney Bistrovich, Ashley Carter, Katie Hagrman, Marguerite Neth, Lenora Rienhardt, Alex Alberts; Clarinet Ensemble: Isa Cardoso, Raeann Curley, McKenna Kelly, Katrina Wilbur; Saxophone/Reed Ensemble: Jaiden Capozzi, Lauren Lyons, Brian Buttner, Ben Scalfaro, Colin Walker; Brass Ensemble: Will Bradley, Fergus Brady, Travis Burkett, Brooke Carter, Angelo Carr, Julian Curtis, Patrick Lettery; Percussion Ensemble: Ryan Clancy, Matthew Farnsworth, Brian Kenny

Westhill Summer Band Camp 6th Grade Band: Flute: Sofia Dimovski, Carrie Kaczor, Caitlyn Knohl, Allie MacDerment, Abigail Penfield, Molly Thompson; Clarinet: Sophia Carfagno, Emma Paetow; Saxophone: Logan Curley, Alison Lancette, Nathan MacLachlan, Keegan Sexton, Taylor Spencer, A'my Thomas; Trumpet: Vincent Amorese, Samuel Smithers; Trombone: Cameron Lopez; Tuba: Connor Keyes; Percussion: Gabrielle Allahar, Alden Carroll, Connor Knohl, Mary Kate Rewakowski

Westhill Summer Band Camp Concert Band: Flute: Ashley Carter, Jill Eckert, Katie Hagrman, Lenora Rienhardt, Mary Snyder, Madison Thomas; Clarinet: Raeann Curley, Madison Eibert, Deanna Gannon, Kosta Georgiadis, Grace Scalfaro, Katrina Wilbur; Bassoon: Megan Moriarty, Colin Walker; Saxophone: Brian Buttner, Kendall Fountain, Lauren Lyons, Ben Scalfaro; Trumpet: Sore Ajagbe, Will Bradley, Rachel Colucci, Julian Curtis; Trombone: Angelo Carr, Patrick Lettery, Vincent Tarolli; Euphonium: Brooke Carter; Tuba: Travis Burkett; Percussion: Nathan Donnelly

Onondaga Hill & Westhill High Schools

Summer Band Camp and Masterclass Workshops Continued

Westhill High School/Alumni Counselors and Guests: Sayo Ajagbe (Trumpet) Westhill, Jackie Antonacci (Clarinet) Westhill, Jackson Bradley (Trombone) Westhill, Carmela Carr (Oboe) Westhill, Shannon Celeste (Euphonium) Westhill, John Clancy (Percussion) Westhill, Nick Colella (Trumpet) Cabrini University, Noelle Coolican (Clarinet) Westhill, Haylei Coolican (French Horn) Westhill, Roman Crimi (Trumpet) Westhill, Geoff Cundall (Bari Saxophone) Westhill, Will Davis (Trombone) Westhill, Maggie Delano (Alto Saxophone) Westhill, Sam Dole (Trumpet) SUNY Geneseo, Emmett Donnelly (Trumpet) Westhill, Erin Dowler (Clarinet) Ithaca College, Quinn Etoll (Bass) Westhill, Mike Ferrara (Euphonium) Westhill, Jacob Fricano (Alto Saxophone) Westhill, Spencer Fountain (Bassoon) Westhill, Chris Grabda (Trumpet) Westhill, Will Hunter (Percussion) Westhill, Claire Hurteau (Clarinet) Westhill, Alaina Kenny (Flute) Westhill, Grace Lesselroth (Flute) Westhill, Allison Lyons (Clarinet) Westhill, Natalie Lyons (Trumpet) Westhill, Scotty MacBain (Tuba) Westhill, Zach MacCollum (Percussion) Westhill, Josiah Miggiani (Tenor Saxophone) Westhill, Emily O'Reilly (French Horn) Westhill, Megan O'Reilly (Alto Saxophone) Westhill, Sarah Schwartz (Oboe) Westhill, Brianna Sexton (Flute) Westhill, Maddy Smith (Clarinet) St. John Fisher, Grace Stensland (Flute) Westhill, Carolyn Tetley (Flute) Westhill, Mya Thomas (Bari Saxophone) Westhill, Jeremiah Towe (Clarinet) Syracuse University, Sydney Turner (French Horn) Westhill

Perspective in 6th Grade

Mrs. Shepardson's and Mr. Auge's students have been reading non-fiction in Storyworks. The article, "Our World Turned to Water", shared the devastating flooding that struck Baton Rouge, Louisiana in August 2016. The article focused on the strength of the community before, during and after the storm. In order to help the students understand this better, they were able to Skype with the school featured in the article. Carefully crafted questions from the students left the students with a deeper and real connection to the catastrophic events of the flood. This was a great experience for our students and went along with our Positivity Project theme of the week - perspective.



Syracuse Summer Festival Orchestra

Congratulations to Westhill Instrumental Music Department musicians, Mr. Mastrobattisto and Dan Robinson (saxophone and percussion), Mrs. Tapia (flute), and Emily O'Reilly (French horn) for their outstanding performance with the Syracuse Summer Festival Orchestra at the end of July.

This ensemble featured many local music educators, collegiate and outstanding high school student-musicians and adult amateurs. Emily, Dan, Mr. Mastrobattisto, and Mrs. Tapia performed Rimsky-Korsakov's *Capriccio Espagnol*, Bizet's *Carmen*, de Falla's Spanish *Dance no. 1* and the Tango *El Choclo*.

Pictured are Mr. Mastrobattisto, Dan Robinson, Mrs. Tapia and Emily O'Reilly.



Westhill High School

September Warriors of the Month

9th Grade: Kwinn Caputo is being recognized as our ninth grade 'Warrior of the Month' for his friendly personality. Kwinn is always respectful, patient and kind to his peers and teachers. His perseverance makes him successful. Kwinn also demonstrates great sportsmanship. He is an all around wonderful student and a joy to have in class.

10th Grade: Kareem Thabet is being awarded "Warrior of the Month" in the sophomore class for his willingness to learn new things. Kareem's outgoing personality is very infectious. He is always the first one to volunteer to help. He always asks questions in class and is interested and engaged in classroom activities. Kareem is athletic and friendly toward his peers. He is a role model student and strives to do his best in everything he does.

11th Grade: Nico Rey is being recognized for his diligent work ethic. He is willing to go above and beyond and is very helpful in the classrooms. Nico is extremely helpful in the ceramic studio. He helps maintain the studio by repeatedly pitching in and cleaning up the work areas on his own initiative. He is hardworking and kind to all.

12th Grade: Tess Hogan is being awarded "Warrior of the Month" for the senior class. Tess embodies Westhill school spirit! She has a love of school and sports and enjoys being involved in many activities, such as announcements and yearbook committee. Tess has a great attitude that is contagious, and she is a friend to everyone. She always has a smile on her face and offers positive words of encouragement to others. Tess has pushed through adversity on every level. Perseverance and kindness are her greatest strengths. She is respectful and responsible towards her peers and teachers. She is an honest, diligent and hard working student. Tess is a very well rounded individual who students look up to on a daily basis.



Macroinvertebrate Mayhem

Westhill High School honors and regents biology students spent time in Harbor Brook (the stream adjacent to the school) collecting macroinvertebrates (small insects, worms and crustaceans) to determine stream quality. Students are currently learning about freshwater systems, how they're connected, and how humans impact the ecological balance of these systems. Visitors from Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection [WEP] met with students to discuss how they monitor stream and lake quality through their collection of macroinvertebrates and electrofishing. Electrofishing is a procedure used to shock a specified area of the water, temporarily paralyzing the fish, which allows scientists to take careful inventory of the species of fish present, record measurements specific to their overall health, which is predictive of water quality. Students also learned that as water quality in Onondaga Lake has improved, some 66 different fish species have returned, with 14 of them currently using the lake as a successful reproduction site!



Mrs. Weinszotk's biology students listen to Mr. Chris Gandino of WEP discuss electrofishing as a way to analyze the overall health of fish and the quality of Onondaga Lake.

Westhill High School

WHS Band Students Perform at Carnegie Hall

On June 23, six of our Westhill High School band students performed on the main stage of the world-renowned Carnegie Hall as musicians in the Syracuse Youth Orchestra, under the direction of conductor Dr. James Tapia. The Syracuse Youth Orchestra performed to a sold out Carnegie Hall audience in the coveted finale slot of the Viennese Masters' Youth Orchestra Invitational. This was a pinnacle moment and great honor for the 110 student-musicians of the SYO, who hailed from 25 schools across CNY, including WHS; we are especially proud of our own student-musicians who represented Westhill on the Stern Auditorium's Perelman Stage. The SYO performed Leonard Bernstein's *Overture to Candide*, Johann Strauss' *Tritsch-Tratsch Polka* and the Finale to Dmitri Shostakovich's *Symphony Number 5*. The ensemble received an immediate and thunderous standing ovation for their incredible performance.



Pictured on stage at Carnegie Hall, from left to right: Zach MacCollum (sophomore): Percussion; Luke Puglisi (senior): Percussion; Emily O'Reilly (sophomore): French Horn; Grace Stensland (junior): Flute; Carmela Carr (senior): Oboe; Haylei Coolican (junior): French Horn.

Greater Syracuse Youth Honors Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band

Congratulations to the twenty-two Westhill Instrumental Music Department musicians selected to the Greater Syracuse Youth Honors Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band under the direction of Dr. Bradley P. Ethington. These students rehearsed on weekends throughout September and performed their finale concert on September 24 on stage at the Setnor School of Music at Syracuse University.

Wind Ensemble Musicians: Cole Athanas (tenor saxophone), John Clancy (percussion), Jacob Fricano (alto saxophone), Bryant Grant (trombone), Chris Hahn (percussion), Josiah Miggiani (tenor saxophone), Mark Olesh (clarinet), Noakh Strelec (tenor saxophone), Maeve Thompson (percussion), Dan Zeppetello (tuba)

Symphonic Band Musicians: Sayo Ajagbe (trumpet), Madison Bealer (clarinet), Jackson Bradley (trombone), Angelo Carr (trombone), Ryan Clancy (percussion), Geoff Cundall (baritone saxophone), Raeann Curley (clarinet), Allison Lyons (clarinet), Scotty MacBain (tuba), Lenora Rienhardt (flute), Dmitri Strelec (trombone), Colin Walker (bassoon)



Welcome New Staff Members



Amy Bolognino, WHS
Social Studies



Tamibeth Campbell
School Psychologist Intern



Ashley Caporizzo, OHMS
School Counselor



Andrea Corning, OHMS
Teaching Assistant



Nate DeVita, Districtwide
Network Administrator



Daniel Dolan, WHS
Assistant Principal



Jon Dussing, Districtwide
Network Administrator



Joseph Farino, CRS
Head Custodian



Alexandra Files, WPS
Kindergarten
Long-Term Substitute



Jennifer Hodgens, OHMS
AIS: Reading



Matt Iamondo, OHMS
Special Education
Long-Term Substitute



Kimberly Johnson, WHS
Main Office - Typist I

Welcome New Staff Members



Alfred Kanyuru, OHMS
Mathematics



Kerry Kelly, CRS
Cafeteria Aide



Moira Kelly, OHMS/WHS
ESOL



Kristie Kisselburgh, CRS
Grade 2



Patricia Lawn, WHS
Teaching Assistant



Alexa Lucera, WPS/CRS
School Social Worker Intern



Kari Lutters, WPS/CRS
Music Long-Term Substitute



RJ Malabanan, WHS
Spanish



Julie McLennan
Special Education



Angela McShane, WPS
Kindergarten



Emily Morrell, OHMS
Grade 6 Long-Term Substitute



Sandra Murray
Counseling Center - Typist I

Welcome New Staff Members



Lindsay Priest, Districtwide
Occupational Therapist



Allie Randall, OHMS
Grade 5 Long-Term Substitute



Erin Ryan, WHS
Business



Taylor Wells, CRS
Grade 3



Irine Wilkinson, WHS
Custodial Worker I



Pizza With Santa

December 1st

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

WHS Cafeteria

RSVP info in November



Paul Zimmerman
OHMS/WHS
French

SAVE THE DATE

Fourth Annual Chip In For Education

April 14, 2018

St. Ann's Church

The Foundation will soon be seeking sponsors,
raffle and auction donors and
volunteers for Chip In, our main fundraiser.

Please email us at westhillfoundation@gmail.com
if you would like to get involved.

District News

Free and Reduced Meal Program

The Westhill Food Service Department would like to bring attention to our Free and Reduced Meal Program by making parents aware that any student who qualifies for free or reduced lunch also qualifies for free or reduced breakfast.

National studies have found that a healthy breakfast is an important key to learning. Every morning our cafeterias offer a variety of whole grain products, fresh fruit and low fat milk. When children eat a well-balanced breakfast, they enjoy the benefits of improved attentiveness and have more energy. Let us help your child start the morning right!

If you have any questions about the school breakfast program or how to take advantage of the Free and Reduced Meal Program, please feel free to call Rich or Mark at 426-3153.

Ronnie Paxson Day

The Board of Education has proclaimed Friday, November 3, 2017 as Ronnie Paxson Day at Cherry Road School.

Ronnie was a fixture in the Cherry Road neighborhood for several generations. In a time before inclusion and understanding of how differently abled people contribute to the vitality of a community, Ronnie helped teach children and adults alike what that meant. Easily recognized by his stature and "boom box", Ronnie Paxson left a lasting impression on those who knew him. Now in his 70s, Ronnie no longer lives in the Westvale community, but will join us in celebration of his imprint on the Cherry Road community.

Please join us at 2:00 pm at the Cherry Road playground (a favorite spot of Ronnie's) or the cafeteria if the weather does not cooperate to honor Mr. Paxson.

Substitutes Needed

Teachers and Teaching Assistants

Applications can be found on our website, www.westhill schools.org, under the District Tab. Please submit application to:

Personnel Office
Westhill Central School District
400 Walberta Road
Syracuse, NY 13219

District News

Girls Soccer Hall of Fame

The Inaugural Induction Ceremony of the New York State High School Girls Soccer Hall of Fame, sponsored by the New York State Sportswriters and Coaches Organization for Girls Sports, was held at Herkimer Community College on September 9, 2017. A committee of coaches and sport writers selected 18 of the State's greatest high school soccer coaches and players for induction from a list of more than 50.

Coach Riva headed Westhill's Girls Varsity Soccer program for 28 highly successful seasons. Her teams made 7 New York State Public High School Athletic Association Final-Four appearances, winning State championship titles in 1995, 1996 and 1999 and a co-championship in 1993.

Congratulations to Coach Riva on her induction into the New York State High School Girls Soccer Hall of Fame!



Ann Riva (center), Westhill's Girls Varsity Soccer Coach 1974–2002, was inducted into the Inaugural Class of the New York State Girls Soccer Hall of Fame by retired Westhill Athletic Director Matt Whipple (left) and NYSSCOGS founder/editor Perry Novak (right) at Herkimer Community College.

Space Camp Hall of Fame

This past summer, Dr. Jennifer Heldmann, 1994 graduate, was inducted into the Space Camp Hall of Fame in Huntsville, Alabama. Attending the ceremony were Westhill teacher Mrs. Pounder and retired teacher Mrs. Ferguson (pictured). Dr. Heldmann is a planetary scientist with NASA at Ames Research Center. Her work includes analyzing spacecraft data, computer modeling and Earth analogs to help prepare for deep space flight. Jennifer first attended NASA's Space Camp as a junior at Westhill. Pictured are Dr. Heldmann and Mrs. Ferguson.



Important Announcement

**Annual Emergency Release Drill
Early Dismissal
Tuesday, November 21, 2017**

K-12 students will be released from school fifteen minutes prior to the normal dismissal time.



Please mark your calendar!

District News

I. Introduction

Providing an orderly plan for dealing with an emergency is part of the responsibility of Westhill Central School District officials. Emergency situations range from man-made problems such as power outages, fires, and bomb threats, to nature-made situations like windstorms, ice/snow storms, and floods. Emergencies range from highly dangerous, life-threatening situations to problems that are mere inconveniences. School and parents need to have general plans for dealing with a wide range of emergencies. The following information is intended to familiarize you with our general procedures for school emergencies.

II. Possible Response Actions

The nature of the emergency will determine the type of response action. If possible and timely, an emergency response team will convene at a command site to implement response actions. If possible and appropriate, the assistance of the fire department, ambulance, and police will be sought. The primary consideration in determining response actions will be the health and safety of students and staff.

- A) **Cancellation of School** - School officials may determine that school will not be in session for one or more days due to an emergency.
- B) **Evacuation** - Evacuation is necessary for situations ranging from routine fire drills to conditions where it is no longer safe or appropriate to have students in the school building. Evacuation requires all building occupants to exit the building and wait a safe distance from the building until the danger has passed. In some circumstances, however, the nature of the emergency may deem that the students be transported and held temporarily at another location.
- C) **Early Dismissal** - An early dismissal is announced in the event of a system failure such as loss of heat or other utility in the building, or in response to inclement weather. In inclement weather, due to the time it takes to coordinate early dismissal, many times it is better to wait until dismissal time to send students home. Road crews normally schedule their time to coincide with the dismissal time of the schools.
- D) **Sheltering in Building** - School officials may decide to keep students in school in an emergency until the situation returns to normal or until dismissal or evacuation can be arranged, if it is determined that it is not safe or practical to send them home. A lock down drill is a type of sheltering situation where students remain in their classrooms and windows and doors are locked.

III. Communication Systems

Internal: Communication inside the building will be via the public address system if possible. Otherwise, messengers will be used to relay warnings. Administrators have access to cell phones/radios to assist them with emergency communications.

External: In the event of an emergency, we will notify the following radio/television stations:

RADIO STATIONS	TELEVISION STATIONS
WSYR - 570 AM	3 - NBC
WHEN - 620 AM	5 - CBS
WYYY - 94.5 FM	9 - ABC
WBBS - 104.7 FM	10 - YNN
WPHR - 106.9 FM	
WHHT - 107.9 FM	

IV. Emergency Planning Committee

Steven Smith..... Emergency Management Coordinator
 Edward Wittkowski..... 1st Alternate Coordinator
 Sarah VanLiew..... 2nd Alternate Coordinator
 Casey Barduhn..... Superintendent of Schools
 Lee Roscoe..... Westhill High School Principal
 Daniel Dolan..... Westhill High School Assistant Principal
 Mark Bednarski..... Onondaga Hill Middle School Principal
 Jennie Smarrelli..... Onondaga Hill Middle School Assistant Principal
 Maureen Mulderig..... Cherry Road School Principal
 Beth Kramer..... Walberta Park School Principal
 Marietta Lachenauer..... Director of Special Education
 Richard Gunther..... Food Service Director
 Jeri Burke..... School Transportation Supervisor
 Tammy Sterling..... Coordinator of Health Services

We hope we will never have to implement our plans, but we will strive to be prepared just in case. It is very important for every family to have a contingency plan explained to students should an unplanned early dismissal occur. Calls directly to or from parents would not be practical in a true emergency. We urge families to plan ahead for possible school related emergencies, especially early dismissal.

V. Communication Liaison for the District: Casey Barduhn, Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Westhill Central School District
400 Walberta Road
Syracuse, New York 13219-2214

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 3523
Syracuse, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Lisa M. O'Reilly, President
Roseanne Scrimale, Vice President
James K. Wickersham
Andrew Starowicz
Patrick Cassidy

The Westhill Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, sex or race in its employment practices or educational programs.

Westhill District News

School Board Recognition Week
October 23 - October 27, 2017



**ONE OF THE
GREATEST GIFTS YOU
CAN GIVE IS YOUR TIME**

**Thank you to the Board of Education
for your many hours of dedicated service!**
