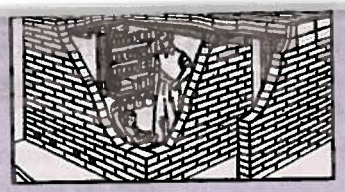


Civilian Defense In Nuclear Blast

PAGE 19

PEOPLE

Hannibal Educator Named Master Teacher

PAGE 24

OPINION 2
LOCAL NEWS 3-13
FIRE & CRIME 14-15
OBITUARIES 16-17
HISTORY 19
EVENTS 21
PEOPLE 24

cannot be used until July.

"Hopefully we will get the dog into the school for the Fall semester," McCarty said. "Courtney Marr (elementary librarian) will be the caregiver, and actually own the animal. We will pay for initial

DOGS IN SCHOOLS | 3

Chris Howden encounters Riley in a hallway at Red Creek High School.

County Administrator James Marquette presented a listing of municipalities that have made formal requests to work with the county on development of an efficiency plan.

SHARE SERVICES | 5

NR-W High School Principal Named Administrator of the Year

Neil Thompson

Paul Benz, North Rose-Wolcott High School principal, has been named the 2015 SAANYS Region 11 George Vito High School Administrator of the Year, and will be honored at an awards reception April 21 at Midvale Country Club.

The award marks the latest chapter of a career that started with his graduation from Lancaster High School, then the State University of New York at Geneseo.

His early teaching experience was in Virginia, a destination that looked especially good after a memorable New York State winter. Benz, 46, taught high school and middle school math in Virginia.

He remembers the Virginia years fondly.

"It was gorgeous," he said. "We were there for a number of years, but once we started having our family, we realized we were going the wrong way for spring break. We were like, wait a minute, we're supposed to be going south for spring break, not going north. We missed our family and friends, and the food of Western New York."

"We loved Virginia, but family is stronger than location," he said. "So we came back up."

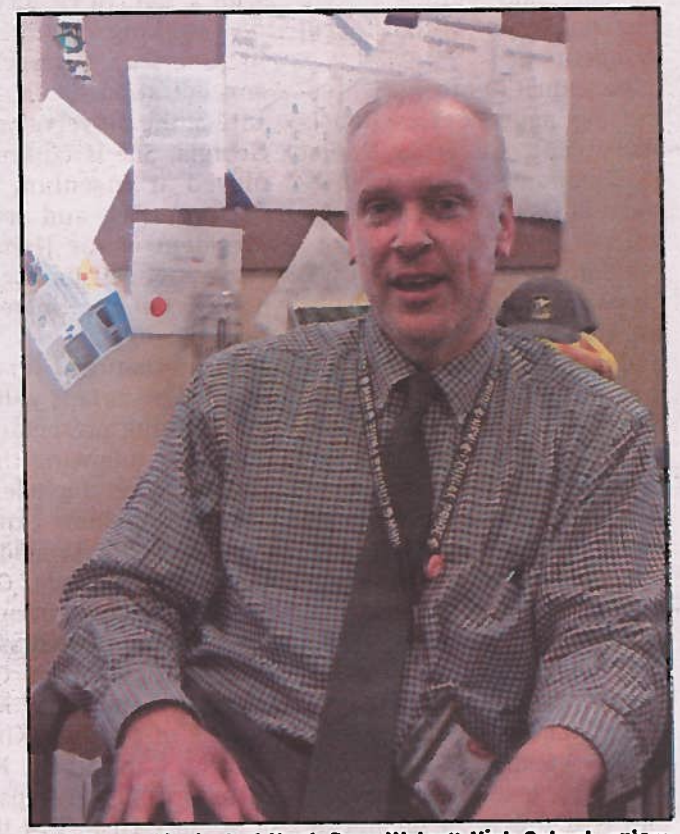
They ended up in Webster, where college friends had settled.

He gained administrative experience in Webster, serving as assistant principal of Webster Middle School. He serves on the Webster Central School Board of Education, and his wife Christine is an elementary librarian in Webster. They have two daughters, one in high school, and one in college.

Why the move to administration?

Benz said he enjoys being in a school setting, and wanted

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR | 4



Paul Benz, principal of North Rose-Wolcott High School, enjoys working with colleagues to help move the school forward.

Mugnolo Performs in Spring Concerts at Concordia

Four musical ensembles from Concordia University, Nebraska will perform two combined concerts in April. The Chamber Choir and Chamber Orchestra will perform at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, in the Recital Hall of Concordia's Music Center. The Male Chorus and Women's Chorale will perform at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, at St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward, Nebraska.

Students participating in the concerts include:

Emilia Mugnolo, a freshman from Marion, N.Y., Alto I in Women's Chorale.

"Each semester the ensembles rehearse to prepare for concerts that are as close to the end of the semester as possible," said Dr. Kurt von Kampen, conductor of Chamber Choir and Male Chorus. "Not only does the music need to be learned but also internalized so the performances can be done with confidence and meaning."

The Chamber Choir and Chamber Orchestra will each perform a variety of musical pieces. They will also come together to perform two pieces written by the orchestra director, David von Kampen. The first is his latest composition, "Go To Dark Gethsemane," published by Concordia Publishing House, and the second is the final movement from his Lutheran Divine Service setting "Benediction."

The Male Chorus and Women's Chorale concert is titled "Lessons and Anthems" and will include a variety of sacred music sung by each choir. The men and women also will combine to sing "Lamb of God" by Women's Chorale conductor Jeffrey Blersch and "Festival Sanctus" by John Leavitt.

Concordia alumnus Paul Soulek of Seward, Nebraska, contributes to the concerts on piano and organ.

NY Sea Grant Adds Coastal Processes, Watercraft Inspection Training Staff

Two new positions housed at Wayne County Cooperative Extension, Newark, NY

New York Sea Grant now has two additional extension staff ready to help Great Lakes region residents and community leaders deal with coastal processes and hazards and develop Watercraft Inspection Steward Programs. New York Sea Grant Coastal Processes and Hazards Specialist Heather Weitzner and New York Sea Grant Extension Aide Brittney Rogers will be based in the Cornell Cooperative Extension Wayne County office in Newark, New York.

Heather Weitzner brings an educational background in coastal and ocean engineering and professional experience as a coastal researcher and consultant to this New York Sea Grant position. She will be providing residents with assistance and educational outreach on issues associated with coastal erosion, shoreline management and mitigation, and infrastructure.

Weitzner will be traveling the Great Lakes shoreline of New York with NYSG staff in the coming weeks to meet coastal processes stakeholders and learn more about their interests and needs. She will be educating stakeholders about coastal resiliency opportunities and connecting them with state and federal best management practices resources.

Weitzner will be developing the request for proposals for new NYSG mini-grants made possible through the Great Lakes Action Agenda.

Brittney Rogers served as the New York Sea Grant Chief Launch Steward in 2014 providing aquatic invasive species information to boaters and teaching them how they can prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. She will provide training to groups interested in starting a new watercraft inspection program or standardizing an existing one.

NY SEA GRANT | 22

NR-W High School Principal Named Administrator of the Year

from page 1

to have a greater impact. So he made the move to administration.

He is now in his fourth year as NR-W High School as principal.

"I really enjoy coming to school every day, and that's how I feel. I feel like I'm coming to school every day, not to work," he said. "The students keep me young."

Benz said he enjoys taking students and staff to bigger and better things. "I find that enjoyable," he said.

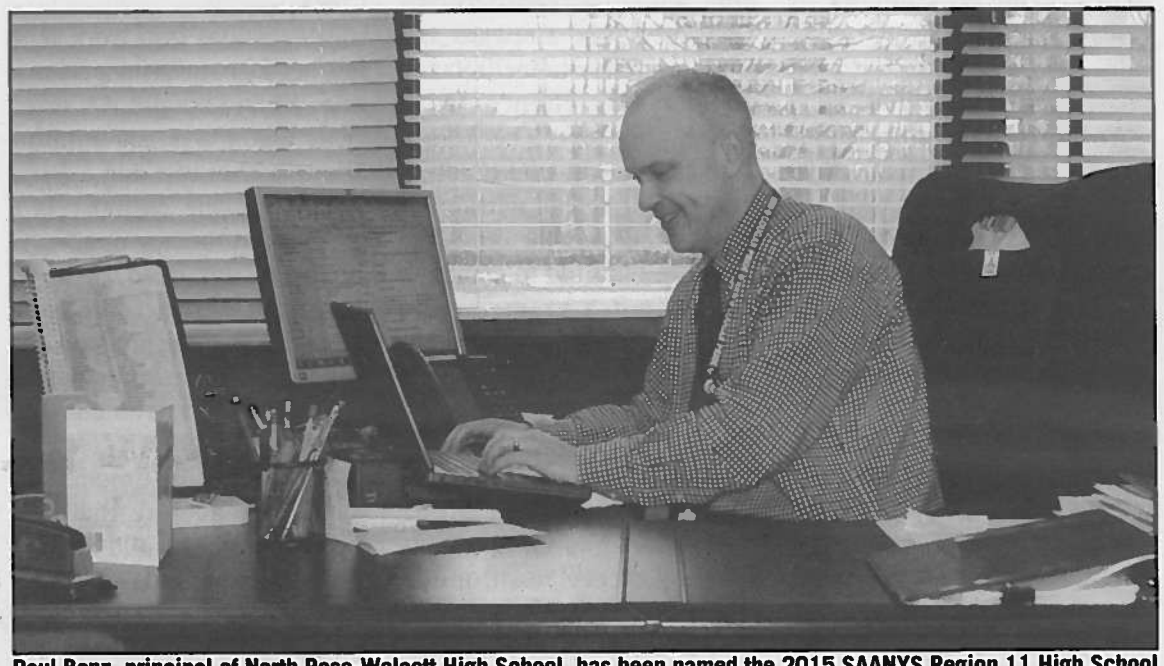
"You start from scratch every year, that's what I enjoy about school," he said. "You start from scratch basically. You've got a whole new make up. How do you move that group forward? And the reward throughout the year, especially in June, is a great feeling."

At NR-W, Benz has worked with his colleagues to create an academic focus, and to prepare students not only for graduation, but for college and careers.

He praised the administrative staff, including Kathy Hoyt, who is both Athletic Director and Alternative Learning Center principal, Brian Read, assistant principal, Scott Baker, school resource official, as well as the instructional staff and students.

Benz and the staff want students to graduate ready for a good next step, whether its a job, a technical training program, or college.

"We have a really strong vocational program through BOCES," he said. "We want to provide opportunities for our students to achieve in either vocational programs or academic programs."



Paul Benz, principal of North Rose-Wolcott High School, has been named the 2015 SAANYS Region 11 High School Administrator of the Year.

Academics

Benz has worked with his staff to take several steps toward improving student achievement.

"We've increased our AP exams and we've made a strong connection with Finger Lakes Community College and Cayuga Community College for dual-credit courses, which is both high school credit and college credit," he said. "A student can receive now, if they go that route, thirty college credits. They can really set themselves up nicely for post high school."

Students can recover credits at the Alternative Learning Center, which is administered by Hoyt and taught by Cary Merritt and teacher assistant Brian Cole.

"As a school, we raised our graduation rate in the past four yours over fifteen percent," he said, from around 72 percent to 88 percent.

The improved graduation rate is a welcome step, but Benz and his staff also strive to get students to look to their futures after graduation.

"We're doing more college visits for students," he said. "Our counseling department has opened up a college and career readiness center."

On T-shirt Tuesdays, staff members are encouraged to wear t-shirts from colleges they attended. It's one way to give a message about options after high school.

Another is regularly scheduled forums, attended by students and staff. It gives Benz and his staff a chance to talk to students about what's ahead, including jobs.

"We talk to them about job opportunities," he said. "Those jobs would be post high school, whether you need a degree or more training depends on the job."

He wants students to graduate and recognize the qualifications and income for jobs in which they are interested.

"We also talk about area jobs," Benz said.

Kelly Services talks to seniors about preparing resumes, and handling job interviews.

Good attendance and involvement in extra-curricular activities are also emphasized. Extra-curricular activities can help motivate students to come to school.

"Attendance is an important factor in being successful not just in school, but in future jobs," he said. "We have increased attendance over the years. We have protocols in place to monitor student attendance."

In order to help prepare for the future, sophomores take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test, and the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) is offered to juniors and interested sophomores.

More initiatives are ahead, such as preparation for becoming part of a community.

"I guess you're just never satisfied," he said "You're always trying to improve."