

Wisdom



Truth



Leadership



Honor



June 2009

www.keshequa.org

# Keshequa Chronicle

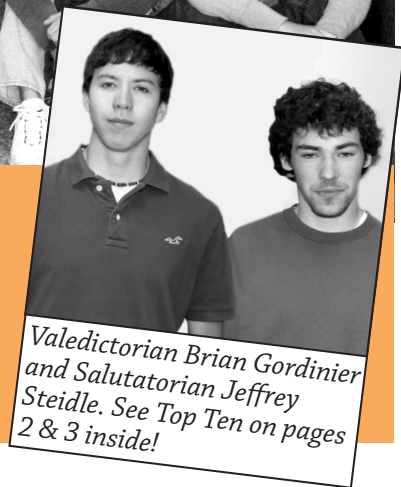
## Congratulations to the Class of 2009



### Thankyou Voters...

The Board of Education, Administration and Staff of the Keshequa Central School District, would like to thank all who participated in the Budget and Board Member Election vote on March 19, 2009.

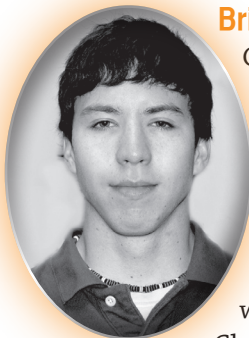
We are proud to announce our new Board of Education Members Todd Galton, Ken Forrester and Jennifer Reichard!



Valedictorian Brian Gordinier and Salutatorian Jeffrey Steidle. See Top Ten on pages 2 & 3 inside!



# Keshequa Central School's Top Ten Seniors



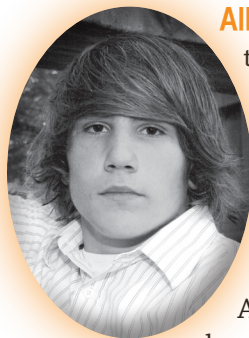
**Brian Gordinier**, son of John and Karla Gordinier of Dalton, is the Valedictorian of the Class of 2009. During his years at Keshequa Central, Brian played on the soccer, basketball, golf, and track teams. He is president of Student Council and treasurer of National Honor Society as well as a member of Key Club, Math Club, Odyssey of the Mind, Masterminds, Interscholastic Mathematics Competition, and Interscholastic Competition in English. He was also a class officer. Brian has received the Valedictorian Scholarship, Daughters of the American Revolution Award, Rotary Club Award, and the GCC Academic Excellence Award for English. He is nominated for the Robert C. Byrd Award. Brian also received the Elmira Valedictorian Scholarship. He plans on attending Elmira College in the fall.



**Jeffrey Steidle** has been named the Salutatorian of the Class of 2009. Jeff is the son of Lisa Smith and Richard Steidle. He is a member of National Honor Society and Math Club. He was honored with the American Chemical Society Award and the Rotary Club Award. He plans to attend SUNY Geneseo to major in physics.



**Sarah Gray**, daughter of Doug and Lori Gray of Nunda, is ranked third this year. While at Keshequa Central, Sarah participated in volleyball, track and field, Jazz Band, Masterminds, National Honor Society, Key Club, and Drama Club. She has been honored with the American Chemical Society Award, George Eastman Scholarship and has been named to All-County Chorus, All-County Band, Area All-State Band, and LCAA Exceptional Senior in volleyball. She will be attending Roberts Wesleyan College to study music education.



**Albert Schmitter** is ranked fourth in this year's graduating class. Albert is a member of the Math Club and Spanish Club as well as the president of National Honor Society. He served as class president for three years. He played on both the wrestling and baseball teams. He has received the Army ROTC Scholarship. Albert will be busy in the fall studying economics at Elmira College and as a member of the Army ROTC. He is the son of John and Sarah Schmitter of Portageville.



**Brandon Nickerson**, son of John and Cheryl Nickerson of Nunda, is the fifth ranked senior. Brandon is a member of National Honor Society, Math Club, and the golf team. He has received the American Chemical Society Award. Brandon plans to earn his associate's degree in mechanical engineering science from SUNY Alfred and then a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from another college.



**Kayla Beardsley** has been named to the sixth spot of the Top Ten seniors. Kayla is a member of the soccer, basketball, and softball teams. She is a member of the Math Club, Key Club, Masterminds, National Honor Society, and a class officer. She has been named a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete, Livingston County Soccer All-Star, and an Exceptional Senior for soccer and basketball. She plans to attend Canisius College to study biology. Kayla is the daughter of Darwin Beardsley and Tammy Clark.



**Lindsay Gunn** is the seventh ranked student in the senior class. She is the daughter of Lisa and Edwin Gunn of Nunda. Lindsay is a member of Drama Club, National Honor Society, Chorus and Band. She is the junior editor for the yearbook as well as a member of the varsity track team, Jazz Band, and Select Chorus. She is the director of the middle school drama productions. Outside of school Lindsay takes ballet, tap, and modern dance at the Genesee Valley School

of Dance. She also takes vocal lessons and piano lessons. Lindsay has been honored with the Dick Smith Young Artists Grant, Best Lead Actress for RBTL's Stars of Tomorrow (two years), All-State Chorus, and Area All-State Chorus. She has been named to All-County Chorus and Band several times. She's received the Dean's Scholarship from Fredonia and was accepted into Fredonia's honor program where she will study music education (vocal track).



**Chrysta Giles**, daughter of Dave and Cathy Giles of Dalton, is ranked eighth. Chrysta is a member of the varsity soccer and track teams, Math Club, Band, National Honor Society, and a class officer. She has been honored by the American Chemical Society and All-County Band. In the fall, Chrysta plans to attend St. John Fisher College to study elementary/special education.



**Erin Pattridge** is ranked ninth in this year's senior class. She is a member of Chorus, Drama Club, and National Honor Society. She served as class president, vice president of Chorus, and the senior editor of the yearbook staff. She received an Honorable Mention at the 2008 Congressional Art show. She plans to attend SUNY Fredonia to major in visual arts. Erin is the daughter of Jeff and Beth Pattridge of Hunt.



**Matthew Moran** rounds out the list of the top seniors. Matthew is the son of Dan and Kathy Moran of Nunda. He has participated in several activities during his years at Keshequa Central including soccer, basketball, Student Council (president), Key Club, class treasurer, National Honor Society (vice president) and Math Club. He has been honored with the American Chemical Society Award and was named an Exceptional Senior for soccer and basketball. He plans to attend Keuka College to study criminology and accounting.

# Thanks for the Memories...

*KCS says goodbye and thank you to this year's retirees*

## **Gwen Gottschall**

Teacher Gwen Gottschall has enjoyed giving her students a good home and careers experience. She's enjoyed teaching them how to cook and how to use a sewing machine. Gwen is retiring this year after eight years at Keshequa Central School District. Before coming to KCS, Gwen taught at Canaseraga Central School District for 24 years. She also taught for Steuben-Allegany BOCES. She's looking forward to staying busy after retiring and "seeking new adventures." "It's been a pleasure being at KCS and knowing the staff. Fellow staff members have been fun to work with."



## **Linda Graham**

Science teacher Linda Graham is looking forward to becoming a first-time grandmother and working on her husband's farm after retiring. Linda has spent 25 years teaching at KCS. "I enjoy doing the labs with the students. They enjoy hands-on activities," she says about a favorite aspect of her job. As for advice to the Class of 2009 she says, "I would tell them to diligently work at what they've chosen and make sure it's challenging enough to make them happy."



## **Connie Mullikin**

Keshequa Central School District would like to honor and thank Connie Mullikin for her many years of dedication to the District. Connie worked as a custodian at Dalton Elementary since 1980 before retiring this February. She will be greatly missed by the students and her colleagues.



# End of the Year Updates *by Marilyn Capawan, Superintendent*

On behalf of the Board of Education, faculty and staff of Keshequa, thank you for supporting the budget for 2009-2010 with your vote on May 19. Additional support of necessary bus purchases and the establishment of a Building Capital Reserve Fund are further evidence of your commitment to the long term well-being of our District, and our students will benefit from your choices. Congratulations to Todd Galton and Ken Forrester who have been elected to four year terms on the Board of Education, and to Jennifer Reichard who will serve a one year term. Best wishes and many thanks to Lori Gray and John Gordinier, who are ending their terms this month. The hours and dedication you devoted to KCS will always be remembered.

Our EXCEL Capital project is progressing on schedule. We were proud to host our spring concerts in the "new" auditorium, and look forward to having our Middle School

## *Maria Joy Thompson Amador Memorial Scholarship Award*

This scholarship will be awarded to a KCS graduate pursuing a field of study in nursing or medicine. The \$500 award will be available with the successful completion of the first semester of higher education. Selection criteria are based upon recommendations of administration, faculty, and staff for a graduate exhibiting academic excellence and good moral character. Donations can be sent to:

Keshequa Central School  
PO Box 517  
Nunda, NY 14517

Please specify that the donation is for the Amador Award.

Musical there on June 13 and 14. At this writing, new roofing is being installed in Dalton, with new windows scheduled for installation in early June. Our technology upgrades are nearly completed, and landscaping at both buildings will get underway over the next few weeks. Now that the tile and painting are complete in the oldest portions of the Nunda building, our art teacher Kevin Raymond and his talented Mural Club will begin decorating the hallways in creative ways to make the school "uniquely Keshequa."

As you read through this issue of the Chronicle, you will see that our students and staff excel in many areas, from the visual arts to athletics. We hope that you will have the opportunity to join us throughout the month of June as we recognize the accomplishments of our students, and honor the class of 2009 as they begin the futures for which Keshequa has prepared them.

## Keshequa Parent Teacher Student Association Appreciates Our Teachers

For Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4 - May 8, our K.P.T.S.A. members solicited local and regional businesses for donations. The responses we received from the community were great! Every day that week, from both buildings, several teachers' names were drawn from a bowl and they received a gift from all of the generous donors. We are hoping to receive even more next year to expand to the teacher aides. During the week, students had the opportunity to write a few words about their teachers. We attached them to colorful crayon shaped pieces of paper, and posted them outside of the teachers' rooms. We had such a joy doing this and we are sure that when the teachers read them they were just as joyful. These were a wonderful token showing how much the students value and appreciate them.

The K.P.T.S.A. elections took place on Monday, May 4. Our new officers will be Rhonda Elliot, President; Carol Barranco, Treasurer; and Mistie Tucker, Secretary.

We are looking forward to another productive year, and members are excited about the direction in which it is moving. We would like to thank the former president of K.P.T.S.A., Carol Barranco, for giving her endless dedication to the K.P.T.S.A.'s meetings, book fairs, workshops, and countless other tasks that she has performed during her two years as president. Hats off to you Carol! We cannot forget to commend all the other members who continue to give their time to make this great association even better. We encourage parents, teachers, and students to become a member. We invite all of you to come together to make a difference in our school's community. Our meetings are every first Monday of every month. The next one will be 6:30 p.m. in Keshequa Middle School/High School Library. We hope to see some new faces there.

# Student Spotlight: Flora Fabre

A year ago, student Flora Fabre emigrated from Cuba not knowing any English. In September, Flora began her junior year at Keshequa Central not only having to get used to a new school and language, but a whole new culture. Fast forward a year. Flora is now thriving in school and the ESL classes she attends at Mount Morris Central. In April, she was one of 200 Hispanic students statewide chosen to visit Albany for the annual Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute (PR/HYLI).

Flora splits her school day between Keshequa and Mount Morris. She works closely with teacher Melissa Camuto on history, reading, writing, and English. Camuto said the other students in her classroom have benefited from working with Flora because while she's learning about American culture, they get to learn about Cuban culture.

"Flora is a teacher's dream to work with," said Camuto. "She's extremely motivated. Any piece of information I give her she takes and goes with it. She is very, very driven."

In January, Flora began attending weekly meetings with the PR/HYLI in Rochester. Hispanic Outreach Coordinator Maria O'Hearn provided her with transportation every week. During the meetings, students focused on learning the state legislative process. They each prepared a speech which they gave during a mock legislative session in the New York State Assembly chambers. Students debated actual bills that reflect issues in their communities. Flora debated from the perspective of Assemblyman Daniel Burling.

"I never imagined that a Cuban girl without enough English was going to be chosen to deliver the invocation to the assembly and sit in Legislator Daniel Burling's seat," said Flora. "As

well as the nervousness that I felt when I stood over the podium speaking to more than 200 people about an American bill."

The student delegates participated in several workshops while in Albany. Some of the workshops focused on college and future possibilities for the students. The students met with members of the New York State Legislature, New York State Assembly/Senate Puerto Rican and Hispanic Task Force, and New York State Education Department. The group visited the New York State Museum and the University of Albany.

PR/HYLI is sponsored by the State Senate/Assembly Puerto Rican and Hispanic Task Force in conjunction with the annual Somos El Futuro Legislative Conference. The program was dedicated to the memory of Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro and aims to foster leadership skills of Latino students and to introduce them to New York State's legislative process.



*Flora Fabre addresses the Speaker of the House at the New York State Assembly in Albany.*

Looking ahead to the future, Flora hopes to earn her GED and get vocational training. She plans to attend college in the fall of 2010 to major in accounting or law. She is currently working on her senior paper about Cuban writer Jose Marti.

"PR/HYLI gave me the experience of feeling more secure about my future and opened my eyes to opportunities for Latino students in the United States," said Flora. She encourages other Latino students to "Never forget your dreams; work hard to make your dreams become a reality."



## Chess Teams Finish Successful Season

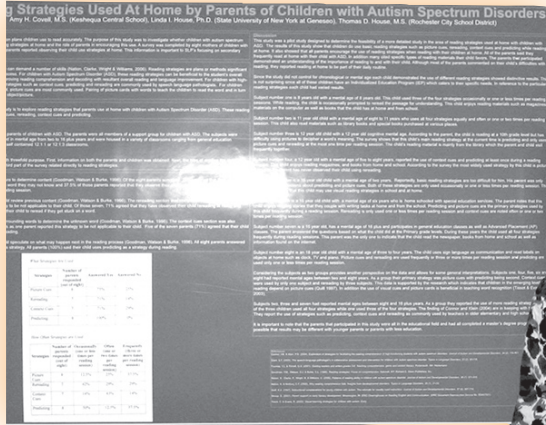
The KCS chess teams have capped a very successful year. The varsity team finished 15-2 with four students competing in super sectionals. The Middle School was league runner-up with Christian Garwood winning an individual honor. Fifth grader Garrett Thompson competed on the High School team (5-3-1), winning the Livingston County individual championship and top Elementary honors in Rochester on May 16.

Philip Wood finished the season with a 16-4-2 record and was an All-Greater Rochester Small Schools Champion candidate along with Christian Garwood (18-4) and Brody Wood (10-2). Kirk Schrier finished with a 13-7-1 record while teammates Jeremy Smith and Garrett Thompson finished with 3-4 and 5-3-1 records, respectively. Substitute players included: Ray Force (1-2), Cody Wise (1-1), Josh Gath (1-0), Jake Green (1-1), and Thomas Wood (2-4). The team was coached by I.D. Schoenacker.



# Teacher Amy Covell Presents at New York State Convention

Middle School Reading Skills teacher Amy Covell was recently selected to present a paper reflecting her research in the area of reading. The paper titled *Reading Strategies Used At Home by Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders* was presented at the New York State Speech-Language-Hearing Association's Annual Convention in Saratoga Springs, NY on May 9. The paper included a detailed study of eight children diagnosed on the Autistic Spectrum and the strategies they used to read. "Attending the annual NYSSLHA's convention was an honor and I enjoyed having the opportunity to share my research with others," said Covell.



# Bicycle Safety Winner

Second-grader Joshua Tallman won a bicycle helmet for the colored picture he entered in the Livingston County Safe Kids' Wheeled Safety Contest. Josh was invited to an award ceremony held at the Livingston County Safe Kids 7th Annual Child Safety Fair on May 9 at Livonia High School. Josh received his helmet and his work was displayed during the safety fair. Congratulations Josh!



Josh Tallman

# Students Find Creative Ways to Celebrate Earth Day

Classes at Dalton Elementary spent April 22 learning about, and giving back to, the environment. Second graders in Cathie Gehrig's classroom traveled around the community picking up garbage. Erinn Brickwood's and Meg Galton's fifth graders spent the morning conducting experiments on water-cleaning systems. Students were given cotton balls, coffee filters, charcoal, and gravel and had to find which combinations filtered soiled water more efficiently. They then had to compare their findings with the systems used in community water treatment plants. The experiment corresponded with their visit to the waste and water treatment facilities in Nunda later in the spring. Earth Club members along with advisor Holly Adams celebrated the day by planting trees around the area.



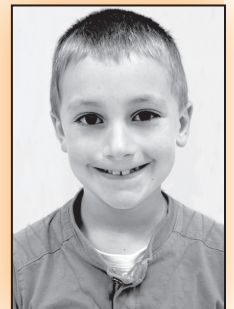
Above: Students in Meg Galton's class try to find the right recipe for creating a water-cleaning system.

Below: Second graders in Cathie Gehrig's classroom celebrated Earth Day by keeping Dalton clean.



# Peace Poetry Contest Winner

Second-grader Adam Yencer was chosen as a winner in the Fourth Annual Genesee Valley Peace Poetry Contest. Over 500 poems were entered from the Genesee region with less than 70 named winners. The winning entries will be printed in a free chapter book published by the English department at SUNY Geneseo. Adam was invited to read his poem on May 21 at the Alice Austen Theatre at SUNY Geneseo.



Adam Yencer

# Elementary PageTurners Take Third Place at Spring Competition

by Joan Ellison

On April 22 the Elementary PageTurners team traveled to Wayland Central School to compete against teams from Wayland, Cohocton, Dansville and Letchworth in the second meet of the year. The students had to read as many books as possible from the official PageTurners list of 15 books and then answer questions based on those books. It was a tough competition and in the end, with only a few points separating first and last place, the KCS team came in third.

The team members this year were: Allegra Learn, Lillian Willett, Danielle Dean, Savannah Vasile, Christina

Adams, Liam Costello, Hannah Wood, Nicole Simone, Hannah Moriarty, Garrett Thompson, Kyrstin Rawleigh, Sylvia Thompson, Cheyenne James, Cassandra Szuluski, Julia Howell, Lauren Simmons and Tami Lovell. Great job everyone!

In September, students in grades 3-5 may join the Elementary PageTurners team while students in grades 6-8 may join the Middle School PageTurners team. The reading lists are now available for next year. See Mrs. Ellison for either list if you are interested!



# PageTurners End Successful Season

The Middle School Page Turners team finished its season placing second in the spring competition held at Keshequa Central on April 27. The team, coached by High School Librarian Lydia Keough, competed against students from Dansville, Letchworth, and Warsaw. The team



also placed second in the winter competition. Students have been reading several books over the course of the school year. Teams have regular practices to discuss the books and create questions to drill their comprehension. The team includes: Tori Coon, Katelyn Costello, Blaithe Donovan, Latisha Learn, Sarah Link, Samantha Lucier, Emma Snyder, Katelyn Walradt, and Kirsten Willey.



# Students Recognized for Writing Skills

Several KCS Middle School students were honored by the Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre's ECHOES Program. The program was developed to encourage students in grades 6-8 in the creative writing process. Students submitted their work which included poems, short stories, skits, songs, etc. in December. After evaluating the estimated 4,000 submissions, the MGR creative team chose several to adapt into a stage performance. MGR actors visited the District in March to perform several of the pieces from students across Western New York. They held an award ceremony following the performance.

Student Lindsay Piraino was chosen as a "showcased author" and her work titled "Middle Child" was performed onstage by MGR actors. Several students received a "writing excellence" award. Only 200 of the nearly 4,000 submissions received



this honor. Those students were: Cooper Galton, Sarah Link, Brayden Link, Alicia Ludwig, Hannah Snyder, Jessica Steidle (received two), and Leigh Swartzfager. The following students received an Honorable Mention for their work: Hannah Acciari, Olivia Axtell, Kylie Blanchard, Bailee Borden, Zachariah Cramer, Morgan Ewing, Jane Farrell, Luke Faulds, Kate Forrester, Courtney Germack, Erin Gibson, Michelle Hand, Lia James, Zach Kennedy, Riley Kirwan, Savannah Kraft, Seth MacNeal, Kathryn Piraino (received two), Lindsay Piraino (received two), Kirk Schrier, Emma Snyder, Jessica Steidle, Jenny Tallman, TJ White and

Tracy Wise. All students received a participation award.

Carol McCarville, Interim Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Data Administrator, said the KCS students were complimented on their writing skills and behavior by ECHOES road manager Michael Antico.

"He was just so impressed with the quality of writing," said McCarville. Antico also commented on the fact that the students' writing gets better every year. Congratulations to all the students for this outstanding achievement.

## Mother's Day Essay Winners

Nunda's Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, and Kiwanis organized the *Springtime in Nunda* arts and crafts event on May 9. As part of the event, students were encouraged to write an essay on "Why I have the best Mom in the world!" All the essays were displayed at the Kiwanis pavilion as part of the "celebration of women" display. First place winners included Abigail Knapp, Brittany Ann Duryea, Taylor Martin, Hannah Wood, Krystin Rawleigh, and Selena Otero. Additional winners were: Cesar Batlle, Miguel Kunkle, Siobhan Costello, Ashley Barkley, Gage Geens, Tori Weber, Alyssa Guldenschun, Alexa Spencer, Savanah Vasile, William Elliott, Lily Kiser, Nicole Simone, and Carson Garwood. Congratulations to all the students for their hard work!

## NCAA Bracket Contest Winners

The winners of the 2009 NCAA basketball bracket contest were Kendra Smith for the student division and Kurt Schneider for the faculty division. Tied for second place were Kayla Beardsley and Matt Moran and finishing third were Cyrus Acciari and John Swartzfager. It was a great way to break up the mid winter blues! The contest was organized by the KCS technology department.



Student Kendra Smith and teacher Kurt Schneider



## Auctioneer Presents to Law Class



*Scott Burt discusses the value of once popular G.I. Joe toy with student Alicia Calcote*

He surprised not only the class, but also Mr. Bielicki with a test to see if they could appraise a dozen items. The items ranged from a GI Joe, to autographed baseballs, and books. No one passed the surprise test. The students found the presentation informative and interesting while learning how to protect themselves against unscrupulous sellers. The visit aligned with the Career Development and Occupational Standards of the New York State Learning Standards.

Scott Burt, Busy Bees teacher, owner of S.R. Burt and Sons Auctions, and of the New York State School of Auctioneering, visited Shawn Bielicki's business law class this spring. The guest speaker was arranged as a school-to-work activity in an effort to add relevance to classroom instruction. Mr. Burt discussed ethics, auction laws, appraisals, contracts, negotiations, family issues for estates, taking possession of other's property, disputes, sales, remedies, concealment, fraud, innocent misrepresentatives, and selling on EBay.

## Students Compete in Special Olympics



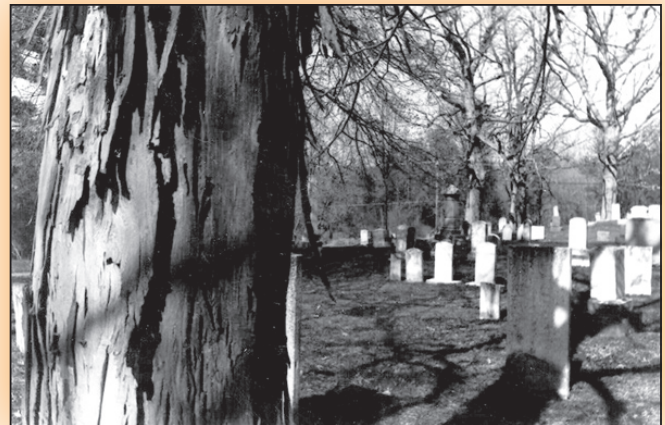
Six Keshequa student athletes participated in the 2009 Genesee region Special Olympic Games on Saturday, May 2 at York Central School. Student athletes competed in the 50 meter dash and the softball throw events. All students placed in the top three for their divisions, and each student was awarded a medal. In addition, Ian Pierce had the honor of helping to carry the Olympic torch for the Opening Ceremonies. Students participating included: Ian Pierce, Jacob Ostrander, Hunter Ostrander, Hannah Ostrander, Victoria Keppen, and Eric Reed.

## Grant Funds Field Trip

School-to-work Coordinator Shawn Bielicki was awarded a 2008-09 Target Field Trip Grant, allowing recipients to bring learning to life outside of their classroom. This spring, Bielicki's students experienced a variety of jobs in Letchworth State Park. The group visited the campgrounds and cabins. They met with a curator and toured the William Pryor Letchworth Museum. Students learned what park rangers and DEC officers do, and about careers in recreation, forestry, and conservation. The day included a white-water rafting trip on the Genesee River and a hike.

"I applied for the grant because I wanted to make learning real for the class and to give our students experiences beyond the classroom, without the obstacle of tightening budgets," said Bielicki.

The grant included supplies the students might need on their field trip including a \$20 digital camera gift card to develop photos, a field trip bag, pens, notepads, and hand sanitizer. Criteria for the selection of grant recipients included the description of the field trip and its objectives, the benefits to students, the tie-in to the school curriculum, the number of students who would be impacted and the proposed use of funds.



*The Black and White Photography class took a walk through Oakwood Cemetery to photograph the historical monuments, beautiful landscape, and unique symbolism. Retired social studies teacher and Town Historian Mr. Tom Cook donated his time and knowledge to the class. The students developed their film and made prints onto postcards which will be donated to the Nunda Historical Society. The above photo was taken by KCS sophomore Claire Mann.*

# Dalton Hosts Fine Arts Festival

Dalton Elementary hosted the 7th Annual Fine Arts Festival the evening of May 18. The night celebrated the Dalton art program and showcased artwork from students and community members. Art teacher and organizer Linda Strathearn said the artwork represented each Dalton student. Strathearn has been collecting and mounting artwork for many months in preparation for the event.

“It’s all for the kids,” said Strathearn. “Just because we’re in a rural area they should have access to what people in the cities have. The creative skills fostered in art class will aid them with any career path they choose. This fact is well documented in art education data sources throughout the world.”

Student artwork was displayed throughout the hallways of Dalton Elementary. In the cafetorium, artwork submitted by community members could be admired. Community artwork was submitted by John Gordinier, John Jones, Amanda Kennedy, Bonnie Miller, Carol Nick-



*Students Madison Ewing, McKenzy Bennett, and Nicholas Wood showoff their artwork that was displayed during the Fine Arts Festival.*

ol, Chris Norton, Ruth Ann Polito, Becky Schiano, Erin Schiano, and Danielle Willowglade.

Instrumental teacher Danielle Willowglade and music teacher Cheryl Sanford performed with students from band and chorus. Sandy Cox and the cafeteria staff provided the refreshments which everyone enjoyed. To the delight of visitors, Brett Pierce provided a glass blowing demonstration throughout the evening along with displays of his glass artwork. Board of Education members were

also on hand for a meet and greet with community members.

Many volunteers helped Strathearn prepare for the evening, including Meg Dean, Danielle Dean, Bonnie Measel, Val Bugman, Nancy Cross, Becky Schiano, Erin Schiano, Diane Brooks, June Brumsted, Elaine Cromwell, Jessica Gorton, and Trisha Gorton.

A big thank you goes out to the community for its continued support of the students and the Dalton art program. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

## Author Uses Storytelling to Evoke Students' Imaginations



*Rafe Martin*

Author Rafe Martin visited Dalton Elementary on May 5 to entertain students with his animated and electric storytelling skills. The author of *The Boy who Loved Mammoths*, *The Rough-Face Girl*, *The Shark God*, and *The Brave Little Parrot*, talked to students about the importance of words and where their imaginations come from.

“Writing is like an adventure,” said Martin. “When you are writing, you can travel anywhere in your imagination.”

After a group discussion, Martin told students a story. Each story was meant to get the listeners’ attention and get them involved. Students were seen jumping out of their seats when Martin used his spooky voice. Students asked the author questions about his career and family. Elementary Librarian Joan Ellison raffled off a free Rafe Martin book to a student in each grade level.

“I thought it was good,” said Ellison. “The kids seemed pretty enthralled with him.”

The students were. They had spent months prior to the visit reading Martin’s books and learning about his life. Some of the classrooms even incorporated the author into daily lessons. First-grader Madison James, whose favorite Martin book is *The Rough-face Girl*, said the author was “funny” and his books “have good pictures and stories.”

This is the third consecutive year an author has visited Dalton Elementary. Last spring, author Suzanne Bloom presented to the students. As in the past, students were able to purchase the featured author’s book prior to the visit in order to get it autographed. Ellison is anticipating another author visit next year.



# AAU at Keshequa

The Lady Indians of Keshequa have their own Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball program under the coaching staff of Pat Forrester and Sue Piraino. The Lady Indians joined the AAU in January and have participated in four tournaments to



date. Practicing up to twice a week, the team has put a tremendous amount of time and effort into becoming better basketball players. The team traveled to St. Monica's in Rochester at the end of January for their first tournament. There they encountered great competition and began learning the ropes of an AAU athlete. In February, the Lady Indians traveled to Lyons, New York where they took second place in the Central Western spring shoot out. The following month, they traveled to Niagara Falls and participated in the NAYS (North

American Youth Sports) tournament. The girls were crowned tournament champs for their age bracket and celebrated with a visit to the American side of the falls. At the beginning of May, the team traveled to Brockport College to

participate in the Western New York Lady Lakers Tournament. Once again, the Lady Indians were named champions defeating teams from Buffalo, Rochester, Penfield and Binghamton.

The team ended its tournament season at the end of May with a tournament in Lima. Everyone has enjoyed their first year as AAU players and hope to keep playing throughout their high school careers. They would like to thank the Nunda Community and their parents for their support!

## Keshequa Goes Green

The KCS Earth club, also known as the "Mean, Green, Recycling Team," held a "Walk for the Rainforest" on the Greenway on March 25 to raise awareness and funds for rainforest protection. The group walked from school to the branch trail that begins at the top of Vermont Street in Nunda and goes to Halstead Road and back. The 17 student and 4 adult walkers raised a total of \$372.48. The money raised will be matched by Earth Club funds and donated to a rainforest protection program. Prizes were awarded to the top fundraisers. Luke Canfield was the top fundraiser, followed by Victoria Underwood. The student walkers received a free custom designed t-shirt. This walk was the idea of Earth Club members Kathryn Piraino and Leigh Swartzfager. Earth Club is currently a group of 15 sixth grade students who, along with their advisor, Holly Adams, meet weekly to collect and recycle paper, cardboard, ink cartridges and deposit bottles for the middle and high school.



On May 1 the Earth Club attended the "My Fragile World" fair at the Seneca Park Zoo. This annual environmental fair is created to engage, inspire and empower students in grades 6-8 to act on behalf of wildlife, nature and the environment. Our trip was funded by a Business Education Alliance mini-grant and was free to students. In addition, students brought a "trash free" lunch to eat at the Zoo, in keeping with the environmental conservation theme of the day.

Keshequa Central School  
P.O. Box 517  
Nunda, New York 14517-0517

June 2009

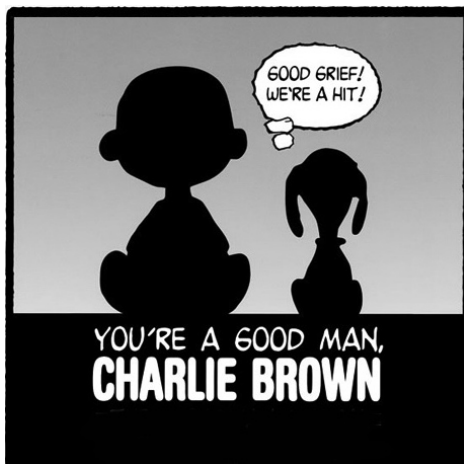
NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 1  
NUNDA NY 14517

### **School Board Members**

Anita Buchinger, President  
Paul Jackson, Vice-President  
Mark Ewing  
Todd Galton  
John Gordinier  
Lori Gray  
Barbara Waddle

Marilyn Capawan, *Superintendent*  
Dominic Aloisio, *Business Administrator*

## Middle School Presents Musical



On Saturday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 14 at 1:00 p.m. the Middle School Players will be presenting the musical comedy *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* in the High School auditorium.

*You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* is a musical comedy based on the characters created by cartoonist Charles M. Schulz in the comic strip *Peanuts*. The original Broadway production opened on March 7, 1967 with Gary Burghoff in the title role. Music and lyrics were written by Clark Gesner.

The play presents a day in the life of Charlie Brown, consisting of moments from all the days of Charlie Brown, including Valentine's Day and baseball season. The day is also interspersed with moments from Charlie Brown's friends, both human and non-human.

In this production the part of Charlie Brown will be played by eighth grader Blaithe Donovan. The part of Lucy will be played by seventh grader Jane Farrell and the part of Snoopy will be played by Kate Forrester, also a seventh grader.

The play is directed by KCS Seniors Lindsay Gunn and Erin Pattridge. This is the second Middle School production that Lindsay and Erin have collaborated on. Last year's production of *You Can't Take it With You* was a big success.

This is the first time that the Middle School has done a musical production and the kids have put in many hours of hard work to make the show a success. We encourage everyone to come and enjoy this family oriented production.

## June Brings Exciting Events

by Ami Hunt, *Elementary Principal*

I would like to thank everyone for being so welcoming to me in my first year working at Keshequa. It has been a pleasure getting to know the students, faculty, staff and families in the district.

We have updated our end-of-year schedule at Dalton Elementary. Students will be in session for a full day on Monday, June 22. They will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 23 and 24. Wednesday will be the last day that school is in session.

Kindergarten Graduation is on Monday, June 22 at 9:00 a.m. We will also have awards assemblies for grades K-2 on Tuesday, June 23 and for grades 3-5 on Wednesday, June 24.

I hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer!