

FALLSBURG

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Comet News

EDITOR - SHELLEY MARCUS • ASSOCIATE EDITOR - SANDRA SALOVIN • CONTRIBUTING EDITOR - LARRY SCHAFMAN

JUNE • 2015

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Dear School Community Member:

I hope this update finds you in the best of health and spirit as summer weather has finally arrived. The 2015-16 budget season resulted in a budget that passed on May 19th! On behalf of the Fallsburg Central School District I would like to thank the school community for supporting us!

Congratulations go out to Mr. Mike Weiner and Ms. Jennifer Reinhardt who both won seats on the Board of Education. A very special thank you goes out to Ms. Sonia Ward and Ms. Valerie Sitz for their contributions as Board members over the past several years.

In other news, our building project has continued this spring with work being done at BCES and at the Jr/Sr High School. The district grounds will be, for the most part, closed all summer so that the building project can conclude as scheduled. Building project updates will continue to be forthcoming.

As Superintendent of Schools I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our graduating class of 2015 on a job well done! These young men and women have completed their primary and secondary schooling successfully and are now ready to step off the graduation stage into the world of tomorrow and endless possibilities.

Congratulations Class of 2015! Fallsburg is proud of you!

Educationally yours,

Ivan J. Katz, Ed.D.

Sports Health Updates

If you have a current physical, Sports Health Updates with the nurse are being held on the following dates:

- August 17th from 7 am to 12 noon and 3-6 pm.
- August 18th from 3-6 pm
- August 19th from 7 am to 12 noon.

Paper work for the updates and physicals will be mailed out in late July.

Sports Physicals with the doctor are being held:

- August 19th beginning at 2:30 pm and continuing until finished. All students for physicals should arrive at 2:30 pm. Questions please call Ms. Lindsey 434-6800 ext. 2254.

In This ISSUE...

BCES News	PAGES	2 - 3
HIGH SCHOOL NEWS	PAGES	4 - 8
GRADUATION 2015 AWARDS	PAGES	9 - 10
DISTRICT NEWS • FALLSBURG HALL OF FAME	PAGE	11
FALLSBURG PHOTO GALLERY	PAGE	12
FALLSBURG ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENT	PAGE	13
2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR	PAGE	14
SCHOOL CONTACTS	PAGE	15

FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Tips for Encouraging Summer Reading

An excerpt by Jen Robinson

Summer reading should be a joy. Summer vacation should be a time to stretch out on a hammock or curl up in an armchair and dive deep into a fun, engrossing, and fabulous read. Kids who spend time reading during the summer go back to school in the fall with their reading skills improved. This will help them in school, and help them later in life. But even more importantly, kids who read during the summer will form life-long memories and make powerful connections with books.

Parents can help make this magic happen. Here are a few simple tips:

- Make sure your kids have plenty of books. Take your kids to the library or the bookstore (new or used) to pick out some interesting new books. Go to the library every week, if you can. Go to yard sales, and sort through the books there. Organize a book swap in your neighborhood or scout troop. Do whatever you need to do to keep a fresh supply of books around.
- Always pack up books whenever you go somewhere, for your kids and for yourself (including audiobooks). Make sure your kids see you reading, whether it's on the beach, while waiting for the softball game to start, or at home. Bonus points if you spend some of your time reading kids' books. Then you can also talk about the books with your kids, and recommend other books that they might like. Listen to audiobooks in the car, especially on long trips. Pick books that are fun and/or exciting. You'll find that these add to your family's common frame of reference. And they make the drives go by a lot more quickly.
- Encourage social reading. If your child wants to read a book because other kids are reading it (and you don't have personal reasons why you think your child isn't ready for the book), by all means get a

copy. This reinforces the idea that reading is cool, and gives your child a chance to talk about the book with others. Consider buying two copies of the same book, for your child and his or her best friend, so that they can both read it. Maybe start a book club. Take the kids to see a movie based on a book, and also read the book. Do whatever you can to make reading cool and social.

- Try not to get hung up on whether or not your child "could" be reading more advanced books. Do you read Proust on your summer vacation, or do you read James Patterson? Kids turn to books for a respite from cares sometimes, just as adults do. They don't want everything they read to be educational. There's no harm in suggesting the occasional book that's more of a stretch, but don't push too hard. If kids find reading enjoyable, they'll keep reading, and they will eventually push themselves. For that to happen, they just need to spend time reading.
- Try to keep some time available for reading. This is perhaps the hardest thing, as schedules fill up with sports, cookouts, trips and movies. These are all fun, too. But if you ask me, there's no substitute for the occasional afternoon spent perched up in a tree exploring far-off worlds through books.

And that's it! A prescription for getting kids reading this summer. Get great books, take them places with you, make reading social, keep reading from being a chore or a contest, and leave a bit of time for reading on the schedule. There are no guarantees, of course, but if you do all of these things, you're setting the stage for a reading-filled summer!

Wishing you and your family a safe, healthy and happy summer!

Mary Kate Stinehour

FROM THE ELEMENTARY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

It is difficult to believe that the 2014-15 academic year has gone by so quickly. As I sit and write this newsletter article, it is the ides of June, and our students are getting ready for their last day of school.

For our students, a summer of fun awaits. However, it is very important to remember that the next school year is right around the corner. It is very important that everyone takes steps to prepare for the school year that begins in September.

The students can help get themselves ready for next year by

reading and doing intellectually challenging activities over the summer vacation. There is a very good reason for this. The brain needs to be kept active and challenged. Students who arrive at school in September having kept their minds "in shape" all summer will be better able to stay on top of their studies and will do better in school.

As we all know, there is one more integral part of this team. That is the parents. They can help out by encouraging their children to read. Parents can also play "word" and

"alphabet" games with their children. There are plenty of websites dedicated to these sorts of activities, which can be done during dinner, at playtime, or even when traveling in the car.

Working together, we - administration, teachers, support staff, parents and students - can help ensure that the students of Fallsburg Central School District reach their full potential.

Dave Vigliore

Benjamin Cosor Elementary School Walk for Kids

3

BENJAMIN COSOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



On June 7th dozens of children and families joined the Parent Teachers Association and Staff of BCES on a Walk for the Kids and a Kindergarten Karnival throughout the grounds of the Fallsburg campus. PTA President Rosalind Natale welcomed everyone and introduced Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther to speak to the families. As a grandparent of three youngsters, she knows the importance of keeping our children safe and healthy. She exhorted everyone to be watchful of the problems with drugs in our community and how it can affect even the youngest among us. She emphasized the role of parents and teachers in educating kids to make good decisions, to take care of their health, and to say no to bullying.



After Ms. Gunther's talk, parents walked with their kids to the early childhood playground adjacent to the building where they received black and gold tote bags emblazoned with the words, "Walk for BCES 2015, Making Strides With Our Community, I love BCES". As they circled the building, walkers were met by volunteer PTA and school staff for exercises, encouragement and refreshments.

On hand to greet people were Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz, Principal Mary Kate Stinehour, Board of Education Member Kathy Rappaport, School Resource Officer Jason Edwards, and many teachers and staff. Vendors gave out brochures on good health and exercise and how to stay safe and informed.

The BCES PTA did an outstanding job organizing the afternoon events and delivering a powerful message of support for the children in the community.



FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Greetings again! Can you believe that the school year has come to a close? The Class of 2015 will move on to bigger (and better) things and we are all taking a deep breath after a very successful year in the junior-senior high school.

This has been an incredibly successful year in the junior-senior high school. We continue with the OLWEUS anti-bullying program in grades 7 through 12. Our students again competed in the *Future Problem Solvers International Competition* and placed 2nd in the competition! We had a record number of inductees into the Junior and Senior National Honor Societies. Over 60 students traveled to Broadway as a result of their place on the Superintendent's Honor Roll. Our top seniors were recognized at the local, county and state levels. Congratulations to those students and their families.

I hope everyone will take an opportunity to get some well-deserved rest, take a vacation and spend some quality time with family and friends. Summer is a great time to "recharge the batteries." We here in the district will be working very hard to prepare for the next school year.

This will be an interesting summer in the Jr/Sr HS as the building project continues in full swing! We have already begun work on the pool and locker room areas and the tennis court renovation is well underway. This work will

continue all summer long and may pose challenges with regards to accessing the building. We will have signs posted as to where visitors can come into the building. Just remember that this is a "momentary inconvenience for a permanent improvement." The building is simply going to look fantastic next year!

I will be sending along more information regarding changes to schedules, the Code of Conduct, and the like, throughout the summer. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to give us a call and we will do our best to accommodate you. I want to thank all of our students, staff, parents and extended family members for their support throughout the past year and in the years to come. We couldn't be successful without all of you working with us. The Fallsburg CSD just keeps getting better, and we want to continue to do so next year and beyond. Remember our motto...."Effort Equals Excellence!" We will continue our work to maximize the excellence all of our students are capable of!

Best wishes for a relaxing, fruitful summer, and I will see everyone in the fall.

Michael Williams

E=E • Effort Equals Excellence!

From the High School Assistant Principal

It seems almost impossible to believe that another year has come and gone. When I was a young teacher, a colleague told me that the older we get, the quicker the school year goes by. That definitely applies to this year. While this year is just a series of memories, now is the time to look ahead to the 2015-16 academic year.

For schools, the summer months are more than just

a time of relaxation. The summer is a time of preparation. Schedules are finalized. Staffing is completed. The building is repaired. This year the Jr/Sr High School will undergo some renovations as part of the Building Project. Data from the previous year is analyzed and plans are made to bring instruction to the highest levels we have ever achieved. Both teachers and administrative

personnel alike will work together to foster this growth.

For students, the summer months should be a time to recharge their batteries. It also, however, must be a time of continuing growth. Learning is a lifelong activity. It is extremely important that students stay academically active. Reading and writing are skills that are not only developed in the classroom, but also in our daily

lives. This summer, read the newspaper and magazines with your parents. Discuss articles that you find interesting. Communicate with friends and family via letters or e-mail, but stay active. Challenge your mind as well as your body!

ENJOY THE SUMMER!

Frank Godlewski

Do the Right Thing

This year Fallsburg High School seniors *Nyasia Harris* and *Karryn Smith* received **Al Rasnick Do the Right Thing Awards** from Judge Bart Rasnick. Members of the school community nominated these students as deserving recognition for performing positive actions in school, in the home, and in the Fallsburg community. These students represent good citizenship and good values that we all want to encourage.

Guidance counselor Stephanie Paglia acknowledged Nyasia for standing up to a student that was being disrespectful to another student and helping that student understand why it was inappropriate and hurtful behavior.

Principal Michael Williams recognized Karryn for embarking on a school-wide project to assemble posters of outstanding Americans offering words of inspiration to all who pass by the posters in the halls of the Jr/Sr High School. Working closely with Technology teacher Pam Garritt, Karryn will turn the project over to a younger student to continue it for next year.

Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz congratulated the students as they received plaques. Also honoring their children were parents Candice and Joshua Smith and Lucille Carter Harris

Lessons Learned on Genocide and Human Rights

Global Studies students at Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School had a rare opportunity to learn firsthand about genocide and human rights violations in the contemporary world when the grandmother and father of students in the classes came to the auditorium on April 17th, 2015.

The program began with graphic photos and a PowerPoint® presentation assembled and presented by Adem Crnoursanin and a classmate, Markos Zelaya. These students used the United Nations' definition of genocide. Genocide can include mass executions, inflicting serious mental and bodily harm on a daily basis, forcibly transferring children from one group to another, and the torture of whole villages of people.

When Yugoslavia broke up in the early 1990's, all these activities occurred at the hands of Bosnian Serbians to other ethnic groups such as Croats and Bosnian Muslims. This happened when religion was recruited to fuel animosity between the different parties. Also one group had the military might to inflict its will upon another group.

Next in the assembly, Adem introduced his grandmother, Remzija Canovic, who grew up in Yugoslavia as a Bosnian Muslim and survived genocide to relate the story to the student assembly. Ms. Canovic painted a picture of how inhumanly people can treat other people even when they are living next door to one another over long periods of time. Students listened attentively to her and to the translation of her words by their classmate.

In a different part of the world and at the same time as the events in the Balkans, Sierra Leone in Central Africa was rampant with civil unrest between rebels and government over the issues of corruption and the distribution of diamonds, the nation's main source of wealth. What ensued was a long period of crimes against humanity. Technically Sierra Leone was not genocide, but the results were just as atrocious as described by Momodu Sesay, a New York City school teacher and father of Fallsburg student Kaday Sesay.

Mr. Sesay witnessed killings, enslavement, forced deportation and transfers of population, imprisonment, deprivation, loss of physical liberties, and torture, just as had occurred in the end of Yugoslavia. The details of his talk were illustrated by the powerful slide presentation assembled by his daughter Kaday along with fellow students Rebecca Budrock and Mary Elizabeth Kellerman.

Both Mr. Sesay and Ms. Canovic wanted the students to understand what happened to them, to their families and to their countries. Genocide and human rights violations can occur around the world at any given time in history. These are not events from the "past"; they are happening today. As global studies teacher Ms. Elisa Baum emphasized in the question and answer session following the presentations, we need to be aware of what happens in history, how it happens, and learn from events so as not to repeat them. Moreover we must recognize what the signs are to control and prevent it from occurring again. She spoke of the great diversity of ethnicities among the students in the school and how special it is for people from different cultures to live in harmony. The Fallsburg students learned a powerful lesson thanks to eyewitnesses and to their family members that share classrooms with them.

Sports Update

After not being favored to win the state qualifier meet, *Nyasia Harris* scored an upset and took 1st place! Nyasia had a back-and-forth duel with Diana Echols of Ellenville in the shot put, eventually out-throwing her by only 1/2" on her very last throw! By winning, Nyasia qualified to compete in her first ever NY State Track & Field Championships! Both Nyasia and Diana showed great sportsmanship and class by bringing out each other's best after having close, classic duels in both Indoor Track & Field and at the Section IX Class C Outdoor T&F Championship Meet - and won a trip to States!

After only her 2nd and 3rd practices using the glide technique (i.e. starting from the back of the throwing circle, glide backwards toward the front of the circle, then rotate body and heave the shot) that Pete Wysochanski had taught one day while the coaches watched and learned, she used her inexperienced but potentially powerful technique to "go for broke" at States and give her a chance of throwing her greatest ever. Nyasia unleashed a massive 35' 1" throw, beating her all-time best throw by over a foot when it counted the most. That wound up placing Nyasia 5th in the state for division 2 (small) schools!

Candhace Forrest won both her semifinal and final in the 100 meters and represented Fallsburg for the 3rd straight year at the State Championships after placing second and fourth in the state the last two years. Candhace placed 3rd in her semifinal of the 100 meter dash at the NY State Track & Field Championship in 12.71 seconds and will probably wind up 10th or 11th in the state for Division 2 (small) schools. She gave it her all and ended a high school career with four Section IX Class C 100m championships, a 2nd and a 4th in the state championships. Only two other female athletes have won four Section IX Class C 100m championships in Section IX history. Candhace is excited and looking forward to attending Marist College in the fall on scholarship, and we wish her the best!

Both Candhace and Nyasia have acted as mentors to younger Fallsburg athletes and have given them guidance to grow and develop in the future. Coaches Mike St Lawrence, Lucille Carter Harris, Brian Cavanagh and I are so happy for Fallsburg's Nyasia Harris and Candhace Forrest!



Girls Golfer *Madison Levine* represented Fallsburg in the girls' golf state competition on June 13-14. She placed 55th out of 82 competitors. Listed below are a few more of her accomplishments:

Outstanding Golfer Award, 4 Time OCIAA Div III Champion, 3 Time NYSPHSAA Championship Qualifier, 4 Time Sectional Tournament Qualifier, 3 Time MVP, Career Match Record 41-8.

Suzanne Lendzian, Director of Athletics

Sports Awards Banquet

Newly installed Athletic Director Suzanne Lendzian welcomed everyone and introduced Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz to say a few words to the athletes and their families. He spoke from his own experience as a high school and collegiate athlete and told the student athletes that years from now they will be cherishing the times they spent on the playing fields with their teammates. They may not remember wins or losses, but they will always remember the most valuable lesson of working on a common goal with others and striving towards excellence.

Prior to the actual awards, the audience watched a special video assembled by Ms. Winnie Foertsch, the mother of one of the graduating senior athletes. With thunderous applause in appreciation of the video, Ms. Foertsch was called up to the stage to receive the well-deserved Fan of the Year Award for her years of capturing the sports events for the past eight or ten years since her son and daughter and her husband Herb were active in the Fallsburg school sports scene as players and coach.

Each coach from every sport throughout the school year awarded sportsmanship, most improved and most valuable player awards for the teams during the rest of the evening. Culminating the celebration were special overall awards to Nyasia Harris for the Coach Mike Weiner Scholarship; Student Government Association Award for Perseverance to Kassie Foertsch and Matthew Jonas; Fallsburg Comet Booster Award to Naomi Moody and Shane Luczyski; Top Senior Athlete Awards to Nyasia Harris and Shane Luczyski; and 2015 Athletic Appreciation Award to custodian/groundskeeper Mike Gallo.

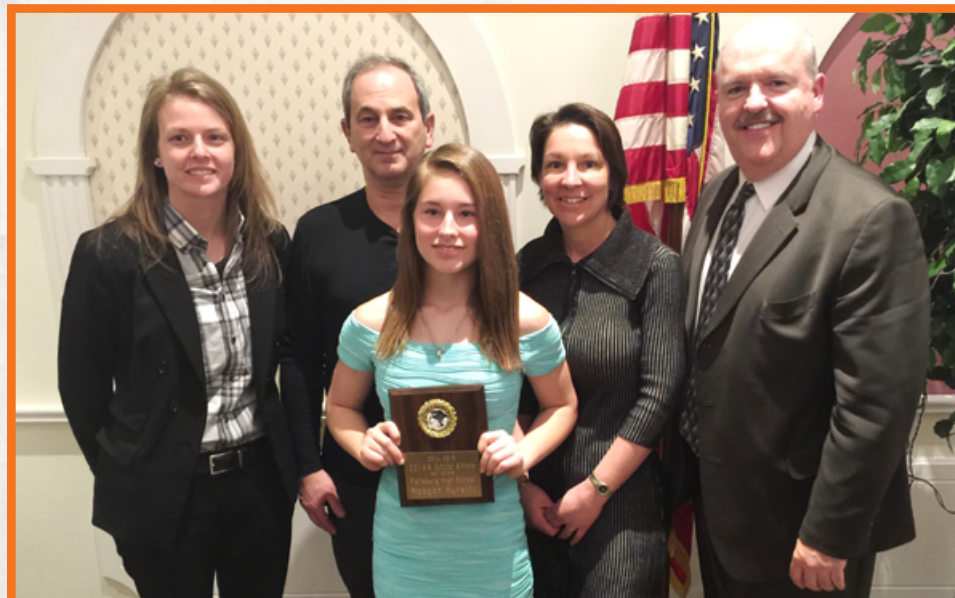
To view the complete list of all student athlete awards, visit the school web site www.fallsburgcsd.net.



Scholar Athlete

On April 3rd, 2015 at Kuhl's Highland House in Middletown, the Orange County Interscholastic Athletic Association (O.C.I.A.A.) announced the 2014-15 Scholar Athlete Awards. Fallsburg's Scholar/Athlete was *Maegan Hurwitz*. Maegan has a GPA of 88.59, is ranked 8th in her class, and participated in Soccer, Basketball, Softball, and Track & Field. She plans to attend SUNY Delhi in the fall.

In the picture are left to right Fallsburg Athletic Director Suzanne Lendzian, Maegan's father Marc Hurwitz, Maegan Hurwitz, mother Bridget Hurwitz, and Fallsburg High School Principal Michael Williams.



Sullivan County BOCES Honors Fallsburg High School's Top Three Graduates



Sullivan County BOCES celebrated **The Thirtieth Annual Academic Achievement Dinner** on June 1st, 2015 at the Rockland House in Roscoe, NY. The event honors the top students in Sullivan County. Fallsburg's honorees were *Ashlyn Nardi*, our valedictorian, *Jordan Laguio* our salutatorian, and *Carly Leventoff* who is ranked third.

The Times Herald Record sponsors a portion of the event and gives the gift of a thesaurus to each student honoree. The guest speaker for this event was Barry Lewis who is the Executive Editor of the Times Herald Record. In his remarks he told students to go after their dreams and to expect the unexpected.

Hands on for Health at Wellness Fair

Children and parents enjoyed an informative day at the eleventh annual Wellness Fair at Fallsburg High School on Saturday morning, May 16th, 2015. Twenty six vendors in health-related businesses and agencies distributed valuable information and discussed issues from nutrition to medical care needs in the school cafeteria. Just down the hallway in the gym children of all ages enjoyed fun and games and a chance to exercise their bodies.

Ms. Lisa Tracy got good energy flowing with great music and Zumba dancing. Ms. Alexandra Lalieu and Upstate Karate students engaged the crowd in an exhibition of martial arts skills that even included FCSD Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz and high school physical education teacher Ms. Jennie Verdi breaking boards.

South Fallsburg acupuncturist Alice Camara demonstrated the application of acupuncture needles on a client, Judy Schafman. Several students from the high school went to a quieter space with yoga practitioner Marilyn Valant from Hurleyville's Satnam Yoga Studio

Networking opportunities were abundant. Migrant families met with Mid-Hudson Migrant Ed Director Martha Gonzalez and learned more about the opportunities available to their children, including a newly formed Fallsburg school club "Hispanic Americans United" under advisor and Spanish teacher Ms. Angela Hist. Many parents took the opportunity afforded by Fallsburg Police Officer Denise Calvello by having their young children fingerprinted for safety and personal identification purposes.

One of the most exciting activities was a chance for small children to climb the rock wall in the gymnasium under the close supervision of the physical education teachers, Dave Luczynski, Darren Kenny, Brian Garber, Phil Motl, Michael Geller, and Ms. Verdi.

Public awareness of drug abuse and addiction was a critical element of the day's events. Members of the Dynamite Youth Center, Recovery Center, and the Kingfisher Project were on hand to speak with parents and young people. Kingfisher leaders Barbara and Kevin Gref and Julie Pisall interviewed Superintendent Katz, Jack Hayes and Larry Schafman as members of Fallsburg's Superintendent's Community Advisory Council (SCAC) that was formed last summer to assist the District in exploring positive actions in support of students, staff, and parents. The meeting of the two groups set the course for further collaboration. The interview will air on radio station WJFF that hosts and supports Project Kingfisher.

At the end of the morning, people left the school energized and better informed.

Springtime for Music and Awards in Fallsburg

May is always a special month at Fallsburg Central School District as a time for beautiful music and achievement awards. The Senior High School Band combined the two when they presented the annual Hertz-LaRuffa Scholarship to deserving graduating seniors at the Spring Concert on May 7th. This year's recipients are *Maegan Hurwitz*, *Nyasia Harris*, *Jennifer Barrera*, and *Kassie Foertsch*. The awards are named in honor of two outstanding music teachers, Irving Hertz and Joe LaRuffa, known for their involvement with students and bringing pride and prominence to the Fallsburg community.

One of the highlights of the evening's concert was a joint performance of "*America the Beautiful*" with the Senior Band and Chorus combining their talents. Also the Senior Chorus created a sense of joy with their rousing arrangement of "*The Power of One*" that featured ten soloists. Throughout the concert, many performers were acknowledged for their achievements and special awards received from the school and the state music association.

Not to be outdone by their older school mates, the musicians of the BCES had a chance to shine at the spring concert on May 19th. Held on the same night as the School Budget Vote and the Multi-Cultural Dinner of the Class of 2018, the young band members and singers performed beautifully. One really delightful moment was the Chorus performance of "*The Looth Tooth Tune*" directed by Mrs. Andrea Henderson. She had as much fun directing as the students had in performing and the audience had in listening and watching. Members of the elementary schools bands, choirs, and chorus received special awards for their outstanding musicianship and achievement.

Special thanks go out to Senior Band Director John Lusk, Choral Director Colleen Barber, Elementary School Band Director Lauren Bernard, Elementary Chorus and Choir Director Andrea Henderson, and Leon Hilfstein for piano accompaniment.

Battle of the Books!

On the afternoon of Saturday, April 25th at the Daniel Pierce Library in Grahamsville, five students from Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School represented the Fallsburg Library (Public) in the Countywide Battle of the Books competition for the Ramapo Catskill Library System. It was the first time Fallsburg had a team compete in the Battle and it was both a fun and challenging day. After three quick rounds of tough questions we placed 4th out of six teams that day. We are excited to participate in the Regional competition this coming September 13th. The students who competed were all members of the High School Book Club, so they were very active readers. This year the club had to read six books. The team divided up the five titles assigned for the competition. This was in addition to what they either had to read in class or what they chose to read on their own. I am very proud of them all and I am looking forward to being the team's coach for a long time to come. The members of Fallsburg Library's Battle of the Books team were: *Abby Langeland, Roberto Matamoros, Megan Langeland, Olav Peterson-Langeland, and Pu (Sam) Zheng*. I would like to thank the parents of all involved in supporting our efforts and dropping off and picking up your children that day, and I would like to also thank the Fallsburg Library, of which I am also a Trustee, for their moral and financial support.

Livia Sabourin, Librarian

Fallsburg Seniors Blossom at Scholarship Luncheon

For 64 years, Fallsburg Central School District has been awarding Community Scholarships to worthy members of the senior class. Just imagine the astounding number of students, staff, family members and alumni whose lives have been influenced by this process! On Sunday, May 3rd, 2015, nine more students and their families were honored with scholarships at the annual Blossom Cohen Luncheon at Bernie's Holiday Restaurant in Rock Hill, NY.

Winners of the Samuel Beytin Community Scholarships were *Charley Gips, Madison Levine, Ashlyn Nardi, Amber Rundle, Natalie Tejada, and Allison Weiner*. *Candhace Forrest* earned two awards: the Esther Mintz Flanagan and Milton Brizel Memorial Scholarships. *Carly Leventoff* also merited two honors: the Candy Gold and Blossom Cohen Memorial Scholarships. The Edward Bryan Memorial Scholarship went to *Mandtasia Boswell Fields*.

All these young women expressed gratitude to their teachers, their own families and to the families of the scholarship providers. Ms. Leventoff mentioned that her mother had Blossom Cohen as a teacher when she was in grade school in Fallsburg and that Ms. Cohen was an early mentor in her life. It seemed appropriate that the daughter was receiving the award given in honor of Ms. Cohen.



Special thanks go out to the Luncheon Committee headed by Ms. Renee Kates, who emceed the festivities. Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz welcomed the guests, thanked the committee for their selfless work in keeping the scholarship program alive and vital for over sixty years, and acknowledged the scholarship winners, their families, and the school staff for supporting these special students over their years in Fallsburg.

Young Entrepreneur's Award



The Young Entrepreneur's Club had another successful school year selling after school snacks and learning important business skills. Some of the skills that these 7th and 8th grade entrepreneurs learned were how to calculate profits and loses, keep inventory and all other skills needed to operate a small business. These young entrepreneurs had an additional challenge this year in picking out and selling snacks that were healthy and low in calories. While working hard, the profits they made were put towards the Young Entrepreneur's Award. This award goes to a deserving, graduating senior who will be majoring in business or who has been a member of the club. This year's recipient is *Ida Dumbuya*. As a seventh and eighth grader, Ida put in her time and effort after school working at the school store. All of her hard work paid off as she graduates

this June and receives an award of \$200. This will help her with her studies at Kings College. Congratulations Ida and Good Luck in college!

Anna Baren, Advisor, Young Entrepreneur's Club

Student

Award

Ashlyn Nardi	Valedictorian , Arthur Townsend, Abe Wasserman Award For Excellence In Mathematics, Samuel Beytin Award For Excellence In Science, Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship, NEW YORK STATE AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, Mira Anderson Memorial Scholarship, Spanish Award, Salon Memorial Scholarship
Jordan Laguio	Salutatorian , Eugene Feldman, Sandra Williams Award For Excellence In English, Trudy Kapito, Award For Excellence In Social Studies, New York State Award For Academic Excellence
Joseph Aitken.....	Kiwanis Club Scholarship
Marisol Alvarado	
Eileen Argueta Hernandez	
Rasheem Armstead	
Jennifer Barrera.....	Hertz-Laruffa Scholarship, Kiwanis Club Scholarship
Mandtasia Boswell Fields	Edward Bryan Memorial Scholarship
Chauncey Caruso	
J'lene Charles.....	Fallsburg Fire Department & Rescue Squad Scholarship
Carina Ciaramitaro	
Aaron Cohen	
Erica Degraw	
Ajani-Vernon Desmangles	
Anthony Dimesa	
Ida Dumbuya	Young Entrepreneurs Club Award, Fallsburg Alumni Award
Kassandra Foertsch.....	Girl'S Physical Education, Hertz-Laruffa Scholarship
Candhace Forrest.....	Esthyr Mintz-Flanagan Scholarship, Milton Brizel Scholarship
Christine Garcia	
Christopher Gardner	
Charley Gips.....	Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship, Art Award, Elissa Lippen/Matthew Helm Memorial Scholarship, Fallsburg High School Art Department Scholarship
Luis Giron.....	Triple C Award
Nyasia Harris	Hertz-Laruffa Scholarship, Kiwanis Club Scholarship, The Coach Mike Weiner Scholarship, Mel Mednick Memorial Scholarship, Fallsburg Alumni Award, Elissa Lippen/Matthew Helm Memorial Scholarship, Fallsburg Lions Annual Achievement Award
Alexis Hart	
Deja Holder	
Maegan Hurwitz	Hertz-Laruffa Scholarship, Woodbourne Activities Scholarship, Claryville Volunteer Firefighter Scholarship
Christian Hyde	
Matthew Jonas.....	Boy's Physical Education
Zackery Jones	New York State Comptroller Achievement Award
Dante Lacatena	
Taylor Leszczynski.....	The Regina Haaf Memorial Scholarship
Carly Leventoff	Candy Gold Memorial Scholarship, Blossom Cohen Memorial Award, New York State Award For Academic Excellence, Kiwanis Club Scholarship, Samuel Beytin • Eugene Feldman • Trudy Kapito • Gussie Kasofsky • Arthur Townsend • Abe Wasserman • Sandra Williams SGA Memorial Scholarship, Monticello Rotary Service Award, Sheryl Kalter Memorial Scholarship, Loch Sheldrake Seniors Club Scholarship in Honor of Alice Walter
Madison Levine	Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship, Fallsburg Fire Department And Rescue Squad Scholarship, Monticello Rotary Service Award, Fallsburg Lions Annual Achievement Award, Citizenship Award
Shane Luczynski	



GRADUATION 2015

Erick Martinez-Bautista Citizenship Award

Olivia Mccarthy

Zachary Mcombs

Wendy Mendez

Miguel Menor

Rory Meyer

Dakota Moody

Naomi Moody

Katherine Morales

Marlena Monica Morales

Savannah Patterson..... Triple C Award

Nathaniel Payton Fallsburg Alumni Award, Ptso Recognition

Deanna Pereira Vocal Musicianship, Drama Award

Michael Perneszi li Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop Barbara Newberg Memorial Scholarship

Carl Peterson Langeland..... New York State Comptroller Achievement Award

Shawn Pettine

Thomas Pignataro

Diana Presti

Kenneth Presti

Prescilla Presti Ptso Recognition

Amber Rundle Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship

Gabriella Sanchez The Lucille S, Pantel Memorial Scholarship

Kali Seastrand Timothy Hill Memorial Scholarship, Robynne Anderman-Pacheco Memorial Scholarship, Fallsurg High School Art Department Scholarship, Drama Award

Kymber Rose Shultis

Alan Sierra Joya

Brieanna Simms

Karryn Smith

Brittany Spinelli

Ramel Sutton

Natalie Tejada..... Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship

Ciara Thoma

Gabriel Torres

Allison Weiner Instrumental Music, Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship, Seymour And Minnie Feldman Scholarship, Kiwanis Club Scholarship, THE MICHAEL LORINO PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARD, Mira Anderson Memorial Award, The Resnick Group Scholarship, Samuel Beytin • Eugene Feldman • Trudy Kapito • Gussie Kasofsky • Arthur Townsend • Abe Wasserman • Sandra Williams SGA Memorial Scholarship

Nia White



Fallsburg's Hall of Fame Welcomes Three New Members

The Fallsburg Hall of Fame is pleased to announce the induction of its three newest members: Martin Van Vleet, Mel Mednick, and Gavin DeGraw. The achievements of these men will be honored at a 10:00 AM brunch on the morning of June 28th, 2015 at the Fallsburg High School Gymnasium just hours prior to the Graduation of the Class of 2015.

A 1954 graduate of Fallsburg Central High School, **Martin Van Vleet** was a long-time guidance counselor and basketball coach at his alma mater from 1963 until he retired in 1991 as the winningest Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach in the school's history. His 345 wins still remain unmatched. Among these triumphs are eight DUSO League championships and three Section IX titles. On and off the court Mr. Van Vleet was well respected as a gentleman, a wonderful competitor and a mentor to the young people that he coached and counseled. He passed away in 2011 while still involved in coaching the youth of Sarasota, Florida.

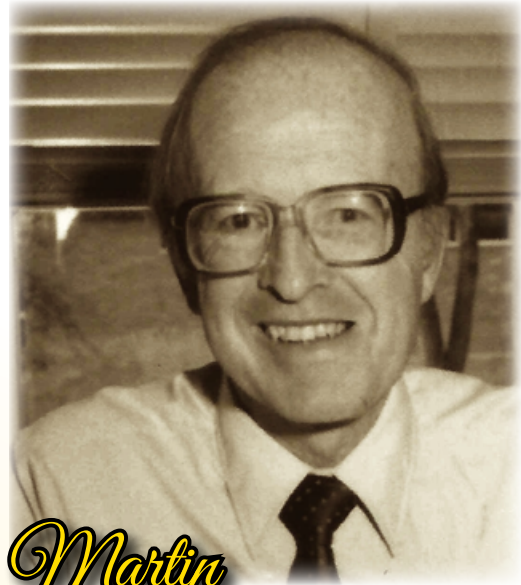
Mel Mednick served the Fallsburg Central School District with distinction for over twenty-five years as a counselor, a mentor, a director of plays, a coach, and as a Board of Education member. His work to curb drug and alcohol problems in the town and the Sullivan County community in the early 1980's led him to create the "**We Are Family**" Program that brought hundreds of school students, staff, and families together for over ten years to educate and support young people to make positive life decisions. The program became a model for many other school districts in Sullivan County to raise awareness to the scourge of drugs.

Mel brought a chapter of Students against Drunk Driving (SADD) to the school district, and he introduced a program of peer counseling so students could mentor their classmates. After retirement, he continued his work in the district by serving a couple of terms on the Board of Education until his death in 2009.

Gavin DeGraw is a platinum award winning recording artist and song writer. He learned to play the piano and sing as an eight year old at Fallsburg's Benjamin Cosor Elementary School. After graduating Fallsburg High School in 1995 and attending college for a few years, Gavin set out on his dream to become a professional musician and performer. In 2003 at the age of twenty-six, he became a well-known song writer with the hit song, "**I Don't Wanna Be**". This was the theme song for a popular teen television series, "**One Tree Hill**", and made Gavin DeGraw's name familiar to millions of fans throughout the world. The song is a reflection of his growing up in Fallsburg and acknowledges the life of his father, who was a prison guard at one of the Fallsburg prisons, and his mother, who was a drug detox specialist.

Gavin DeGraw has become an unofficial ambassador for Fallsburg whenever he shares about his upbringing in the town during television interviews and his concerts. He has acknowledged the Fallsburg schools for nurturing his early interest in music and for helping kindle the passion to pursue his career. Current FHS music teacher John Lusk remembers Gavin with these words, "No one from Fallsburg ever dreamed a more audacious dream than Gavin DeGraw. He wanted to make it big and he did." By practicing, learning, persevering, and practicing some more, he is a role model to Fallsburg students today.

These three plaques will soon join those of Jack Leshner and Joe LaRuffa in the Hall of Fame Display Case in the lobby of Fallsburg High School for all to enjoy. Family members and some close friends of the inductees will be on hand for the brunch on June 28. Unfortunately, because Gavin DeGraw is returning from a tour in Japan on that day, he will not be present. He has been invited to come up to his alma mater during the next few months and see his plaque, when his busy schedule permits.





On June 12th, Leah Exner and 18 of her 3rd grade students performed in the B.C.E.S. Talent Show which was held at The High School. The students danced to the song One from A Chorus Line. The students gave up part of their recess for four weeks to work on the choreography of the kick line and the timing of the five minute finale to the talent show. Missy Perna volunteered to apply face painting to all students and also helped with part of the costumes. Kayla Norris donated fabric paints so the class could design their own shirts. Thanks to The PTA and Administration of BCES for their support!

Fallsburg Alumni Association

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REUNION AND LUNCH BUFFET



Saturday, July 18, 2015
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM



The Woodridge Municipal Hall
2 Dairyland Road, Woodridge, NY 12789

Join former staff and students for our annual meet and greet in the eleventh year of continuing our mission to award FAA Scholarships to deserving seniors. We will also honor a staff member and a community member.

RSVP BY PHONE: (845) 434-5371

RSVP BY E-MAIL: alumni-cileen@hotmail.com

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: www.fallsburgcsd.net

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN BY JULY 10, 2015

FALLSBURG ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Eleventh Annual Alumni Reunion
Fallsburg Central Schools, PO Box 124, Fallsburg, NY 12733

NAME _____

Admission: \$13.00 per person or 2 for \$25.00 (includes a light lunch)

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING _____ \$ _____ (see above)

DONATION TO FAA SCHOLARSHIP FUND \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: **FALLSBURG ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Please note that due to construction at the school buildings, we will be holding this event at the Woodridge Municipal Hall.

2015-2016 FCSD CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31				

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				

 SCHOOL CLOSED
 CONFERENCE DAY
 REGENTS EXAMS
 GRADES 3, 4 - 8 TESTING

SCHOOL CLOSED

SEP	.....14, 23
OCT	.....12
NOV	.....11, 25-27
DEC	.....24-31
JAN	.....1, 18
FEB	.....15
MAR	.....21-28
MAY	.....30

SCHOOL DAYS

SEP	.....14	+ 1 CONF
OCT	.....19	+ 2 CONF
NOV	.....17	
DEC	.....17	
JAN	.....19	
FEB	.....20	
MAR	.....17	
APR	.....21	
MAY	.....21	
JUN	.....17	+ 1 CONF

TOTAL **182** + **4 CONF.**

MAKE-UP DAYS

DAY 1	.....Nov 25
DAY 2	.....FEB 15
DAY 3	.....MAR 21
DAY 4	.....MAR 22
DAY 5	.....MAR 23
DAY 6	.....MAR 24
DAY 7	.....MAR 28

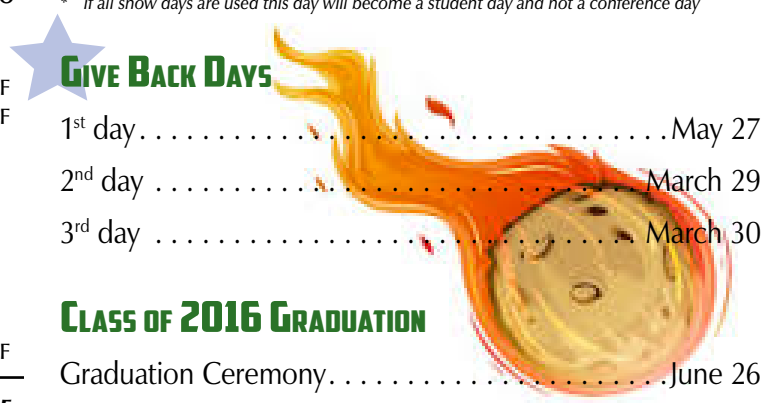
* if all snow days are used this day will become a student day and not a conference day

GIVE BACK DAYS

1 st day	.....May 27
2 nd day	.....March 29
3 rd day	.....March 30

CLASS OF 2016 GRADUATION

Graduation Ceremony.....June 26



FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

115 BRICKMAN ROAD • PO Box 124 • FALLSBURG, NY 12733-0124

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MS. DEBRA BARBIANI • MS. ANN BENSON • MR. JOSEPH COLLURA • MS. ARLENE HUSSEY
MS. KATHERINE RAPPAPORT • MS. VALERIE SITZ-MAHMOUD • MS. SONIA WARD
MR. ROBERT WHITAKER • MR. SHAWN WILES

Visit us at www.fallsburgcsd.net

CONTACTS

PHONENUMBERS...

Dr. Ivan J. Katz • Superintendent 434-6800 Ext. 1215

Dr. Matthew T. Evans • Assistant Superintendent 434-6800 Ext. 1204

Mr. Daniel Grecco Jr. • Business Manager 434-6800 Ext. 1219

Mr. Keith Edwards • Director of Technology 434-6800 Ext. 1258

Ms. Jane Tingley • Director of Staff Evaluation
& Student Data. 434-6800 Ext. 1257

Ms. Heather Hendershot • Pupil Personnel Director. 434-6800 Ext. 1273

Mr. Michael Williams • High School Principal 434-6800 Ext. 2206

Mr. Frank Godlewski • High School Asst. Principal. 434-6800 Ext. 2207

Ms. Mary Kate Stinehour • Elementary Principal 434-4110 Ext. 3206

Mr. David Viglione • Elementary Asst. Principal 434-4110 Ext. 3204

Ms. Suzanne Lenzian • Director of Phys. Ed & Athletics. . 434-6800 Ext. 2212

Central Registration. 434-6800 ext. 1222

Tax Collection 434-6800 Ext. 1219

FAXNUMBERS...

Superintendent 434-8346

Business Office 434-0418

High School 434-0168

Jr./Sr. HS Nurse 434-3821

SCHOOL ADDRESSES...

Fallsburg Central School District Office & Fallsburg Jr./Sr. High School

115 Brickman Road • PO Box 124
Fallsburg, NY 12733-0124

Benjamin Cosor Elementary School

15 Old Falls Road • PO Box 123
Fallsburg, NY 12733-0123

WEBSITE: www.fallsburgcsd.net

If you want to notify the tax collector with a change of address, you can now e-mail that information to: tax@fallsburgcsd.net.

FALLSBURG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICERS 2015-2016

S.G.A. Executive Council

President - Brendon Sapolsky
Vice President - Stephanie Perna
Treasurer- Gisselle Cabellero
Secretary - Emily Kirtack-Daleo
Chief Justice- Joshua Malman

(2016) Senior Class

President - Gisselle Caballero
Vice President - Brooke Sapolsky
Treasurer - Morgan Williams
Secretary - Johnny Brown
Reps - TBD

(2017) Junior Class

President - Brittany Leventoff
Vice President - Liliana Moody
Treasurer - Aliza Santos
Secretary - Mary Elizabeth Kellerman
Reps - TBD

(2018) Sophomore Class

President - Jennifer Davila
Vice President - Rachel Collura
Treasurer - Julia Batista
Secretary - Sadie Caballero
Reps - TBD

(2019) Freshmen Class

President - Samantha Perna
Vice President - Kassi Zuewsky
Treasurer - Hayley Weiner
Secretary - TBD
Reps - TBD

(2020) 8th Grade

President - Amanda Zeno
Vice President - Faith Colombo
Treasurer - Cindy Granados
Secretary - Michael DiCarlo
Reps - TBD

(2021) 7th Grade

President - Athan Zeno
Vice President - Elim Granados
Treasurer - Gianna Matthews
Secretary - Cyrus Spears
Reps - TBD

