

# YOUR SCHOOLS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKVILLE CENTRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## Inside This Issue

- ACE overview
- Stefan B. Lichter Memorial Scholarship recipient
- School roundup

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### March

- 13 Board of Education—Budget Work Session
- 20 Board of Education—Regular Meeting

### April

- 1 2012-2013 Applications due for non-public transportation
- 3 Board of Education—Public Work Session
- 6-13 Schools Closed—Easter/Passover Recess
- 17 Board of Education — Regular Meeting and Preliminary Budget Hearing

### May

- 1 Board of Education— Budget Hearing and Public Work Session
- 8 Candidates Forum
- 15 Annual Election and Budget Vote
- 22 Board of Education—Regular Meeting

## RVC Schools' Winter ACE Program Provides Fun for Students!

Students from Grades K-5 have been attending the RVC Schools' Winter ACE Program on Saturdays since January 21<sup>st</sup>. Over 25 enrichment courses are offered for seven Saturdays at South Side Middle School. Each student

is encouraged to expand his/her imagination and have fun while learning. Courses include: gymnastics, cooking, cupcake decorating, Italian language and culture, watercolor painting, yoga, sewing, Lego club, and mad science.

ACE Co-Directors, Therese Cohen and Darren Raymar, are excited to see how many students are participating in this valuable program. Since most of the classes are taught by RVC teachers, the students also enjoy seeing their teachers in a whole new light on Saturdays!



*Pictured (L to R): Director of the Arts Brian Zuar, Dominick Masotti, Stephanie Masotti, Scholarship recipient Daniel Masotti, Carolyn Lichter and Aaron Lichter*

Congratulations to SSMS 8th grader, Daniel Masotti, who is this year's recipient of the Stefan B. Lichter Memorial Scholarship. Dan is a member of the orchestra playing in the bass section as well as a member of the jazz band where he plays guitar. Dan was selected as a Bass player in the Long Island String Festival this year and continues to be an indispensable part of the music program.

The Lichters set up this scholarship in 1993 in memory of their late son, Stefan, who was an avid student musician, playing the trombone in South Side's Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble. Students may use their scholarship for lessons, a summer music program or toward purchase of an instrument. Donations to the Stefan B. Lichter Memorial fund may be mailed to Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Lichter, 8 Muirfield Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570



# School Roundup

## COVERT



The month of February brings the celebration of Literacy Week to Covert Elementary School. "Express Yourself Through Literacy," the kickoff assembly is one of the highlights of the week. Students wear T-shirts they create using three words to describe themselves, while the adults in the building did the same. The assembly started off with a PowerPoint of each student proudly wearing their shirt. Another student favorite is pajama day and the bagel breakfast. The week concluded with an assembly revealing the results of the writing and poster contests. The winners were announced and then asked to share their winning writing piece with the school. Author Darren Sardelli brought his poetry to life with the children on two consecutive days during the week to encourage writing and enjoying poetry. Literacy Week is something that all of the students and staff look forward to and once again it was a great success thanks to Mrs. DeMartino, Mrs. Boehm and the rest of the Literacy Week Committee.

## HEWITT

On January 26, Hewitt Elementary School students voluntarily chose to return to school in the evening to do math. During Hewitt's second annual Family Math Night students participated in about 20 hands-on, interactive math activities and games that incorporated measurement, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, area, perimeter, place value, fractions, money, patterns, geometry and more, all while playing with dice, bubbles, containers of rice, blocks, beanbags, straws, frogs, and shoes.



## RIVERSIDE

*Children's author Jeff Nathan sings and plays his guitar while he teaches Riverside's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade about poetry.*



Riverside Elementary School celebrated their annual reading week in a big way with the arrival of author Jeff Nathan! Jeff Nathan is the author of great books such as *There's a Bear in My Shoe* and *There's a Hippo in My Locker*. The CurricuLaughs Assembly consisted of sets of Language Arts themed programs designed for each individual grade level. Thanks to the Riverside AIM Committee, all who attended were treated to a very entertaining show, which included singing, dancing and poetry.

## WATSON



On February 1, 2012 STELLAR teacher Mrs. Montemarano collaborated with 4th grade teachers Mr. Gibbons and Ms. Starman to arrange an interactive learning experience with the New York State Historical Society and Farmer's Museum. The title of the conference was A Visit to the Mohawk Barkhouse.

During this virtual museum experience children got the chance to experience an authentic Native American longhouse that the Iroquois inhabited hundreds of years ago. Students also interacted with a museum curator and learned how the Iroquois utilized all aspects of nature for their survival.

The video conference proved to be an enriching way to supplement the fourth grade curriculum and the children enjoyed this opportunity to learn from an expert.



# School Roundup

## WILSON

Wilson School's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Staff/Student Scrabble Tournament took place on the afternoon of January 24, 2012. Mrs. Cohen's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Scrabble Club students paired up with Wilson staff members to compete against other student/staff member teams. Ten matches took place simultaneously... and a good time was had by all! Although there were no tangible prizes awarded, winning teams have bragging rights for days to come!



*Wilson Principal, Tom Ricupero and his partner, Justin Seplowe, played a rousing game against teacher, Sharon Giblin and her partner, Sean Grace. The Ricupero/Seplowe team came out victorious!*

## MIDDLE SCHOOL



A graduate of SSHS and the University of Massachusetts, Christina Ferrara is a trained dancer who has taught dance for 10 years. Currently Ms. Ferrara works with "The Pulse," a company of professional choreographers as she provides workshops for dancers across the country as well as Canada. Sharing her exuberance for movement and dance expression, Ms. Ferrara taught Hip Hop to the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders during their PE classes. Ms. Calderone remarked, "how enthusiastic and engaging Ms. Ferrara was with the students and how much fun they had learning the 'moves.' Her innovative Hip Hop steps had our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders MOVING!!"

## HIGH SCHOOL

On March 15,16,17 South Side High School will hold its 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Red and Blue meet. There are over 370 participants involved in Red and Blue this year. The 2012 captains are Margo Connolly and Chelsea Portenoy for the Red Team and Taylor Schwarting and Nicole Testa for the Blue team. Red and Blue is a long-standing school tradition at South Side that promotes and encourages school spirit, leadership, team work, responsibility and FUN for all participants. Everyone has been practicing for the past 6 weeks and looking forward to the performances. All the girls perform a dance, sing and participate in relays/games. You can watch the show on the school channel, live, on the nights of the show.







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The District has implemented a new communication process for emergency notifications. School closings and other urgent messages will be sent through ConnectEd, a telephone and email communication system. Contact information on file for students and staff will be utilized for these notifications. Other community members who wish to receive District-wide messages should send an email with their name, phone number and/or email address to [connected@rvcschools.org](mailto:connected@rvcschools.org) or send a letter to the Business Office in the Administration Building at 128 Shepherd Street, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 requesting to be added to this messaging list. Parents who would like to change their contact information should contact the main office of their child's school.



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