

# Rambling Reporter

February 2015

## ***SCCS Budget Process 2015-2016***

*by Patrick Jensen, Superintendent*

The SCCS budget process is well under way for the 2015-16 academic year. Initial budget discussions have focused on the impact of construction debt rolling off our books and cost increases associated with salary, benefits and other expenses.

The district anticipates a decline in debt service payments during the 2015-16 academic year of \$803,809, along with a corresponding decline in building aid revenue of \$913,860. The decline in both expense and revenue will occur as the district has decreased its overall debt load and has eliminated costs and revenue associated with debt refinanced back in 2002. The effect is much like a homeowner paying off a mortgage. As a result, the district anticipates a drop in the operating budget for the 2015-2016 academic year.

The SCCS Board of Education also continues to review projected expenses for 2015-2016 during their regularly scheduled meetings. The district anticipates an increase of contractual salary expenses of approximately \$115,000 while the cost of employee benefits will increase \$135,000. We also anticipate a drop of nearly \$140,000 in our portion of retirement-related expenses. As most budget lines will remain flat, one expense increase anticipated for the next school year would be costs associated with completing a state-mandated building conditions survey. The building conditions survey is completed every five years and serves as a guiding document for identifying building repairs and potential capital project work in the future. Fortunately, the cost of the building condition survey is reimbursed by the state the following year.

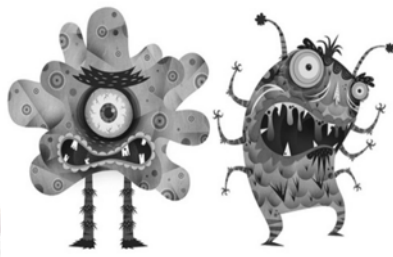
One of the unique challenges facing all districts across the state is the Governor's refusal to release state revenue projections for individual school districts. During Governor Cuomo's recent State of the State address, he outlined a number of initiatives and stated that he will not release district aid 'runs' and an additional \$1.1 billion in funding for public education without concessions in the areas of teacher evaluation, accountability and tenure.

The SCCS Board of Education will continue to reexamine costs and discuss specific strategies to lessen the burden to the local taxpayer. Upcoming Board meetings will take place on February 23, March 9, and March 23. In addition, community presentations will take place during the regularly scheduled town meetings in Genoa (March 11 @ 7pm), Scipio (March 11 @ 8pm) and Aurora (March 18 @ 7pm).

## Recommendations from the Health Office

The cold and flu season is upon us! I guess you would have to be living under a rock to not know that. So now that it is here, what can we do to protect ourselves? The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) has three recommendations for us to prevent the spread of the flu virus.

- The first recommendation is to get a flu vaccine. The vaccine protects against a few viruses that may be most common during the season. Even though this is not a guarantee, the vaccine can reduce illness as well as decrease severity of symptoms.
- Secondly, the CDC recommends that we all do what we can to prevent the spread of the flu virus such as avoiding contact with sick people, covering your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, avoid touching your nose and eyes and keep surfaces clean and disinfected. Additionally **the most important and effective way to prevent the spread of germs is to wash your hands frequently.** If water is not available, using an alcohol based hand sanitizer is the next choice.
- Finally, the third recommendation is that if you do contract the flu, take the antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them. These drugs may prevent serious complications and may lessen the impact of the illness.



If your child has a fever, they should stay home and only return to school 24 hours after they are fever free without using fever reducing medications. Teach them about hand washing, covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and to keep their hands away from their nose and mouth especially after touching surfaces. Our school staff is working hard to keep surfaces clean and sanitized. Let's all hope for an early spring.

Yours in good health,  
 June Janssen, RN  
 Middle/High School Health Office

Sharon Botsford, RN  
 Emily Howland Health Office

## Holiday Share

by Lindsay Herrling

A very big thank you goes out to everyone who helped make the Holiday Share a success! Thanks especially to Donna Wood, Carol Piechuta, Mary Ferro, Betsy Donald, Heather Quinn, Paul Wheeler, Jade Evener, Colton Evener, Emily Fedrizzi, Hailey Brown, Hayden Brown, Lin Jetty and Tricia Bowman. These elves put in countless hours to make Christmas special for our community. Thank you so much for your time and support.



### ***Congratulations to the Varsity Basketball Teams***

Boys' Varsity won the annual Cayuga County Holiday Tournament and the Girls' Varsity was runner-up.

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### ***The Southern Cayuga Boosters Club***

expresses their tremendous appreciation to the following supporters of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Annual Boosters Club Basketball Fundraiser!

Alec C. Gush, DDS, PC  
Ashland Farm, LLC  
Aurora Ridge Dairy, LLC  
Barn Warrior Crossfit  
Wayne and Tricia Bowman  
Cayuga Lake National Bank  
C-K Family Dental  
David J. Dempsey Insurance, LLC  
Dugan's Country Grill  
Farm Family Insurance, Wheelock Agency  
Genson Overhead Door, Inc.  
Helena Chemical Company  
Jackie Tyrrell, Insurance Agent/Broker, *Andrews Agency, Inc.*

King Ferry Golf Club  
Land of Lakes Realty, William and *Nathan Krause*  
Ledyard Farms  
Mary Beth Mahaney Photography  
Dan and Connie McGarr  
Miller Tilling  
Osterhoudt Farms  
R. Dean Winspear  
Re/Max in Motion, *Melissa Miller*  
Skillet & Embers  
Sunnyside Farms, Inc.  
Willet Dairy, LLC

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### ***Save the Date***

**What:** Chicken BBQ and Can & Bottle Drive

**When:** Friday, March 6, 2:30 pm until sold out

**Where:** SCCS; to benefit the Junior Prom and After Prom Party

## Parking Lot, Track and Lighting are Targets of SCCS Capital Project

December 10, 2014 from *The Source*

By Rachael Lamphier and Brianna Rosekrans

The Southern Cayuga Board of Education will embark on a \$3,000,000 capital improvement project this year that will fix the elementary school parking lot, resurface the school's running track, dredge the school's retention pond and help the district reduce energy usage. Years of drainage issues in and around the Emily Howland parking area at the south end of the Poplar Ridge building, as well as winter plowing and the use of salt, has left the elementary parking lot cracked and full of potholes. The project includes the replacement of the current drainage system beneath the parking lot and dredging the adjacent retention pond to improve overall drainage at the south end of the school. The running track is being resurfaced to avoid a more costly replacement of the track in the future.

Energy saving measures include the replacement of light fixtures throughout the school. Southern Cayuga Superintendent Patrick Jensen said current light fixtures have been in place since the building opened in the 1960s. Heating system modifications are also part of the energy savings portion of the project. The school is heated by hot water which is heated in a boiler and pumped through pipes throughout the school building. New pumps will vary the speed at which water is pumped through the pipes based on ambient temperature, thus reducing energy use during warmer periods of the heating season.

Eighty one percent of the \$3,000,000 project, or about \$2,430,000, will be reimbursed to the district by the New York State Department of Education, in the form of building aid. That leaves the school district to pay the remaining \$570,000.

According to Superintendent Jensen, the timing of the project allows the district to avoid incurring additional expense, as the retirement of another debt will make room in the district budget for the borrowing that will pay for the new project. The district will finish paying off one bond and replace it with another, allowing the project to have a neutral impact on the district's cash flow and tax levy.



*If the moon had water – this is what a lunar crater might look like. Instead, it is one of many potholes that dot the parking lot outside the Emily Howland Elementary School. A capital improvement project will repave the parking lot and address drainage issues that have caused the parking lot surface to deteriorate.*

The Emily Howland School Community is trying to win a contest to get Jan Brett, beloved author of so many wonderful picture books, to visit our school. To enter you must do two things:

“Like” Jan Brett’s Facebook page.

Go to the link on her Facebook page <https://app.wizehive.com/webform/jb2015> and fill out a form voting for Aurora, NY, and Southern Cayuga

Please help us gather votes! Spread the word to your family and friends and ask them to vote!





## *The SCCS Pool is Open!*

### **SCCS Family Swim Nights**

Mondays and Wednesdays  
when school is in session  
5:00 to 7:00 pm  
until May 27

\$3 per person or \$5 per family

### **POOL RENTALS**

The SCCS Pool is available for rent!  
Schedule your child's birthday party here!!

Contact:

Cathy Murray for information  
[murrayc@southerncayuga.org](mailto:murrayc@southerncayuga.org)



## *National Honor Society*

The **National Honor Society induction** will be held on Monday, March 23, at 6:00 pm.  
This is a change from the school calendar.

## *Both Ends of the Rainbow Art Exhibit*

This annual exhibit at the Schweinfurth Art Center in Auburn features work by students and senior citizens. There is also a display of items selected to be included in the *Three Lakes Sampler*, a visual/written collection of student work from schools in our BOCES consortium. This exhibit runs until March 15. Congratulations to our students for their contributions!

Emma Myers  
Jaide Cummings  
Jen O'Neil  
Catherine Kopp  
Crystal Vernon  
Abbey Johnson  
Hunter Park  
Bryce David  
Lindsey Kennedy  
Cole Park  
Evyn Klipple

Primrose Kirk  
Megan Bunnell  
Jacob Schmitt  
Geena Sheehy  
Samantha Halverson  
Sarah Robin  
Karlee Jordan  
Dan Davis  
Rachel Landon  
John Robin

Aimee Kreydatus  
Tristian Wahl  
Ian Murray  
Angel Montalvo  
Lilly Colton  
Kelsey LaFave  
Chris Morris  
Gabriel Diamond  
Emerald Lonsky  
Marissa Wiemann

Claire Rejman  
Beth Hebbard  
Conrad Murphy  
Keith Wasleff  
Jon Heath  
Maddie Reeves  
Jacob Calhoun  
Hunter Freary  
Gabe Lonsky  
Johnathan Lewis

## Technology in Action!

Mr. Holden and Mr. Scheffler

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Engineering by Design (EbD)

The eighth grade students have put the Maglev case study well behind them and we must admit the experience was quite exciting. The students learned about Electromagnetic suspension, magnetic polarity, electric motors, soldering, balance and aerodynamics to name a few concepts. The students now find themselves knee deep in material science. As a lead in to our project based learning “Where does all the trash go?” case study, the student teams are researching common materials and their characteristics in an effort to become better producers and consumers. With the help of Mrs. Kulis, the teams are organizing the information into various formats that will be presented using Apple TV.

### Principles of Engineering

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the engineering students are now completing a unit on the physics of car crashes. The student teams have calculated the energy absorption needs and are now testing their solutions on a track that is placed at inclines of 30, 45 and 60 degrees. The cars roll down the inclines and crash into a stone wall while being timed with photogates. To date all vehicles have safely carried their “Eggupants” down the track. As a bonus, the cars will ultimately be tested at 89½ degrees to simulate a roll over. All of the tests cause some tense moments but the student teams soon learn to trust their calculations. Our next case study will find the students battling other teams in a friendly contest of “Battle Bots.”

### Energy Applications

The Energy App students have completed their Wind Energy case study and this year we have witnessed some new records. We are currently watching Tom Reynolds (3 volts) and Jason K (2.8 volts) battle it out for the highest wattage output. (Wattage (power) = Volts x Amps) The individual students were tasked with designing and testing a model wind turbine that is measured for both voltage output and amperage flow. The “mills” could be either a vertical or horizontal configuration depending on the students’ desire. Either way, all of the students are finding out how important quality construction and balance are toward an efficient wind mill. The students easily related to wind energy as this clean/renewable energy has become more prevalent. Who knows, maybe one of these students will create a new design that will become marketable someday...



ESPN Ithaca has teamed up with Ehrhart Energy for our Fueling Excellence MVP Awards recognized during our 2014/15 High School sports broadcasts. Each Fueling Excellence MVP earns a \$50 donation in their name to their High School's Booster Club, courtesy of Ehrhart Energy. ESPN Ithaca Fueling Excellence male athlete of the week December 22-28, Justin Schneider. Female athlete of the week January 19-25, Emily Kopp.



## Skillet & Embers Dinner at SCCS Scored!

by Carin Kopp, SCCS Boosters Club

It was a promising day, one we had been planning for and anticipating for months. Of course the blizzard-like conditions with winds of up to 40 mph added to the excitement! But Southern Cayuga families are hardy folk and we trusted that the snowstorm wouldn't discourage them from attending the festivities.

Rupert Robbins, General Manager and Executive Chef at Skillet & Embers, along with his most trusted staff, shoveled out 'Clementine,' their snow-covered favorite smoker, cleaning her off for the job that would lie ahead. Nancie Arquette, Director of Events and Catering, was going through her lists, reviewing the multitude of things that needed tending before the dinner and a game.

Meantime, at Southern Cayuga High School, custodial staff was hard at work transforming the High School café into a five-star restaurant for the evening. Students were at the ready, waiting for their next assignment, whether it was carting in dishware or rolling silverware into napkins. It was almost 5:00 pm and SCCS Boosters Club members were ready – hoping guests would arrive and enjoy the feast that awaited them.



On Friday, January 30, Skillet & Embers, a subsidiary of the Inns of Aurora, hosted their 4<sup>th</sup> annual dinner at the Southern Cayuga High

School. The menu of smoked turkey, pot roast, bacon and cheddar mashed potatoes, along with sesame almond green beans, spoon bread and banana pudding, won high marks from all the attendees. And as neighbors and classmates visited together, many of our

guests caught up with Rupert and his staff, as they have become friends over the past years while attending the dinner.

"It is one of our favorite events of the year," said Rupert Robbins. "It is a



pleasure to create a menu that will surprise and hopefully delight our Southern Cayuga patrons. I particularly enjoyed visiting with guests who have attended the dinner over the years!" Sue Edinger, General Manager of the Inns of Aurora, added, "We take great pride in hosting this dinner as it is one way we can give back to a community that is an integral part of our business; so many of our neighbors are part of the team that makes the Inns of Aurora successful!"

The Junior Varsity Boys and Girls teams, along with Varsity Girls, played against Union Springs at 5:00, 6:30 and 8:00. Despite the terribly snowy conditions, the turnout was terrific for all the events. Attendees had the choice to attend the dinner or just the games, but most recognized a great opportunity when they saw it!! Even the most uncertain guest opted for the gourmet dinner as it was the best deal in town for \$7 per adult and \$4 for children. With upwards of 275 folks in attendance, the dinner was a tremendous success, with the proceeds benefiting the SCCS Boosters Club.

Your support helped the Boosters Club reach two important goals: to create ways for SCCS to strengthen the sense of community in Southern Cayuga and to raise funds to provide financial support to SCCS based clubs, academic classes and athletic programs through the school year. Thank you so very much for your generosity! We look forward to continuing our partnership with Skillet & Embers and the Southern Cayuga community in the future!

## Senior Project

By Emily Fedrizzi

Seniors are working on a yearlong project as part of English 12. The project helps seniors connect with a serious interest or what they would like to do after high school. Many students choose community service, working with a mentor in an area that interests them. There are three research components; regular reflective journals, the project itself and a presentation at the end summing up the year's work.

For my senior project I am making health kits for migrant workers who live in King Ferry during the summer months. We are looking for donations of personal health care items such as toothbrushes, washcloths and soap to help fill the kits. If you or your group is willing to help with this effort, contact/see Emily Fedrizzi at [efedrizzi@gmail.com](mailto:efedrizzi@gmail.com) or Mrs. Ferro at [ferrom@southerncayuga.org](mailto:ferrom@southerncayuga.org) or call SCCS 364-7111 ext 2314.

## Area Groups Donate TONS OF FOOD

For many years, the Southern Cayuga School District has been supporting its students through the Backpack Program, thanks to Teaching Assistant Mary Ferro who has been the SCCS coordinator for the program, and the King Ferry Food Pantry. Backpacks full of food go home on the weekends with students whose families are economically stressed.

The Anne Frank Tree Project has taken on the task of recruiting businesses and individuals who would like to support this worthy and much-needed program for the students and families in our community. With \$320 the King Ferry Food Pantry is able to buy ONE TON OF FOOD from the Food Bank of CNY.

Won't you join The Southern Cayuga Anne Frank Tree Project, Sunnyside Farms, Inc., Lifespan Therapies, PLLC, Barn Warrior CrossFit, Dr. Heather MacAdam of Aurora Community Medical Center, Cathy & Dick Burns, and the Southern Cayuga Teacher's Association by making a donation today? Make checks payable to GSCC King Ferry Food Pantry and send to PO Box 296, Aurora, NY 13026.



Did you know that every lunch meal we offer includes your choice of a fruit, a vegetable or the option to select both? Every grade level is encouraged to take at least a half cup of a fruit or vegetable every day at lunch due to the practice of "Offer versus Serve."

Current guidelines require that we offer a fruit or vegetable and research supports the consumption of these nutrition packed options that are colorful as well as full of vitamins, minerals and fiber. The option of "Offer vs Serve" is available to schools to encourage student choices while reducing waste. How does this concept work? When a student comes through the lunch line, they have the option to accept the entire meal as offered on the menu (with the required portion) or to choose only a half cup of a fruit or a vegetable along with their meal.

We offer various lunch menus that contain at least five components: meat or meat alternate, grain, vegetable, fruit and milk. We encourage the selection of at least three of the components, with one of them being at least a half cup of a fruit or vegetable, even though we offer up to a full cup depending on the grade level and type of vegetable on the menu. From this sample menu a student may choose to take the chicken patty on a bun and a half cup of pears or all of the items offered or other variations.

### Sample Lunch Menu:

Meat: Chicken Patty

Grain: On a Bun

Vegetable: Broccoli

Fruit: Pears

Milk: Fat free chocolate milk

## *Greetings from Emily Howland Elementary School!*

- Students in sixth grade are making e-portfolios, which is a website all about us! We use it to display the work we are most proud of for each subject. We will also use our e-portfolios to show our achievements to our families at the end of the year.
- First grade students did a unit on Fables & Folktales for most of November and December. We know these types of stories are fiction and often use animals as characters. We know that most of them have a lesson, also called a moral. We even wrote a book report on a tale called *The Two Dogs*. The ELA app we can all use to help with our phonics skill is *Lola's Alphabet Train*. For Christmas fun, we visited the Civic Center in Syracuse to watch the ballet *Dasher's Magical Gift*. Many of us were amazed at how a live ballet theater looked and sounded.
- Second grade students have been learning about the Human Body. We were excited to have Christine Brozon, a certified trainer and owner of Barn Warrior Crossfit in Aurora, talk to us about nutrition and exercise. She showed us some exercises and shared some insight into how our muscles help us move. We were happy and excited to have her and delighted in the yummy treat that followed! Thanks again to Mrs. Brozon.



*Skating makes Arieanna happy! Chris & Payton love skating.*

- Emily Howland students had a week of roller skating lessons in January and a roller skating party at the end. It was awesome!
- Students in grades 3-6 in Mrs. Furness' physical education classes completed their basketball unit and should have brought home an "I Can" sheet and their "Pistol Pete's Pack" checklist.

## *Kindergarten Registration*

**Kindergarten Registration** will be held **Friday May 15, 2015**, at the **Emily Howland Elementary School from Noon to 3:45pm**. A child must be five (5) years old on or before December 1, 2015, to be eligible to start school. Under current law, children who turn six (6) after December 1, 2015, must begin school no later than the first day of school the following September.

Our mailing for next year's incoming kindergarten students will be sent at the beginning of March. If your child is eligible for kindergarten, and you didn't receive a letter, please call the school at 364-7284.

**Pre-Kindergarten informational night** will be **Wednesday April 1**, from 6:30 – 7:30 pm at Emily Howland Elementary School cafeteria. Children who turn four (4) on or before December 1, 2015, are eligible to attend our pre-kindergarten program. Mailing will be sent in the beginning of March. If your child is eligible for pre-kindergarten next fall, and you didn't receive a letter, please call the school at 364-7284.

## Anne Frank Tree Branches Out Human Rights: Can One Person Make a Difference?

This year's theme for the Southern Cayuga Anne Frank Tree Project is "Human Rights: Can One Person Make a Difference?" In the true spirit of the project, we are branching out to explore ways to "cultivate and promote understanding, tolerance and justice within our community and in our society." Since a sister sapling will be planted this fall at Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, where an important milestone of integration occurred, we chose to highlight the broader concept of human rights this year.

As of this writing, three events have already occurred at SCCS for students and/or community. In October, high school students were visited by Laurel Marshall and Jose Gomez of the non-governmental organization (NGO) Fundahmer in El Salvador. Laurel, a three-year volunteer with Fundahmer, walked students through a history of El Salvador and spoke with them about her journey from a high school, then college student unsure of her path to a 25 year old woman deeply involved in helping young Salvadorans bring their communities to a more sustainable and educated place.

On November 6-8, the Drama Department performed *Irena's Vow*, the true story of a young Polish woman

who risked everything to bring safety and hope to those who faced hatred in occupied Poland. The AFT project sponsored Irena's daughter, Jeannie Smith-Opdyke, in speaking after each performance. These were well-performed and powerful evenings.

On January 8, Emily Howland students were treated to The Catskill Puppet Theatre production of "The Town That Fought Hate." Amazing puppetry told a true story of how people of all faiths and races in Billings, Montana, worked together to peacefully show a hate group they would not tolerate threats to the minorities in their town.



Please see the schedule of events below! Stay tuned for exact dates of some of the later events. Of course, this all takes time and money. While the school provides security and care for the tree, almost all related

events are funded by independent contributions. Feel free to join the committee by contacting Bill Zimpfer at [zimpferw@southerncayuga.org](mailto:zimpferw@southerncayuga.org) or Danielle Natoli at [natolid@southerncayuga.org](mailto:natolid@southerncayuga.org), or you can contribute by sending a check to the SCCS business office, care of Beverly Buisch, written to SCAFTP.

## Southern Cayuga Anne Frank Tree Project Coming Events

February 13; SUNY Buffalo Drama Presentation for high school students: *Dear Me*

March Community Movie Night: *Paper Clips*; 6:00 FREE pizza; 6:30 FREE movie

April 13-17; Holocaust Remembrance Week; school-wide activities

April Community Read, with May 6, 7:00 pm, discussion at SCCS high school: *A Mighty Long Way*:

*My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School*

May -- 8th Grade Field Trip to Safe Haven Museum in Oswego

May -- Traveling exhibit; TBD

June 12 -- Anne Frank Tree Birthday Celebration at Emily Howland Elementary School

## Mini Courses

by Tim Amory; photos by Joan Troiani

Fifth graders traveled to Cayuga Community College in January to participate in the annual presentation of Mini Courses. This program, which is open to all the School Districts in our BOCES consortium, and part of the Talented and Gifted Program, is a unique educational experience that includes a wide variety of workshops presented by local professionals, artists and craftspeople. Southern Cayuga students were grouped with students from other districts.

Students had the opportunity to work in a college science lab, design a rollercoaster, create drawings based on Aboriginal Culture or the artist M.C. Escher, as well as weave a basket out of reeds, learn magic and investigate reliability and validity of web pages. The instructors presented the statistics relating to baseball, a history of rock and roll, pop-up books, meteorology, a taste of Ireland and floral arranging.

The students benefited from the exposure to a wide spectrum of subject matter, as well as having the opportunity to travel to a college campus and be part of a program that includes students from other schools within the learning environment. The Mini Courses are a multi-dimensional learning opportunity, providing an environment that supports a variety of learning styles and personal interests.



## Author Visit

by Meghan Mason

On November 13 the fourth graders were visited by a wonderful author, Joseph Bruchac, who wrote *Eagle Song* (a book which is a part of our ELA module). The students had been studying Native Americans for several weeks and were very enthusiastic about his visit. He shared the writing process and emphasized the importance of re-writing and editing.

Mr. Bruchac is an award-winning author who has written over 120 books for kids and adults. In addition to sharing about his writing, Mr. Bruchac shared his love of singing and musical instruments, as well as his knowledge of Native American culture. We are very thankful that he took time out of his busy schedule to visit us and greatly appreciate Mrs. Signor, who made this all possible.

## ***School Board Elections***

Are you interested in being a school board member, helping to shape the school district for years to come? Do you have the time to give and the devotion to make our schools a place of great expectations and great results? Your knowledge, talents and abilities can serve the children of our district and make our community residents proud of our educational programs.

Please call or visit the district office for a petition, which must be signed in ink by at least 25 district voters, and returned to the district clerk in the business office no later than 5:00 on Monday, April 20. Election day is Tuesday, May 19.

School board seats carry three-year terms. A candidate for the school board must be a qualified voter of the school district, must be able to read and write, must be a resident of the district for at least one year prior to the election and cannot be employed by the board on which they serve. New school board members are required to complete financial management training.

There are two three-year terms ending this school year.

**Junior High Student Council** held a holiday spirit week before December vacation. Students paid one dollar to wear holiday socks, pajamas, hats and ugly sweaters. The money raised went to the local fire department. The students raised \$75. Way to go, junior high students!

## ***Fifteenth Annual Family Science Night***

**Thursday, March 19, 2015, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm**

**Emily Howland Cafeteria**

Students in kindergarten through grade 8 are encouraged to participate. Projects can include, but are not limited to, energy demonstrations, chemistry experiments, model building, long-term plant experiments, physical science demonstrations, hands-on activities, animal experiments and much more. The projects don't have to be big, elaborate or time consuming. The purpose of Science Night is promoting interest in science-related topics.

If your student is interested, watch for the permission form being sent home with students; then send it in to his/her homeroom teacher or Mr. Benenati. Or send an email with the name of your student's homeroom teacher in the message line. He/she will then receive a Registration Packet containing information about what topic to choose, the details of setting up and how to register for Science Night. All Registration Forms are due to Mr. Benenati by March 7.

Parents, if you'd like to be part of the planning and preparation committee for this event, please send a note with your child to the attention of Mr. Benenati; include an email address if you have one. You don't need to be able to attend meetings to help us. Let's make this Family Science Night bigger than last year's. Let the ideas start formulating!! If school is cancelled, the date will be Thursday, March 26, 2015.

For more information, contact Mr. Benenati at [benenatif@southerncayuga.org](mailto:benenatif@southerncayuga.org) or send a note.

*Good Luck! Get those creative ideas flowing!*



## Health and Wellness

by Jane Manning

Have you ever tried a yoga class? You now have a chance to participate in this multi-purpose exercise at SCCS HS. Yoga is an ancient practice with origins stretching back thousands of years. It is an exercise designed to help improve many areas of overall health, providing varied types to choose depending on what your goals are for taking yoga. Some types of yoga focus on relaxation, meditation and increased sense of peace. Others focus on strengthening the mind and body through intense and challenging poses. Many types of yoga fall somewhere between those two.

Jane Manning, High School Counselor, is a certified Yoga Instructor. She has begun offering yoga classes to both students and adults. On Mondays from 2:30-3:30 students are able to attend a free class. If students have their own yoga mat, they should bring it to class. On Wednesdays from 4-5 there is an adult class for faculty, staff and community members, with a cost of \$10. For more information please email Jane at [man-ningj@southerncayuga.org](mailto:man-ningj@southerncayuga.org). If you are looking for good reasons to take a yoga class, here are just a few:

1. It's a great workout
2. Yoga helps reduce the negative effects and reactions to stress
3. Yoga helps you focus

## Aurora Free Library

**Preschool Storytime** is on Wednesdays at 9:30.  
Doors open at 9:00. All children and their caregivers are welcome!

**Southern Cayuga Book Club** discussions at 7:15 pm.  
Call the library for meeting location.

March 4 -- *The First of July* by Elizabeth Speller

April 1 -- *Left Neglected* by Lisa Genova

Check [aurorafreelibrary.org](http://aurorafreelibrary.org) and Facebook for up-to-date events or email [aurorali@rochester.rr.com](mailto:aurorali@rochester.rr.com)

Thanks to all who have contributed to our annual appeal! Your gifts are very much appreciated!

## Hazard Library

**Story Hour** is held every Tuesday that SCCS is in session; beginning at 9:30 am.

On February 7 we celebrated "Take Your Child to the Library Day" with music by Carol Fearon on her banjo, winter crafts with Miss Lisa and learned sign language related to winter from Michele Westfall. Thanks to all who attended.

During the first week of February we helped Emily Howland Elementary School celebrate "I Love to Read" month by hosting visits from each grade level at the Aurora Free Library. More activities are planned throughout the month.

We will be planning an activity for the April break in conjunction with the Poplar Ridge ambulance. More information available soon.

### Hazard Library

2487 State Route 34B  
Poplar Ridge NY 13139  
Phone 315-364-7975  
[www.HazardLibrary.org](http://www.HazardLibrary.org)  
[librarian@hazardlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@hazardlibrary.org)  
Facebook Hazard Library Association  
Tuesday 9 to noon and 2 to 8  
Thursday 1 to 8  
Saturday 9 to 2

### Aurora Free Library

370 Main Street  
Aurora NY 13026  
Phone 315 364-8074  
[www.aurorafreelibrary.org](http://www.aurorafreelibrary.org)  
[aurorali@rochester.rr.com](mailto:aurorali@rochester.rr.com)  
Facebook Aurora Free Library  
Monday & Friday 3 to 8  
Wednesday 10 to noon AND 3 to 6  
Saturday 10 to 3

## PTO Corner

by Brenda Meade

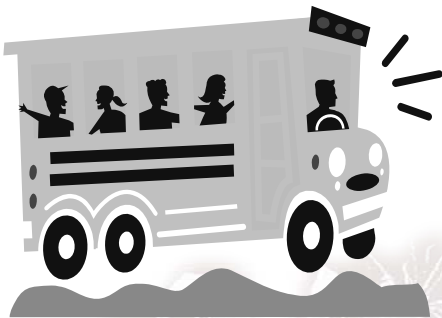
The PTO continues to be busy. Our clothing sale was a huge success. We have had requests to do it again. Look for information coming out in February.

We continue to fund more grant requests. Many children have had their education enhanced by these grants. Emily Howland students were able to enjoy skating in gym class and a skating party. Ninth graders met and listened to area poets. Please continue to participate in our fund raisers, so we can continue to fund activities for the children.

Save the date! **2nd Annual Community Activity Night - April 17, 2015, 6-9 pm.**

We will have the Wells College basketball and soccer teams and coaches on hand to offer a skills clinic, the pool will be open for swimming and many more activities. Please plan to join us for a relaxing fun evening.

If you have any PTO questions or would like information about PTO, please contact President Brenda Meade at (315) 364-6727.



## School Transportation Requests Due April 1

Parents wanting transportation to and from private and parochial schools and daycare need to submit their application requests to their home school district by April 1 for the 2015/16 school year. Parents must file an application every year, even if they are currently receiving transportation services. For further information please contact the district office or the transportation department.

Thanks for your continued support of **Labels for Education** and **Box Tops for Education**. Please include the entire portion of the label and send these items to the elementary school office.



## The SCCS BackPack Program — Thanks for your continued support!



Children who are identified as being at risk of hunger are given a bag of child-friendly, nutritious food each Friday to help diminish hunger on weekends.

Once they graduate, students who participated in the Backpack Program are referred to the King Ferry Food Pantry for further assistance. The same foods available in the Backpack Program are available at the food pantry, and more.

Support for the food pantry comes from the local community in the form of cash contributions, food drives and volunteers. Contact Debbie Patrick at (315) 497-2049 to see how you can help!



## Swimming Lessons

**WHO:** All SCCS students K-6

**WHAT:** American Red Cross Swimming Lessons (Levels I-VII)

**WHEN:** Session II **Mondays, April 13 to May 18**  
**Wednesdays, April 15 to May 20**

**WHERE:** SCCS Pool-Poplar Ridge Building

**COST:** \$30 per student per session or \$60 for both days

**TRANSPORTATION:** Students at Emily Howland will be met in the cafeteria and escorted to the pool and locker rooms where they will prepare for lessons. At 4:45 all students MUST be signed out and picked up by a parent or guardian. If students are signed out by someone other than the person on the registration form a note must accompany that student. (Students are welcome to stay for community swim with a permission slip and an adult present by 5:00 pm)

**BRING:** swimsuit, towel, hair tie/cap for long hair (goggles are also helpful to many)

**DO NOT BRING:** toys, food/gum, band aids or glass

**QUESTIONS:** Contact Cathy Murray, 364-7111 ext 2256, 730-7087(cell)  
or [murrayc@southerncayuga.org](mailto:murrayc@southerncayuga.org)

**Registration: \*\*\*Send completed registration form with exact payment to student's teacher. Checks made out to SCCS Swim. No late registrations will be accepted!! Space is limited to 40 for each day.**

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: \*March 27 or 40 Registrants (whichever comes first)**

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ BUS # \_\_\_\_\_

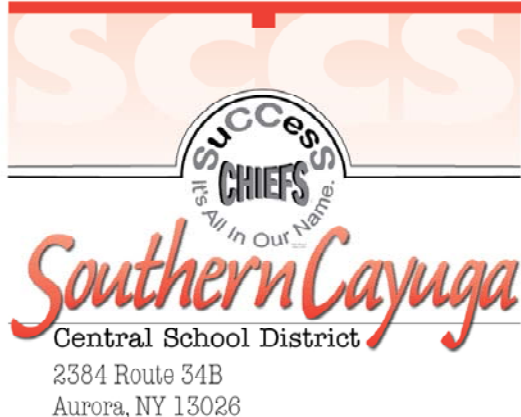
SWIMMING LEVEL IF KNOWN (circle one) non 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Program Choice: MONDAYS WEDNESDAYS BOTH ☒

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_ to stay for Swimming Lessons  
from/to \_\_\_\_\_ (dates).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



**Box Holder or  
Rural Route**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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Permit No. 1  
Poplar Ridge, NY  
13139



## Rambling Reporter

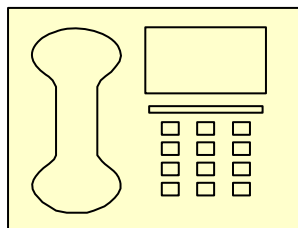
### *SCCS Board of Education*

President: Ann LaFave  
Vice President: Dave Wiemann  
Members:  
Susan Gloss  
Dave Harvatine  
Bruce Kopp  
Larry VanDeValk  
Dean Winspear

### *District Phone Numbers*

District Office	364-7211
Business Office	364-8711
Director of Special Education	364-5570
Jr/Sr High School Office	364-7111
Emily Howland Office	364-7098
Athletic Office	364-5924
Bus Garage	364-8652

*Board of Education agendas and minutes can be found on our website. [www.southerncayuga.org](http://www.southerncayuga.org)*



### *School Messenger*

Please be sure the district has your correct emergency contact information, including your phone number(s), email address and mailing address. You can add or revise your information from a link on our website, or by calling 315 364-7111, ext 2114.