

Rambling Reporter

February 2019

The 2019-2020 school budget vote is May 21, 2019, and now is a great time for you to get acquainted with the Southern Cayuga Central School budget-building process. As always when constructing the school budget, we review ways to conserve and reduce, while staying dedicated to providing our students and community with an environment conducive to personal and academic excellence. We do this by understanding all revenue options and by making sure that every dollar matters and is being spent wisely. We are pleased to announce, once again this year, the NYS Comptroller's Office has given SCCS a favorable report, issuing us the lowest possible rating (0%) in regards to fiscal stress. This indicates that Southern Cayuga continues on the right path to maintain financial solvency.

Over the last couple of months, the Board of Education has been reviewing the projected revenues and expenses for the 2019-2020 school year. In January the District received the first state aid projections based on Governor Cuomo's State of the State address. According to these projections SCCS is forecasted to receive a very minimal increase in foundation aid; less than a percentage point. The projections are estimates until the New York State budget is finalized and enacted. Meanwhile, the SCCS budget is built, taking into consideration not only the projections, but also past trends with aid and revenues. The budget projects modest increases in maintenance costs, contractual salaries as well as debt service. However, some salary increases are expected to be offset with future retirements while debt service

increases are offset by the increase in building aid to be received. A decrease in benefit costs is expected due to retirements and a decrease in percentages paid to both the teachers retirement system and the support staff retirement system.

As you may know, every school district and municipality has its own property tax-cap limit based on a formula that was part of NYS law passed in 2011. Over the last several years, the Board of Education has been able to stabilize our tax levy increases and keep the increase below our tax cap each year, thus keeping tax rates low. This year the SCCS tax cap is 1.6 percent and once again, we do not expect to exceed this limit.

SCCS strives for parents, students, staff, and community members to understand why and how the administration and school board arrive at the final budget to be presented for public vote. We encourage all to attend Board of Education meetings to learn more about the impending budget for 2019-2020.



Adalyn Sheils, kindergarten

Important dates for the budget process

Regular Board Meetings March 11 & 25; April 8 & 24
Budget Hearing May 13
Budget Vote & Election of Board Candidates May 21



SCCS Athletics Hall of Fame — Congratulations to our 2019 inductees!

The second annual SCCS Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony was held on Friday, January 25, between the varsity girls' and varsity boys' basketball games. Student athletes Kara Kopp and Chris Hilliard were inducted, along with long-time coach and athletic director Terry Underwood.

Kara Kopp, Class of 2005, was a standout soccer, indoor track and track athlete. Outdoor track is where she excelled; Kara was a six-time IAC champion and a four-time Class C/D sectional champion. She qualified for the NYS meet four times, earning four medals. She continues to hold the school record in the 100, 200, 400, 4 x 100 relay, 4 x 200 relay, the distance medley relay and the pentathlon. In indoor track she was also successful, being a three-time Class C/D champion and 300-meter Section IV champion. She qualified for the state meet three times. In soccer she was an IAC All-Star twice. Kara lives in Washington DC and was unable to attend the ceremony. Accepting the award on her behalf were her parents Joanne & Steve Kopp.



Chris Hilliard, class of 2006, was also a standout in track and soccer. In outdoor track he was a six time IAC champion and a sectional class C champion in the pentathlon and 110 high hurdles. He was on the podium four times at the state qualifying meet and went to states three times, earning one medal. He currently holds school records in the 110 high hurdles, 400 hurdles, high jump and pentathlon. He is in the All-SC top ten in 12 out of 15 events. In indoor track he was the class C/D champion three times. At state qualifiers he was the 55 hurdles champion once. He competed at states twice. He currently has the school record in the 55 hurdles, long jump, triple jump, high jump, shot put, pentathlon and 4 x 800 relay. In soccer he was an IAC All-Star twice. Accepting the award on Chris' behalf were his parents Charles & Sue Hilliard, along with his three daughters.

Continued on the next page . . .

Terry Underwood taught physical education, coached a variety of sports, was the physical education department chairman and was athletic director. He started at SC in 1979. Terry coached JV boys' soccer for 15 years before moving over to the varsity boys' team, which he coached for 16 years. His teams won seven straight division titles and one IAC championship. In sectionals his teams made the finals four times, earning one sectional championship. Terry also coached basketball. His varsity boys' teams won four division titles and one IAC championship in twelve years. He also coached the varsity girls, modified girls and modified boys. In the spring Terry coached golf (13 years) JV baseball, modified baseball, modified softball and tennis. His golf teams captured three IAC championships and were sectional runner up three times. Terry is most proud of watching the student athletes grow as athletes and as young adults.



ESPN Ithaca Athletes of the Week during the Winter season

Catie Kopp, girls' varsity basketball, was named Athlete of the Week for the week of November 26 to December 1 for her stellar play versus Cato Meridian. She led the team to a season opening win with 22 points, 15 steals and 9 assists.

Joe Angotti, boys' varsity swimming, was named Athlete of the Week for the January 28 to February 2 for outstanding races versus Lansing. Joe won four first places with individual wins in the 200 IM (2:08.66) and 100 Breaststroke (1:10.07). He was also a member of two winning relay teams, the 200 free relay and the 400 free relay.

If you would like to listen to their radio interviews go to:
<https://espnithaca.com/high-school-sports/fueling-excellence-athletes/>



An ENORMOUS THANK YOU to the Scipio Volunteer Fire Company for their donation of snow pants for Emily Howland's students. Nobody wants to miss recess, and now our students can borrow what they need to have fun and exercise when it's cold outside. Thank you for all you do to take care of us and keep us safe!



Students taking the NYS Certified First Responder course proudly display their stethoscopes which were donated to each student by the King Ferry Fire Department. The stethoscopes will be used by the students to perform their medical and trauma assessments during their NYS testing in May.

SCCS After Prom Party Fundraiser

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Friday, March 8

SCCS HS Cafeteria

Sponsored by Dugan's County Grill

Adults \$10

Under 8 Years \$5

Eat In or Take Out



Coming Soon!!

Nineteenth Annual Family Science Night at Southern Cayuga

Thursday, March 14, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Emily Howland Cafeteria

New this year, the First Annual High School STEAM Expo in the Emily Howland Gymnasium!

There is still time to sign up for either event; deadline is March 8.

For more information about Family Science Night, contact Mr. Benenati at benenatif@southerncayuga.org and for STEAM Expo contact Heather Snyder at snyderh@southerncayuga.org.

A sampling of our student artwork on display at the Schweinfurth Art Center in Auburn as part of the annual Both Ends of the Rainbow exhibit.



*First grade students
Alyssa Patchin and Jacob Goodale*



Alana Dunman, kindergarten

Scotlynn Reynolds, second grade

Kindergarten Registration Information

This year's **Kindergarten Registration** will be held on **Friday, May 10**, at the **Emily Howland Elementary School** from **Noon to 3:45 pm**. A child must be five (5) years old on or before December 1, 2019, to be eligible to start school. Under current law, children who turn six after December 1, 2019, 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 out in 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 **Tuesday, April 2**, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Emily Howland Elementary School Cafeteria. Children who turn four (4) on or before December 1, 2019, are eligible to attend our Pre-Kindergarten program. A mailing will be sent out 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.

Future Field Trip!

by Julia Dunsmoor

This year's sixth graders are planning a trip to Washington DC in May. Although spring seems far away, students have already begun fundraising to reach their goal. Students are learning all the requirements needed to hold a large fundraiser and the math that is involved. In class students are learning about unit price, which greatly helped when students needed to figure out the cost and profit for each event. As the trip gets closer, students will research which locations they wish their group to visit, including any of the 19 Smithsonian museums, galleries or zoo in DC. The group will also learn about how to ride the Metro and determine the best places to eat within their budget. This is an exciting trip for sixth graders since it is the first time away from home for some and even the first time for many in a big city. Thank you for your support, and keep an eye out for future events to help make the trip a success!

FFA News

On February 9, the Southern Cayuga FFA hosted the District 7 competition for Leadership Development Events. We could not have hosted this event without the generous donation of time given from many volunteers. Our community is truly the backbone of making our program and this event a success.

Congratulations to the Southern Cayuga FFA members who competed and will be moving on to Sub-States competition on March 16 in the follow competitions.

Extemporaneous Public Speaking

- 1st - J.D. Rejman (senior)
- 2nd - Alex Keeney (senior)
- 3rd - Avrey Colton (senior)

Creed Speaking

- 1st - Ziyah Remierez (junior)
- 3rd - Mary Kate Vitale (junior)
- 4th - Brooke Saxton (junior)

Employment Skills/Job Interview

- 3rd - Kelsey LaFave (senior)

Prepared Public Speaking

- 2nd - Caylee Reynolds (senior)
- 1st - Payton Youngers (junior)

Agricultural Issues

- 1st - Catherine Kopp (senior)
- 1st - Conner Bennett (senior)
- 1st - Kelsey LaFave (senior)
- 1st - Jacob Schmitt (senior)
- 1st - Samantha Halverson (senior)
- 1st - Lowry Miller (senior)



The Southern Cayuga Agricultural program is a recipient of the Agricultural Incentive Grant for Growing Programs from Cornell University's Agriculture Education and Outreach program. The Southern Cayuga School District is located within a progressive and innovative agricultural community. Thus, the SC Agricultural program will be able to use the grant funds of \$2,500 to financially support the purchase of classroom and laboratory equipment to enhance the amount of science, mathematics, and technology within the curriculum of the new course offerings for the 2019-2020 school year.

Thinking of volunteering in 2019? Join us at the Aurora Free Library!
2019 is the Library's 120th year and we'd love to get you involved.
Would you like to help with: *shelving books? programming for the community?*
technological expertise? building maintenance? Fundraising? special projects?
Share your time, talent and skills and have fun!

If you would like to volunteer in a place that will benefit your community, please contact Sandy Groth at the Aurora Free Library at aurorafreelibrarycnny@gmail.com, 315-364-8074 or stop by.
You'll enjoy a great environment and learn about how libraries make a difference!

Can & Bottle Drive Fundraisers



The Athletic Department thanks the SCCS Boosters Club for donating the new Colorado timing console for the swim meets. It helps improve the efficiency of the meets!

March 4-10; HS parking lot
For the Class of 2020 After Prom Party

April 1-6; EH end
For the fifth grade trip to Darien Lake in June

Your support is appreciated!



The Addams Family

The Southern Cayuga Drama Club will present *The Addams Family – A New Musical Comedy* on March 7, 8, and 9, in the SC high school auditorium. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and senior citizens. Children under 5 are admitted free of charge.

The Addams Family presents the classic, kooky characters from the Charles Addams comic strip in a modern-day setting. Fans will also recognize references to the 1960s television series and the 1990s feature films.

Young Wednesday Addams has fallen in love and desperately wants her family's approval of her beau, Lucas Beineke. The two plan to reveal their intentions to marry at a dinner hosted at the Addams Family home, a giant gothic mansion in the middle of Central Park. The hitch? The Beinekes are a "normal" family from Ohio, and the Addams clan is anything but. Both teens worry that the straight-laced Beinekes and the macabre Addamses won't mix well. Wednesday is particularly concerned about Morticia, the family matriarch, and she secretly enlists the help of her father, Gomez, to smooth the whole thing over. And the "squeaky clean" Beineke parents, Alice and Mal, have a few secrets of their own. When a series of uncomfortable truths come out over dinner, Pandora's box opens wide. Mysterious potions, torture devices and a chorus of literal ghosts from the past set the stage for a romantic comedy with a gothic twist. In the end, the Addamses and the Beinekes do find their common ground. After all, "It's family first, and family last, and family by and by!"



KING FERRY FOOD PANTRY

Healthy Bodies, Strong Minds

The Healthy Bodies, Strong Minds area offers a safe and educational learning environment for children birth to age 12 whose parents are using the King Ferry Food Pantry during regularly scheduled hours on the first and third Saturdays of each month. This program provides time, space and adult encouragement for children to read, play educational games, and select books for their home libraries. We share the Southern Cayuga Central School's goal that children read with an adult every day. Volunteers for this program are recruited for their ability to work with children, understanding of children's literature, emergent literacy, child development and other educational skills and experiences. For more information about this program, contact Elaine Meyers at (315) 364-8986.

Photo: Three volunteers prepare to welcome children and their parents to the King Ferry Food Pantry's Healthy Bodies Strong Minds area, where participants will find reading and problem solving activities to support educational success and self-sufficiency.



Grow along with your Head Start child!

Are you looking for a place that nurtures the growth of both you and your child? CSCAA Head Start is just the place! When children love learning, everything else falls into place...

We offer a diverse, inclusive learning environment for children from all socioeconomic backgrounds. Our approach is individualized based on the varying needs of each student.

CSCAA Head Start provides safe quality early education with qualified teachers. Healthy meals and snacks provided.

**To learn more about our Southern Cayuga Site
call (315) 664-4464**





Dinner & Game 2019

On the evening of January 25 the Southern Cayuga cafeteria and gym were bustling with parents, students, staff, and neighbors joined by members of the Moravia community. All participants were there to enjoy a fabulous meal prepared by the outstanding culinary team from the Inns of Aurora, share in the excitement of the 2nd Annual Hall of Fame Induction ceremony, and to watch varsity basketball teams compete with the *Blue Devils*, their local rival.

The SCCS Boosters Club has benefited from the generosity and culinary expertise of the Inns of Aurora team for the past seven years as they graciously donate everything involved with hosting a dinner to serve more than 300 guests. Sue Edinger, General Manager of the Inns of Aurora, has been unwavering in her support of giving back to the Southern Cayuga community in this special and unique way. "I believe strongly that businesses have a responsibility to contribute time and energy to help support their local communities, so I'm delighted *Dinner and a Game* has had such a positive impact over the years on both the fundraising efforts of the SCCS Boosters Club AND unifying the community. The Inns of Aurora are proud to be part of the SCCS Community."

The planning for this annual event begins in late summer as Cathy Haight, SCCS Athletic Director, works to find a Friday night in January where both the boys' and girls' varsity teams can play a home game together. Meantime, Patrick Higgins, Executive Chef of the Inns of Aurora, selects a menu and

members of the SCCS Boosters Club begin their preparations to host this special community dinner. Fast forward to January 25 and the culinary team of Jeff Toasperm, James Balloni (SCCS graduate) and Evan Griswold arrive at SCCS ready to serve a delightful dinner of chicken cacciatore, pork loin, mashed potatoes, broccoli & cheese and wild rice pilaf along with cookies to 325 guests. Community members filled the gym to watch a nail biter game between SCCS and Moravia varsity girls. The night then transitioned to the induction of two SCCS alumni, Kara Kopp and Chris Hilliard, and retired athletic director and coach, Terry Underwood, as newly elected members of the Athletic Hall of Fame. SCCS now boasts a Hall of Fame hallway by the high school gymnasium decorated with plaques showing the accomplishments of our esteemed members of the Hall of Fame. The evening was capped with an exciting game between the *Chiefs* and *Blue Devils* boys' varsity teams.

The evening would not have been possible without the contributions of many individuals, including Jenna Hoellerer, Jenice Jones, Harold Van Horn, and the entire SCCS maintenance team. Heartfelt thanks to Sue Edinger and the staff of the Inns of Aurora for their generosity and remarkable kindness in giving back to the community in such an important way. We are grateful to everyone who participated in making this even happen!

Thank you for your very generous sponsorship of our Southern Cayuga Youth Basketball League teams.
2018/2019 CCYO SEASON SPONSORS

Ag Trac
American Legion
Aurora Ridge Dairy
Barn Warrior Crossfit
Batzer Trucking

Bowman Seeds
Cayuga Lake National Bank
Fessenden Dairy
Gush Orthodontics
K&R Eggs

King Ferry Winery
Lifespan Physical Therapy
Marty's Auto Body
Oakwood Dairy
Osterhoudt Farms



Box Tops for Education

The Box Tops for Education program continues; please be aware of the expiration dates on them! This is an easy way to earn cash for our school. Cut out the symbol on participating products and send them to Emily Howland. Each one is worth 10 cents for our school!



Aurora Free Library

Tuesday, February 26, 5:15 pm - Special Board Meeting; The Aurora Free Library Board of Trustees will hold a special meeting to approve the library's 2018 Annual Report to New York State.

Thursday, February 28, 5:45 pm – Annual Meeting & Open House; Come learn what we offer and have planned and meet the Library Board. A great night to shake some of that cabin fever with refreshments and activities for adults and kids.

Saturday, March 23, 11:00 am -Tri-Cities Opera will perform *Goldie B. Locks and the Three Singing Bears* sponsored by a NYSCA Decentralization Grant and Lifespan Therapies, PLLC. FREE. Don't miss this AMAZING performance for all ages!

Wednesday, March 27, 7:00 pm - FILM SHOWING of *American Creed* with David M. Kennedy and Condoleezza Rice followed by discussion moderated by Michael Groth Professor of History at Wells College.

Knitting Circle on Monday evenings, 6-8 pm. All skill levels and fiber artists welcome!

Preschool Storytime is held on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am when SCCS is in session for children and their caregivers. Doors open at 9 for book selection and play. No registration necessary.

Hazard Library

Hazard Library and the Genoa Historical Association are sponsoring a Spring Sampler! It offers an opportunity to have some fun with technology. Presenters will help you.

March 21 How to Sell on eBay and Craigslist

March 28 How to Work on Your Family History: Genealogy

April 4 How to Use Shutterfly

April 11 How to Get Started on Social Media

All Thursday programs begin at 10 am and will be at the Rural Life Museum on Route 34B in King Ferry. All are welcome. Questions? Call 315-364-7975.

Story Hour meets on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am when SCCS is in session. Come join the fun!

Stay warm! While you are inside, why not read a good book you borrowed from the library? We have lots of good books and movies! See you soon.

Southern Cayuga Book Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:15 pm. Interested in joining? Please call or email one of the libraries for information on the monthly "read" and meeting location. New members are always welcome!

March (call for date): "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead

April 3: Southern Cayuga Community Read "Hidden in France: A Boy's Journey Under the Nazi Occupation" by Simon Jeruchim to be held at SCCS High School Library at 7 pm. Books are available at Hazard and Aurora Libraries.

Local Libraries

Hazard Library

2487 State Route 34B
Poplar Ridge NY 13139
Phone 315-364-7975
www.HazardLibrary.org
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
Monday & Friday 3 to 8
Wednesday 10 to noon and 3 to 6
Saturday 10 to 3
"Like" us on Facebook



Southern Cayuga Basketball Camp at Southern Cayuga Central School

The 25th annual Southern Cayuga County Basketball Day Camp will be held at Southern Cayuga Jr/Sr High School on June 27, 28 and July 1 & 2. The camp is open to any student going into grades 3 through 12. The camp will be under the direction of Ed Heslop. Other members of the staff include male and female coaches with extensive playing and coaching experience.

Heavy emphasis is placed on fundamentals and all areas of individual and team play. The program of instruction includes drill station, team practices, lectures, contests and games, with each camper playing an equal amount of time. The camp will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, Thursday, June 27, Friday, June 28, Monday, July 1 and Tuesday, July 2. Campers are responsible for bringing their own lunch. The pool will be available after lunch for the first (youth) session. Tuition is \$75, which includes a camp T-shirt, prizes and a written evaluation.

REGISTRATIONS are available on the community website and in the school offices.

MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 14, 2019.

For more information contact:

Ed Heslop, PO Box 207, Aurora, NY 13026
315.521.2538 or EdHeslop@rochester.rr.com
Southern Cayuga County Basketball Camp
June 27, 28, July 1, 2



SOUTHERN CAYUGA

Anne Frank

TREE PROJECT

The Southern Cayuga Anne Frank Tree Project (SCAFTP) is sponsoring a FREE Community Movie & Pizza Night at the Southern Cayuga High School on Friday, March 22, at 6:00 pm.

The Book Thief is a 2013 film based on the 2005 novel of the same name by Markus Zusak. The film is about a young girl living with her adoptive German family during the Nazi era. Taught to read by her kind-hearted foster father, the girl begins "borrowing" books and sharing them with the Jewish refugee being sheltered by her foster parents in their home. The film features a musical score by Oscar-winning composer John Williams.

What book would you risk stealing and hiding so it would not be destroyed by tyrants? Bring your book to be entered into a raffle to win a \$25 Amazon gift card! Enjoy free pizza at 6:00 pm. The movie begins at 7:00. For more information please call (315) 364-7111 or contact dana@lifespatherapies.com or zimpferW@southerncayuga.org. This event is free and open to the public.

More information about the SCAFTP can be found online at <http://sccsannefranktree.org>.

SUBSTITUTES WANTED

Southern Cayuga School District seeks to fill various substitute positions; school bus drivers; food service helpers; cleaners; teacher aides; teachers; teaching assistants. Apply online. Go to southerncayuga.org/644, and click on an application in the right column. Support Staff Applicants should use the Support Staff Application. Teacher and Teaching Assistant Applicants should use the Professional Employment Application. SCCS EOE



Central School District

2384 Route 34B
Aurora, NY 13026

Box Holder or
Rural Route

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



Rambling Reporter



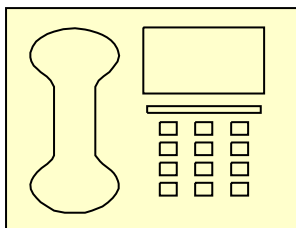
SCCS Board of Education

President: Susan Gloss
Vice President: Michael Huber
Members:
Matthew Bennett
Christine Brozon
David Harvatine
Ann LaFave
Kelsey Rossbach

District Phone Numbers

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

Board of Education agendas and minutes can be found on our website. 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.