

Rambling Reporter

October 2018

SCCS COMMENDED STUDENT IN THE 2018 NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

It is with great pride that I, Luke Carnicelli, Principal of Southern Cayuga Jr/Sr High School, announce that 12th grade student Catherine Kopp has been named a Commended Student in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, was presented to her for outstanding performance on the PSAT National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test in 2017.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2019 competition by taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®).

"The young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson from NMSC. These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success."



Congratulations, Catie!



Southern Cayuga Conversations “Tomorrow Is Now”

by Elaine Meyers

The last book that Eleanor Roosevelt wrote before her death in 1962 was “Tomorrow is Now.” Eleanor believed that our actions today help create the world of the future. An early September walk around the Southern Cayuga Central School campus began a series of conversations that illuminated how our community’s future is being built. Superintendent Patrick Jensen shared a stunning photo of the new roof of the Southern Cayuga Planetarium. “You should talk to Bob Parker, the Founder and President of J&B Installations, Inc. They donated nearly one hundred thousand dollars to restore this roof.”

As I drove the thirty miles from the school to J&B Installations, Inc. in Skaneateles Falls, I thought about my conversation with John Ashby, the J&B crew foreman. He was working on final roof touches in the 90 degree heat and humidity, “We all are so proud of this project. I hope you meet Tony Cavallaro at the office. He was one of the three men who first donated their time to do the initial, short-term roof repair. They kept the water out until the plans were finalized.”

I was delighted when Tony Cavallaro met me and escorted me to Bob Parker’s office. As we began to talk, I noticed how the men always referred to their employees’ pride in the project. Many employees had grown up in the area, and had shared Bob’s experience of visiting the Southern Cayuga Planetarium after it opened in 1968. Bob explained, “We were all part of a generation of kids who were inspired by our field trips to the Southern Cayuga Planetarium. We want the next generation to have the same experience. I still remember the feeling of awe at the show. It was so special to be out of the classroom and seeing the stars so close.”

Tony Cavallaro continued, “We want to remind people to look up. We can become set in our ways and miss what is around us. There is something about looking at the stars that relieves stress and shows us the endless possibilities that exist in our universe.”

Bob Parker smiled, “Those stars help us get around as well. I remember one of our older friends, Bud. He was World War II Navy and knew all the constellations. He could navigate by the stars--you were never lost with Bud around. As a businessman, I appreciate this project’s potential to attract folks from around the state and become a center of learning and inspiration. I imagine those limos lining up outside the Planetarium as one of the stops on the wine and bird-watching tours.”

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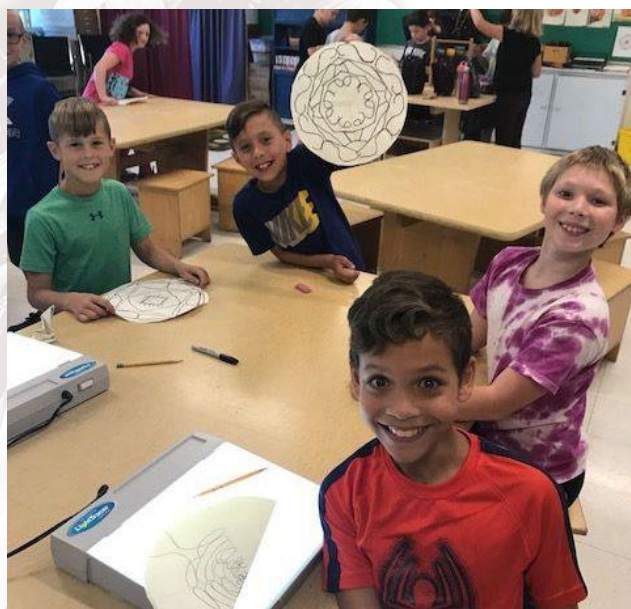
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I left J&B and headed back to the school to meet Lili MacCormick. Like the men at J&B, Lili has lived in the community for decades. She volunteers for the Emily Howland Got Book reading program. “I love my contact with the children. In the four years I have been with Got Book, I have seen children who could barely sit still to read their beginning books transform into readers who are sitting with a chapter book that they can’t put down. I loved reading as a child and hope that this is a gift I can give to today’s children.”

Lili recalled her fond memories of walking to the public library as a child and was delighted that many children could walk to their local libraries as well as use the excellent school libraries. “I love that we are able to work one on one with the children in Got Book. We are able to see the child’s progress and thank them for their hard work. We are able to laugh at the funny parts in the books we share and learn together as we read about animals, machines and other topics in the child’s book.” Lili smiled, “One of my favorite Got Book experiences was getting a note on a child’s reading log. ‘Dear Mrs. MacCormick, thank you for reading with David. You were my art teacher when I was David’s age. I told him how much fun you and I had way back then.’”

Lili and the J&B team want us to look up at the stars and down at the pages of a favorite book. As I returned home, I opened the last page of Eleanor Roosevelt’s book. “This I know. This I believe with all my heart. If we want a free and peaceful world, if we want to make the deserts bloom, and man grow to greater dignity as a human being----WE CAN DO IT!”

Elaine Meyers, of King Ferry, is a member of the boards of the King Ferry Food Pantry and ABC Cayuga, as well as Anne Frank Tree Project and Southern Cayuga Garden Club. She coordinates a literacy support program at Southern Cayuga Central School.





Congratulations!

Our School Psychologist, **Lindsay Osborne**, has been honored as the NYASP Chapter E School Psychologist of the Year.!

We are proud and fortunate to have her and appreciate all she does for SCCS.

Holiday Share — A New Plan

Southern Cayuga has a proud tradition of helping families in our district. In 2016 we welcomed the King Ferry Food Pantry into the space in our Ag wing to offer even more support at our school campus. Again this year we are happy to be partnering with the Cayuga County Christmas Elf Program. This program is long standing, well respected and highly successful. Therefore, rather than duplicate a service already being offered to our residents, we plan to assist with this program. All applications will need to be filed with a participating agency that families currently work with (i.e. Social Services, Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency, etc.). These agencies will be able to accept the applications and verify incomes, forwarding the information to the Christmas Elf Program. (The Christmas Elf Program is not a self-referral program.)

Families needing the application can get paper copies which are available at the school and at the King Ferry Food Pantry. Any family with questions about the process can call Mary Ferro at SCCS or Deb Patrick at the King Ferry Food Pantry.

The deadline for applications for the Christmas Elf Program is **November 30, 2018**.

We also plan to have a gift tree for those interested in purchasing gifts for members of our community who are clients at the King Ferry Food Pantry. We will have the tree up in November, giving community members and groups ample time to shop and return items to help out neighbors and fellow community members. You may be humbled by some of the requests, as simple as laundry soap, toiletries, dish soap, etc. These items would mean a lot to families in need here in Southern Cayuga, especially during the holidays.





Superintendent's Message

Dear Southern Cayuga Friends,

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome everyone to the 2018-2019 school year. First of all, I want to express my appreciation to the Southern Cayuga community for their continued support for our students and schools. Thank You!

I'm pleased to report a successful start to the school year as we welcomed back 700 students to the district. Southern Cayuga prides itself on small class size, a nurturing learning environment, and an academic team devoted to the success of our students, while also maintaining the second lowest tax rate in Central New York. Our Regents scores remain impressive and our 3-8 assessment results continue to improve. Our goal is to equip our students with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities that will enable them to be successful in life.

We've been busy over the summer and just completed a major capital project, the replacement of the elementary roof and locker room renovations. I am also pleased to report that J&B Installations replaced the roof on the planetarium. Thank you to Bob Parker for the generous donation and Tony Cavallaro for leading the first stage of work to restore this unique facility. The next phase of construction will start in the late spring and focus on the replacement of all major mechanical systems in the building. If all goes according to plan, the planetarium's grand reopening will take place in September 2019.

Over the next couple of months, the district will be exploring the potential installation of a large solar array project on our property. The solar array would encompass several acres and generate over 1 Megawatt of electricity, satisfying approximately 75% of our current usage and creating significant district savings for the next 25 years. The project cost would be covered by the State of New York, a \$250,000 NYSERDA grant, and a portion of our current utility costs. Southern Cayuga would emerge as a local leader in renewable energy and the system would generate significant operational savings. The district is partnering with Eisenbach & Ruhnke Engineering of Utica, NY to request proposals.

As we look ahead to the new year, the faculty and staff will continue the transition to the Next Generation Learning Standards, conduct a comprehensive review of our curriculum, and focus on the emotional and mental health of our students. Details regarding each of our district initiatives have been outlined in our professional development plan located on our district webpage.



Have a Great Year!
Patrick Jensen, Superintendent of Schools

Welcome!

Southern Cayuga welcomes new staff for the 2018/19 school year.



Left to Right:

Gloria Sherman,
PT Account Clerk

Dennis Johnson, Ele-
mentary PE Teacher

Jenna Lawrence, High
School/Athletic Secre-
tary



Left to Right:

Kali Supples, High
School Counselor

Ricky Gessler,
Music Teacher

Marcy Hand, Confiden-
tial CSE Secretary/Tax
Collector



Left to Right:

Chelsea Lopez,
1st Grade Teacher

Nick Olesko,
Music Teacher

Hillary Feocco,
School Nurse



Left to Right:

Melissa DeMarinis,
Music Teacher

Julio Severino,
Groundskeeper/School
Bus Driver

Halee Wasson,
Agriculture Teacher

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Welcome!

Southern Cayuga welcomes new staff for the 2018/19 school year.



Left to Right:

Rhonda Gall Campbell,
Long-Term Substitute 6th Grade Teacher
Jennifer Ameigh, 4th Grade Teacher

Winter Concerts — Come Enjoy the Music!

Thursday, December 6 @ 12:15 – Senior Citizen Luncheon and Concert

Snow Date Friday, December 7 @ 12:15

Wednesday, December 5 @ 6:30 – Winter Choral Concert

Wednesday, December 12 @ 6:30 – Winter Instrumental Concert

Wednesday, December 19, @ 6:30 -- Winter Concerts Snow Date



Congratulations to SCCS Staff Members!



Employees were honored on opening day for their years of service with SCCS! Sharon Botsford (30 years); Heather Snyder, Jean Hildreth & Janice Bizzari (20 years); Ashley Houseknecht, Jeannette Lutkins, Jennifer Davis & Susan Seamon (10 years).

Making Musical Connections: Language without Barriers

by Melissa DeMarinis

Seeking shade under the trees at Malcolm X Park in Northwest Washington DC, I found myself tossed headfirst into a Bengali jam session when I was handed a large khol drum. In the midst of this musical experience, there were no explanations or spoken words between myself and the Baul musicians of West Bengal, yet we made one another smile, laugh and feel as though we were immersed in a deep conversation. This sensation of oneness amplified when the park's weekly drum circle of celebration began. I looked around at the sea of faces and felt connected to people from so many individual perspectives of life as we came together to move to one unifying beat. In some cases such as this, words are not necessary for deep human connection. Music serves as a language without barriers all on its own.

"Learning together towards a brighter future" is the motto for the cross-cultural exchange between staff and interns at the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage and a team of artists and musicians from West Bengal, India. Through CFCH's visit to India, a virtual exchange, and the India delegation's visit to Washington, DC and the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, these communities connected to promote cultural diversity education across the globe. The staff and interns involved in the project molded deep connections during the three week visit of the Bengalis, not only through sharing stories, philosophies and cultural practices, but by connecting through the language of music. I was captivated with the sounds and practice of Baul music – the folk music of West Bengal. Folk music isn't just a genre of music, but a way of life for Rabi Das Baul and Girish Khyapa. Both began learning from gurus (master teachers) at young ages after individual callings to both the music and philosophy. Now gurus themselves with their own schools of music, they became enamored with their connection to the divine through their performance. "God does not live in any mosque, temple, or church. God lives within one's body. This is the belief of the Bauls," Arpan Thakur Chakraborty explained the words of Girish and Rabi in translation. A long-time lover of and student of folk music and musician with banglanatak.com, Arpan began his journey with Baul music with his dotara five-string instrument. "It's addicting!" he laughed when I commented on how joyous the music felt.

"Who is your guru?" asked Manas Acharya, an interdisciplinary artist and second member of the creative team from the banglanatak.com staff, during a conversation we had about the significance of the guru-student relationship. I sat back and reflected, thinking of all of the teachers who I accredit my love and understanding of music to. Being a music teacher myself, I really connected with this notion. "One's guru is the most important person," Arpan explained during an introduction while others tuned their instruments at a Library of Congress noon time concert early in the visit, featuring the Bengali musicians. "In this song, your body and soul are compared to a boat floating on the water. Your guru guides your boat along this sea of life." The capacity crowd at the library's Whittall Pavilion was taken on a musical voyage with the Bauls. I was growing more eager to glimpse into the realm of teaching music through the eyes and ears of a Baul guru. Later in the visit, hands shot into the air for a chance to join in, as I stood in awe of the fervent eyes of children as they sat mesmerized by the Baul's performance at a Smithsonian Associates Summer Camp session. Just as I had been, the young students were suddenly submerged inside the music-making, playing an assortment of Bengali instruments and dancing to the infectious rhythms. There was a vital human connection unfurling through each drum beat and dotara strum. From this moment, I understood the immersive teaching style of the Baul gurus. By diving into the music-making and allowing the music to speak for itself, lectures aren't required. Translations aren't necessary with the universal language of a drum beat or soaring melody.

Not only has this experience made me eager to share the beautiful folk music of West Bengal with my own students, but I gained insight into how music education looks somewhere across the world, while building deep human connections. When I returned to teaching in the fall, I planned to explore West Bengal folk music with my students, bringing these immersive elements into my own classroom so students not only learn how to make music, but connect with one another and appreciate cultures from around the world through music.

Melissa DeMarinis was an intern at the 2018 Smithsonian Folklife Festival, involved in the Communities Connecting Heritage project.



King Ferry Food Pantry: Donate a Holiday Meal

During November and December the King Ferry Food Pantry is offering an opportunity to donate a holiday meal for our neighbors in need.

A donation of \$25 will cover the cost of special foods for families who need a little help setting the table for the upcoming holidays.

Your donation will be used to purchase traditional ingredients for a family to prepare and enjoy a festive meal. For Thanksgiving there will be a choice of turkey or other main dish, stuffing mix, potatoes, carrots, squash, apples, cranberry sauce and gravy. December holiday meals will include a choice of ham or other main dish, fresh vegetables, fresh fruits, side dishes and desserts.

No one in our community should be hungry. The King Ferry Food Pantry is here to serve residents of the Southern Cayuga School District. If you need food come to the pantry, where you will have the opportunity to select the foods your family needs and likes. We are conveniently located at Southern Cayuga High School on Route 34B in Poplar Ridge. The pantry is open from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon on the first and third Saturdays of each month, and other days and evenings by appointment. For more information contact Debbie Patrick at (315) 497-2049, or email kingferryfoodpantry1@gmail.com.



We want to help our neighbors in need.

Amount Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Send this form and your donation to: King Ferry Food Pantry, PO Box 242, King Ferry, NY 13081

Save the Date!

The annual Senior Citizen Luncheon and Concert is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, beginning at 12:15. The snow date is Friday, December 7. A complimentary turkey dinner with mashed potatoes, gravy, cabbage casserole, dinner roll, festive cranberry pineapple salad, dessert; coffee, milk and water will be provided. Come enjoy music and the food!

Aurora Free Library

Thank you to all who supported our Book Sale and Book Lovers' Ball and made them a huge success.

Coming Events:

Sunday, October 28, 3:00: Celebrating Local Talent: Writers Lydie Haenlin, Bruce Bennett and Arthur Bellinzoni will talk about their recent books. Refreshments will be served and books will be for sale.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest: Decorate a pumpkin and bring it to the library between **Saturday, October 27 & Wednesday, October 31** at 10:00 am. Voting will take place on October 31 by all who visit the library. Fun Prizes awarded!

Wednesday, October 31: Spooky Library in the Morgan Opera House on Halloween Night.

Wednesday, November 7 at 7:15 pm **Southern Cayuga Book Club:** Come and talk about books in "The Great American Read."

Saturday, November 10 at 7:00 pm **Movie Night: Incredibles 2**

Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am Preschool Storytime for children and their caregivers. Doors open at 9 am for book selection and play.

Don't have a library card? Stop in when we are open and get one!

Check our website aurorafreelibrary.org for more information on coming events.

Please let us know if you would like to volunteer your time or talent. Email Sandy at aurorali@rochester.rr.com or stop by the library to discuss opportunities.

Hazard Library

Thanks to everyone who participated in our programs and helped us show that **Libraries Rock** all summer!

We also thank everyone who assisted us and supported the **Annual Hazard Library Book Sale**. We had a record-breaking sale in August!

Our weekly **Story Hour** is held each Tuesday that SCCS is in session from September to June. The library opens at 9:00 am with activities beginning at 9:30. Join Miss Lisa for stories, songs and crafts. It is free and open to all children who have not yet entered kindergarten, along with their caregivers. No registration is needed and you can come at any time.

Southern Cayuga Book Club meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:15 pm. In November we will be sharing our favorite books from "The Great American Read." The list of nominated books can be found at <http://www.pbs.org/the-great-american-read/home/>. We will begin planning our new reads for 2019 at our December holiday meeting. New members are always welcome. Please contact the library if you would like to join us or be added to our member mailing list so you can be kept up-to-date on our reading selections.

We add new books to our shelves almost every week and new movies each month. Stop in and check out what's new!

See you at the library.

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



Dear Parents, Guardians and School Staff:

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and non-public elementary and secondary schools to provide written notifications to all persons in parental relation, faculty and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Southern Cayuga Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are *not* subject to prior notification requirements:

- § A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72 hours following an application;
- § Anti-microbial products;
- § Non-volatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- § Non-volatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- § Silica gels and other non-volatile ready-to-use pastes, forms or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- § Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- § The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- § The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- § The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in our schools, please complete the form below and return it to Loretta Van Horn, the Southern Cayuga Central School District pesticide representative at: 2384 State Route 34B, Aurora, New York 13026, Phone 315.364.8711, ext 1103; or fax 315.364.7863.

SCCS District Request for Pesticide Application Notification
(Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

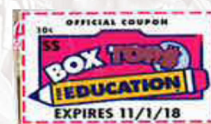
Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

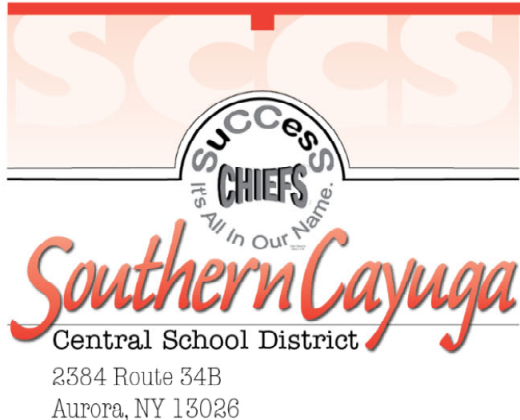
E-Mail Address: _____

Please contact Loretta Van Horn, the Southern Cayuga Central School District pesticide representative, if you have further questions on these requirements; 2384 State Route 34B, Aurora, New York 13026, 315.364.8711, ext 1103; or fax 315.364.7863 .

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!





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

**Box Holder or
Rural Route**



Rambling Reporter

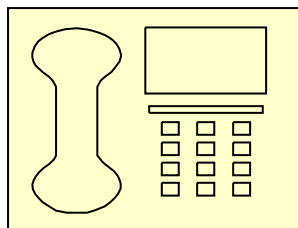
SCCS Board of Education

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

District Phone Numbers

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



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.