



# Community Newsletter

Rush-Henrietta Central School District Winter 2006

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## President Lauds McCare Program

Since 1996, the Rush-Henrietta Central School District has enjoyed a partnership benefiting its students and the community at large in the form of the McCare Program, sponsored by local McDonald's restaurants.

When Rush-Henrietta schools participate in the McCare Program, students and their parents are invited to a local McDonald's restaurant, and encouraged to bring a specific item or good to be donated to charity, such as the American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Golisano Children's Hospital, the Henrietta Food Cupboard, and the Salvation Army. They also have collected books to benefit youngsters using the Regional Transit Service, personal care items for local hospices, and health care items, books, games, and toys to benefit local child care centers.

School staff members do their part to make the events a success, working behind the counter, serving food and drinks to model a spirit of volunteerism. The program inspires community spirit, and offers students a fun way to engage in asset-building activities, strengthening their character and refining their empathy.

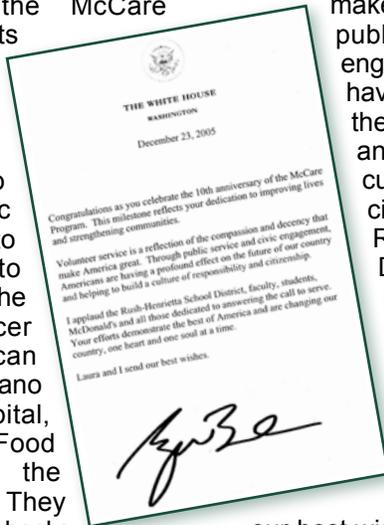
President George W. Bush recently

wrote to praise the effort. "Congratulations as you celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the McCare Program," he wrote. "This milestone reflects your dedication to improving lives and strengthening communities.

Volunteer service is a reflection of the compassion and decency that make America great. Through public service and civic engagement, Americans are having a profound effect on the future of our country and helping to build a culture of responsibility and citizenship. I applaud the Rush-Henrietta School District, faculty, students, McDonald's, and all those dedicated to answering the call to serve. Your efforts demonstrate the best of America and are changing our country, one heart and one soul at a time. Laura and I send our best wishes."

our best wishes."

McDonald's is an exemplary education partner in many ways that extend beyond the classroom. Rush-Henrietta thanks Elmer and Sharon Potter, of Sharel Ventures, owners of nine McDonald's restaurants, including those that host the McCare Program. The district also thanks Judy May, who oversees the program; her dedication is a good example for each student who participates in the program. In 2004, May won Rush-Henrietta's Teenage Employment Partner of the Year Award, a testament to her commitment to the development of children.





## With Strong Support, Community Embraces Renovations

Voters in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District approved a proposition on December 13, 2005, to enhance Burger Middle School, Roth Middle School, the Senior High School, and the Parker Administration Building. The renovations will further support student learning and enhance safety and security.

“On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to sincerely thank the community for its continuing support,” says Edward A. Lincoln, board president. “The funds from the Facility Renovations Proposition ensure the long-term capacity of the district to deliver high quality educational programs and services. We sincerely appreciate the ongoing support of the Rush-Henrietta community.”

In 2001, Rush-Henrietta voters approved the district’s Phase I Facility Renovations Plan, which included a new Transportation and Operations Center. In December 2005, voters reacted in a similarly positive fashion, authorizing the district to borrow funds required to complete the Phase II Facility Renovations Plan. Physical work on the new projects could begin as early as this fall.

To ensure equity between Rush-Henrietta’s two middle schools and keep pace with increasing demand for educational services, plans are under way at Burger Middle School to create a new main entrance offering enhanced security for students

and staff; a new auditorium; eight additional classrooms; a new music wing; additional physical education space; an expanded library and cafeteria; a renovated home and careers area; and nearly 100 new parking spaces that will support community use.

To ensure that Roth Middle School continues to meet the evolving needs of the community’s students, plans call for the creation of sixth-grade, seventh-grade, and eighth-grade wings, a new cafeteria, and a new general music room. Enhancements also include energy-saving, thermopane windows and increased parking capacity. The cafeteria is the only new construction in this well-conceived renovation plan.

The Phase II Facility Renovation Plan approved by voters also includes the reconfiguration of parking areas and traffic patterns at the Senior High School – a move designed to reduce congestion and better ensure the safety of students, staff, and community members – and the renovation of the Parker Administration Building, as well as the preparation of athletic fields for potential future use at the Ninth Grade Academy.

The Rush-Henrietta Central School District thanks the community for its continued support of initiatives, programs, and services that benefit our

students. Together, we are guiding student success ... one child at a time.

*“On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to sincerely thank the community for its continuing support. The funds from the Facility Renovations Proposition ensure the long-term capacity of the district to deliver high quality educational programs and services. We sincerely appreciate the ongoing support of the Rush-Henrietta community.”*

Edward A. Lincoln,  
President, Board of Education

### *R-H Information is Only a Click Away!*



Visit the district’s redesigned Web site for comprehensive information about Rush-Henrietta schools. Also, consider subscribing to one of the district’s latest services, E-News, which provides brief e-mail notifications, announcements, and reminders about important meetings, activities, and issues. Visit [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org) today!



## District Enhances Students' Kindergarten Readiness

As the expected kindergarten readiness skills of students increases, Rush-Henrietta continually strives to communicate these expectations to the community. For example, Fyle Elementary School hosted an outreach meeting for local day care and preschool providers and preschool parents on Tuesday, February 7. The goal was to build connections with parents and those providers who work with our preschool students.

Fyle received a strong response. Staff members made personal contact with 22 pre-school and day care providers and nearly all attended the informational meeting to share ideas and support. At the meeting, school staff shared information regarding our kindergarten screening and readiness skills, as well as a packet of sample lessons and activities to do with the children. This is the first in a series of informational meetings.



Rush-Henrietta is making a concerted effort to ensure that all children are as prepared as possible when they enter kindergarten.

## Eligible Students Can Take College Classes for Free

Students at the Rush-Henrietta Senior High School may be eligible for a compelling benefit of living in this school district - qualified students can take college courses at Rochester Institute of Technology and the University of Rochester for free!

Only a small percentage of eligible high school juniors and seniors are taking advantage of this valuable school district benefit, and district leaders would like to boost participation. Some Rush-Henrietta students have graduated from high school already having completed a year's worth of college courses, meaning they essentially enter college as a sophomore. "It's a unique opportunity and all students should be at least aware of it," says Wan Ting Zou, a high school senior who is taking college courses. "It allows you to experience college in terms of its academic work load and the importance of time management."

Richard Olson, a 2005 Rush-Henrietta graduate, believes more students don't take advantage of the opportunity because of prior commitments like sports, clubs, and work. "Most people I told were amazed that they were missing out on such an opportunity, but did not have enough room in their schedule to participate," he says. However, Olson made it a priority and earned 28 Advanced Placement and college credits during high school, and saved an estimated \$10,000 in tuition costs.

Consider talking with your son or daughter about the many benefits of taking college classes while still in high school. They include getting a head start on a four-year degree and saving their family a considerable amount of money on college tuition. For more information about this outstanding opportunity, please call Katie Mason, director of counseling, at 359-7954.



## Crane Students Treated to American Girls' Tea

Dozens of Crane Elementary School students attended a special American Girls' tea in December in recognition of their reading achievements. Each student read at least five books in the series, which tell stories of seven girls who lived at various times during our nation's history. For example, Addy is a young girl whose stories are told against the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War, while Molly's tales are told in the context of her growing up during World War II. Although the books are based on the lives of female characters, many boys also participated in the reading challenge. Marjorie Valentine, the school's librarian, hosted the tea in the library and congratulated students on their keen interest in reading and learning.



Crane students and their parents were invited to celebrate high achievement by attending an American Girls' Tea.

## Winslow Students, Principal Enjoy Limo and Lunch



Winslow Principal Ron Springer escorts students to a limousine as part of a PTO-sponsored event.

Thirteen Winslow Elementary School students recently were treated to a limo ride and lunch at Pizza Hut with Principal Ron Springer. The students were invited to the special lunch because they were high fund-raisers in a school-wide magazine sale that benefits the Winslow PTO and, ultimately, the school community. On the day of the lunch, it was raining outside, so each student received a valet escort to the limo – a 35-foot-long Lincoln Navigator – underneath an umbrella. Students were amazed that they were able to watch TV while they rode to the restaurant to enjoy their lunch buffet. The PTO paid for the fun-filled event. Upon their return to school, students said they would remember the limo and lunch experience for years.

## Sherman Students Learn from 'Wee Deliver' Program

In January, Sherman Elementary School started its popular 'Wee Deliver' program, which is designed to give children the opportunity to "work" as a member of a postal system. Students participating in the voluntary program are assigned tasks such as collecting internal school mail, sorting it into appropriate routes, and delivering the mail throughout the building. The program, which has been in place for more than a decade, pays careful attention to even the finest of details. For example, Sherman students drop off their mail in miniature postal boxes that are strikingly similar to the familiar blue drop-off bins used by the United States Postal Service. Although the program is fun for students, it has a significant educational component, providing children with a well-defined idea of what it means to be a good employee, and the skills needed to be successful in the workplace.



Sherman students are learning real-life lessons in the "Wee Deliver" program.



## Science Comes Alive During Roth 'Bubbleology' Lab

At Roth Middle School, sixth graders in Michael Kipp's science class were treated to a hands-on lesson devoted to learning the scientific method and its related concepts, including dependent and independent variables, controls, and hypotheses. They were given samples of three common brands of dish detergent and asked to determine which would create the largest bubble. Students offered a variety of reasons why the bubbles might be different in size, ranging from the cost of the detergent to the concentration of each brand. To determine which detergent creates the largest bubble, students outlined their hypothesis – their best guess of what would happen and why – and spread a small amount of each detergent on their desk. They dipped a straw into the solution and gently blew into the straw, creating a variety of bubbles, some much bigger than others. After each bubble burst, students measured its diameter based on the residue left on the table. This lesson is another example of how Rush-Henrietta is making its science curriculum more hands-on, ensuring that important lessons of the day are more understandable and relevant for students.



Science students at Roth Middle School react with glee during an experiment relating to the scientific method.

## Burger Students Catch Attention of National Author

Students at Burger Middle School recently were recognized for their reading efforts and a relationship they forged with a best-selling author. R News (Channel 9) visited teacher Jona Wright and more than a dozen students, each of whom received a copy of "How Full is Your Bucket?" Each book was autographed personally by co-author Tom Rath, president of the Gallup Organization. After reading the book and being stirred by its message, Burger students e-mailed Rath. To their surprise, he replied, answering their questions and sharing his delight that students read the book, which is aimed at the business world. The book offers the "Theory of the Dipper and the Bucket," which relates to how our choices affect happiness, health, productivity, and relationships. The theory says:

"Each of us has an invisible bucket. It is constantly emptied or filled, depending on what others say or do to us. When our bucket is full, we feel great. When it's empty, we feel awful. Each of us also has an invisible dipper. When we use that dipper to fill other people's buckets – by saying or doing things to increase their positive emotions – we also fill our own bucket. But when we use that dipper to dip from others' buckets – by saying or doing things that decrease their positive emotions – we diminish ourselves." Burger students who read the book say they already are applying the message, and they understand that the book reinforces the asset-building programs – intended to develop character and self-worth in our students – in place at Rush-Henrietta schools.

## National Honor Society Members Perform Community Service

On a frigid day in December, members of the Rush-Henrietta Chapter of the National Honor Society stood outside JCPenney at The Marketplace mall, ringing bells in an effort to raise money for the Salvation Army. Some 20 Senior High School students took turns ringing the bells and collecting donations from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., working in teams during one-hour shifts. "It was great to see the R-H membership represented," says Erin Goodwin, National Honor Society co-advisor. Erika McDonough, the group's other advisor, helped arrange the outing.



Members of the Senior High School Honor Society helped raise money for the Salvation Army.



## R-H Provides Dynamic Parent Education Offerings

Parental involvement is key to the success of students in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District. To help foster enhanced involvement, the district offers a Parent Education initiative designed to bolster each student's success.

Parent and family education builds confidence and competency, empowers parents and families to make educational decisions, and improves understanding regarding a child's academic, emotional, personal, and social development and needs. Parent and family education enhances a parent's relationship with a child, and helps keep families up-to-date with contemporary issues and events that affect children. It also helps continue to strengthen the partnership between the school and home.

To learn more, visit [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org) and click on Parent Education in the Quick Links menu. You will be taken to a page that includes links to Rush-Henrietta's Parent

Education Program monthly listings. Rush-Henrietta offers a variety of informative topics through its Parent Education Program. These programs help parents and families support and guide their child's education, and share ways to further support students as they do schoolwork at home. This page also provides access to Parent Education Special Topics, a new series of short articles designed to help ensure the safety and success of your child now and in the future. The first topic is an overview of Internet safety, and an excerpt from that column appears below. Please read the full Internet Safety story at [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org), and access the four related links to eye-opening news accounts available online.

For more information, please contact Beverly Burrell-Moore, director of special projects, at 359-5534, or e-mail [bburrell@rhnet.org](mailto:bburrell@rhnet.org). Thank you for your continued support of our students and schools. Together, we are guiding student success ... one child at a time.

## Internet Safety Starts at Home

Like school districts worldwide, Rush-Henrietta continues to impress upon students the many dangers associated with inappropriate Internet use. As more teenagers explore the Internet and create online Web logs – called blogs – on social-networking sites, they may be putting themselves and their families at risk.

Today, many teens are visiting sites such as [myspace.com](http://myspace.com), [facebook.com](http://facebook.com), and [xanga.com](http://xanga.com). These sites may seem innocent at first, but can become dangerous when students disclose too much personal information, such as their hometown, personal habits, school, athletic teams, and clubs. In addition, many students post seductive photographs of themselves, and a listing of their friends. They exchange "personal messages" on these sites. However, the general public can view all of this information, which offers clues that can be used to identify and locate them. Some map and imaging sites can be used to access the exact location where students live.

Please talk with your children, grandchildren, and friends about the dangers of Internet predators, who with just a little bit of information, can come in contact with them. Of particular concern are the results of a recent study,

commissioned by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and Cox Communications. It revealed that nearly half of parents surveyed do not have, or do not know about, software for monitoring their kids' online activities. In addition, they don't check e-mail content, buddy lists, chat rooms, or instant messages. Fifty-seven percent of parents surveyed were unfamiliar with social-networking sites and common chat lingo like BRB (be right back) or LOL (laughing out loud), two of the most innocent of expressions.

*Misuse of the Internet may result in the unintentional sabotage of our children's safety.*

As many recent national news articles have stated, misuse of the Internet may result in the unintentional sabotage of our children's safety. In addition, this type of online use could

jeopardize their academic accomplishments, scholarship awards, or future professional career prospects; today, many employers are searching these sites for background information on prospective employees.

Rush-Henrietta plans to offer a future presentation to help parents and community residents deal effectively with Internet safety. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to keep the children of our community safe.

## R-H Music Program Continues Outstanding Offerings

Jim Snidero, a jazz musician known worldwide, visited Rush-Henrietta this past fall, sharing his insights and talents with students from the Senior High School, as well as from Burger and Roth middle schools.

Music is an integral part of the curriculum in Rush-Henrietta schools. The district's award-winning music program is designed to increase the musical sensitivity and knowledge of students, while stimulating character growth and leadership through cooperative effort, self-discipline, responsibility, patience, attention to detail, and the desire for perfection. The district strives to share with students the examples of successful musicians such as Snidero, who is considered one of the world's best alto saxophonists and jazz authors.

The district's comprehensive music program provides each child an opportunity to participate at his or her own level of ability. Each school maintains its own chorus, band, and orchestra, as well as an active general music program in the elementary and middle schools, and World Music, piano class, and music

theory programs in the high school. Instruction on stringed instruments begins in the fourth grade, and band and chorus is available to students starting in grade 5. Offering more than 90 concerts each year, Rush-Henrietta students learn about music, and the role it plays in their lives,

culture and in civilization. In music education classrooms, students sing, move, dance, perform on instruments, compose and create music, listen to music, read and write about music, and integrate music with other learning and reporting.

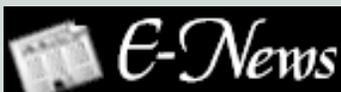
Of the 5,700 students enrolled in Rush-Henrietta schools – five elementary, two middle, a Ninth Grade Academy, and the Senior High School – about 35 percent are involved in band, chorus or orchestra, far exceeding the national average. A dedicated staff of certified music teachers is involved in providing a depth of knowledge for their students, and their work has contributed to earning Rush-Henrietta its outstanding reputation.

In 2005, Rush-Henrietta Senior High School was named a GRAMMY Signature School by the GRAMMY Foundation, one of just 42 districts nationwide to be so honored.



Jim Snidero, an internationally known jazz musician, made music come alive during a visit with students at the Senior High School.

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## News Briefs From Around the District

### Senior High Students Earn AP Scholar Awards

The College Board announced that 33 students at Rush-Henrietta Senior High School have been named AP Scholars, 16 have been designated AP Scholar with Honor, 17 have been named Scholar With Distinction, and three - Jivan Kurinec, Philipp Rabovsky, and Zhaomin Xu, have earned National Scholar status. National Scholar status was granted to students receiving an average of at least 4 on all AP exams taken, and grades of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. "On behalf of the Advanced Placement Program, I share your pride in the accomplishments of these students and their teachers," wrote Trevor Packer, executive director of the Advanced Placement Program. "Congratulations to you and your school on a job well done!"

### Schools Offer E-News Service to R-H Community

Each of Rush-Henrietta's schools is taking advantage of the E-News feature on the district's Web site at [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org). Responding to many parents' desire to receive electronic communications, E-News enables principals to effectively manage a large volume of e-mail, providing important updates as needed, and ensuring that addresses are absolutely correct. It also gives subscribers the opportunity to privately opt in and out at any time. Already, hundreds of parents have signed up for this free service; some have signed up twice, once with their home e-mail address and once with the work e-mail address they access during the day. To subscribe, visit [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org), scroll toward the bottom, and click on the E-News icon. After entering your name and e-mail address, select the school or schools of your choice, and any additional news you might be interested in receiving, such as the superintendent's periodic mailings. Please note that E-News is not replacing Rush-Henrietta's traditional forms of school-home communication.

### March 24 Superintendent's Conference Day for K-8

There will be no school for students in grades K-8 on March 24, 2006. The State Education Department, in compliance with the No Child Left Behind law, is requiring the statewide administration of new State Achievement Exams in math

and ELA to all students grades 3-8, beginning with the 2005-2006 school year. The Board of Education approved a resolution at its November 8 meeting, dedicating March 24 as a Superintendent's Conference Day to be devoted to the scoring of K-8 math exams. Results must be determined as quickly as possible so students needing extra help can be identified, and so the district can provide academic intervention services, register students in summer school, and accurately place them for the 2006-2007 school year. This date was not included in the district calendar because it did not exist at the time.

### R-H Sports Teams Shine On and Off the Field

Rush-Henrietta student-athletes continue to compete in a manner that reflects well on themselves and our community. During the fall, the Senior High School girls soccer, boys cross country, and girls cross country teams were each recognized with Monroe County Team Sportsmanship awards. In addition, many teams received special recognition. For example, the boys cross country, girls cross country, girls soccer, and boys volleyball teams each received the New York State Team Scholar Award, meaning the athletes on each team achieved a 90 or higher grade-point-average. Congratulations to our talented student-athletes, their coaches, and their families on a job well done.

### RHTV Offers School Programming

RHTV is available to cable subscribers residing in the towns of Rush and Henrietta. To view activities and events that take place in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District, community residents are encouraged to tune in to one of two area cable channels that air the district's cable television program. Programming generally airs on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Cable subscribers in the town of Rush can view RHTV on cable Channel 19 from 4 to 6 p.m., while Henrietta residents can view programming on cable channel from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tapes of each program are available for loan to residents. To reserve videotapes, please call the district reception desk at (585) 359-5000.



## Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council Formed

As the district nears its 60th anniversary of educational excellence, the Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council has been established to strengthen ties between the district and R-H graduates.

The Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council (RHAC) will strive to reconnect graduates through communication, and, as it evolves, through events. The council will assist the district in maintaining an up-to-date alumni directory and with alumni communication, guide and support class reunions, coordinate the annual Alumni Hall of Fame recognition program, and inform and advise the superintendent and Board of Education on matters of interest to Rush-Henrietta alumni.

Founding members of the RHAC seek your help to locate graduates and verify contact information for each decade since centralization in 1946, and even before that time. Carolyn and Jack Gaffney, Bob Thompson, Joe Bellanca, Mike Petramalo, Ann Grabowski and Varun Mehta have volunteered to launch and coordinate the collection of alumni information. Former class presidents, class leaders and classmates are encouraged to take an active role in this ambitious endeavor and support the important work of this new council.

Graduates of the district are encouraged to visit the Alumni Center on the district Web site at [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org), and enter their current contact information in the online database. Please share this project with family members, former classmates, and friends. Encourage them to register their information and become part of this important initiative that will help reconnect classmates, and support the further development of a new generation of students. Working with the district, RHAC will play an important role in guiding student success.

Yearbooks from all decades are being sought as

### How You Can Help

To assist the Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council or to submit information, please contact the below volunteer responsible for your graduation class, or enter your data in the Alumni Center on the district Web site at [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org).

#### Before 1960 (including before centralization)

Carolyn and Jack Gaffney  
334-3989; [mmack@rhnet.org](mailto:mmack@rhnet.org)

Bob Thompson  
334-6164; [onerlt@frontiernet.net](mailto:onerlt@frontiernet.net)

#### 1960-69

Joe Bellanca  
334-5147; [cjbellanca@rochester.rr.com](mailto:cjbellanca@rochester.rr.com)

#### 1970-79

Karen Quackenbush  
533-2572; [kquackenbush@rhnet.org](mailto:kquackenbush@rhnet.org)

#### 1980-89

Mike Petramalo  
385-5187; [mpetrama@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mpetrama@rochester.rr.com)

#### 1990-99

Ann Grabowski  
E-mail requested; [rh1993@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rh1993@rochester.rr.com)

#### 2000-09

Varun Mehta  
755-6946; [varun@mehtaassociates.com](mailto:varun@mehtaassociates.com)

contributions to help in this effort. For more information, call the Office of Community Relations at 359-5017 or drop off the books at the reception desk at the Parker Administration Building, 2034 Lehigh Station Road.

## RHEF Seeks Distinguished Alumni

The Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation is seeking nominations for the sixth annual RHEF Distinguished Alumni Award. The award is presented to graduates who exhibit qualities that reflect favorably on Rush-Henrietta

schools, such as outstanding citizenship and community service. For more information, or to download a nomination form, please visit [www.rhef.org](http://www.rhef.org), or contact Joe Bellanca at 334-5147 or e-mail [cjbellanca@aol.com](mailto:cjbellanca@aol.com).



## Summer School Offers Additional Learning

This year, Rush-Henrietta plans to offer summer school programs designed to help children at all grade levels. Summer school is funded by the district's 2006-2007 budget, so the following programs will be held this summer, pending voter approval of the annual budget in May. Parents of elementary and middle school students should call their child's teacher with questions; parents of high school students should call their child's counselor.

### Elementary Summer School

SMART, Summer Math and Reading Time, is an opportunity for children in grades K-5 to improve reading, writing, and math skills, and to learn new skills, attitudes, and behaviors that contribute to overall school success. In March, all students receiving Academic Intervention Services (AIS) will be invited to apply for SMART. Parents will receive a letter and registration materials from their child's school principal and are encouraged to return this registration quickly, as enrollment is limited. SMART will be located at Fyle and Leary elementary schools, and operate from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, July 10, through Friday, August 11. A key factor in a child's acceptance into the program is the assurance by parents that the child will attend school every day; busing will be provided. SMART 2006 will provide children with excellent instruction and close attention in small classes. The curriculum focuses on strengthening basic English Language Arts and math skills. Studies show that too many students actually lose math and reading skills during the summer. SMART aims to minimize the "summer learning slump." Instead of regressing, we want students progressing during summer recess. Children can expect to have a focused and intensive learning experience with lots of reading and writing, and an opportunity to better understand math, while strengthening basic math skills. Students can expect to have talented and caring teachers who are dedicated to helping them succeed in school and in life.

### Middle School Summer Academy

This year, Summer Academy for middle school students will be located at Roth Middle School. The Academy will operate from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday for

four weeks beginning July 10. The Summer Academy will provide an opportunity for students to make up courses failed during the regular school year in English Language Arts, science, social studies, and math. A reading clinic will be provided for students who need to strengthen reading skills, and the Concepts Math and Concepts English Language Arts programs will be available for seventh and eighth graders who need basic, foundational learning in these subjects. The district expects that about 180 Burger and Roth students will enroll, providing them with an excellent chance to strengthen school skills in preparation for a successful 2006-07 school year. During the next several months, counselors will be talking with parents and registering students.

### SHS Summer School

The 2006 summer school program for students in grades 9-12 will be housed in the Ninth Grade Academy. Most course offerings will be remedial, providing students with the opportunity to improve grades and strengthen learning from the regular school year. Many students will be able to earn credits or pass Regents exams, allowing them to catch up with classmates and graduate in four years. The district also will offer a small number of half-credit courses that allow some students to accelerate their high school programs. These include health, participation in government, economics, and driver's education. The district also expects to provide students with opportunities for credit recovery in math, and support for students who want to accelerate their math path. The district is expecting to enroll more than 300 students in SHS Summer School, which will operate mornings, Monday through Friday, from Wednesday, July 5, through the week of August 14. It will offer English Language Arts 9-12, social studies 9-12, science 9-11, math A and B, and physical education. The district also plans to offer 10-hour Regents review courses in math A, earth science, biology, U.S. history, and global history during the week before the August Regents exams are administered. All course offerings are dependent upon adequate student registration. Registration for all courses, including the Regents review courses, will begin in late June.



## School Nurse Teachers Lauded for Excellence

School Nurse Teachers from the Rush-Henrietta Central School District were in the news recently, doing classroom education, CPR certification, and more. A Channel 8 (WROC) report focused on the daily activities of Jeanne Schwasman, School Nurse Teacher at Winslow Elementary School. In 2005, The New York Healthy STARS program honored Rush-Henrietta for excellence in promoting comprehensive school health and learning. The district, one of only eight winners statewide, earned the highest possible honor. Rush-Henrietta's School Nurse Teachers are vital to the success of healthy school and community

environments. They visit classrooms for nutrition and health education, and support student success by providing health care and coordinating instructional support teams. Several news outlets – including Channel 10 (WHEC) and the *Henrietta Post* – also featured the Senior High's School Nurse Teacher, Lea Theurer, who explained that Rush-Henrietta is one of only three school districts in Monroe County that requires students to take CPR courses. To read or watch the Channel 8 report, visit the district Web site at [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org) and search for "about school nurse teachers" using the site search tool.

## Space Committee Report Available for Review

Dr. Ken Hilton, Rush-Henrietta's executive director of research and evaluation, recently presented the 2006 Instructional Space Committee Report to the Board of Education. Each year, the Space Committee examines the district's instructional facilities and future student enrollment data, making recommendations it believes necessary to meet future instructional space needs. The recommendations are made to the superintendent and

the Board of Education to help them anticipate and plan appropriate and adequate future space. The committee's findings, conclusions, and recommendations are available on the district Web site. To access the information, visit [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org), and click on the district tab, then districtwide committees, and select Space Committee. For additional information, please call the office of research and evaluation at 359-5018.

## Board of Education Candidate Petitions Available

There are three seats on the Rush-Henrietta Central School District Board of Education up for election on May 16, 2006. All three seats are for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2009. To qualify, candidates must be at least 18 and have been a resident – but need not be a taxpayer – of the district for a continuous and uninterrupted period of at least one year. Petitions for interested candidates are available in the office of the district clerk, 2034 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, and due by 5 p.m. April 18. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Bevan, district clerk, at 359-5010. In addition, those interested in running for school board or wanting to learn more about the process are invited to attend the Prospective School Board Candidate Seminar from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Airport Holiday Inn on Brooks Avenue in Rochester. The Monroe County School Boards Association sponsors the program. Registration is requested by March 28. A fee of \$10 covers costs associated with program materials and a continental breakfast. For information, contact the Monroe County School Boards Association by calling 328-1972.

### Principals Appointed



Shaun Nelms



Denise Zeh

In January, the Board of Education named Shaun Nelms principal of Burger Middle School, and Denise Zeh principal of Roth Middle School.

*Rush-Henrietta*  
**Rush-Henrietta Central School District**

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***Future School Votes to be Held at One Location***

In an effort to improve convenience, enhance access, and reduce expenses, the Rush-Henrietta Central School District will hold future votes at a single location, the district's Transportation and Operations Center, located at 1133 Lehigh Station Road.

In December, Rush-Henrietta presented for voter approval a facility renovation proposition that received broad community support; residents were asked to cast their ballot at a single location, the Transportation and Operations Center. That experience helped the district gauge how the community would respond to the potential consolidation of the district's multiple voting sites.

About half of those who voted in December completed an exit survey, and an overwhelming number embraced this common-sense approach to voting. Residents who support voting at a single location cited a variety of compelling reasons. Among these factors were ease of access, availability of parking, and eliminating disruptions and potential safety hazards that in the past were associated with holding votes at each of the district's five elementary schools. Many people also mentioned that the new location – the corner of Middle and Lehigh Station roads, which is located near an expressway exit – made for an easy stop on the way to or from work.

In addition, many residents complimented the district for its efforts to minimize the cost associated with holding its votes. By hosting district votes in one location, rather than five throughout the community, Rush-Henrietta avoids more than \$10,000 in additional expenses for each vote. It should also be noted that most Monroe County school districts hold their votes in a single location.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at our annual budget vote on May 16 at the district's Transportation and Operations Center.