



Rush-Henrietta Central School District

# Community Newsletter

Winter  
2000-2001

## Dance Educator Jacques d'Amboise Spends Two Days in R-H

*Jacques d'Amboise, former New York City Ballet Principal Dancer and Founder of the National Dance Institute (NDI), brought wings to the feet of children and adults alike when he held two days of dance workshops in R-H. He conducted classes for Winslow Elementary School's fifth grade students with Adrienne Ehrlich, a math instructor at Winslow and teacher for NDI. The visit also included an NDI-style dance/aerobic class for all interested adults; an assembly in which Winslow fifth graders demonstrated what they learned for their fellow students; and a performance for the community. Jacques d'Amboise's visit was made possible through his generous donation of time along with the financial and/or in-kind support of the Winslow PTO, the Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation, Michael Yudelson, Tony Glassman, the Outback Steakhouse on Jefferson Road and the Marriott Rochester-Thruway.*



# Greetings from the Superintendent of Schools

The District takes pride in celebrating the many successes that both students and staff have enjoyed throughout the past year. Success, as it relates to education, can be defined in a variety of ways. A caring and supportive community, academic achievement, good job opportunities, careful strategic planning and prudent fiscal management are all important elements woven together that create the colorful tapestry of success in our school community.

Over the past decade, family, business and community partnerships have become key factors

influencing student success. Spurred by the drive for accountability and high standards for all children, partnerships are highly valued as they provide new and innovative ways to nurture student success. The District enjoys a rich tradition of community involvement and looks forward to both continuing and forging new partnerships in 2001. With strong community support, Rush-Henrietta students will be empowered to make additional academic strides.

With the advent of the new year, may peace, joy and every happiness be yours. With appreciation for



*Dr. J. Kenneth Graham, Jr.*

community involvement that makes an invaluable difference in education, the District looks forward to strengthening our partnerships in the new year to mobilize needed resources and effectively guide student success.

## From the Board of Education

As President of the Board of Education, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you how your Board of Education works for the benefit of the District. As you may be aware, the Board is composed of seven members who serve without pay for three-year terms and attend two Board meetings per month. However, what you may not know is that each of the members is active on several other committees as part of their Board duties.

In addition to Board meetings, Board members are involved with R-H committees on policy, finance and audit, community relations, technology and health and wellness, and each is assigned to serve as a liaison to an R-H school and parent group and the town councils of Henrietta, Rush, Brighton and Pittsford. Additionally, members serve on committees of the New York State School Boards Association, the Monroe County School Boards Association and the Genesee Valley School Board Institute for Staff Development. Committees of these organizations bring together school board members throughout the area to discuss



*David R. Pennella*

labor relations, federal and state legislative issues, information exchange, board governance and policies, staff development and Board member training.

Board members routinely volunteer 15 or more hours of service per week in their service to the Rush-Henrietta Central School District while balancing their own jobs, families and children's activities. The members of the Board of Education continue their dedication into the new century, and it is my privilege as Board President to serve with colleagues who are so dedicated.

The Board of Education extends their best wishes for the new year to you and your family.

## Tax Exemption Applications Due

Homeowners in the R-H Central School District may be eligible for partial property tax exemptions.

The STAR program provides a partial exemption from school property taxes for owner-occupied primary residences. The "Basic" STAR exemption is for homeowners regardless of age or income. Homeowners do *not* need to reapply for this exemption each year unless their primary residence changes.

The "Enhanced" STAR program provides exemptions for senior citizens 65 and older with household incomes of \$60,000 and below. Applicants **must reapply** for this each year.

Partial tax exemptions are also available for property owners who are 65 and older with limited income and people with disabilities with limited income. Applicants **must reapply** for these each year.

The deadline for all applications is on or before March 1, 2001. Applications are available from town assessors.

# Senior High School Honors Its Veterans

In recognition of Veterans' Day 2000, Rush-Henrietta Senior High School students and staff members recognized veterans in the school on November 10. Starting the day, school radio announcer David McBride read a passage about the *Star Spangled Banner*, which was followed by the R-H Singers' recording of the anthem.

Joe Pennella, a junior, accompanied by two officers from the Henrietta Recruiting Station, moved throughout the school to thank staff members for serving our country and to pin a boutonniere or corsage on each of them.

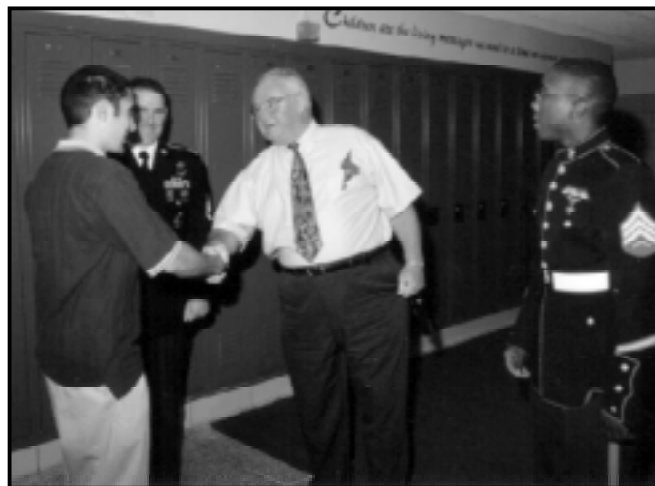
Those recognized included Lawrence Pace of the Art Department, who served with the Marine Corps from 1967-70. He was stationed in South Vietnam from December 1967 to early '69 in Radio Communications with the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. He says, "I'm lucky to be here!" Richard Howland of the Skills Center served in the Army from 1966-69. He also served in Vietnam. Jim Davidson of the Science Department served in the Army from 1969-72. He was stationed at the White House for two years during the Nixon Administration.

Al Richter from Driver's Education served with the New York Guard and Army Air Force from 1941-46. As a navigator for a B-26 medium bomber, his missions included D-Day, Normandy and Northern France in 1944. Richter also served with the Air Force Reserves from 1947-52. He was stationed in Europe, India-Burma and the continental United States.

Social studies teacher Ann Bradley served in the Navy from 1978-83. She was stationed in Spain and in the Philippines. A cryptologist, Bradley was the first female in Navy Electronic Intelligence. Michael Carter of the Custodial staff was a Sergeant in the Army serving from 1969-73. He received the Army Accommodation medal. Werner Kleemann, Interim



*Rush-Henrietta Senior High School student Joe Pennella is pictured thanking two of the Senior High School staff members who served their country, Ann Bradley and Werner Kleemann. Joe was accompanied by Army Staff Sergeant Peter DuRussel and Marine Sergeant Hubert Gayle, right of Werner Kleemann.*



Principal of the Senior High School, served with the Marine Corps from 1960-63. He was with a training battalion in Quantico, Virginia. During the Cuban missile crisis, part of Officers' Training was learning Spanish and Cuba's geography. Several other veterans declined to be recognized publicly.

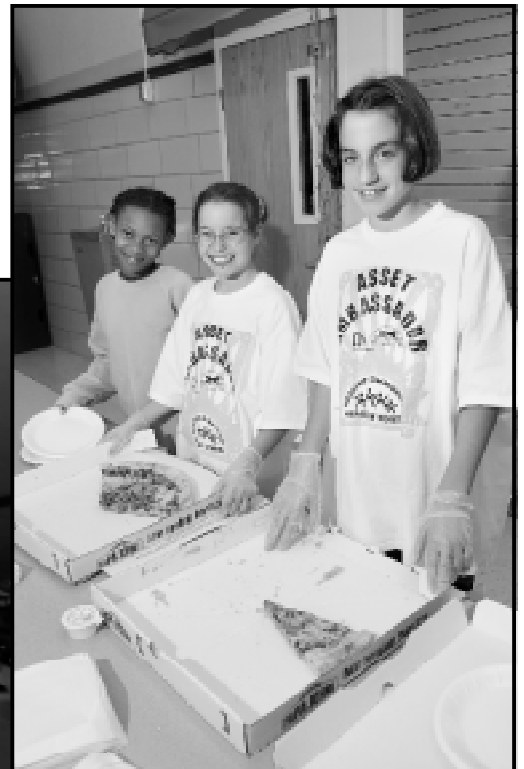
Marilyn Barr, Director of Social Studies and Foreign Language, coordinated the Veterans' Day events. "I asked Joe Pennella to recognize veterans on behalf of the school because of his patriotic spirit and interest in our military history. Joe has done a great deal of research and made presentations to his classmates about United States history and the role of our military in preserving freedom," she said. Joe hopes to attend West Point or Annapolis one day.

At the close of the day, David McBride and Pat Stefano read a passage about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and how Armistice Day came to be known as Veterans' Day. Dan McMurray played Taps in honor of those who lost their lives in service to our country.

"During the day, many of the students and staff members took the time to thank their teachers and colleagues for serving their country," Barr said. "Our Veterans' Day observance was small, but it was significant. We hope it will become a tradition at the Senior High School."

*Visit the R-H Website  
www.rhnet.org*

# Making a Difference . . .





Many R-H students, staff and parents did something for their community on Make a Difference Day in October. As part of a community-wide asset building initiative, the Henrietta Youth Bureau and R-H schools urged groups to plan volunteer activities. Over 360 adults and youth were involved in projects. Among these activities, the Rotary Interact Club and R-H students assisted Special Olympics children to bowl at Clover Lanes, and children and adults from Winslow Elementary School washed car windows to raise money for Prevention Partners. At the end of the morning, all who made a difference received a certificate for their efforts when they gathered for a pizza lunch at the Senior High School, where they told others what services they had performed.



# Distance Learning Center Links R-H Students to World

Can you imagine how exciting it would be for classes to take field trips to Argentina, England, Texas or New York? These were just some of the first-hand learning opportunities that took place in Rush-Henrietta this fall. However, our students and teachers didn't travel by airplane or bus; they took their trips in the District's new Distance Learning Center, which serves the entire District from its location in the Ninth Grade Academy in the Carlton O. Webster building.

The center's cameras, screens and microphones allow Rush-Henrietta students to see and talk in "real time" with people around the world. Lisa Day, the Distance Learning Center Coordinator, works with teachers to plan distance learning opportunities that fit into the curriculum, and she coordinates the technical details of the video conference so it goes as smoothly as a telephone call. "Distance learning makes a profound impact on the children," Day

says. "It allows them to communicate on a different level and helps improve their listening and speaking skills."

A world of new learning opportunities have been created. The Distance Learning Center's debut took place on September 21 with a visit to the San Diego Zoo. On November 16, the faculty of the Ninth Grade Academy had a video conference with staff at the National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside in Liverpool, England. "The purpose was for R-H teachers to experience the possibilities that video conferencing opens-up," said Principal Beth Patton.

Two museum staff members with excellent senses of humor showed some of their extensive collection of natural history objects. They displayed several amazing fossils, including an 18 inch trilobite, a one foot long shark's tooth and the fossilized head of a pygmy elephant. The museum staff said the large cavity in the center of the pygmy elephant's skull where the trunk used to be, may have been the origin of the Cyclops, the one-eyed

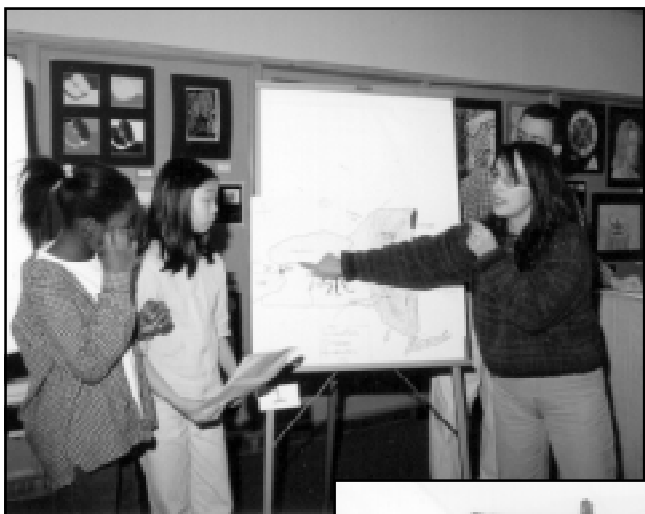


*Ninth Grade Academy staff members "traveled" to Liverpool, England for their introduction to distance learning.*

giant in Greek and Roman mythology. Beth Patton pointed out that this would be great for ninth grade students studying myths to see and hear.

Also this past fall, Home and Career students from the Ninth Grade Academy were connected to the Village Museum in Historic Cold Springs, New York for a program on kitchen technologies. Sherman third graders worked on a math project with third graders in Texas. Crane Elementary kindergarten students visited the San Diego Zoo for a program on owls. Winslow Elementary teachers MaryJo Costello and Jamie Brunette have an on-going "literature circles" program with the Katy School District in Houston, Texas. Beth Saffer's third grade class at Winslow did a program on "Fractured Fairy Tales" with the Museum of Television and Radio in California. Pat Lyons' Design Drawing and Production students at the Ninth Grade Academy took a tour of the Hartness Manufacturing Plant in South Carolina.

Dawn Pixley of Fyle Elementary used distance learning to kick off a social studies unit on Latin America, which is part of the fifth grade curriculum. Pixley's class had a video conference with a class from the Carmen A. de Marin



*Above, Rush-Henrietta students make a presentation to students in Buenos Aires. The monitor in the photo, right, shows students listening in the Argentine classroom.*



## Foundation News

School in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The teachers from both classes e-mailed each other many times to plan the format of the conference.

Pixley said, "We decided to have each class present information on school life, people's roots, climate and leisure. The Argentine students study English three times a week, so they wanted to hold the entire conference in English. The accents were sometimes difficult to understand, but Senior High School Spanish teacher Francia Gonzalez helped us and explained more about Argentina's culture. She also brought along some of her Spanish students to share in the experience."

The children loved asking one another questions throughout the video conference. Chevaughnte Dobbs learned, "They have the same seasons at different times. Right now they have spring and we have winter," and Eddie Rogers said, "I think the whole thing was neat because you're talking to a country 1,000 miles away. Who wouldn't be excited?"

Charlie Kim said, "The neat thing was they had lots of screens to look at. There were two small screens, one long screen, and one screen that is big - like an overhead screen. Another thing is that they already learned some English! But we could understand some of it and some of it we couldn't. That's because of their accent. Next time I would like to have more time to ask questions."

The conference concluded with each class singing a song. Dawn Pixley said it was a great opportunity to make another culture come alive for the students. "We learned a lot, including some things that we will do differently next time," she said.

The opportunities that distance learning affords are just about limitless. Within a year or two, students will be able to take high school or college-level classes taught at another site. Community members will be able to attend special events such as a concert at Washington's Kennedy Center.

### • RHEF Presents Distinguished Alumni Awards

Three Rush-Henrietta graduates were honored as the inaugural recipients of Distinguished Alumni Awards presented by the Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation (RHEF) during halftime at this year's Homecoming football game on October 7.

The honorees were Linda J. Smith, Class of 1964;

Douglas Emblidge, Class of 1979; and Cornelius Southall, Class of 1985. Their awards were presented by Class of 2001 RHEF student trustees Meaghan LaRocca and Matt Haschmann and RHEF trustee Joseph Bellanca.

Since joining Rush-Henrietta Schools in 1968, science teacher Linda Smith has been recognized with numerous honors. Among them are the University of Rochester Award for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society Award for dedication to teaching science and encouragement of research, first Mission Commander in the Challenger Learning Center, head of the writing team for the BOCES 1 BUBL project (a simulated undersea adventure at the Rochester Museum & Science Center) and Tandy Technology Outstanding Teacher Award for using technology in the classroom. She currently teaches earth science and astronomy at the high school level and is the computer liaison for staff training - using technology in the classroom to facilitate student learning.

Douglas Emblidge joined the national award-winning Channel 13 news team after graduating from college and since then has become one of the best known and liked newscasters in the Rochester market. Emblidge



Three Rush-Henrietta alumni were honored in October 2000 with the first ever Distinguished Alumni Awards presented by the Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation (RHEF). They are, from the left, Cornelius Southall, Linda Smith and Doug Emblidge.

has also been involved in many community groups, including Rotary, Crimestoppers Board of Trustees and the Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation as an Honorary Trustee.

Cornelius "Corny" Southall was a football player in Rush-Henrietta and earned almost every athletic honor possible, including USA Today High School All-American, Section V Championship Team and Section V Hall of Fame. Upon graduation from college, he joined the United States Secret Service and is presently assigned to the Presidential Protective Division.

The RHEF Board of Trustees congratulates these honored graduates and look forward to making the Distinguished Alumni Awards an annual tradition in Rush-Henrietta.

### • RHEF Awards Mini-Grants

The Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation recently awarded its first three mini-grants. One grant helped provide music accompaniment for the two-day dance program presented by Jacques d'Amboise of the National Dance Institute in November. The other two grants provided special academic opportunities for students in need.

# Women's Suffrage History Comes Alive Using Primary Resource Materials

The November elections were very exciting for fifth graders at Fyle Elementary School who started off the year learning about the history of voting and the Upstate New York connection to the women's history movement.

That's because two of their teachers, Gail Petri, library media specialist, and Doris Waud, fifth grade teacher, were selected as American Memory Fellows by the Library of Congress. This unique honor gave the two colleagues the opportunity to spend six days in Washington, D.C. last July, expenses paid, to learn more about integrating primary resource materials into their teaching.

In their application to be Fellows, Petri and Waud submitted proposed lesson plans based on a women's history unit of study they had collaborated on for the past two years. They hoped to use the Library of Congress' digitized primary resource materials to expand this unit and develop a lesson on women's suffrage called "Voices for Votes: The Struggle for Suffrage." They planned to introduce the lesson as part of a social studies unit on elections.

"We were excited to be chosen for this workshop. They selected only 24 teams out of 150 that applied. We worked non-stop for the six days," said Waud. "We learned how to use primary resource materials on the Library's phenomenal website ([www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)). The American

Memory section contains collections of thousands and thousands of documents. We keep telling people about it!"

"The lesson we proposed to develop at the workshop was meant to complement the United States history curriculum in several ways, including connecting with politics, current events and the 2000 elections. It would increase student awareness of the importance of voting. By studying how voting laws have changed over time, students would be engaged in thinking critically about the past. They would gain an appreciation of the efforts and struggle of many to attain suffrage for women," said Petri. The lesson is also directly related to New York State learning standards for Social Studies. Students will learn skills they need for the New York State Social Studies tests given in grades 5 and 8.

Petri set up a link to the American Memory Collections through the R-H school website ([www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org)) using the Library Pages button.

Before students were introduced to the American Memory website, Waud and Petri presented some introductory lessons. Their first lesson was a real eye-opener. They held a mock presidential election with only boys allowed to vote! They then held a second election allowing girls to vote, too. They asked the students to compare the election outcomes and decide whether and how female votes made a difference.

The students then went to the computer lab for their introduction to the American Memory website. The children learned about primary documents and what



*Cody Jay, right, plays the role of Al Gore as part of the election unit in Doris Waud's class. He shakes Nathan Hughes' hand as he recites his qualifications for President.*

they can learn from them. Later, each child analyzed photos from the women's suffrage movement and wrote what he or she learned from the photos. They identified the strategies that women used to convince men they deserved the vote. They also looked at campaigns of today to identify strategies candidates use to convince people to vote for them.

"The materials really made history come alive for the children," Petri said. "The photos and other documents show that history really existed."

Students were divided into small groups to use the American Memory materials as well as other online and off-line resources to research a particular time span between 1800 and 1920. They selected photos and other documents to include in a "Voices For Votes" timeline displayed for the entire school.

The election unit grew in many directions, not only developing social studies skills, but also skills related to learning standards in English Language Arts and Technology. Students filled out voter registration forms. They wrote letters to the editor to urge people to vote. They researched candidates and role-played them. They listened to, and questioned, a female candidate. They made scrapbooks of materials that were similar to the documents and ephemera in the American Memory collections.



*Joanna Vail, left, explains the struggle for women's suffrage to Sam Becker, a visitor from another class.*



## For Your Information

Each group of students prepared a final project which included posters, skits, poetry, drawings, artifacts and documents. They presented these projects to one another, parents, and student and staff visitors from other classrooms. The children incorporated materials from the American Memory collections, drawings, materials they sent away for and much more. One student made dolls which represented key figures in the women's suffrage movement.

Petri and Waud hope to share their knowledge of how to use the American Memory collections by teaching one or more workshops in the school district. Petri also hopes to present a similar session at state library conferences. "Also, as part of our commitment to the Library of Congress, we have a year to develop a lesson that will go on their website," Waud said.

Petri and Waud will also continue learning from the 23 other teacher-teams who were in Washington with them. They are now part of a nationwide e-mail group who share innovative ways to make history come alive for their students. "You couldn't teach like this before," Petri said. "The Internet and resources like the American Memory collections are opening up a whole new world. People who might not have liked history before are getting interested and excited about it. I think kids need to know what it was like in the past to appreciate the present."



Gail Petri, Fyle library media specialist, is pictured working with other American Memory Fellows at the Library of Congress in July.

### • Parent-Teacher Conferences

**Planned in March:** Placing a high value on communicating with parents, the District has reserved Thursday, March 15 as a Parent-Teacher Conference Day. Parents of students in grades K-12 who have an interest in meeting with a child's teacher to discuss specific concerns, student progress and instructional plans for the remainder of the school year should call the school to arrange for a conference. Also, as indicated on the school District calendar, please note that students will not have school on March 15 and 16, 2001.

### • School Board Nominating Petitions:

Nominating petitions will be available beginning on or about January 2, 2001 for residents who wish to run for a seat on the R-H Board of Education. Three seats, each for a three-year term, will be filled in the election on Tuesday, May 15, 2001. Candidates must obtain at least 49 valid signatures on their petitions and file them with Sheri Brege, District Clerk, prior to 5:00 p.m. on April 1, 2001. For more information, please call Mrs. Brege at 359-5010. Among the qualifications, a candidate must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident of the school district for at least one year prior to the vote and a registered voter.

• **Board Meeting Cancelled:** The R-H Board of Education meeting originally scheduled for March 27, 2001 has been cancelled.

• **Budget Preparation:** About two dozen community members and school staff took the opportunity to speak at the Board of Education's Pre-Budget Hearing on November 20. Their input will be considered as the Superintendent of Schools prepares his 2001-2002 budget recommendation to the Board of Education.

### • R-H Singers Slate Benefit Concert:

The R-H Singers will present a concert to help raise funds for their trip to the National Chorus Invitational at Carnegie Hall in April. The benefit concert will be on Friday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior High School auditorium. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under. Tickets are available from the R-H Singers, Sue Beattie at 359-5222 and Phyllis Levy at 359-5200.

### • Evening Academic Support:

The Rush-Henrietta Senior High School library and adjoining computer laboratory are open from 7:00-9:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday evenings, following the Continuing Education calendar. A computer teaching assistant and a library clerk are available to assist K-12 students, their families and community adults with such tasks as accessing library books and materials, research, using computers and the Internet and more. Young children must be accompanied by an adult. This is one of the new programs designed to provide academic support for students and adults. Use of the library and computer lab is on a first-come first-served basis. For more information, call 359-7805.

• **When Schools Close Early:** When deteriorating weather requires the closing of R-H schools during school hours, announcements will be sent to the media. The Senior High School will be dismissed at 11:15 a.m. and the middle schools will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m. Elementary schools will not be dismissed early due to the possibility of no one being at home. **If schools close early, all evening and after school activities in the District will be cancelled.** The only exception will be the Webster and Vollmer child care programs, as parents need to be contacted to pick up children as soon as possible.

# Newsmakers

- **Paula Summit**, a physical education teacher at Winslow Elementary School, has been recognized as Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year by the state association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Summit has taught at every level in R-H. Through the years she has organized many events such as Field Days, Jump Rope-a-Thons and Hoops for Heart fundraisers. She has coached several sports including gymnastics, soccer, tennis and field and track. Summit was selected as coach of the state gymnastics team three times.

- The Senior High School **Model United Nations Club** sent a nine-member delegation to the Model U.N. conference at Hilton Central Schools on the first weekend in November. Although competing against schools with much larger delegations, the R-H nine still managed to earn five awards. **Sean Preston** was an Outstanding Delegate at the International Atomic Energy Agency, as was **Dan Raiman**

at the General Assembly. **Nick Yunker** received a Merit award from the Security Council, and **Lori Lundberg's** performance at the European Union was recognized as Most Improved. In addition, the R-H Club itself received an award for its level of Commitment to the Hilton Conference.

- At least three R-H schools helped out the Rush-Henrietta Area Food Terminal this fall. The National Junior Honor Society sponsored a food collection at **Burger Middle School**. Every student and staff member who brought in one or more non-perishable food items was allowed to wear a hat. The hope was that everyone would be wearing a hat by the end of the week. They collected 1400 items! **Leary Elementary School** collected over 565 food items in connection with Children's Book Week, which had the theme "Fuel Your Mind." Students in the Alternative Education Center's **SCORE** program (School of Community Opportunities and Resources for Education) helped move 56 boxes of

food collected at the craft sale held at the Gro-Moore Farm Market in early November. In mid-December the students moved food from the Food Terminal to Henrietta Fire Company #1 for the Holiday Basket Program.

- Science teachers have been actively sharing their expertise with other professionals. **Bob Dayton** (chemistry, Senior High School) was a presenter at the American Chemical Society Biennial Conference, the Science Teachers Association of New York State (STANYS) conference and the Science Educators Conference. **Ed Leary** (earth science, Ninth Grade Academy) did multiple presentations of elementary science demonstrations at the Science Educators Conference. Two Roth Middle School teachers were hired as "voyage commanders" for after-school programs in the BUBL project at the Rochester Museum & Science Center. They are **Molly Lane** (8th grade science) and **Peter Robson** (technology). "The fact that both come from the same district and school is remarkable and speaks well for both our science and technology staffs and programs," said Michael DuPré, Director of Science and Health.

- **Lisa Pastore** (6th grade science, Burger) made a presentation on Homework Hangout at the New York State Middle Schools Conference this fall. This is a program made available to Burger students before and after school. It offers a time and a place where appropriate resources are available to help students complete their schoolwork.

- Rush-Henrietta Senior High School raised an incredible 626,899 pennies in the High School Challenge sponsored by 98 WPXY. The R-H response was spearheaded by highly motivated individuals who donated a great deal of time and energy to the cause. **Dusty Badger** led the charge

## Fanciful Rhinos

*Fyle Elementary School students taught by art teacher Len Miller created many wonderful rhinos as a symbol of Rochester in a project similar to the cow project in Chicago. From the left (front) are Randi Remming, surfing rhino; Jordan Deane, angel rhino; Malissa Citron, red rhino; (back) Nicole Groth, rhino on a cloud; and Lauren Fulkerson,*



*starry night rhino. Soon after this project began, Miller learned of and applied for a horse project, also similar to the Chicago cow project, promoted by the Greater Rochester Arts & Cultural Council. Miller's design concept for a "rainbow" horse was approved in the Rochester project. If the design is selected by a sponsor, Fyle will receive a life size fiberglass horse to decorate.*

# Newsmakers

with her request to include a larger portion of the student body in a school-wide activity. In addition to her in-school efforts, Dusty and her family also coordinated a community-wide activity with several of her friends. The Student Council assisted with this activity. **Kaitlyn Perna** worked with several of her peers to coordinate homebase collections. This was a wonderful opportunity for R-H students to participate in a fun-filled charitable community service.

- **Sherman Elementary School** students were featured on a News 13 Bright Spot in November for their mock presidential election. K-5 students learned all about the election process and had the opportunity to use a real voting machine. Student Council members were trained on the proper use of the machine and assisted their classmates. Sherman voters gave a slim margin to George W. Bush. The process generated enthusiasm and understanding, particularly in light of the Florida voting controversy.

- **Crane Elementary School second graders** are featured in the Young Audiences of Rochester Programs & Services booklet this year. They are shown working with theatre artist Almeta Whitis.

- **Jennifer Mantisi**, a senior at the Senior High school, received the "Do the Right Thing" award from Chief Robert Duffy of the Rochester Police Department.

- **The Boys' Gymnastics Team** was honored by the Monroe County Legislature on December 12. County Legislator Robert Zinck presented a proclamation from the Legislature honoring them for winning the state gymnastics invitational at Shaker High School this fall.

## Holiday Cheer

*Roth Middle School musical groups added to the holiday spirit with performances at Eastview Mall.*



- **Jessica Burdick** organized R-H Senior High School student contributions to the Habitat for Humanity Education House.

- **Ann Marie Gaffney**, District Treasurer, has received the Chase Choice Award from Chase Manhattan Bank for her commitment to excellence, creativity, service and professionalism - qualities that make recipients stand out from their peers in the business world. In recognition of this honor, Gaffney received a Tiffany crystal bowl.

- **Beth Patton**, first Principal of the Ninth Grade Academy, was featured on Channel 13 as Educator of the Week this fall.

- **Rush-Henrietta music students** had the unique opportunity to learn composition from outstanding musicians as part of The Commission Project (TCP) work at the Senior High School this fall. The Commission Project is a nonprofit organization that promotes music education by commissioning original music and sponsoring composer-in-residence programs at no cost to collaborating schools. David Demsey, a saxophonist and Eastman School of Music faculty member, and Mike Holober, a Village Vanguard Jazz

Orchestra pianist, led several workshops for R-H students. Their work culminated in a performance on November 30 with the R-H High School Symphonic Band and Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Dan McMurray. The concert included the premiere of Holober's *Sassafras* commissioned by The Commission Project for the R-H Jazz Ensemble.

- **Nineteen R-H students** were selected for two Area All-State Music Festivals. Students in grades 10-12 selected for the Senior High Area All-State Festival included, for the Chorus: Matthew AuYeung (tenor), Christopher Floro (tenor), Laila Garsys (alto) and Matthew Haschmann (bass); Orchestra: Lauren Beikirch (violin), Brenda Mathias (viola), Christina Montano (cello), Jennifer Paull (violin), Margaret Rich (cello), Marianne Stott (violin) and Laura Beth Lincoln (viola); and Jazz: John Harper (alto saxophone). Students selected for the Junior High Area All-State Festival were Burger Middle School students Dan Kunz (baritone) for the Chorus and James Cliver (trombone) for the Band; and Roth Middle School students David Vogel (tenor) and Christine Stoll (alto) for the Chorus; and Britta Rauck (viola), Tim Xu (violin) and Rebecca Barnett (violin) for the Orchestra.

# Rush-Henrietta Central School District

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ECRWSS

Postal Customer

# Transportation/Grounds Facility Plans Move Forward

On Monday, November 13, 2000, the Rush-Henrietta Board of Education conducted its third public workshop regarding the construction of a new facility to support the operations of the Transportation and Facilities Departments. A study team, which included District administrators, architects and residents, presented detailed comparative information on three proposed building sites. These sites included a 45 acre parcel on the corner of East Henrietta and Erie Station Roads, a 25 acre parcel on East Henrietta Road and a 56 acre parcel at the corner of Lehigh Station and Middle Roads. The 12-person study team also included a site development proposal for the existing facility at 649 Erie Station Road as a short-term solution.

For each site, the study team presented the total usable acres (future growth), total cost (site purchase and development), operational efficiency (location), traffic

flow impact, community impact, advantages and disadvantages. Schematic layouts for each site were presented showing relationships to existing properties, entrance and exit roads, existing sewer, water, gas and power services and preliminary landscaping and buffering plans.

At its regular meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2000, the Rush-Henrietta Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution selecting the Lehigh Station/Middle Road property as the preferred location. As a result, the process has begun for securing the property, designing the facility, preparing a detailed site development plan, obtaining permits and easements, etc.

As preparations continue, additional public workshops will be scheduled. The District hopes to present this project for voter approval at the same time as the regular school budget vote on May 15, 2001.

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