



# BOCES BITS

April 2012 Vol. 8 Issue 3 Jessica F. Cohen, District Superintendent • Laurie Cook, Editor

## From the District Superintendent

Dear Staff,

Spring has certainly arrived in Central New York! As I write this month's letter, the temperature is in the upper 80s, the grass has greened up and the trees are starting to show their leaves. Whether it is global warming or just the vagaries of weather in upstate New York, this winter was one of the most pleasant that we have had in my recollection.

This year's OCM BOCES Annual Meeting falls into the category of very pleasant experiences. Each year, we invite members of the 23 component districts' boards of education to a meeting to present the BOCES budgets. We also use this as an opportunity to showcase student and staff work. I was very proud of the work that the students from the culinary arts and pastry arts classes did in creating and serving an exquisite dinner and dessert buffet. Also recognized at the event was Celia Volbrecht for being named the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education teacher of the Year and Marc Cizenski for being named the Mission US National Educator of the Year. Board members present also heard Kaylie LaFlair, a student from North Syracuse, talk about how the OCM BOCES Career Academy and Laboratory Technician program are preparing her for the future.

The next few months will be full of many events highlighting BOCES students and programs. If you have a chance to attend one of the many graduations, awards ceremonies, and recognitions, I encourage you to do so. It is a wonderful way to see our work come to fruition.

Have a great April.

*Jessica*

## Annual Meeting Focuses on Students

The OCM BOCES 2012 Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 4 at the Irvin E. Henry Campus CTE Building. The majority of component districts were represented by the more than 60 attendees of the meeting, which began with a fine-dining experience in the Class Act dining room. Culinary Arts students prepared, served and displayed a fabulous meal and Pastry Arts students prepared a variety of elegantly displayed, delectable desserts for the attendees.

After the gourmet dinner and dessert, attendees convened in the conference room to be presented with a summary of the 2012-2013 OCM BOCES budget and to be introduced to board candidates. Laboratory Technology student Kaylie LaFlair was the evening's student speaker.

For more information on the April 4 Annual Meeting, contact Deb Ayers at [dayers@ocmboces.org](mailto:dayers@ocmboces.org)



## CNYRIC Employee Thanks Coworkers for Support During Tough Time

Earlier this year, OCM BOCES CNYRIC employee Sandy Rossetti and her family suffered the tragic loss of their home in a fire. Sandy's coworkers here at OCM BOCES came together and collected monetary donations and items for the Rossetti family to help them during their tough time. Sandy wants to let her friends at BOCES know how very thankful she is for all the help and kindness bestowed upon her and how much the generosity meant to her!

## BOCES Will Offer New High School Welding Program at McEvoy Campus



This fall, high school students in the southern area of Central New York will have the option of learning a new type of career as part of their high school curriculum. Through its Career and Technical Education Programs, the OCM BOCES McEvoy Educational Campus (serving the districts of Cincinnatus, Cortland City, DeRuyter, Fabius-Pompey, Homer, Marathon, McGraw and Tully) will begin offering a two-year Welding Technology Program for high school juniors and seniors in September of 2012.

In Central New York, there is currently a high demand for welders. Students completing this OCM BOCES program will become industry certified, providing them with the knowledge and technical skills to prepare them for positions as entry-level welders or advanced placement in post-secondary education.

Skilled Welding Technicians have multiple job options and are a vital link in the manufacturing, construction and facilities maintenance industry. The OCM BOCES Welding Technology program teaches students many different welding processes including arc welding, MIG welding, TIG welding, brazing and soldering, as well as cutting, heat-treating and metallurgy.

Students will gain knowledge of electrical systems, power sources and different welding technologies, as well as the use and interpretation of visual symbols related to welding. The Welding Technology program includes technical math and science, welding print interpretation and measurement.

For more information about the OCM BOCES Welding Technology program, students can talk to their school guidance counselor or call the OCM BOCES McEvoy Educational Campus Guidance Office at (607) 758-5261.

*Pictured: Earlier in March, nine students from the Fabius-Pompey, Homer and McGraw School Districts came to OCM BOCES to learn about a new welding program that will be offered at their McEvoy Educational Campus starting in the Fall of 2012. Students had the opportunity to hear about the program, learn about college welding programs and career opportunities available and even try out the trade.*

### Words of Wisdom

"The Chinese use two brush strokes to write the word 'crisis.'"

One brush stroke stands for danger; the other for opportunity. In a crisis, be aware of the danger - but recognize the opportunity.

- John F. Kennedy

### OCM BOCES Board Members

Michael J. Brady  
Wayne Brownson, *Vice President*  
Catherine Cifaratta-Brayton  
Roseann DuBrava  
Mark W. Gilbert  
Mary Ann Haley

Mike Murphy  
Lisa O'Reilly  
David Paczkowski  
Joan Reeves  
Ann Wright, *President*

## Staff Development Day Brings Together Hundreds for Day of Learning



On Friday, March 16, hundreds of OCM BOCES staff members took part in a variety of staff development activities at the McEvoy Educational Campus in Cortland. Professional staff members from throughout the organization all came together in one location to learn and share ideas with each other. After being welcomed by District Superintendent Jessica Cohen, each staff member was given an individualized agenda and set on a learning track according to their specific role at OCM BOCES.

Learning opportunities included workshops on “Bridges out of Poverty,” mandated reporting, Race to the Top, TCI Training, working with students on the Autism Spectrum, supporting students and many others. A great deal of collaboration and creativity went into the staff development day...many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it possible!

*Pictured: McEvoy Educational Campus and Henry Education Campus Career and Technical Education Principals, Phillip Grome and Marie Ariola, had the opportunity to share information and experiences during the OCM BOCES March 16<sup>th</sup> Staff Development Day.*

## OCM BOCES Teachers of the Visually Impaired Host Staff Development Workshop for TVI



On Friday, March 16, in cooperation with NYSUT Regional Offices and Perkins Training Center, sponsored by the Starr Foundation, the OCM BOCES Teachers of the Visually Impaired hosted a staff development day workshop for other Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI.) This year’s Upstate New York

TVI conference included a workshop entitled, “The Brain: Science to Support Learning in Children with Sensory Impairments,” presented by Dr. Ellen Cadigan Mazel, a certified teacher of the visually impaired with the Perkins School for the Blind.

The workshop addressed available research about the brain and learning and how, with improved brain imaging techniques, there is new information and understanding of how the typical brain processes information from the senses. Through this workshop, educators gained a better understanding for working with children with a variety of sensory deficits.

### Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for the 2012

**Chase Corporate Challenge**

Tuesday, June 19

at Onondaga Lake Park



## ~April~ Alzheimer’s Awareness Month



For Information Contact:

### EAP

1-800-EAP-8764

(315)-1361

[www.eap.ocmboces.org](http://www.eap.ocmboces.org)

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## CONGRATULATIONS! KUDOS! GREAT JOB! WELL DONE! BRAVO!

If you know of an OCM BOCES student or employee that has done a great job on a project or if you know someone that should be recognized for an achievement they've made, please let us know about it! We'd like to get the word out about the great things that are going on in our organization. Send your information to Laurie Cook at [lcook@ocmboces.org](mailto:lcook@ocmboces.org) or call at 431-8597.

### Cosmetology Students Hit the Runway for "A Walk to Remember" Hair Show



On Monday, March 12, OCM BOCES senior cosmetology students from the Irvin E. Henry Campus hosted the "A Walk to Remember" competitive hair show at Barbagallo's Restaurant in East Syracuse.

Senior cosmetology students competed in five categories and were judged by a panel from the Cosmetology Community Advisory Board in the categories of Big Hair with a Flair, Fantasy, Vintage Hollywood, In the Jungle and Masquerade. Students competed by designing and creating hairstyles, makeup and clothing choices using their fellow students as models. The model students were then judged by walking a runway.

Below is a listing of the first place winners in each category. A complete listing of all winners can be found on the OCM BOCES News Blog at <http://www.ocmboces.org/newsStories.cfm#3>.

**Big Hair With a Flair:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Cecelia St. Andrew from Solvay High School, design modeled by Jessica Copp (pictured above) from Liverpool High School

**Vintage Hollywood:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Emily Carter from Liverpool High School, design modeled by Braylee Knittel from Liverpool High School

**In The Jungle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Ashley Curcie from Liverpool High School, design modeled by Alexandria DiMartino from Liverpool High School

**Fantasy:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Haley Harding from Baker High School, design modeled by Nafeesa Jenkins from Baker High School

**Masquerade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Summer LaPointe from West Genesee High School, design modeled by Catherine Commisso from West Genesee High School

OCM BOCES Henry Campus Principal Marie Ariola and the cosmetology pro-gram instructional staff wish to extend their thanks to the OCM BOCES Administration and Board of Education for their ongoing support of the hair show!

### Students in the Spotlight!



*Amber Lee, a Homer student attending the Cortland Alternative School, was recently honored as a finalist for the 2011 Cortland Youth of the Year Award. The award is sponsored by the Cortland County Youth Bureau and the Cortland Police Benevolent Association in order to recognize young people who have accomplishments in community engagement and exemplary success in overcoming challenges. Amber was recognized for her work with Cortland County Youth Leadership and her commitment to the creation of the Cortland Alternative School library. Her accomplishments were also recognized by Cortland Mayor, Brian Tobin.*

*Congratulations Amber!*