



Tri-Town Topics

A Publication of the Tri-Town Schools

Our Mission is to Inspire and Enable All Students to Think,
to Learn, to Achieve and to Care.

Issue 52 – April 2010

Nine ORR HS Students to Attend State Convention

Nine members of the class of 2011 at Old Rochester Regional High School will be attending the Boys'/Girls' State Convention sponsored by the American Legion's Florence Eastman Post 280, June 12-18, 2010, at Stonehill College in North Easton, MA.

The Mattapoisett Lions Club will sponsor Dana Dourdeville, Benjamin Bungert, Nina Batt, and Holly Cardoza. Gregory Kornichuk, Peter Perkins, and Emily Bungert will be sponsored by Lawrence DiCara, Esquire. The Machacam Club and the George White Foundation will sponsor Steven Price. The Machacam Club will also sponsor Shanice DaSilva.

To be eligible for Boys'/Girls' State, a student must be a member of the junior class who has achieved high academic success. Delegates must also show evidence of leadership ability and an interest in the democratic process. At the convention, delegates will study local and state government. They will establish and operate their own cities and towns and state government in miniature. This will include forming two political parties, holding conventions, nominating candidates, conducting campaigns, and electing officials. The primary goal of Boys'/Girls' State is for attendees to develop a better understanding of how State Government functions.

Second Annual Taste of the Tri-Town

by Jane McCarthy

The ORR Tri-Town Education Foundation will host its second annual Taste of the Tri-Town event on Friday, June 18th, from 7-9 p.m. at the Mattapoisett YMCA. The event is open to the public and tickets are \$40. The ticket includes food and drink donated by over thirty local restaurants and providers, music provided by ORR students and alumni (coordinated by Sippican music teacher Hannah Moore), and a fabulous assortment of raffle prizes to be awarded throughout the evening

One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to the Foundation, which has awarded grants to the district for two years. Grant recipients will make short presentations at the event, highlighting the benefits of this worthy cause. Tickets are available at the Marion General Store and Rogers Gallery in Mattapoisett, or by contacting the Foundation Chair, Susan Grosart at 508-748-0180. Please join us for this exciting and important event!

Welcome Spring!

Early Childhood teachers, Barbara Tully (Tri-Town/ORR HS) and Barbara Moody (Project GROW/ Marion), recently traveled to the mountains of Northwestern Massachusetts for a splendid Saturday of professional development. Engaging young children in outdoor learning was the topic of "Growing Up Wild: Exploring Nature with Young Children".

Participating teachers had fun engaging their senses in the sights, sounds, and smells of early spring during activities aligned with the curriculum standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Both teachers returned with resources and ideas to share with colleagues. They are grateful to high school science teacher, Mary Cabral, for alerting them to this valuable opportunity!



Tri-Town Early Childhood teacher, Barbara Tully (left), and

Project GROW Teacher, Barbara Moody,
enjoy an early spring day of professional development

National Latin Exam Awards

by Eugenia Tilley, ORR JHS Latin Teacher

In the beginning of March, ORR JHS 8th grade Latin students took the National Latin Exam. Over 150,000 students in public and private schools in all fifty states and eleven foreign countries participated in this event. The material consisted of forty multiple-choice questions on vocabulary, grammar, and the history and culture of the Ancient Roman Empire. We are very proud to announce that of our 38 students participating, 18 students received awards:

Jessica Belliveau- Gold Medal Summa cum Laude
Kiernan Besse - Gold Medal Summa cum Laude

Jeremy Bare -- Silver Medal Maxima cum Laude
Justin Smilan -- Silver Medal Maxima cum Laude
Michael Wyman -- Silver Medal Maxima cum Laude

Jane Enos -- Magna cum Laude
Rebecca Koerner-- Magna cum Laude

Kevin Andrews -- cum Laude
Natasha Dalton -- cum Laude
Brittany Hotte -- cum Laude
Joel Lavoie -- cum Laude
Derek Marshall -- cum Laude
Nicholas Matsuo -- cum Laude
Olivia Traenkle -- cum Laude
Michael Tucker -- cum Laude
Katie Zartman -- cum Laude

Triona Cuddy-- Blue Certificate of Merit
Laura Morse -- Blue Certificate of Merit

Congratulations to all!

Every 15 Minutes

by Donna Perry, Guidance Counselor, ORR HS

The Every 15 Minutes Program was presented to and for the senior class of Old Rochester Regional High School on April 7th and 8th. The program, now in its seventh year, is a partnership between the ORR HS Student Council and Guidance department and the Mattapoisett Police and Fire departments, as well as the Marion and Rochester Police departments. Officer Anthony Days, Officer Justin King, Sergeant Marshall Sadeck, and Officer Kevin Flynn have supported our efforts with their involvement in the activities that are held on both days.

Classroom supports have been provided by the science and math departments, who contribute many posters on the effects of alcohol on brain development, and the calculation of blood alcohol levels and how they differ per individual.

Officers meet with high school seniors in small groups to discuss topics related to drinking, drugging, driving, and the responsibility of making mature decisions. Linda Chaves, a trauma nurse at Newport Hospital and national speaker, delivered the facts with a solemn message during the two-hour assembly on April 8th. Senior parents were encouraged to attend this powerful presentation to the entire senior class.

A senior skit directed by drama coach, Paul Sardinha, demonstrated the outcome of the choice to drink and drive and the resulting devastation that is felt by an individual, a family, and a community.

We wish to thank all who assisted with the program.

Giving through "GiftsToGive"

by Regina Kaplan, Grade 8, ORR JHS

On March 31st, over 100 students, 7 parent volunteers and the exploratory area teachers of Old Rochester Regional Junior High School took part in a community service project for the GiftsToGive organization. The students and staff donated clothes, toys, books, toiletries, birthday gifts and household goods for newborn to eighteen-year-old children.

GiftsToGive is a nonprofit organization that assists children and families in need throughout numerous communities on the South Coast. One of their main objectives is to raise awareness and understanding to kids about how they can help. In June, the Junior High School is also organizing two field trips to the GiftsToGive mill in New Bedford, where 7th and 8th grade students will volunteer time to sort and screen through clothes and distribute them.

Through working with GiftsToGive, I now realize that there are tons of kids in this area that need help and just because we don't necessarily see it, that doesn't mean it's not there.

For more information on the GiftsToGive organization or to volunteer your time, you can visit www.giftstogive.org.



ORR JHS Grade 8 student, Hunter Toomey, helps pack the donation truck during the GiftsToGive community drive held at the Junior High School on March 31st

High Tech Lunches at Sippican

by Jane McCarthy

On April 8th, students and staff at Sippican School made their way through the lunch line and paid for their meal - without cash. As the first school in the district to use a cafeteria point-of-sale program, Sippican experienced the clichés you would expect with any new system . . . long lines, system errors and users being unable to deposit money on-line at its inception. But overall, the administration, staff and students are excited about it.

The process began last year, by first selecting the company that would install the program, train staff and maintain the staff and students' accounts. This spring, Nutrikids was selected and began the process of installation, training and maintenance. Users will soon be able to deposit money into their account and track what has been purchased each day - not necessarily what's been eaten!

With budgets at the worst in decades, there was no money available for such a program. However, funding for this investment was provided by the Sippican Rental Account (revenue from organizations renting space at Sippican). One of the benefits of such a program is the increase of students on free/reduced lunch. Users simply punch in a four digit password and their account appears on the monitor with the user's name, photograph and account balance. Therefore, more families tend to apply for free/reduced meal knowing that this information is private.

During the next few weeks, the glitches will be worked out and the result will be fast lines, good information to parents about what their children are buying, and eventually, more information on the website about the nutritional value in our meals.



Sippican student Zachary Pateakos enters his four digit code for lunch

High School Music Department News

by Amanda Fillio, Music Teacher, ORR HS

On Wednesday, April 7, the High School Jazz Combo competed in the Massachusetts Association of Jazz Education (MAJE) Combo Festival at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The group, comprised of students Koby Williamson ('10) on guitar, Sean Packard ('10) on alto saxophone, Travis Bliss ('11) on tenor saxophone, Ben Burns ('11) on drums, and Ian Jones ('11) on bass, received a gold medal. The Combo played three tunes including "Juliet," an original composition by senior Koby Williamson. Ben Burns and Koby Williamson received certificates from the judges for outstanding musicianship.

On Friday, April 9, the High School Concert Band participated in the annual Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association (MICCA) festival at Bellingham High School and received a bronze medal. Thirty-five students in grades 9-12 performed 3 selections for the panel of judges and then attended a brief workshop with one of the judges to discuss aspects of their performance and receive feedback.

On Thursday, May 6, senior Sean Packard will present a recital featuring his original compositions as partial fulfillment of his independent study in Jazz and Arranging. The music presented will include jazz, hip-hop, funk, New Orleans style shuffle, and more. This special concert is free and will start at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Sean, an accomplished saxophone player, will be joined by Koby Williamson on guitar and Ben Burns on drums.

The Music Department will present our annual Spring Pops Concert on Thursday, May 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. This program will feature performances by the Jazz Combo, Jazz Ensemble, Chorus, and Concert Band. Several members of the senior class will be featured in solos during this, their last concert while in high school. Senior soloists include Kelsey Frink and Spencer Johnson from the Chorus and Dan Duggan, David French, Sean Packard, Bryan Teefy, and Koby Williamson from the Concert Band. Admission to this concert is free.

ORR Education Foundation Book Awards

by Jane McCarthy

The ORR Education Foundation will be awarding a series of "Lighthouse Book Awards" at the end of this school year. According to ORR Foundation Chair Susan Grosart, "The recipients will be selected by ORR staff and administration based on academic, cultural and civic contributions to the school community". The awards will be given to one male and one female student, currently in the junior class at the high school. There will also be book

awards given to a sixth grade boy and girl in each of the elementary schools.

Mass Department of Education visits Old Rochester, Marion, Mattapoissett and Rochester School Districts

by Teresa Hamm, Director of Student Services

The Old Rochester, Marion, Mattapoissett and Rochester School Districts have been selected by the Commissioner of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to participate in a Coordinated Program Review. As part of this Coordinated Program Review, Department staff visited the districts during the week of April 26, 2010. Such visits are routinely conducted by the Department to satisfy federal and state requirements for the periodic review of specific education programs and services in schools throughout the Commonwealth.

The Department reviewed several programs over four days in order to use Department and school staff's time most efficiently and to encourage strong connections among the programs. The Coordinated Program Review addresses the following programs:

Special Education – all services and programs for students with disabilities who are not making progress and need specialized instruction.

Civil Rights – educational practices of the district related to all students.

English Language Learners – all services and programs for students who speak English as a secondary language and who have difficulty receiving their primary instruction in English.

Programmatic areas investigated include Response to Intervention, students with disabilities' access to the general curriculum, composition of the IEP team, students in out-of-district placements, special education timelines and procedures for denying requests from parents. The Department has also reviewed Old Rochester Regional School District's Business Office practices, school nutrition practices and Title One services this year.

After reviewing school district procedures for these programs, the Department team, lead by Doryce Smith, visited the district and reviewed individual student records, interviewed all school administrators, interviewed representative regular education and special education teachers and interviewed parents representing the Special Education Parent Advisory Council.

The Department also observed instructional sites in each building including Learning Support Centers. They looked at adequacy of facilities, inclusive practice and least restrictive environment.

After the onsite visit, the Department Team will prepare a report for the superintendent and school committee with detailed findings for each program. Both the Department's

report and the corrective action plan are public information and will be available to the public upon request. Program Review Final Reports are also available on the Department's internet website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>.

The Coordinated Program Review is a constructive experience for staff members and the report will be used in planning for the continued improvement of educational services for all students.

Bulldog Bones

by Leigh Costello, *Paw Prints* Co-Editor-in-Chief, and Yulia Motta, *Paw Prints* Sports Editor, Class of 2010

Our spring athletes are making a lot of noise around the league. Boys baseball is off to another great start. Their current record is 4-2, 3-2 in the SCC. The boys' big win came during April vacation against Seekonk. Tim Dunn made his varsity debut as a pitcher and he made every minute count. He pitched for 4 2/3 innings, during which he gave up only three earned runs. The Bulldogs were down 5-3 in the sixth inning, but Nick Filloramo and the rest of the club saved the game. Filloramo pitched for 2 1/3 innings, during which he struck out four batters, including the last two in the seventh inning, while his teammates scored four runs in a row to lead the Bulldogs to their fourth victory of the season.

Boys and girls tennis teams are also having a great season . . . again. The boys' record is 8-1, 7-0 in the SCC, while the girls are undefeated at 8-0. Even though the boys lost one of their valuable players, Alex Matathia, due to a broken arm, they still managed to keep their losing column pretty empty.

The girls softball team is really struggling this season. They have won only one game and were already defeated by the Bishop Stang Spartans two times. The team has had many changes this season - everything from losing their coach and one of the valuable seniors, to having injuries; however, they are hoping that the team can come together and finish the season with a respectful record.

The seniors have only a little bit over two weeks left and are really excited to finish their classes; however, they are hoping that they can make a significant contribution to their teams and leave the high school building with something to smile about, other than the fact they won't have to sit in another class for three months!

Personnel Transitions

We welcome the following new staff member to our school district:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
<u>Sippican School</u> Jessica Sheldon	Cafeteria Assistant

School Choice 2010 - 2011

The Old Rochester Regional School Committee voted unanimously at their April 14, 2010 meeting to remain a member of the Massachusetts School Choice Program for the 2010-2011 school year on a limited, space available basis. The Old Rochester Regional School District will open 13 slots for students in grades 9-12, 3 slots in grade 8 and 5 slots in grade 7 available in the 2010-2011 school year to students from outside the Old Rochester Regional School District. The program will be managed in accordance with Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regulations governing School Choice.

Inquiries regarding the Old Rochester Regional School District School Choice openings should be directed to the principals:

Grades 7-8	Kevin Brogioli	508-758-4928
Grades 9-12	Michael Devoll	508-758-3745

Coming Soon . . .

Information on Upcoming Events Throughout the District

ORR School District

Friday, June 18

**ORR Tri-Town Education Foundation
Taste of the Tri-Town - fundraiser**
Mattapoisett YMCA – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

ORR High School

Thursday, May 13

Annual Spring Pops Concert
HS Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.

ORR Junior High School

Wednesday, May 26

Music Department Spring Concert
JHS Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.

Spring Art Show Reception

JHS Auditorium Lobby – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 27

**Concert in the Park featuring JHS Concert Band, Jazz
Band and Chorus**
Shipyard Park in Mattapoisett – 11:00 a.m.

High School End of Year Dates of Interest

Senior Class

Tuesday, May 18 – Senior Breakfast
Friday, May 21 – Last Day of Classes
Monday, May 24 thru Thursday, May 27 – Final Exams
Tuesday, June 1 – Prom
Thursday, June 3 – Senior Awards Night at 7:00 p.m.
Friday, June 4 – Senior Assembly at 9:15 a.m.
Saturday, June 5 – Graduation at 1:00 p.m.

Underclassmen

Friday, May 14 – Semi-formal Dance
Friday, June 11 through Thursday, June 17 – Final Exams
Thursday, June 17 – Last Day of School

Future School Committee Meetings

ORR School Committee – May 12 at 6:00 p.m.
June 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Joint School Committee – May 11 at 6:30 p.m.
High School Library

Topic: Regionalization Forum

Joint School Committee – June 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Marion School Committee – May 19 at 6:30 p.m.
June 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Mattapoisett School Committee – May 3 at 7:00 p.m.
June 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Rochester School Committee – May 5 at 5:30 p.m.
June 2 at 5:30 p.m.

Openings Available in the Tri-Town Early Childhood Program

The Tri-Town Early Childhood Program, located at Old Rochester Regional High School, has openings available for the 2010-2011 school year.

The preschool program serves three and four-year-olds and follows the school calendar. It is unique in that it provides a high quality early childhood education opportunity to preschoolers, while also offering high school students a chance to learn about working in the field of early childhood education. A licensed early childhood teacher and a rotation of high school students staff the classroom.

For an application or for more information, please contact Jennifer Carreiro at 508-758-2772, Ext. 1955.

Summer Vacation 2010 Youth Video Camps at ORCTV

Kimberly Miot, Executive Director,
Old Rochester Community Television

ORCTV is offering two summer video production camps to Tri-Town youth. The camps will run for two weeks each in July and August. Participants will learn digital camcorders, editing and studio production.

The cost is \$200 per child per session, ages 11-14. Price includes snacks, t-shirt and annual membership. For more information or to register, please contact ORCTV at 508-748-1600 or visit www.orctv.org. Space is limited.

Video Club Offered by ORCTV

Kimberly Miot, Executive Director
Old Rochester Community Television

ORCTV offers a half-day/after school Video Production Club for grade 7, 8 and 9 students who attend ORR Junior High School or High School. Members learn professional camcorders, digital editing and studio production. Elements of media literacy are also taught. Members write and produce their own video productions, which then appear on the ORCTV community channels. The Club meets at the ORCTV Studios, 345 Front Street, Marion. Participants can be dropped off at ORCTV via a Marion school bus. Parents are required to pick up attendees at the studio after each meeting.

The Club is scheduled to meet the first Thursday of each month from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. and on scheduled early release days from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. (May 28th).

Permission slips from the school and ORCTV need to be signed by a parent or guardian. These forms are available at the school main office. For bus transportation, please inquire at the school office when you sign up.

Participation in the Video Production Club is free. Space is limited. For more information, please contact ORCTV at 508-748-1600 or www.orctv.org.

Wanted: School Programming

by Debbie Stinson, ORR HS TV Production Teacher

We are looking for school programming from the ORR School District: classroom lessons, guest speakers, sports, school events & activities, etc. Please share the wonderful things going on in this school district with the community.

Programming will air on Comcast Channel 18 and Verizon Channel 37 – the Ed TV Channels for the Tri-Town. Teachers, students, parents, if you have taped school events or would like to learn how, please contact: Debbie Stinson and Lee Shionis at ORR HS 508-758-3745 or email: dstinson@orr.mec.edu and lshionis@orr.mec.edu. Formats for programming: mini dv or DVD.

Newsletter Information

Anyone wishing to get a notice or message to all employees and school committee members of the four districts at one time is welcome to insert such in the monthly bulletin via e-mail to Jennifer Carreiro at jcarreiro@orr.mec.edu.



