



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 53 – May/June 2010

The Legacy of Susan Norton

Susan Norton is retiring from the Rochester Memorial School this year. She has been a teacher and administrator in the Rochester and Marion School Districts for more than thirty years. We will miss her – she has been a reliable, caring and compassionate servant to our children during her tenure in our schools. At her retirement, Shirley Bourque, a former School Committee member spoke at Sue's retirement party. Here are her remarks. Shirley is speaking about Sue, but her words are inspirational for all educators.

Imagine if you will, Susan, ever resourceful, gains the ability of time travel. She chooses as an adventure to travel to the year 1518. She lands amidst a group listening to Nicholas Copernicus. While not overtly public in his views, Copernicus has long held that contrary to common belief the earth is not the center of the universe but that the sun holds that lofty position. Sue, always reluctant to bring attention to herself, boldly steps forward and disagrees. She adamantly states that the child is the center of the universe. "Which child" Copernicus asks. Susan responds, "It could be your child, my child, a neighbor's child or a stranger's child, it makes no difference". Copernicus shakes his head in disbelief and replies, "a human cannot be at a center of the universe." "That is where we differ" Sue continues "if we do not make the child the center our all of our efforts, the center of our being, the center of our universe it will be of no consequence in which manner the sun or the earth revolves". Copernicus, an educated man realizes that Susan is speaking of a more infinite realm and, because he can recognize a resolute spirit, knows there is no point in arguing. He continues on in his efforts to influence public opinion but now always remembers the human element, while Susan is left to continue a lifelong journey of advancing the cause of children everywhere

I take you now to 1979, my husband and I moved to Rochester with our then only child, an eight month old daughter. We had been advised that Rochester Memorial School was not up to par with the other elementary schools of the tri town region. The students there we were told lagged behind their Marion and Mattapoissett counterparts.

So when it came time to enroll our daughter at RMS we did so with more than just a little trepidation. It did not take long however for concerns about our child's education to be dispelled. Our qualms were silenced upon meeting two incredible educators. The first was Jackie Demers, who to this day I hold as the epitome of an elementary school teacher. Jackie insured that every child started their education confidently and with a song in their heart. The second person was Sue Norton. It isn't hard to imagine that in an age which demands accountability and proficient MCAS scores, in an environment of diminished financial resources, the concept of nurturing may have lost its value to political expedience. If you cannot however calm the fears, instill self confidence, promote uniqueness and inspire potential in the smallest of our children, you cannot fully open the doors of education. If you cannot assist those parents who seek support, if you are unwilling to expend additional energy in an already tiring day, you will have disaffected parents. Whether in her role as Title I director, Reading Recovery Coordinator or Assistant Principal, Susan understood that without nurturing the child and, if needed, the parent, education could lose its potential. Woven through the core of Susan's being is the thread of belief that every child is special, and she has not spared any of her God given talents, time or efforts in bringing the richness of a child to the forefront. We see the product of her life long mission in the two wonderful young women she and Stu have raised and in the hundreds, if not thousands of children she has influenced at RMS. Sue has enriched the fabric of our community, the place we call home through her commitment to our children. For 30 years Susan Norton has been the cornerstone of Rochester Memorial School. As we expand our physical plant, may the RMS building committee remember that the cornerstone of our children's education is not brick and mortar; but hope, potential and compassion. We will honor Sue's passion and legacy when we remember that the child should be the center of our educational universe.



Left to right, Carol Young, former Assistant Superintendent, Susan Norton, Assistant Principal at RMS and Betty Quinn, former Superintendent

ORR JHS Summer Reading

by Carol Herrmann, Librarian, ORR JHS

ORR Junior High School has chosen the young reader's edition of Greg Mortenson's *Three Cups of Tea*, adapted by Sarah Thomson, as the school-wide reading choice for summer 2010. The book recounts the story behind Mortenson's decision to build a school in a remote village in Pakistan as a way to thank its residents for caring for him after he became lost while on a mountain-climbing expedition. More importantly, this initial decision eventually led Mortenson to dedicate his life to building schools throughout Pakistan and Afghanistan as a means to spread not only literacy, but also peace in a region often marked by violence.

When junior high students return to school in the fall, they will participate in a variety of multi-disciplinary lessons and activities designed to enhance their understanding of the book and their appreciation for the ability of each individual to make a difference in the world, both locally and globally. These activities will also support the ORR district's strategic goals of promoting global awareness among students and of encouraging them to become active and engaged citizens of their communities.

The three local libraries and the junior high school main office will have copies of the book available for students to borrow, or students may purchase their own copy at area bookstores.

This Year In Jazz – The Old Rochester Regional High School Jazz Band

by Benjamin Burns, ORR Class of 2011

A long-time staple in Old Rochester Regional community's identity, the ORR HS Jazz Band is still keeping time. Formerly under the direction of Stan Ellis, drummer and Old Hammondtown School retiree this year, the band changed hands to the current band director, Amanda Fillio. However, this year the 16-piece band is

under the seasoned baton of Mr. James Farmer. Starting in September, the group prepared for a busy year.

The jazz band rehearses once a week on Wednesday nights, occasionally holding sectional rehearsals on Thursdays after school. Weekly rehearsals are bare minimum for the needed rehearsal; all the festivals that ORR participated in this year were in the month of March. These festivals include the 42nd annual Berklee College of Music High School Jazz Festival where the band placed 4th out of 18 other competing schools, and the Massachusetts Association of Jazz Educators (MAJE) state finals, where the band received a gold medal. Usually the band participates in the jazz festival held at the University of New Hampshire, but it's times paralleled that of Berklee's.

Having earned a gold medal at the state finals, the ORRHS Jazz Band was granted the opportunity to play at the Hatchshell in Boston in May. The school was one of only three other groups to also showcase a Jazz Combo. The Jazz Combo competed at the Jazz Combo Festival held at the WPI in Rhode Island, receiving a gold medal, and having Outstanding Musicianship Awards given to Koby Williamson (guitar, and student director of the combo), Sean Packard (alto saxophone), and Travis Bliss (tenor saxophone).

Along with three competition tunes, the band also preformed with vocalists Rosemary Ramos and Mikayla Florio at ORR's annual *Night of Jazz*. Rosemary plays piano both independently and in the jazz band; Mikayla is in the school chorus. Rosemary warmed hearts with her performance of *When I Fall In Love*, followed by Mikayla's foot-tapping *How About You*.

With the year coming to a close, the jazz band says goodbye to six talented senior musicians; Koby Williamson, Sean Packard, John Lobo, Jonathan Francis, and Christine Beatriz. Both Koby and Sean are pursuing majors in music.

Third Grade Presentation at Sippican School

by Sam Gordon, Grade 3, Sippican School

On May 27, 2010 at Sippican School the third grade did a Massachusetts presentation. Grade 3 demonstrated The Boston Tea Party Dance. The dance represented boxes bobbing up and down in Boston Harbor during the Boston Tea Party. Mrs. Cook's class talked about famous Massachusetts cities (ie: Worcester and Boston). Mrs. Roseman's class talked about famous Massachusetts bodies of water and landforms (ie: Cape Ann and Connecticut River). Mrs. McKeen's class talked about famous Massachusetts symbols (ie: Black-Capped Chickadee and Boston Terrier). Last, but not least, Mrs. Medeiros's class talked about famous Massachusetts people (ie: John Adams and Paul Revere). Very last, the third grade sang "All Hail to Massachusetts". Third graders did a great job performing and sharing what they had learned this year about our state of Massachusetts.

RMS Drama Club Presents *The Merchant of Venice*

by Tina Rood

The Rochester Memorial School Drama Club April 30th performance of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* was a triumph. This amazing performance kept the packed house on the edge of their seats waiting to find out if Shylock would receive his "pound of flesh."

The performers in the show were Jacob Castelo, as Antonio - The Merchant of Venice, Connor Dugan as Shylock, Sara Lafrance as Portia, and Kyle Rood as Basanio. Others in the cast included Edward Krawczyk, Ryan Vieira, Robert Johnson, Jeffrey Murdock, Samantha Babineau, Hannah Nadeau, Frederick Miller III, Emily Faulkner, Brooke Santos, Kathleen Gifford, Campbell Donley, Hunter LaRochelle, Brett Noone, Mia Resendes, Sara Achorn, and Shane Fitzgerald. All of the performers are 5th and 6th grade students at RMS.

This performance marks director Danni Kleiman's 24th presentation with the Drama Club and 22nd Shakespearean performance. Students from ORR Junior High School are part of the senior tech crew and students from RMS run the lighting and sound for the production. The set was created by Jody Church, and costumes by Kate Tarleton added to the magic of the performance. All in attendance were treated to an evening of wonderful theatre.



"To Us" member of the RMS Drama Club recently performed in *The Merchant of Venice* (left to right) Jacob Castelo, Sara Lafrance, Kyle Rood, Robert Johnson, Samantha Babineau, Jeffrey Murdock, and Campbell Donley

Kindergarten Visits

by Suzanne M. White, Sippican Kindergarten Teacher

During the week of May 17th, the sounds of little voices filled the front rotunda of Sippican School. It was our annual Kindergarten Visit Week. Fifty-five newly enrolled 2010-11 kindergartners and their parents took part in visits in the K classrooms and a tour of our beautiful

school. Each day we welcomed our new little friends to join the current kindergartners in typical class activities such as math workspaces and read-aloud story time while their parents were led on a tour by former Kindergarten parents Jane McCarthy, Leanne Dineen, Susan Swoish, and Michelle Poirier.

The Kindergarten team wanted to give an authentic experience to the incoming classes. We invite them into our classrooms during the school year so that they can join in with current children and see a full Kindergarten in action. The tour offered parents the opportunity not only to see our school, but also to ask questions and listen to the answers from a parent's point of view and experience.

We are all looking forward with anticipation to welcome these young children to the Sippican Kindergarten in September.



Prior attendees enjoying the Sippican Kindergarten Visit activities (left to right) Kate Marsden, Emily Dineen, and Jennifer Durocher

A Groundbreaking Day!



The Rochester Memorial School Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on May 28, 2010 to celebrate the start of the addition and renovation project at the school

Second Grade Quilters Donate Quilt

by Mia Beams and Alyson Stellato, Grade 3, Center School

Starting as a small quilting project in Mrs. LeRoy's class at Center School in Mattapoisett, the adventure of quilting took on a life of its own. It turned into a full-fledged donation to the women's shelter in New Bedford.

The second graders got the fantastic idea to quilt from a story in their reading book. It was The Quilt Story by Tony Johnson, illustrated by Tomie dePaola. They had some difficulties. The pink plastic needles couldn't get through the cloth. Then, nice Mrs. Jackivicz, the librarian, brought the metal needles and thread to the second graders. People who helped with the project were Mrs. LeRoy, the class teacher, Mrs. Pepin, a retired assistant teacher, and Mrs.

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Jackivicz. They got the materials from Beautiful Junk which is where the recycled things for artwork go. The second graders had a great time making this quilt, and they were excited to make the donation.



Mrs. Leroy's second grade class at Center School proudly displays the quilt they completed before donating it to the New Bedford women's shelter

Race to the Top

by Doug White

On June 1st, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Education to compete for \$4.35 billion in the second phase of Race to the Top. The state's application details how the DESE will use approximately \$250 million in federal funds to improve teaching and learning in all schools. The application outlines the need to develop a comprehensive educator evaluation system that will use a variety of measures of student outcomes to monitor the effectiveness of teachers and administrators, and will offer support to help educators improve.

Other significant changes to the DESE's new proposal are: (a) the adoption of the Common Core Standards, (b) the development of strategies to assist high poverty and low performing schools in recruiting and retaining highly

effective teachers, (c) the development of new instructional resources to assist educators in increasing student achievement, and (d) the creation of strategies that will help more students be successful in college and career.

In the Tri-Town school district, Rochester and Mattapoisett are two of the 276 school districts in the state that signed the Memorandums of Understanding to participate in Race to the Top. If Massachusetts is chosen as one of the states to participate in phase two, the teachers, administrators, and school committee members in the two districts will collaborate to submit a plan to the DESE that may include activities in the following areas: improving teacher and principal effectiveness, ensuring effective teachers and leaders in every class and the ability to use data to improve instruction. In addition to the list of activities, the submitted plan will also indicate the cost to implement each suggested activity. More information should be forthcoming in late August when the U.S. Department of Education announces if Massachusetts is a phase two award winner.

Climbing Wall Replaces RMS Annual Field Day

by Jay Ryan, Principal, Rochester Memorial School

Due to the construction project that occupies the school's entire back playground, recess has been happening in the front bus loop since students returned from the spring break. Annual field day activities had to be thought about in an entirely different manner as well. With no field, it was tough to plan a 'field day'. Mr. Cushman and Mr. Ryan arranged for the PTO to sponsor a day-long climbing wall experience for students in grades four, five, and six.

Outdoor Adventures, LLC, of North Attleboro delivered and set up their portable wall onsite and sent their staff to oversee and supervise students' ascent of the twenty-five foot "stone" edifice. Representatives of the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety check on the structure's safety each time OA visits a school. Students are harnessed and able to make three to five climbs during their visit. It was a very popular event with students.

Field Day may never look quite the same again!



Due to construction, a climbing wall replaced the annual field day activities at RMS

Youth Whaleboat Challenge

by Beth Faria, Foreign Language Teacher, ORR HS

On Sunday, May 16, 2010, ten students from Old Rochester Regional High School participated in the 8th annual Youth Whaleboat Challenge, hosted by Whaling City Rowing, in the New Bedford Harbor. It was a light-hearted and fun day that included rowing whaleboats, "harpooning" contests and mini races to compete for the coveted New Bedford Cup. Each team consisted of five rowers and one adult boatsteerer. ORR had two teams participate this year: team 1 was Nailor's Whalers with Boatsteerer Mr. Mike Nailor and team members Sam Carey, Rob Dias, Jack Thomas, Anne Smith and Kyle Wheeler; team 2 was FDMC with Boatsteerer Mrs. Beth Faria and team members Kurt Correia, Carl Dias, Abby Duncan, Ashley McCombe, and Shawn McCombe.

The event gives students an opportunity to experience, in a small way, what whalers experienced during the whaling years with a hands on experience. The races are made up of three challenges - a circumnavigation of Crows Island, a figure 8 race, as well as a zipper sprint which ends in a harpoon toss.

Despite the weather not always cooperating with our practice times or our original race date, this year ORR HS students came away from the race with second place in both the circumnavigation and the zipper sprint/harpoon toss, missing placement in the figure 8 race by only .08^{ths} of a second. Overall, the students at ORR HS won second place in the combination of all three races.

Best of luck to our senior Carl Dias who has participated for the last three years and is now moving on to uncharted waters.



ORR HS participants in the 8th Annual Youth Whaleboat Challenge (left to right) Kurt Correia, Abby Duncan, Rob Dias, Sam Carey, Mr. Nailor, Anne Smith, Mrs. Faria, Kyle Wheeler, Ashley McCombe, Shawn McCombe, on the bottom Carl Dias

Rochester Memorial and Martha's Vineyard Elementary Schools' Bands Combined Instrumental Concert

On Thursday, June 10, 165 fifth and sixth grade band students joined together for their annual combined concert at Rochester Memorial School. Students from the five Vineyard elementary schools and their three instructors traveled to RMS to perform pieces of music that had been shared and practiced among all of the students. For each of the last twelve years, the Martha's Vineyard students have come to RMS in June to share in the annual concert. In alternating years, the RMS band travels to the island for a day of music and sightseeing and exploration.



Band members from RMS and elementary schools from Martha's Vineyard perform together on June 10

Investigating the Possibility of Becoming a PreK-12 Regional School District

by Doug White

On May 11, 2010, the Old Rochester Regional School Committee hosted an informational meeting on the possibility of becoming a regional school district. At the meeting, Steve Hemman, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools, provided an overview of the pros and cons of becoming a PreK-12 regional school district. Hemman listed the following reasons for regionalizing:

- More efficient and economical school operation
- Opportunity to offer students more programs and enrichment within school curriculum
- Sustainability of school district
- Gain economies of scale

He also noted the importance of developing a collaborative group of stakeholders to investigate whether this type of structure would be advantageous to the communities involved.

Chris Lynch from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education provided a timeline and a step-by-

step process that will need to be followed if the districts decide to move forward.

John McCarthy, Superintendent from Freetown-Lakeville, shared his experiences of going through the process of regionalization in his own district. He emphasized the importance that, before you decide to move forward in the process, there is a clear understanding by all parties of the value and benefits of being a PreK-12 regional district. He noted in his district the key component to regionalize
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would help alleviate large class sizes in the town's elementary school and he would be able to utilize resources more efficiently and effectively.

The informational meeting was very informative and provided guidance to the next steps that will need to be taken in deciding whether this would be a positive move for students in the Tri-Town school districts. Presently, the Old Rochester Regional School District is regionalized in grades 7-12. If there was interest in the Tri-Towns school districts to become a PreK-12 system, there would need to be an amendment made to the current regional agreement, approval from the Commission of Education, and a vote taken in all three towns.

Please be aware, before there is any decision made to whether a PreK-12 regionalization would be beneficial to the students in the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester, there will be a need for a lot more conversations and information gathering. Therefore, over the next several months, a committee will be forming that will include school committee members from Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester and Old Rochester Regional, as well as town officials, teachers, parents and community members. The main goal of the committee will be to investigate and evaluate the possibility of PreK-12 regionalization and report their findings to the joint school committee at the appropriate time during the 2010-11 school year.

Life After ORR

by Bill Cooper

Jane McCarthy asked that I write a brief update on our whereabouts since departing the school districts in February, and I am happy to oblige. We had a buyer for our Mattapoisett home much sooner than anticipated considering the down economy. The sale in March put us in a scramble to decide on a retirement destination. I favored Honolulu; Elaine's choice would have been considerably closer to NYC and her grandchildren. So, we're in Wilmington, NC, a compromise of sorts. Our home is on the old side (similar to the new occupants) and has required more replacements and repairs than we had hoped, but it was a bargain and it is located in a very welcoming community. It is quite close to both the UNCW campus and Wrightsville Beach, wonderful resources for young and old alike.

The home repairs, drivers' licenses, new MD's, etc have kept the days quite busy; therefore neither of us is right now missing the routine of work. However, we do intend to work or volunteer in some capacity in the public or private sector of the city, and I am sure we'll start moving in such direction soon. Right now we're enjoying the novelty of having so little difference between a Wednesday and a Saturday. And I do appreciate being able to do my daily jog in the daylight!

All reports that I have heard indicate that the school year in the ORR and SU 55 districts has gone very well, and that students and staff alike are looking forward to a well-earned summer break. I hope that your summer vacations are terrific. Our thanks to all for the wonderful support we received during my years at the ORR/SU 55 helm. The good wishes expressed during our send-off reception in January certainly helped get our retirement adventure off to a most positive start.

My best wishes to Doug and everyone associated with the Tri-Town schools for a first-rate and exciting new term in 2010-11.

Sincerely,
Bill Cooper



Elaine and Bill Cooper

ORR Class of 2010 Colleges

by Jane McCarthy

According to the high school registrar, the top ten ranked students at Old Rochester were accepted into (but not necessarily attending) the following colleges: Bates College, Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Holy Cross, Drexel University, Elon University, Fordham University-Rose Hill, George Washington University, Gettysburg College, Loyola University- Chicago, MA College of Pharmacy, Muhlenberg College, Northeastern University, Providence College, Santa Clara University, Stonehill College, UMASS Amherst, UMASS Dartmouth, University of Connecticut, University of Rhode Island, University of Richmond, University of Vermont, Villanova University, Worcester State College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Construction Moving Right Along at RMS

by Jay Ryan, Principal, Rochester Memorial School

As of early June, the construction and renovation project at Rochester Memorial is on time and under budget. It's hard to believe that on-site work only began during the week of April vacation. When students finish classes on Thursday, the building, in its entirety, will be turned over to Gilbane, the contractors overseeing the project.

In these days before school gets out, RMS teachers have not only been responsible for the usual end-of-year tasks, but boxing up their classrooms in their entirety for movers to clear and store in secure sections of the building and storage trailers offsite. No school staff members will be given access to the building until we near the return to school in August. The school office will be relocated to the superintendent's office for the summer months.



The Construction of Rochester Memorial from a Sixth Grade Point of View

by Zoe Smith

The construction on my school started a week earlier than expected. This gets annoying at times because we will be in the middle of a math class and everyone's chair will start moving and shaking. Then sometimes people feel it vibrating and they're like, "Oh my gosh I am moving while I am trying to work".

Some people are like, "Why did they start? Why couldn't they start over the summer?" Well, since they started earlier, they end earlier. This is a big plus.

I look out the window almost everyday and see the workers working hard trying finish a school. If it is raining they are out there. If it is blazing hot outside, they are out there working to finish. I saw the ground get torn up, the trees get cut down, and the playground I have known for 7 years get taken away. But just to know that art class won't have to come to you on a cart and that all of the kids in the

school will be able to fit in the auditorium makes me know that the construction is worth it. Every second I get annoyed with the construction work because they are making noise when my teacher, Mrs. Bradley, is teaching, I realize that it is worth it and that I shouldn't get annoyed because without them, RMS would sooner or later have to have art and other specialists taken away or on a cart.

by Shane Fitzgerald and Damon Ivester

For the past couple of month's constructors from Gilbane Construction Company have been working out on the field behind our school for the new addition that they hope to complete next year. At first it seemed quite interesting and exciting, but as it progressed, it consistently got louder and more bothersome. It slowly lost the factor of our interest. Examples of this include: during MCAS we were forced to move to another classroom in order to pay attention, as well as having to have recess in front of the school. At some points it has gotten really annoying, especially since we will not have the benefits of the work. However we hope that all grades to come will enjoy the new addition. We hope that the new addition gives the teachers and students more space in this constantly growing population of children in our town. We are curious and very excited to see what the new addition will look like!

by Haley Aguiar

Hi, I am Haley Aguiar, part of the sixth grade in Mrs. Bradley's class. The construction going on in Rochester is great. I think it is wonderful that Rochester is expanding and hopefully it will lead to other things expanding. It takes some getting used to listening, feeling, and seeing the workers outside. Yes, it is a bit of a distraction, but it is good to see that Rochester is finally getting industrious. I think it will be good for Rochester because we are lacking much space. Rochester will be much better with the all changes.

by Robert Johnson

With the late spring construction of the school extension, we had many opportunities to watch the construction workers. With my sixth-grade classroom being right next to the construction, we could see it every day. The second in command of this delicate operation showed us blueprints of the new RMS, and gave us a chance to see the construction up close.

Though it may be noisy, it's enjoyable. When I found out we couldn't go to field day, I was heart broken! I really love field day. But when I found out we were doing a rock climbing, things started looking up!

Though I won't see the finished version of the school, I know that some day, I will come back. I will come back to see it finished.

by Lauren Gaspar

I feel very lucky to be witnessing the start of a brand new era at RMS. In all the years RMS has been around, I would say this is the most exciting thing to happen. It gets a little loud at times, but everyone will be very pleased in the end. Some of the things they are building are a shiny new playground and a two-story addition. In the addition there will be many classrooms, a new art room, and a new music room.

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Underground we will be getting a new septic tank to replace the old one. I think this project could be the beginning of advancing Rochester. I'm disappointed I will not be here to enjoy the playground and addition myself. However, I wish the staff, students, and future students many years of joy using our current project. Thank you to the PTO, Mrs. Norton, Mr. Cushman, and all the families who have supported us at RMS.

Budget Update

by Doug White

The good news since the last edition of the Tri-Town newsletter is school budgets for Marion, Mattapoissett, Rochester, and Old Rochester have passed. As a result, there will be minimal cuts in the budgets that will impact student learning for the upcoming 2010-11 school year. As superintendent of the Old Rochester Regional School District and Superintendency Union #55, I want to thank the community members in all three towns for supporting the educational budgets.

Although the budgets are approved, there is still uncertainty as to the level of funding that will be provided by the state. At the time of this article, the level of Chapter 70 funding was still being debated between the House and the Senate and both of their proposed budgets are at least 4% less than the Governor's suggested budget. The hope is the state's budget will be approved some time in June and the Chapter 70 funding to our schools will not be any less than the anticipated 4% which all the budgets were predicated.

Meet Steve Murphy – Our New Facilities Director

by Jane McCarthy

Now that he's been on the job officially for a month, Steve Murphy had a few minutes to sit down for a short interview. As the District's new Facilities Director, Steve will oversee the six school buildings in the District.

Steve grew up in Taunton, graduated from Mass Maritime Academy and then "married the most beautiful girl in the world" in 1984. Steve and his wife Cecile have three children, ranging in age from 19 to 25 years old. After graduating from MMA, Steve went out to sea for the US Navy for five years. When he returned, he received his MBA in Management from Leslie College and then went to work as the Maintenance Manager at the Co-Generation

Power Plant (part of Harvard University), and then as an electrical engineer for National Grid.

One of Steve's most interesting experiences was the four and a half years he spent working on the Big Dig project in Boston. Steve was involved in the electrical component of the Ted Williams Tunnel, the Zakim Bridge and the I-93 North project. Part of the I-93 North job was spent testing fires in tunnels in West Virginia to assess how the massive exhaust system would work underground during a fire in the Ted Williams Tunnel. Steve was also involved in testing and implementing the lighting system that changes when outside lighting conditions change (i.e. day vs. night, sunny vs. cloudy).

From the Big Dig, Steve moved on to teach math and Special Education in Bridgewater and Raynham. As if that wasn't enough to fill his day, he bought a furniture store in Somerset and then worked as the Facilities Director at Johnson and Wales in Rhode Island. Prior to joining Old Rochester, he was an Energy Engineer/Facilities Auditor with Source One, traveling around the world, saving large entities money on their energy usage. Some of his clients were the town of Dedham, the city of New Haven, CT, Bryant College and the University of Vancouver.

Steve's primary goal in his new assignment is "making this district a model of energy efficiency." With his diverse background and "green" lifestyle (even his car gets 40 mpg!), Steve is very optimistic that we will see significant savings in the near future.

We welcome Steve to our district and look forward to his success!



New District Facilities Director, Steve Murphy

Personnel Transitions

We welcome the change in staff members within our school district:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
<i>Junior High School</i>	
Silas Coellner	Assistant Principal
Hope Perkins	Special Ed Teacher

District Retirements

We would like to thank the following staff members for their dedicated service and their many contributions to the students in to our school districts:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Retirement Date</u>
<i>ORR Senior High School</i>	
Ruth Jefferson	Secretary (Effective 6/23/10)
<i>ORR Junior High School</i>	
Natalie Cote	Special Education Teacher (Effective 6/30/10)
John Johnson	Special Ed/Speech Therapist (Effective 6/30/10)
Phyllis Voit	Special Education Teacher (Effective 6/30/10)
<i>Old Hammondtown and Center Schools</i>	
Stanley Ellis	Music Teacher (Effective 6/30/10)
Luz Jackivicz	Library Assistant (Effective 6/30/10)
Maureen McQuillan	Speech/Language Pathologist (Effective 6/30/10)
<i>Rochester Memorial School</i>	
Susan Norton	Assistant Principal (Effective 8/6/10)

Underclassmen Awards 2009-2010

AMERICAN LEGION AWARDS – Boys' State
Benjamin Bungert
Dana Dourdeville
Gregory Kornichuk
Peter Perkins
Steven Price

AMERICAN LEGION AWARDS – Girl's State
Nina Batt
Emily Bungert
Holly Cardoza
Shanice DaSilva

LIGHTHOUSE BOOK AWARDS
Emily Bungert
Benjamin Bungert

PROJECT CONTEMPORARY COMPETITIVENESS
Mattie Boyle
Shannon Hartford
Morgan Hawes
Nicholas Johnson
Casey Magee
Martha Nakashian
Marisa Parker
Tess Roiter
Matthew Vicino

PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARDS/CSL
Scotlyn Adler
Molly Barrus
Nina Batt
Holly Cardoza
Rebecca Davis
Jerelle Jesse
Justine Jesse
Madison Lees
Sarah Marchisio
Laura Mazzuca
Hannah O'Day
Lauren Pettinato
Margaret Robinson
Emily Roseman
Terrence Sinnott
Anne Smith
Rebecca Spevack
Brittany Stadelmann
Caitlyn Stadelmann
Jillian Zucco
Jonathan Zucco

UNIFIED ARTS AWARDS
Travis Bliss Jazz Band
Michael Cordeiro Concert Band
Rachel Grenier Early Childhood Education
Emma Keough Chorus
Amanda Munroe Family & Consumer Science
Chloe Seroussi 2010 Art All State

ENGLISH AWARDS

Holly Cardoza	Excellence in Media Literacy
Katrina Cook	2 nd place - Shakespeare Art Contest
Catherine Holden	Excellence in Creative Writing I
Daniel Kelley	Excellence in Theatre
Kristin Nascimento	Excellence in Honors English 9
Sasha Nochimow	Excellence in Journalism
Johanna O'Day	Excellence – Adv. Placement English 11
Lilli Paknis	Excellence in Journalism
Benjamin Resendes	2 nd Place - Annual Poetry
Benjamin Resendes	Excellence in Journalism
Chloe Seroussi	1 st Place - Shakespeare Art Contest
Anne Smith	3 rd Place - Annual Poetry Contest
Anne Smith	Excellence in Honors English 10

FOREIGN LANGUAGE AWARDS

SPANISH

Dana Dourdeville	Honors Accelerated Spanish 4
Cayla Johnson	Spanish 1A
Kristin Nascimento	Spanish 2 Honors
Jacob Rioux	Spanish 2 Honors
Rachael Reints	Spanish 3 Honors
Gregory Kornichuk	Spanish 4 Honors
Alexander Matathia	Spanish 4 Honors

FRENCH

India Krawczyk	French 2 Honors
Matthew Teefy	French 3 Honors
Alexandra Bare	French 4 Honors Accelerated

LATIN

Katherine Wilbur	Latin 2 Honors
Anne Smith	Latin 3 Honors
Mary-Lee Barboza	Latin 4 Honors
Emily Bungert	Latin 5 Honors

NATIONAL LATIN EXAM

Peter Augustin
Mary-Lee Barboza
Alexandra Bare
Joshua Bardwell
Emily Bungert
Rebecca Davis
Jillian Enos
Sofia Gabriel
Nicholas Gray
Abigail Hiller
Justine Jesse
Gabrielle Kondracki
Amber LaBelle
Allison LaCrosse
Alexander Matathia
Anne Smith
Katherine Wilbur

MATHEMATICS AWARDS

Emily Bungert	AP Statistics
Adam Costa	Algebra 1
Dana Dourdeville	AP Calculus
Gregory Kornichuk	Precalculus
Alex Matathia	Advanced Algebra with Trigonometry
Megan Merlo	Algebra 2
Kristin Nascimento	Geometry

Massachusetts Olympiad School Winner

Gregory Kornichuk

American Mathematics Competition 10 top scorer

David Friedman

American Mathematics Competition 12 top scorer

Dana Dourdeville

Nathan Reynold

RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE MEDAL

Gregory Kornichuk

SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

Molly Barrus	Anatomy & Physiology
Benjamin Burns	Environmental Science
Drew Cunningham	Technology & Engineering
Dana Dourdeville	Physics
David Friedman	Chemistry
Sophia Gabriel	Advanced Placement Biology
Kristin Nascimento	Biology
Stephanie Wainio	Marine Biology

SOCIAL STUDIES AWARDS

Social Studies Award for Outstanding Research Paper

Grade 9

Josh Bardwell
Adam Costa
Timothy Gonsalves
Abigail Hiller
Marisa Parker

Grade 10

Mikayla Florio
Nathan Houston
India Krawczyk
Seamus McMahon
Anne Smith

Grade 11

Therese Morss
Sofia Gabriel
Emily Roseman
Tina Sylvester
Abby Zartman

Social Studies Highest Average	
Sophie Gabriel	Grade 11
Kristen Nascimento	Grade 9
Anne Smith	Grade 10

PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Erika Belmore	Grade 11
Calum McLaughlin	Grade 9
Courtney McLeod	Grade 10
Corey Miranda	Grade 9
Naomi Reed	Grade 9
David Robertson	Grade 9
Kyle Wheeler	Grade 11

PRINCIPAL'S RECOGNITION AWARDS

Scotlyn Adler	Grade 10
Abigail Hiller	Grade 9
Shanice DaSilva	Grade 11

HARVARD BOOK AWARD

Dana Dourdeville

MassStar AWARD

Ryann Monteiro

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.

Future School Committee Meetings

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

Marion School Committee – June 16 at 6:30 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.

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.