



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 48 – November/December 2009

2009 Superintendent's Award

On November 12th, Old Rochester Regional High School Senior Brian Heacox of Marion, son of Dr. and Mrs. Steve Heacox, received the 2009 Superintendent's Award. The award was presented to Brian by Superintendent Dr. Bill Cooper during the ORR District School Committee meeting. This prestigious award is presented once a year to a current senior at the high school with exceptionally strong academic and extra-curricular achievements. In addition to his challenging course work, Brian is captain of the ORR fall golf team and spring tennis team.

Former recipients include Colleen Sinnott, Class of 2009 (Boston College), C. Tucker Johnson, Class of 2008 (Middlebury College) and Jared Dourdeville, Class of 2007 (Harvard University).



ORR HS Senior, Brian Heacox, accepts the 2009 Superintendent's Award from Dr. Cooper on November 12

The Challenging Ms. Webb

by Holly Cardoza, Grade 11, ORR High School

Playing the role of Emily Webb in "Our Town" was quite a challenge for me. In shows that I have done in the past, I was usually the light comedic character without

much depth. Emily was quite different from those types of characters.

In "Our Town" I had to mature from a teenage girl to a young woman in a matter of minutes! Not only did this require a change in tone of voice, but in characterization as well. Emily went from being an awkward teenage girl to a young married woman so she had to mature in certain ways, yet still maintain the bright and determined personality that Wilder gave her in Act I.

I think what we all took away from this play, was exactly what our director Paul Sardinha, drilled into us each and every rehearsal: That most human beings don't take any time in their lives to appreciate the things closest to us in life. We are going through this life as if we had all the time in the world, which we don't. This proved to be an eye opening experience for me and I hope the audience took as much away from it as I did.



Holly Cardoza, ORR HS Junior, as Emily Webb in the ORR High School drama production of "Our Town"

Music Festival Showcases Southeastern Massachusetts Students

by Amanda Fillio, ORR HS Music Teacher

More than 400 high school students from southeastern Massachusetts, including four from Old Rochester Regional High School, will be performing in the 52nd Annual Massachusetts Music Educators Association Southeastern District Senior Festival at Oliver Ames High

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School on January 9, 2010. The Festival is a wonderful enrichment opportunity and a celebration of the quality of music education in southeastern Massachusetts.

Prior to the Festival concert, students participating in the Festival Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, and Concert Band will rehearse for several hours on January 8 and 9 under the direction of gifted conductors/music educators. Participating students were selected from nearly 1,000 students that auditioned in November.

Students from Old Rochester Regional High School who will be participating in the District Senior Festival are Michael Bliss, Jazz Ensemble; David French, Concert Band; Sofia Gabriel, Orchestra; and Koby Williamson, Jazz Ensemble. In addition to being selected for the Jazz Ensemble, Koby and Michael scored high enough to go on to the All-State Auditions at the end of January where they will compete against the top musicians in the state for a spot in the All-State Festival to be held in March.

JHS Students to participate in Music Festival

by Angie Vaughn, ORR JHS Chorus Director

On Saturday, December 5th, fourteen Old Rochester Regional Junior High music students traveled to Marshfield, MA to audition for the Southeastern District Music Festival to be held in March 2010. Congratulations to all of the students who put forth the time and effort to audition for this very special event.

Special congratulations are in order for the following students who were accepted to perform at the festival: Regina Kaplan - Jazz Band, Lenny Murphy and Matthew Periera - Orchestra, Shane Ryan - Concert Band, and Vocalists Justin Smilan, Ellie Sullivan and Samuel York. Mr. Jim Farmer and Mrs. Angie Vaughn are very proud to have such talented students representing our school and our communities.

Arena Grand Opening

by Rory McFee

The Chuck Michaud Arena opened on December 5, 2009. It was named after the late Chuck Michaud, a teaching assistant who was also a dynamic and well-loved ice hockey, football and baseball coach. The arena was built with private funds and constructed by volunteer workers. It is located behind Old Rochester Regional Junior High School and will be used for roller hockey, basketball, lacrosse and other sports. The facility will be especially useful for the ORR physical education classes.

The arena has been a true community project. Many Tri-Town and Fairhaven families and individuals responded to our mail drive and sent donations. We are especially appreciative of the golfers and hole sponsors who have supported the annual Chuck Michaud Golf Tournament for the last eight years. We have raised approximately fifty-five thousand dollars so far. The actual planning, ground prep and construction was done by volunteer contractors, tradesmen and professionals who provided expertise, equipment and hundreds of hours of labor.



Members of Chuck Michaud's family (left to right) his sister Jane Bogue and his widow Carmen Michaud, unveil the sign for the new arena during the grand opening ceremony on December 5

A Lovely, Lovely Night!

by Angie Vaughn, ORR JHS Drama Production Advisor

Congratulations to the cast and crew of "Cinderella" for outstanding performances on December 2nd and 3rd. Many weeks of rehearsal led to an enjoyable presentation of this classic fairy tale.

The lead role of Cinderella was played delightfully by Jessica Walther who stole the heart of the Prince, Justin Smilan. Members of the Royal Family included King Troy Rood, Queen Jentelle Rioux and their faithful Herald, Lee Estes. Catherine Vaitses, Rebecca Myers and Ellie Sullivan appeared as the step-family and Sarah Braza was the Godmother. With four white horses, beautiful maidens, an array of townspeople, singing chefs and dancing kitchen staff, it was a show not soon to be forgotten. Bravo!

ORR Field Hockey Team Raises Money to Fight Cervical Cancer

by Shaun P. Walsh

The Old Rochester Regional High School field hockey team had a very successful 2009 season. They were crowned champions of the SouthCoast Conference with a regular season record of 13-1-4, earned the #4 seed in the MIAA South Division 2 State Tournament, and defeated Cohasset and Nantucket before losing to Harwich 1-0 in the semifinal round of the tourney. Their defense was outstanding, with the 2nd best goals-against-average in the

entire state in Division 2. They exhibited class and sportsmanship on the field.

But it was what they did off the field that perhaps could be considered their finest accomplishment of the season.

At the beginning of the season, the team learned that Nancy Marchisio, the mother of one of their teammates, had been diagnosed with cervical cancer. The team wanted to do something to show their support for their teammate Sarah and her mom and decided to raise money to donate to the American Cancer Society for cervical cancer research and patient support. They named their fundraiser the "Time 2 Fight" fundraiser for cervical cancer.

The girls organized a bake sale to coincide with their annual Senior Game on October 19th against SouthCoast Conference rival Dighton-Rehoboth. ORR and DR were 2008 SCC co-champs and had played to a 1-1 tie earlier in the season, so the game had championship implications for both teams.

Before the start of the game, Mrs. Marchisio was presented with flowers by the team's captains and by her daughter, Sarah, and son, Christian. During the game, parents of the ORR players manned the bake sale table, selling all kinds of goodies, as well as cancer support wristbands. After the game, which ended in a 0-0 tie, the players moved their bake sale over to ORR's soccer field where they continued their fundraising effort by selling to the spectators at the ORR boys soccer game.

Through the support of their families and the fans of ORR and DR field hockey, as well as those at the soccer game, the team raised \$1,500 for the American Cancer Society. While ORR's field hockey players achieved great things on the field this season, their finest achievement may be their off-the-field efforts to honor and support a teammate and her family, which truly shows what being a great team is all about.

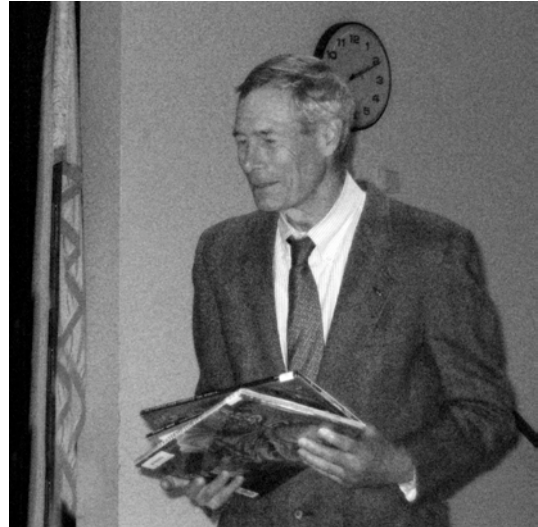


The 2009 SCC Champions ORR Field Hockey team raised money to fight cervical cancer in support of Nancy Marchisio, mother of teammate Sarah Marchisio, at their October 19th Senior Game against Dighton-Rehoboth.

They named their fundraising bake sale event "Time 2 Fight." Sporting pink boxing gloves given to them by Sarah Marchisio's

father Rich are (left to right) team captains Sarah Walsh and Kayla Souza, Sarah Marchisio, team captains Lauren Grainger and Lauren O'Brien. In the background are Assistant Coach Kate Ribeiro and Head Coach Polly Lawrence.

Sippican School Honors Dr. Cooper



Sippican School honored Dr. Cooper for his years of service in November during an All-School Meeting.

The adorable signs created by the students - (pictured left to right) Megan Benoit, Tanner Figuerido, Caleb Owens, Liam Canavan, Mari Daly, Sophie Johnson, Alexei Sudofsky, Caitlyn Kutash - said "Dedicated Reader, Courageous, Organizer, Open-minded, Promotes, Energetic, Runner" to spell "Dr. Cooper". Thank you, Sippican!

Old Hammondtown Staff vs. 6th Grade Charity Basketball Game

by Chad Cabeceiras, Physical Education Teacher, Old Hammondtown and Center Schools

The 2nd annual staff vs. 6th grade basketball game was held on Friday, December 11th, at Old Hammondtown School. The night started off with an awesome live performance by "Rain", a rock and roll band featuring four of our fifth grade students. The game tipped off at 6:30 p.m. and the crowd erupted as the teams began running up

and down the court in a back and forth battle. The lead changed several times throughout the game. The students displayed their tremendous speed and conditioning as they ran up and down the court.

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When the final buzzer sounded, the teachers had just edged out the students by a couple of points. It truly was an incredible game to witness. The event raised over five hundred nonperishable food items for the local food drive.

Special thanks to all involved including: Mr. D'Andrea, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Tavares and all the students, staff and Old Hammondtown community for making the evening a tremendous success.



Jayme Wood, manager of Mattapoissett's Mobil Service Station, presents a check for \$750 to Old Rochester Regional Junior High School principal, Kevin Brogioli. The school was a recipient of the 2009 Educational Alliance Math and Science Grant sponsored by Exxon Mobil and awarded by Mr. Wood. The money will be used for hands-on science and math projects. The school is appreciative of Mobil's local support.

Weather Didn't Dampen Spirit of the Stroll

by Bailey Sweet, Grade 6, Sippican School

In Marion we had a concert with the Tri-County Symphonic Band and the Sippican School Festival Choir. This year instead of just sing-a-longs, the Choir performed "Chestnuts Roasting Over an Open Fire" with the band. Then after all the singing and playing we had a drawing for six lucky people to come up and play sleigh bells with the band while they performed "Sleigh Ride". When the concert was finished, sadly it was raining and there was no Cottage Street Jam Band parade from Sippican down to the town landing, and all the school band performances for the afternoon were cancelled. But the stroll went on (just everyone got soaked and not many people went). But just as if it was sunny, there were goodies, popcorn, and candy canes at the stroll.

My Shadowing Experience at Amica

by Radvydas Peciokas, Grade 12, ORR High School

One day I told my teacher, Mr. Norris, that I wanted to major in Business Administration or Computer Science. I was still unsure of which path I would pursue. I was going on a college visit to Bryant University in two weeks. He told me his wife worked at Amica as a computer systems analyst. He thought that it would be a good learning experience for me to visit Amica. Mr. Norris believed I could learn about both of these interests there. I agreed and he scheduled a visit to Amica on the same day that I was to visit Bryant University.

On the day of my visit, I arrived at Amica Boulevard where there were many offices. Amica is an insurance company that was founded in Providence, Rhode Island in 1921. It provides every type of insurance from automotive to life insurance. They are a large scale and very successful company. I was greeted by Stacie Norris. First we met with Mr. Lou Peranzi, the Senior Vice President of computer information technology. He is in charge of managing the entire department. I spoke to him for a few minutes about the company. I asked him how he had attained the position he currently holds. He told me he started out at Amica right out of college as a trainee. He had, over time, gained respect, experience, and knowledge about how to run an entire department. He kept rising through the ranks and eventually got to where he is today. I felt very inspired by his story. I also learned that there is a lot of planning and organization needed to run a department. He personally told me to "surround yourself with people who are smarter than you." He feels that this is the best way to learn.

Later on, I sat down with a couple of recent graduates from Bryant University and other colleges. I felt I could really relate to these people because they had just gone through the "college experience" and were now starting their careers. I knew I could learn a lot from my conversation with these recent graduates. Some of them worked in information technology while others worked in more business oriented jobs. They told me about all of the great opportunities Bryant has to offer and how much they benefited from their time there. They told me about all the things I should look for in colleges and how to better my college search. They also told me how everything they learned in college benefits them in their jobs today. They gave me advice about picking a major and explained that some majors were harder to switch into than others. I felt as if they helped me to see how my college academic experience will connect to my chosen career path.

In the next part of my visit to Amica, I met many interesting people such as a former Olympic athlete and a very intelligent man who speaks three different languages. I learned that the company was not just local, but very diverse and global. I also learned that many different branches of Amica come together to work on company projects.

This whole experience taught me a lot about what life is like after you finish college. I got to see both the business side of the company and the technology side. It helped me to decide which career I would like to pursue and what I want to major in at college. I would encourage any student who is unsure of which career path they want to follow to plan a visit like this. Having the opportunity to explore your interests can help you to make the best decision about your future.



Radvydas Pecioakas, ORR HS Senior, visited Amica Insurance in Providence, RI for a shadowing experience

SPOTLIGHT on Strategic Planning in the ORR School District

Strategic Goal 4: By June 2013, ALL Tri-Town schools will have activities and curricula in place so that ALL students have the opportunity to develop responsible social skills and citizenship.

“Social Thinking” at RMS

by Darbi Lambert-Matos, SLP and Charles West, SSW

This year Rochester Memorial School has started piloting a “Social Thinking” Curriculum in grades K-2. “Social Thinking” is the way we think about our interactions with others and the points of view, emotions, thoughts, beliefs, prior knowledge and intentions of others (this is often called perspective-taking - considering the perspectives of others). We are using the work of Michelle Garcia Winner, who is a Speech Pathologist with extensive knowledge about social cognitive deficits. She is a nationally recognized expert in this field and several RMS staff has attended her training. Her website is www.socialthinking.com. The students in grades K-2 have been participating in a Social Thinking lesson on a bi-weekly basis and we are in the process of implementing the curriculum in the older grades as well.

We first introduced the ST vocabulary by using Michelle’s book about being a “social detective.” Some examples of the ST vocabulary are “expected vs. unexpected,” “thinking with your eyes,” “body & brain in the group,”

“good thoughts vs. uncomfortable thoughts,” “smart guess vs. wacky guess,” and “school smarts vs. social smarts.” By starting with the “social detective” work, we are teaching our younger students (K-2) to start as detectives to help them begin to observe the world around them, develop an understanding of a social thinking tool box (using their eyes, ears and brain) and understanding the connection between the expected/unexpected and how this makes people feel about the people around them.

As students develop a working knowledge of the expectations they have for others in the social world and that the world has expectations for them as well, then we will introduce self-monitoring and how they can use their “Superflex” to meet those greater expectations. The goal of the Superflex curriculum is to improve the student’s social and behavioral flexibility and to ultimately develop better self-monitoring and self-feedback loops for their social behavior. The concept is based on the ideas that we all have a superhero Superflex in our brains and he is constantly battling the “Team of Unthinkables” (unexpected behaviors) such as “Rock Brain,” “Space Invader” and “Mean Jean” who may come and try to take over our brains. The students will be able to identify what members are on their “Team of Unthinkables” and learn Superflexible Strategies to defeat their Unthinkables when they challenge Superflex.

The lessons will progress and provide several opportunities for the student to learn about various Unthinkable characters while building on his or her ability to recognize these behaviors in themselves and others, and using Superflexible strategies to modify their behavior. Thus, there are really two important steps: The first step requires that students develop a larger view of the social world by developing better understanding of social expectations and how to figure out what they are. The second step requires working towards a student’s own personal self-awareness of who they are in this greater world of social expectations. Superflex then does a nice job of teaching the students self-awareness, self-monitoring and self-control.

Personnel Transitions

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
<u>Old Hammondtown School</u>	
Jane Zajac	Special Ed Assistant
<u>Rochester Memorial School</u>	
Aimee Breault	Custodian
Ainse Oliveira	Paraprofessional

The following staff members have left their positions:

<u>Rochester Memorial School</u>	
Ronald Lagasse	Custodian

Evacuation Drill a Success

by Bill Cooper

The Old Rochester Regional Senior High School and Junior High School complex was completely evacuated on October 19th in a drill designed to help increase the awareness of students and staff to the procedure to be followed in the event of an on-campus emergency. The drill, overseen by the police departments in all three towns, was managed in orderly and efficient fashion by everyone involved. The thorough planning by administrators and staff paid off in a safe, reasonably rapid departure from ORR to Tabor Academy in Marion.

Many thanks to Mr. Frank Braga and his drivers for providing the transportation for the nearly 1,400 people involved in the convoy, and many thanks to Tabor Academy Headmaster, Jay Stroud, and our good neighbors for opening their doors to 1,400 instant, drop-in guests on October 19th. Fortunately, we did not stay in the Tabor athletic complex for more than about 20 minutes; so we did not overstay our welcome. Good work everyone involved in the October evacuation drill. It was taken seriously and elicited high cooperation marks in both branches of the school.

Bulldog Bones

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

The fall season has finally wrapped up and Old Rochester Athletics had another successful season. Old Rochester girls soccer finished with a record of 15-1-2 and made it to the post-season. However, they were defeated by Westfield in the first round.

Boys soccer had a respectable season, finishing with the record of 5-7-5. The boys missed the post season by only one game, but they're looking forward to starting things over once the next season rolls around.

After an amazing start of 3-0, Bulldog football wasn't able to seal the deal. However, they were able to finish with a decent record of 5-6. The boys put a lot of hard work and sweat into their games, but were unable to get it done and make it to the tournament. Bulldogs are hoping to start AND finish things off strong next season.

The golf team traveled an amazing journey this season, finishing 16-0. The boys made it into the second round of the playoffs, but it was where their journey was stopped. Besides having an undefeated season, the team had four players that were recognized as SCC All-Stars.

Both girls and boys cross country teams had another successful season. Girls finished 6-1, while boys finished 4-3.

Even though girls volleyball had a new coach this year, they still managed to finish the season with a good record of 8-8 and make it to the playoffs where they fell in the first round to Cardinal Spellman.

Old Rochester Athletes celebrated a successful fall season, and they are looking ahead to the next season where they can start things off with a clean slate and hope to make history.



ORR Senior Dana Dourdeville (center) leads during the rain soaked November State X-Country meet in Boston.

At the end of the day, the boys placed 4th overall out of 42 teams and qualified to move on to All States the following weekend.

Dana placed 2nd overall with a sprint up the mudslide against an opponent, just missing by seconds.

The girls had the most fun of everyone at the meet and placed 10th out of 38 teams. Freshmen Sophia Santos and Abbey Hiller placed second and third for the team with great times.

FY11 Budget Proposals Reviewed by School Committee Finance Sub-Committees

by Bill Cooper

The administrators in each of the four ORR/SU 55 Districts have been working for the past month with Katie Isernio, the school business administrator, to develop fiscal year 2011 budget drafts. The constrained economy at all levels and the continuing cuts to state aid have served to make the matter of future budget projections particularly difficult at this time. The several revenue and expense scenarios thus far developed for 2011 are being reviewed by the finance and budget sub-committees of the four respective school committees in December. Taking the advice of the sub-committees, the administrative staffers will prepare a revised draft for consideration by the full School Committee in each district at the January meetings. The full School Committee review will result in a draft proposal that will then be the subject of a joint meeting with the town finance committees administrators and select boards in early February.

It is hoped that good budget plans supported by the aforementioned school and town officials will be set for public hearings in early March with the input from the public hearings considered ahead of the School Committees' final votes on budget proposals in late March. The voted proposals are sent on to the town halls for inclusion on the annual meeting warrants in May. The citizens will have the final say about the 2011 budget at those meetings: May 10 – Mattapoisett, May 17 – Marion and Rochester.

Life After ORR

by Alex Cordeiro, Class of 2009
James Madison University, Class of 2013

The James Madison Experience

Hello to all ORR staff and teachers! I am now attending James Madison University located in Harrisonburg, Virginia. It is a fairly large school that is Division 1 in all sports. Having never been exposed much to college athletics, I didn't know what type of ability it would entail. Being a former soccer player and an avid fan of the sport, I was very impressed when I started to attend the school's soccer games. The skill level was way beyond high school and looked above some of the teams that play in the MLS (the American professional soccer league). As for other athletics, I have been to three football games and plan on attending the basketball games during that season.

As for the food services here, the *Princeton Review* ranked our school 4th for quality of food – a fact that I can definitely attest to! I can eat anything from buffet style to Chick-fil-a. There are two Starbucks and two Java Cities here (college has further fed my possible addiction to caffeine). Fortunately, the school has a very nice gym, named UREC, for students. It is fully equipped with three basketball courts, an Olympic-size swimming pool, indoor soccer field, and an array of weight lifting equipment. Thanks to UREC and a large, hilly campus, I have been able to avoid the proverbial freshman fifteen.

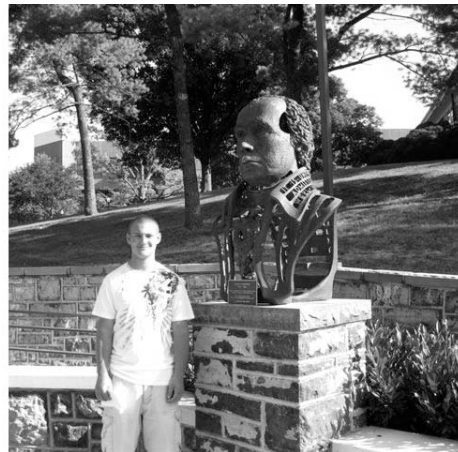
Making friends in college was one of the easiest processes for me, my entire dorm shares my interest in soccer and music. We formed two intramural soccer teams, one indoor and one outdoor. Surprisingly, the level of competition is comparable to that of high school sports. Even with this fact, I still have to admit that high school sports is what I miss the most about high school. We have also formed a Spotswood band (Spotswood is the name of my dorm) that is complete with a pianist, vocalist, drummer, and two guitar players. As for other extra-curriculars, I have attended a couple of college Destination Imagination meetings and have joined the Comics Club.

I have also noticed how much friendlier people are here in college than outside the campus or back home. The only major differences I have with my fellow students is with professional sports. Unfortunately, the majority of my dormates are from New York and therefore partial towards

teams like the Jets or Yankees and despise teams like the Red Sox and Patriots. These differences have made watching football a lot more interesting since not everyone likes the same teams. However, in the end, we are all fans of the Dukes (our school's mascot).

Now on to the business side of college, the courses. I am a declared communication studies major at the moment, with a planned minor in sports communication. The workload has significantly increased from that of high school, but you are only in class for about 150 minutes a day, opposed to the six hours of in class time at ORR; this evens out in the end. I am taking two communication courses (one group and one single), an "Anthropology" course, writing course, and a "Music in General Culture" course. The material so far has not been too difficult, it is just the quantity they expect you to learn on your own that can make things challenging. All of my classes, except one, have more than 100 students which was a big adjustment, considering my Latin class last year had a total of seven students (shout out to Mrs. Pretat!). Two of my classes have all tests and quizzes 'online' instead of during the class. Both of these changes took time for me to adjust, but now I actually like it better this way.

Looking back from the midpoint of my first semester, I know that college is defiantly changing my life for the better. I know now how much the next four years of my life will mean to me and how important the last four years of ORR were because they got me to JMU.



Alex Cordeiro, ORR Class of 2009

Future School Committee Meetings

ORR School Committee – January 13 at 6:00 p.m.
February 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Joint School Committee – January 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Marion School Committee – January 20 at 6:30 p.m.
February 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Mattapoisett School Committee – January 11 at 7:00 p.m.

February 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Rochester School Committee – January 6 at 5:30 p.m.
February 3 at 5:30 p.m.

February and April Vacation Video Camps at ORCTV

Kimberly Miot, Executive Director,
Old Rochester Community Television

ORCTV is offering two video production camps to Tri-Town youth. These camps will run during the weeks of February and April vacation. Participants will learn digital camcorders, editing and studio production.

The cost is \$100 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 www.orctv.org. Space is limited.

We will also be offering summer expanded camps (July and August, 2 weeks each). Call to inquire or reserve a slot.

Wanted: School Programming

by Debbie Stinson, 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.

Video Club Offered by ORCTV

Kimberly Miot, Executive Director
Old Rochester Community Television

ORCTV has started 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 will learn professional camcorders, digital editing and studio production. Elements of media literacy will also be taught. Members will write and produce their own video productions, which will appear on the ORCTV community channels.

The Club will meet at ORCTV Studios, 345 Front Street, Marion. Participants can be dropped off at ORCTV via a Marion school bus. Parents will be 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. (March 12th and 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.

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.



The Christmas break is here, a cause for celebration for students and staff alike. Here's hoping the holiday time is pleasant and restful throughout our school community.

The 2009-2010 school term to date has been very positive despite the H₁N₁ outbreak that impacted about 16% of our student population in November. If the January-February weather does not prove to be too challenging, and the now available flu vaccines have the desired effect for students who escaped the illness in the fall, we will be able to maintain the good momentum into year one of the second decade of Century XXI.

Enjoy your well-deserved vacation days and best wishes for a flying start in 2010.

Bill Cooper