

# Celebrations of the Fairfield Public Schools

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## Superintendent's Message



Dear Faculty and Staff:

Many thanks for a wonderful 2011-2012 school year. I hope the summer is a restful and enjoyable one; looking forward to seeing everyone in the fall.



**Mary Lou Carlson**, FWHS Art teacher, received the 2012 *Connecticut Art Education Association Award for Outstanding Special Needs Art Educator*. Mary Lou received this award for making significant contributions to the field of art education. This is the first year this award has been given.

Congratulations to **Kristin Golia**, Osborn Hill Grade 3 teacher, for reaching the finalist level on the *Live with Kelly Top Teacher Contest*. Although Kristen did not win the top spot, she beautifully represented Fairfield teachers at a National level. She also helped re-focus what good teaching is all about!



**Alice Gorman**, FLHS Career Center Counselor, held a *Career College Fair*. Representatives from local technical colleges set up in the foyer where they greeted interested students and provided them with information about their school's programs.

**Fran Kondziela**, FLHS Drama teacher, guided student playwrights and assisted them as they staged, rehearsed and performed their original one-act plays for invited guests.



The **Osborn Hill** staff participated in *National Wear Red Day* to fight heart disease. Staff members wore red and a commemorative red dress pin. Over \$200 was donated to the *American Heart Association* by the Osborn Hill staff.



**Jennings** - The Jennings PTA raised over \$2,000 at the *Annual Jennings Variety Show*. Each grade level was represented as students sang solos, danced, recited poetry, played the violin, piano and performed gymnastics.



**North Stratfield** - NSS held their annual *Jump Rope for Heart* event. The event took place during physical education classes. All students participated in this wonderful event on behalf of heart disease.



**Tomlinson MS** - **Cheryl Tafel**, Special Education teacher and **Sara Hoefler**, Choral teacher, directed this year's presentation of *Willie Wonka, Jr.* **Jared Bovine** starred as *Willie Wonka* and approximately 75 students were involved in the production. The show was very well attended.



A Dedication Ceremony was held at **Tomlinson MS** in honor of the *Hall of Tolerance*. The initiative began in English teacher **Tony Andrade's** 8th grade classroom while studying the Holocaust of WWII and the 1,500,000 children murdered by the Nazi regime from 1933-1945. The students decided that the best way to honor the memory was to fight intolerance. The TMS *Hall* focuses on the importance of tolerance to students in their school and in the world.



**Fairfield Ludlowe HS** - The *Earth Action Club* celebrated Earth Day by holding demonstrations on how to turn t-shirts into grocery bags and magazines into bracelets. Club members also made presentations illustrating the dangers of the declining ecosystem as evidenced by frog populations. **Edouard Smith**, FLHS French teacher, is the club advisor.





## Student News

**Mill Hill** - Congratulations to **Michael Holtz** and **Chloe Davis** who won the *Annual School Fire Prevention Poster Contest*. Further congratulations to **Chloe Davis** for being selected as one of the County Winners. Chloe will now advance to the State Competition! She and the other County Winners will attend a luncheon to honor them and announce the State winner.



**Riverfield** - Four Student Council members are collecting recycling from every classroom on Fridays and putting them in the recycling bin outside the school. Students in grades K-5 are collecting recyclable cans and bottles to see how much money can be raised for Riverfield.



The students in **Robin Berndt** and **Virginia Gillen's**, Riverfield and McKinley kindergarten classes were pen pals across the district and finally got together to meet. After writing back and forth since January, the McKinley students visited Riverfield so that both classes were able to get to know each other.



**Fairfield Woods MS** - **Emily Pisani** received Honorable Mention for her Science Fiction/Fantasy writing, The Hopper, in the *2012 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards* for the Region (she competed against grade 7-12 students throughout Connecticut, Maryland, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island). Emily's recognition puts her in the top 15-20% of entrants in her region and distinguishes her work as showing tremendous creative promise as one of the youngest artists allowed to participate.

**Fairfield Ludlowe HS** - **Aliza Schaffer** was one of 1,500 students honored at Carnegie Hall by The *National Scholastics Awards* honoring the best young visual artists and writers in the country. There were 200,000 entries nation-wide this year. Meryl Streep spoke to the students, the Empire State Building was lit in gold lights and all of the winners names appeared in the NY Times. Aliza won a Silver Medal for her photograph called "The Followers". Congratulations on this very prestigious artistic achievement!



**Fairfield Warde HS** - **Alex Beyer** has been selected as a 2012 Presidential Scholar. The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars, appointed by President Obama, selects honored scholars annually based on their academic success, artistic excellence, essays, school evaluations and transcripts, as well as evidence of community service, leadership, and



demonstrated commitment to high ideals. The 2012 Presidential Scholars are comprised of 141 young men and women from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and from U.S. families living abroad.

The following members of the **FWHS Math Team** participated in the *New England Association Math League (NEAML)* competition: **Sean Casey, Keelan Cosgrove, Bryan Fichera, Hyunsoo Kim, Jonathan Liu, Kei Nishimura-Gasparian, Oliver Sawin** and **Hanhee Song**. The team finished 5th in the large school division; scoring higher than any other team from Connecticut. Two of the team members earned individual awards - **Oliver Sawin** earned a perfect score in the individual rounds. He received a book and a gift certificate to *Barnes and Noble* and **Kei Nishimura-Gasparian** earned 15 out of 18 points on the individual round competition. He also received a book and a gift certificate to *Barnes and Noble*. The team was joined by **Sandy Naughton** and **Phyllis Pruzinsky**, FWHS Math teachers and Math Team coaches



The following **FWHS** students were selected to participate in the 2012 *All-State Music Festival*: **Ankit Anil, Evelynne Fulda, Neil Gade, Christian Gartland, Carson Greene, Bailey Kenny, Connor Levinson, Tong Liu, Zachary Roberge, Johnny Shea, Hanhee Song, Joseph Sugrue, Jack Ullman** and **Jefferson Zhang**. These students will convene for three days of intensive rehearsals with renowned guest conductors at the Connecticut Convention Center.

The following students were selected to be a part of the *Fairfield County Strings Festival Orchestra*: Grade 6&7 Orchestra - **Patrycja Bazylcyk, John Chelstowski, Andrew Collins, Marion Conklin, Shivani Doshi, Anna Fedoryk, Francisco Guillen, Timothy Kane, Morgan Christopher Lee, Edward Li, Margaux Mellhac, Jeremy Page, Andrew Paik, Maya Singh, Stuart Smith, Sasha Starovltov, Jack Whitten** and **Elizabeth Winter**; Grade 8&9 Orchestra - **Melanie Albright, Lindsey Belkin, Sarthak Bothra, Mary Essex, Adela Fejzaj, Emma Gleysteen, Gazal Gulati, Niko Gupta, Gina Lupo, Johanna Mellhac, Kaylie Minogue, Henna Mohamed, David Nam, Dylan O'Brien, Maggie Restrepo, Jackson Stearns, Sean Sullivan, Julia Jen Winshel and Karen Zapata**; Honors Orchestra - **Adrianna Bay, Benjamin Crosby, Sagar Gulati, Leila Misalani, Matt Oster, Katherine Reis** and **Jennifer Zhang**. Congratulations to all!



Layout by Karen Sanborn

