



# Newscaster

BUDGET EDITION - MAY 2017



## Chenango Valley Central School District 2017-2018 Budget Vote & School Board Election



**VOTE**  
**May 16, 2017**  
12 - 9 p.m., High School Auditorium

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**BUDGET HEARING / CANDIDATE FORUM**  
May 3 at 6 p.m., Auditorium



## Library Proposition



In May 2014 the Chenango Valley community voted to support a proposition that provided funding to the Fenton Free Library.

According to New York State Education Law, libraries within the boundaries of a school district have the right to place a separate funding proposition on the district's ballot. The law provides this as a means for libraries to access community voters and levy taxes.

It is important to note that library funds and school district funds remain separate, and the school district does not have any role in funding, operations or management of the library.

The Chenango Valley Central School District budget vote on May 16, 2017 will include a proposition to increase funding for the Fenton Free Library from \$85,000 to \$115,000. The impact of that \$30,000 increase would be approximately \$0.04 (4 cents) per \$1,000 of assessed value. For a home assessed at \$100,000, this would result in an increase of approximately \$4 per year.

For additional information, please visit the Fenton Free Library website: [libraries.4cls.org/fenton/](http://libraries.4cls.org/fenton/) or contact Library Director Korin Spencer, 1062 Chenango St., Binghamton, 724-8649.

## Bus Proposition



Voters will be asked to consider a proposition to purchase (2) 66-passenger buses at a cost not to exceed \$250,000.

Chenango Valley has a fleet of approximately 30 buses, with a long-range plan to replace an average of three buses each year as they reach 10 years or 100,000 miles.

This purchase plan is for diesel-fueled buses.

While we included the purchase of a propane bus in our 2016-17 transportation plan, we are delaying the purchase of any additional propane buses as we continue to research and monitor the environmental and financial impact. We also continue to investigate other alternative fuel source options.

### Transportation aid reimbursement

Bus purchases, including finance costs, are aidable at the district's transportation aid ratio, which is increasing to approximately 80% beginning in 2017-18. This means that the district will be reimbursed for approximately 80% of the costs incurred through this bus purchase plan.

## Annual Small Capital Outlay Project

Each year, our budget includes a \$100,000 "transfer to capital" that enables the district to take advantage of a state reimbursement program for smaller capital projects. This year, a \$100,000 project will result in a net cost of approximately \$16,600.

Based on our aid ratio, which is increasing to 83.4% this year, we receive a reimbursement in the following year on the final cost of a capital project of up to \$100,000. Doing this annually allows us to use the reimbursement to fund the next year's project.

This year, the focus of the project will be the pool, since it will already be shut down for other construction activities. A pool area is a harsh environment due to the chloramines in the air, which can negatively affect materials very quickly. The project work includes replacement of valves on the pool system piping, the addition of exhaust to the pool filter room, and replacement of corroding electrical devices. The project will also include replacement of the hot water heater breeching.





## Message from the president and superintendent

We are pleased to present you with the 2017-2018 Chenango Valley Central School District budget proposal.

School districts statewide continue to be impacted by unfunded mandates, tax levy limits, escalating costs and more. While these factors are significant, it is important that we remain positive about our future and focused on the reason we're here: our students.

All students deserve a high-quality education that ensures they are college and career ready. At Chenango Valley, our consistently high test scores and graduation rates reflect a commitment to providing students with the education they deserve. Our mission and vision is to "*inspire, engage, and empower*" our students and "*prepare our students for the challenges of life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*" In developing the budget, we used this mission as our guide, while giving careful consideration to all stakeholders.

The plan provides for continued support of instructional technology, particularly through our high school iPad program, which incorporates all students in grades nine through 12, and to remain focused on supporting educational programs in the area of STEM (science-technology-engineering-mathematics) in grades K-12.

Our proposed budget also enables us to maintain instructional integrity and effectiveness, and help students improve their academic standing through our Academic Intervention Services, and also helps us support our English Language Learners. No cuts to existing programs or extra-curricular activities are proposed.

The budget continues to include smaller capital projects that allow us to take advantage of significant state reimbursements that will be received in the following year. This means we'll be able to complete approximately \$100,000 in capital projects at a net cost of about \$16,600. (*see article, page 2*)

The tax levy limit law enacted in 2011 by New York State requires districts to apply an eight-step formula to determine the highest allowable tax levy increase a district can propose that will require approval of a simple majority (more than 50 percent) of voters. If districts choose to propose a tax levy increase above this calculated amount, a "super majority" of more than 60 percent of voters must approve the plan.

Chenango Valley's allowable tax levy increase (without requiring a super majority) for 2017-2018 is 1.38%, which is the increase we propose in this budget. This means we are proposing an increase of less than 2% in taxes to support the school budget as compared with the amount collected for the 2016-2017 school year.

We invite all residents to attend the annual budget hearing on Monday, May 3 at 6 p.m. in the Middle School library. The district budget vote and school board elections will be held from 12 noon to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16 in the CV High School auditorium.

Please review the enclosed material, which includes the 2017-2018 budget presented in three components, information on the bus purchase proposition and Fenton Free Library proposition, and statements from our board of education candidates. For more detailed budget information, please visit our website: [www.cvcsd.stier.org](http://www.cvcsd.stier.org).

If you have questions, we encourage you to contact Superintendent David Gill at 762-6810, [dgill@cvcsd.stier.org](mailto:dgill@cvcsd.stier.org), or School Business Executive Beth Donahue at 762-6803, [edonahue@cvcsd.stier.org](mailto:edonahue@cvcsd.stier.org).

Sincerely,



Stuart Elliott  
Board of Education President



David P. Gill  
Superintendent of Schools



Stuart Elliott  
Board President



David Gill  
Superintendent

# 2017 - 2018 Proposed Budget

## ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT

| Function/Account                      | 2016-2017<br>Approved Budget | 2017-2018<br>Proposed Budget | Difference       |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Board of Education                    | \$39,196                     | \$42,762                     | \$3,566          |
| District Administration               | \$351,407                    | \$363,436                    | \$12,029         |
| Business Office & Finance             | \$695,635                    | \$735,578                    | \$39,943         |
| Central Services                      | \$510,235                    | \$539,415                    | \$29,180         |
| Supervision/Curriculum Dev.           | \$864,444                    | \$949,024                    | \$84,580         |
| Employee Benefits                     | \$988,304                    | \$1,078,093                  | \$89,789         |
| <b>Total Administrative Component</b> | <b>\$3,449,221</b>           | <b>3,708,308</b>             | <b>\$259,087</b> |

## PROGRAM COMPONENT

| Function/Account                            | 2016-2017<br>Approved Budget | 2017-2018<br>Proposed Budget | Difference       |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Teaching - Regular School                   | \$8,717,015                  | \$8,923,844                  | \$206,829        |
| Instruction-Special Programs                | \$4,834,250                  | \$4,889,605                  | \$55,355         |
| Instruction - Special School                | \$225,000                    | \$225,000                    | -                |
| Instructional Media                         | \$1,780,755                  | \$2,006,159                  | \$225,405        |
| Pupil Personnel Services                    | \$1,037,795                  | \$1,024,287                  | \$(13,508)       |
| Co-curricular & Athletics                   | \$590,500                    | \$663,770                    | \$73,270         |
| Transportation                              | \$1,050,463                  | \$1,052,951                  | \$2,488          |
| Interfund Transfer Special Aid & Cafe Funds | \$20,500                     | \$25,500                     | \$5,000          |
| Community Services                          | \$7,700                      | \$7,900                      | \$200            |
| Employee Benefits                           | \$8,347,161                  | \$8,578,595                  | \$231,434        |
| <b>Total Program Component</b>              | <b>\$26,611,138</b>          | <b>\$27,397,611</b>          | <b>\$786,473</b> |

## CAPITAL COMPONENT

| Function/Account                           | 2016-2017<br>Approved Budget | 2017-2018<br>Proposed Budget | Difference       |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Operations & Maintenance                   | \$2,194,597                  | \$2,201,392                  | \$6,795          |
| Debt Service                               | \$2,651,329                  | \$3,188,622                  | \$537,293*       |
| Employee Benefits                          | \$727,727                    | \$738,954                    | \$11,227         |
| Refund of Taxes                            | \$7,500                      | \$7,500                      | -                |
| Interfund Transfer to Capital (see page 2) | \$100,000                    | \$100,000                    | -                |
| <b>Total Capital Component</b>             | <b>\$5,681,153</b>           | <b>\$6,236,468</b>           | <b>\$555,315</b> |

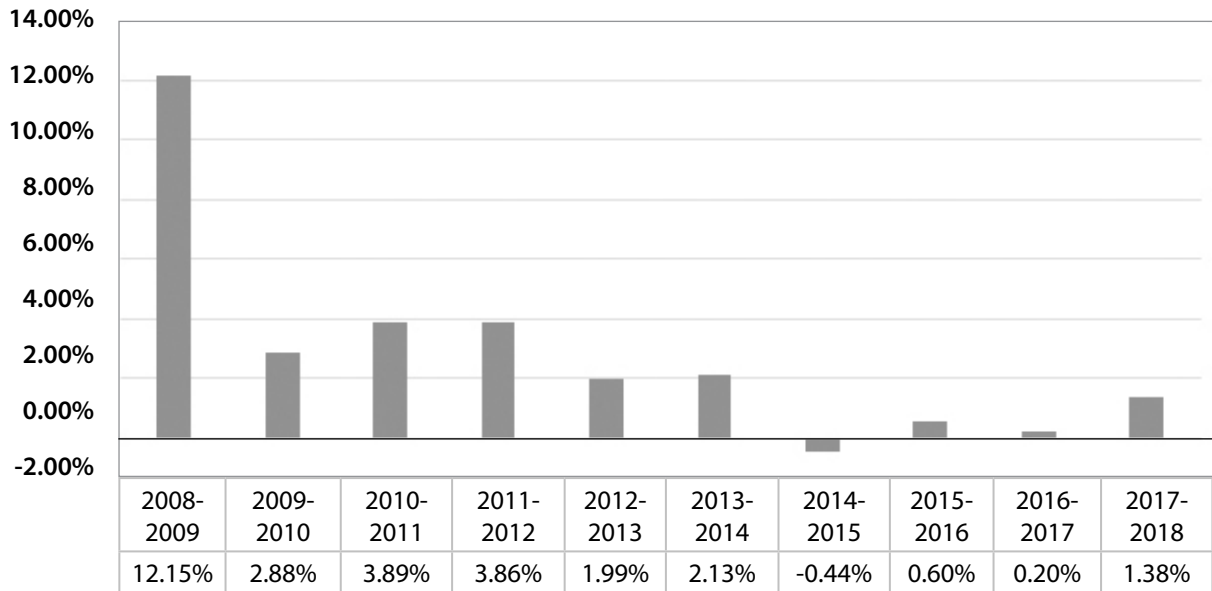
|                     | 2016-2017<br>Approved Budget | 2017-2018<br>Proposed Budget | Difference         |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>GRAND TOTALS</b> | <b>\$35,741,512</b>          | <b>\$37,342,387</b>          | <b>\$1,600,875</b> |

# 2017 - 2018 Proposed Budget

## ESTIMATED REVENUES

| Category                  | 2016-2017<br>Budgeted Revenue | 2017-2018<br>Proposed Revenue | Difference         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Tax Levy                  | \$18,641,797                  | \$18,898,888                  | \$257,091          |
| State Aid                 | \$15,487,409                  | \$16,726,596                  | \$1,239,187        |
| Other Revenue             | \$1,062,306                   | \$1,166,903                   | \$104,597          |
| Appropriated Fund Balance | \$250,000                     | \$250,00                      | -                  |
| Appropriated Reserves     | \$300,000                     | \$300,000                     | -                  |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>      | <b>\$35,741,512</b>           | <b>\$37,342,387</b>           | <b>\$1,600,875</b> |

## Annual Tax Levy Change - 10 Years



### Tax levy increase

The 2017-2018 proposed budget is supported by a total tax levy increase of 1.38% or \$257,091. Our total tax levy growth over the last for years is a TOTAL of 1.72%, or \$324,651.

### Impact when Basic STAR is applied

The impact of this 1.38% increase on the annual tax bill of a home valued at \$100,000 would be approximately \$38 *before* any STAR savings is applied. Homeowners with Basic STAR will see an increase of approximately \$22 on a home valued at \$100,000.

|              | with no STAR | with Basic STAR |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Taxes        | \$2,804      | \$1,978         |
| STAR Savings | \$0          | \$826           |
| Tax increase | \$38         | \$22            |

(based on a Town of Chenango home valued at \$100,000)

### Equalization rate impact

Every homeowner's tax bill is impacted by changes in equalization rates that are assigned by NYS to every town each summer prior to school tax bills being calculated. As a result of that change, each town in our school district will see a different impact on their tax bill depending on their town's change in equalization rate relative to other towns in the state.

For more information on STAR and equalization rates, please visit the NYS Office Of Real Property website at [www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property).

# Board of Education Candidates

(two seats open: (2) five-year terms, July 1, 2017-June 30, 2022)

## John Hussar

Hello, my name is John Hussar, I am married and I have two children, Jessica and Jonathan, who are both graduates of Chenango Valley High School. Jessica received her doctorate in school psychology from Alfred University and is a school psychologist for the Binghamton City School District. Jonathan has a degree in graphic design from Sage College of Albany and is a designer for a local marketing agency. Both own homes and reside in Chenango Valley. My wife Jan is a literacy specialist for the Johnson City School District.



I am the owner of the Hussar Insurance Agency and have served in the insurance industry for 35 years. During my career I have had the opportunity to experience many facets of the business including claims, risk management, sales management and business management. Over the years I have received numerous awards and recognitions for outstanding achievements and I am a respected member of the insurance community.

It has been my privilege to have served two nonconsecutive, five-year terms for the Chenango Valley Central School District Board of Education. In those years I have served on and chaired numerous committees, most recently the Building and Grounds and the Audit Committee. I have always put the district's children first coupled with forward and progressive thinking, proactively approaching each situation with new ideas and acting in a fiscally responsible manner while reaching out to the community as a whole.

With your careful and thoughtful consideration I look forward to continuing to serve the Chenango Valley Central School District as a member of the Board of Education.

## Christine Lomonaco

My name is Christine Lomonaco and I was elected to the Chenango Valley School Board in May 2015. I am excited to announce that it is time for me to run for a board seat again and this time for a full five-year term! Our school district mission is to inspire, engage, and empower all students to achieve their full potential at Chenango Valley and my belief is that with the help of our entire school community CV accomplishes this on a daily basis.



I am proud to call myself a Chenango Valley graduate, class of 1983. I live in Port Dickinson with my husband Vince and our children Dominick, who is in ninth grade and Logan, a sixth-grader. I am in my 23<sup>rd</sup> year of employment with Broome-Tioga BOCES where my position is managing our division's professional development and APPR systems. I am also an active member on our union board as the executive board secretary.

The last two years on the CV Board have been inspiring for me and I have enjoyed my time spent helping to make decisions on behalf of our school district. I have learned a lot in this short period of time as to how our school district operates. I am proud to say that I am one of a nine member board of education that always strives to make the best decisions for our students, staff, and community.

As a member of this board I have been involved with the Policy, Transportation, and Legislative Committees and in October 2016 I had a wonderful opportunity to attend the New York State School Board's Conference in Buffalo. I have taken advantage of attending many school functions, local meetings and events sponsored by Chenango Valley, BOCES, and other organizations.

In addition to raising my family and working full-time I have been active in the Port Dickinson Community Association as the secretary, I help coordinate the CV Combined Civic Summer Fun program, and also help to plan other civic activities throughout the year.

Why cast your vote for me? I am dedicated, dependable, reliable, and organized. I am proud of our school district and its students and staff. With my two years of board experience I am willing to continue to work hard on behalf of our students, staff, and community. Students are Chenango Valley's first priority!

I would really appreciate your vote on May 16!

## Board of Education Candidates

### Jennifer Perney

I'm very excited to be running for the Chenango Valley School Board. My husband and I moved to Chenango Bridge 11 years ago from downstate. Not being a native of the area, we researched the different neighborhoods and school districts and chose Chenango Valley. We are very happy with the decision we made for our family.



Originally from across the border in PA, I graduated from Montrose High School. I received my B.S. degree in human development and family studies, with a focus on children, youth and family services, from Penn State University. It is there I met my husband, Frank Perney. After leaving State College, PA, we lived in Westchester County until 2006 when we moved north.

I have worked in the early childhood field since college. I started in childcare center classrooms, working with school-age children after school, and also with preschoolers, toddlers, and infants. I was a childcare center director prior to moving to this area. For the last 10 years, I have worked for Family Enrichment Network, a local non-profit, as the Child Care Resource and Referral Director. In that capacity, I supervise a department of staff that help parents find childcare and help childcare programs improve their quality. As the director, I network with agencies across the state and advocate for quality childcare options for parents.

I understand the early childhood years and the needs of young children, which will be an asset on the Chenango Valley School Board. The social-emotional developmental needs of the early years are often neglected, which can lead to behavioral issues. Practices which are developmentally inappropriate for young children can also lead to problems. I can bring this perspective to the board, to fight for our youngest children.

I currently serve on the board of the Binghamton Association for the Education of Young Children, the Building Brighter Futures for Broome Coalition, and the state-wide organization Early Care and Learning Council. I believe all these experiences provide me with a unique knowledge of educational leadership.

Frank and I have 3 children currently in the CV School District. Colin is in seventh grade, Samantha is in fifth grade, and Reagan is in second grade. I am personally invested in maintaining a quality school and improving what can be improved upon. I would appreciate your support for the open school board position.

## Voting Information



### School Budget Vote and Board Election Tuesday, May 16

12 noon to 9 p.m. - High School Auditorium

#### On the ballot

CV voters will decide on:

- 2017 - 2018 proposed budget
- Two seats on the board of education
- Bus Proposition
- Fenton Free Library Proposition

#### Voter eligibility

To vote, you must be:

- 18 years of age or older
- a U.S. citizen, and
- a resident of the school district for at least 30 days (proof of residency is required: NYS driver's license, sheriff's ID card, senior citizen ID card or utility bill indicating residency)

#### Absentee ballots

Absentee ballot applications may be obtained through District Clerk Susan Cirba, 762-6812. Voters must verify eligibility and provide an eligible reason for their inability to vote in person. Absentee ballot applications must be requested at least 7 days prior to the date of the vote, and the returned ballot must be received no later than the day before the vote. The district will automatically mail absentee ballots to voters listed as "permanently disabled" on the Board of Elections list. For more information, please call Susan Cirba at 762-6812.

#### What if the budget doesn't pass?

The board of education will either:

- (1) make changes to the budget and hold a second vote; or
- (2) adopt a contingency budget. If a contingency budget is adopted, \$45,000 in equipment purchases would be eliminated and \$261,000 in other cuts would be made to the budget.

#### More information:

**District Office** - 221 Chenango Bridge Road

**Website** - [www.cvcsd.stier.org](http://www.cvcsd.stier.org)

**Superintendent David Gill:**

762-6810; [dgill@cvcsd.stier.org](mailto:dgill@cvcsd.stier.org)

**School Business Executive Beth Donahue:**

762-6803; [edonahue@cvcsd.stier.org](mailto:edonahue@cvcsd.stier.org)



## Capital Project Update

The final phase of the capital improvement project has begun, which will conclude the \$12.4 million project that was voted on in December 2014. To date there have been many great improvements to our facilities including renovations to multiple athletic fields, new playgrounds at Port Dickinson and Chenango Bridge, roof replacements, parking lot reconstruction, and many more.

Construction for the conclusion of the project began at Chenango Bridge on April 17, and includes asbestos abatement in the crawl-space, demolition in the kitchen, and creation of a temporary kitchen and serving line. Later in the school year, construction at Chenango Bridge will include the multi-purpose room, a new security office and secure vestibule, HVAC system improvements, fire alarm and PA systems replacement, and new camera system installation.

Construction at Port Dickinson will begin in the summer, and will include renovation of the kitchen and cafeteria space, HVAC system improvements, fire alarm and PA system replacements, installation of a new security office and secure vestibule, and new camera system.

Construction at the Middle School / High School will also occur over the summer, and includes new cameras, masonry restoration, pool lighting, and HVAC systems replacement.

### Multi-purpose Room at Port Dickinson Elementary



*Rendering does not necessarily depict exact design*



# Capital Project Notice

TO: Faculty/Staff, Parents/Legal Guardians, students and other concerned parties

March 2017

SED Nos.:

Phase 2:

03-07-01-06-0-001-007 – Port Dickinson Elementary  
03-07-01-06-0-004-010 – Chenango Bridge Elementary  
03-07-01-06-0-002-012 – Middle/High School  
03-07-01-06-5-006-005 – Bus Garage

SED Nos.:

Smart Schools:

03-07-01-06-0-001-008 – Port Dickinson Elementary  
03-07-01-06-0-004-011 – Chenango Bridge Elem  
03-07-01-06-0-002-013 – Middle/High School  
03-07-01-06-5-006-006 – Bus Garage

The Chenango Valley Central School District anticipates conducting a construction project commencing on or about April 17, 2017. This project will be conducted at the following locations:

Port Dickinson Elementary School, 770 Chenango Street, Binghamton, NY 13901  
Chenango Bridge Elementary School, 741 River Road, Binghamton, NY 13901  
Chenango Valley Middle/High School, 221 Chenango Bridge Road, Binghamton, NY 13901  
Chenango Valley CSD Bus Garage, 221 Chenango Bridge Road, Binghamton, NY 13901

The project will consist of the following:

**Port Dickinson Elementary:**

Project consists of cooling tower replacement, boiler replacement, make up air unit replacement, fire alarm system replacement, PA system replacement, kitchen and cafeteria renovations, creation of secure vestibule and associated office, and new camera system.

**Middle/High School:**

Project includes pool light fixture replacement, pool ventilation system replacement, and new camera system.

**Chenango Bridge Elementary:**

Project includes pavement reconstruction, HVAC system improvements, PA system replacement, fire alarm system replacement, kitchen renovation, multi-purpose room renovation, new security office and secure vestibule, and new camera system.

**Bus Garage:**

Project consists of new fueling station, new fuel monitoring system, new data connection from Middle/High School, and new camera system.

Pursuant to Education Commissioner's Regulation 155.5(d), the Chenango Valley Central School District will provide a safe school environment throughout this project, including an update of the school emergency plan to reflect any temporary exits or procedures needed as a result of the construction work at the school facilities. Fire drills will be held to familiarize students and staff with any temporary exits. The construction area will be separated from occupied areas of the building, all construction workers will be required to wear photo identification badges, and noise levels will be kept to a minimum while the building is occupied. All applicable federal and state rules and regulations will be strictly adhered to throughout the length of this project.

Specific questions or concerns about this project may be directed to Mr. George Zlock, Director of Facilities and Operations - Chenango Valley Central School District, at (607) 762-6861.

## Public Notice

The Chenango Valley Central School District has completed the inspection of all schools and buildings to determine the condition of asbestos that is present, and whether any action is required to avoid potential health hazards for students, employees and visitors.

A management plan has been developed in accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), to ensure the continued provision and maintenance of a safe environment for students, employees and visitors. The management plan includes training of maintenance staff to prevent disturbance of asbestos, periodic re-inspection, surveillance, and limited abatement by trained personnel.

Please note that the comprehensive, triennial inspection occurs once every three years. A surveillance inspection of the asbestos-containing building materials occurs every six months, typically during the months of December and July. Monitoring of these building materials occurs on a continuing basis.

A copy of the management plan is available at the district office. If you would like further information regarding this matter, please contact Mr. George Zlock, Director of School Facilities and Operations at (607) 762-6860.

## District News

### Pre-K students learn from HS chem class

Meet Chenango Valley's youngest scientists! Pre-K students at Port Dickinson were introduced to scientific concepts by CVHS Regents chemistry students. The high school students worked with small groups and presented demonstrations about magnets, static electricity, density, and acids and bases, just to name a few.

The pre-K students even made their own oobleck, secret messages, and lava lamps to keep. We're not sure who enjoyed the day more -- the little kids or the big kids!



### PTA dances bring parents & kids together

The CV Elementary PTA held two dances for students in pre-K through fifth grade. In February, girls enjoyed an "Enchanted Evening" dance with their fathers, grandfathers, uncles or other important male role models. In April, the boys had a "Walk on the Wild Side" dance with their mothers, grandmothers, aunts or other important women in their lives. Representatives from Animal Adventure attended the boys' dance, bringing some special critters (even a snake!) to add to the fun, and Mr. Novotny got everyone moving as our DJ.





## District News

### Big Gifted Give shows community's heart

Hello friends! Once again, a huge heartfelt "thank you" to all for helping make the Big Gifted Give on Saturday, Feb. 11 such a wonderful event. The gymnasium at CV was full of love, light and fun, the dancers were wonderful, and the generosity of all was over the top. Thank you to our schools and community for always supporting this event!

Thank you to all who contributed baskets and items to be raffled, to all who purchased Win/Win tickets, to all who brought baked goods, and to all who performed and volunteered!

It is awesome to see so many students working at the tables and helping the evening run so smoothly. The total amount raised was \$8,150, which was distributed as follows:

- Catherines Cupboard: \$500
- Pam Ondrusek: \$1,200
- Gia Bucci: \$2,200
- CV Warrior Fund: \$4,250

*Much gratitude to all!*



### District receives safety award

Chenango Valley CSD recently received the Utica National Insurance Group's "School Safety Excellence Award" for 2017 at the Titanium level with honors.

This award is presented annually and recognizes school districts' safety efforts in working to help keep students, staff and visitors safe.

District officials accepted the award at Utica National's 37th annual school safety seminar, held at the Binghamton DoubleTree in March. A \$500 check for use in furthering safety efforts was presented to the district as part of the award.

### Staff are the students on conference day



While students had the day off on March 10, district employees attended professional development workshops and classes. Above, teachers learn about improving student engagement and achievement.

### Third-graders celebrate Earth Day



Miss Pierce's third grade ELA classes at Chenango Bridge Elementary celebrated Earth Day by reading *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss, researching how to recycle, and planting flowers.

Pictured above: Miss Pierce's class, Mrs. Voorhis' class, Mrs. Kesselring, Mrs. Shafer, Miss Gomez, Mrs. Saunders, and Ms. Merritt.

*"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."*

- Dr. Seuss



## District News

### CV Odyssey does well at regional competition

Four teams represented Chenango Valley at the Odyssey of the Mind's NYS Region 12 tournament held March 18 at Broome-Tioga BOCES. As the CV Odyssey program continues to grow, each year brings new challenges and new solutions. Since October, these students and coaches have been working together on their solutions, and were able to bring home one second place finish, two third place finishes and two fourth place finishes.

The fourth and fifth grade team of Abigail Randis, Austin Greenmun, Courtney McCabe, Sam Brewer, Ethan Randis, Greta Dutcher, Courtney McCabe and Arin Miller were coached by Amanda Randis and Jen Greenmun. They competed in Division I, "A Superhero Cliffhanger" and placed fourth. This was their third year as a team and we were all happy to see such growth as a team and in their performance. The sky's the limit for this energetic young group of creative problem solvers!

The sixth grade team of Merrell Rouff, Dylan McCabe, Savannah Greenmun, Sadie Dutcher, Aidan Butora, Gabriel Wright, and Jenna Schaefer were coached by Cathy McCabe. They competed in the problem "Catch Us If You Can," Division II. They placed fourth, and we can't wait to see how their driving skills improve over the summer. Great job!

The seventh and eighth grade team of Emily Goodstal, Laini Wood, Samantha Scott, Miranda Rogers, Zoe Gates, Ethan Rogers and Kaylee Wisor were coached by Cindy Gates. They chose to take on two problems this year and competed in Division II, "Ready, Set, Balsa, Build" and "It's Time Omer." They placed third in each problem at the regional competition. Awesome job!

The high school team of Katy Wood, Anna Stacey, Brenna King, Morgan Odgers, Linsey Reardon, Kelly Smith and Mia House were coached by Chris Wood. They competed in Division III "A Superhero Cliffhanger," placing second and qualifying for the State competition held April 8 at Binghamton University. It was their first time in the state competition and they did a wonderful job! We hope to see them back next year for their senior year.

CV Odyssey would like to thank Mr. Gill, the Board of Education, Mr. Heller, Mr. Attleson and Mrs. Hammond for the continued support of the program. The coaches also want to thank the parents for their support to a program that means so much to the kids involved. It is a very long "season" with strange hours and lots of commuting back and forth. Without your support of these kids and coaches, this program would not be possible. To the coaches who volunteer their time, "thank you" seems like very little. You are the backbone of the program and the kids are very lucky to have each of you guiding them! As we continue to grow, we encourage students and parents to get involved in this exceptional program. It is a journey like no other and once you take that journey you will be hooked for life.

As a district we are very proud of our Odyssey team members and coaches. They put an incredible amount of time into this program and represented Chenango Valley in a most positive and respectable manner. We look forward to seeing them all back next year. Congratulations to ALL of you, you are AWESOME!



High School Team



7th & 8th Grade Team



6th Grade Team



4th & 5th Grade Team



## District News

### Interact Club helps community

On April 13, the CVHS Interact Club participated in a Day of Caring at three sites in the community. A total of 46 students volunteered in teams, working at the Discovery Center in Binghamton, Mom's House in Johnson City and Brookdale Senior Living Center in Vestal.

Sponsored by Rotary International chapters, Interact Clubs give students opportunities to help others while having fun and developing leadership skills. The CVHS Interact Club is sponsored by the Hillcrest Rotary Club.



At right, Interact Club students help with spring clean-up chores at the Discovery Center in Binghamton.

## Guidance

### Does Your middle school student have a smartphone?

If you have given or are just about to give your adolescent a smartphone, then it's an excellent time to establish ground rules for how your middle schooler is allowed to use that device. Here are six online safety tips for parents of middle school students and younger students too, courtesy of Stephen Balkam, founder and CEO of Family Internet Safety Institute.

- 1. Talk with your child.** Conversation is key when it comes to online safety. Parents should expect that their middle schoolers will see or hear something you wish they wouldn't, and perhaps even do things you wish they wouldn't, so it's key to keep the lines of communication open, so you can use those as teachable moments.
- 2. Educate yourself.** There are two easy ways to do this. Jump right in, by signing up for social media and other apps your middle schooler wants to use. And ask questions, such as "What is Instagram?" and "What is SnapChat, and what are your friends using it for?" This will help keep you updated on what your child is doing online.
- 3. Use parental controls and monitor your child's use of the device.** Find out what parental control options are available for your child's smartphone device. Also be sure to check the settings on their apps --in general, the more private the better. Lastly, internet safety in middle school requires parents to be aware of how often their adolescent is using a screen.
- 4. Set ground rules.** Establish a curfew (i.e. no electronics after 9 p.m.) and after curfew, all electronics are stashed away, not in the bedroom, and charged overnight. Follow up with consequences when rules are not followed.
- 5. Friend and follow, but don't stalk.** Parents of middle schoolers should friend or follow their children online, but be upfront about it. If you are finding that they are making inappropriate posts, stay calm and use this as a teachable moment. Parents should also be aware that most social media platforms do not allow children under 13.
- 6. Most importantly, be a good digital role model.** Be mindful of what you are posting as well. Remember that online safety for middle school starts at home.

## Guidance

# How to LISTEN so you kids will talk!

As parents, knowing how your child(ren)'s day went and what is on their mind is so important. With that, how do we get past the answers of "good, not much, nothing" that can be the typical response from your child. Here are tips to use.

### Be available for your children

- Notice times when your kids are most likely to talk — for example, at bedtime, before dinner, in the car — and be available.
- Start the conversation; it lets your kids know you care about what's happening in their lives.
- 15 minutes - Find time each week for a one-on-one activity with each child, and avoid scheduling other activities during that time.
- Learn about your children's interests — for example, favorite music and activities — and show interest in them.
- Initiate conversations by sharing what you have been thinking about rather than beginning a conversation with a question.



### Let your kids know you're listening

- When your children are talking about concerns, stop whatever you are doing and listen.
- Express interest in what they are saying without being intrusive.
- Listen to their point of view, even if it's difficult to hear.
- Let them complete their point before you respond.
- Repeat what you heard them say to ensure that you understand them correctly.

### Respond in a way your children will hear

- Soften strong reactions; kids will tune you out if you appear angry or defensive.
- Express your opinion without putting down theirs; acknowledge that it's okay to disagree.
- Resist arguing about who is right. Instead say, "I know you disagree with me, but this is what I think."
- Focus on your child's feelings rather than your own during your conversation.

### Remember:

- Ask your children what they may want or need from you in a conversation, such as advice, simply listening, help in dealing with feelings or help solving a problem.
- Kids learn by imitating. Most often, they will follow your lead in how they deal with anger, solve problems and work through difficult feelings.
- Talk to your children — don't lecture, criticize, threaten or say hurtful things.
- Kids learn from their own choices. If the consequences are not dangerous, don't feel you have to step in.
- Realize your children may test you by telling you a small part of what is bothering them. Listen carefully to what they say, encourage them to talk and they may share the rest of the story.

### Parenting is hard work

Listening and talking is the key to a healthy connection between you and your children. But parenting is hard work and maintaining a good connection with teens can be challenging, especially since parents are dealing with many other pressures. If you are having problems over an extended period of time, you might want to consider consulting with a mental health professional to find out how they can help.

<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/communication-parents.aspx>



## Full STEAM Ahead



Above, second-grader Marley Podhayski shows her engineered design.

CV has been very busy with STEAM activities this spring. A group of students gave a presentation to the Board of Education, demonstrating their biomimicry projects, utensils made from found materials, and Scratch Jr. coding projects.

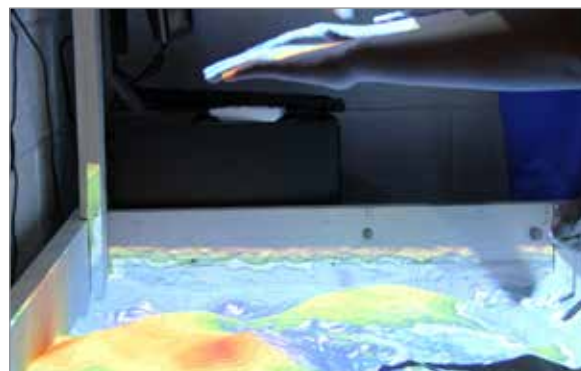
Our High School STEAM Club students recently unveiled an augmented reality sandbox they built that uses an XBOX Kinect Sensor to create a topographic map over the sandbox. As the sand is moved or manipulated, the map adjusts to the new elevations; creating mountains, valleys, and bodies of water.

The HS STEAM club also participated in their second annual SUNY Broome/STEM Hub Robotics Challenge. The students worked in teams to create vehicles from our Lego Mindstorms to meet such challenges as following the line and using a forklift. They showed so much growth from last year. Next year, we expect to win the Challenge!

In our elementary and middle school classes, students have continued to work through engineering tasks and the design process. Second-graders have been learning to use our Bee Bots as an introduction to robotics. Seventh-graders also worked through the design process to create a container to solve the problem of clutter on their dresser. Finally, our High School production systems class implemented a production line to create marble racers.



At left, members of the HS STEAM Club demonstrate the augmented reality sandbox they built. Below, the wave of a hand makes it "rain."



## STEAM Club competing at SUNY Broome/STEM Hub Robotics Challenge





## WINTER 2016-2017 ATHLETIC AWARDS



### Athletic All-Stars

#### Boys Basketball

*All-Division:*

Marty Buchinsky  
Pat Buchinsky

#### Girls Basketball

*All-Division:*

Isabella LoVuolo

#### Bowling

*All-Division:*

Abigail Hamilton  
Alyvia Brown  
Elaine Hamilton  
Eric Castelluci

#### Indoor Track

Michael Godbay

#### Cheer

*Spirit Award:*

Megan Heifferon

#### Boys Swimming

*All-Conference:*

Karl Grunder  
Anthonie Brito  
James Bush  
Gunnar Madison  
Michael Schultz

*All-Division:*

Peyton Broderick  
Dawson Palmer

#### Wrestling

*All-Conference:*

Caleb Wiggins

*All-Division:*

Nathan Lehr  
Derek Goga  
Brady Hope  
Nate Aurelio  
Jack Riegall  
Will Blewett

### Academic All-Stars

Boys Basketball - Bobby Gross

Girls Basketball - Brittany Kropp

Boys Bowling - Sam Hatton

Girls Bowling - Caitlin Whiting

Cheer - Lexi Brito

Indoor Track - Chris Singleton

Indoor Track - Alexa Attleson

Boys Swimming - Gunnar Madison

Wrestling - Jack Riegall

### Scholar-Athlete Teams

Boys Basketball

Bowling (Boys only)

Indoor Track (Girls only)

Cheer

Boys Swimming

### Sportsmanship Award

Boys Basketball - Kevin Grady

Girls Basketball - Yana Moroz

Boys Bowling - Kevin Hammond

Girls Bowling - Jenna Castellucci

Cheer - Emily Friends

Indoor Track - Dustin Schmidt

Indoor Track - Liz Morgan

Boys Swimming - Lucas Scott

Wrestling - Derek Goga

### Individual & Team Accomplishments

#### State Qualifiers

Karl Grunder - Swim

Caleb Wiggins - Wrestling

#### Section 4 Division Champion

Varsity Cheerleading

#### STAC Division Champion

Varsity Cheerleading

JV Boys Basketball

JV Boys Bowling

Wrestling

### C's and V's

#### Varsity Cheer

Commitment - Leah Chamberlain  
Valor - Bri Jones

#### Varsity Boys Basketball

Character - Pat Giblin  
Commitment - Alex Irving  
Challenge - Max Andersen  
Vision - Matt Cole  
Vigor - Auten Schlicht

#### JV Boys Basketball

Character - Logan McCarthy  
Vigor - Tom Christofersen

#### Varsity Girls Basketball

Vigor - Laurel Pernesky-Currier  
Commitment - Julie Worden  
Challenge - Jenna Hanyon

#### JV Girls Basketball

Character - Danielle Jewson  
Vigor - Kelsey Burden

#### Bowling

Character - Abigail Hamilton  
Commitment - Vincent Tatic  
Character - Zachary Carr  
Valor - Rusty Nelson

#### JV Bowling

Character - Addelynne Bixby  
Vigor - Brianna Corbin  
Character - Craig Salzman  
Vision - Josh VanBarringer

#### Indoor Track

Character - Sam Buzuhoski  
Vigor - Kelly Thompson

#### Boys Varsity Swim

Commitment - Anthonie Brito  
Vision - Brendyn Savage

#### Wrestling

Commitment - Trenton Gates  
Challenge - Cole Volpe  
Valor - Mike Mettler  
Vigor - Dominic Mastronardi



## Athletics

### Girls lacrosse program strengthens

On April 6, the junior varsity girls lacrosse team put up their first program win, and on April 10, the girls won their second game -- this one in overtime. As we begin our third season, everything is starting to click. The girls have been working hard and getting better each season with their stick skills and understanding of the game. Coach Marris and Coach Church would like to congratulate this year's girls JV lacrosse team and would like them to know they are proud of what they have accomplished.

Both the modified and junior varsity girls lacrosse teams are giving the new headgear a try. According to U.S. Lacrosse, "The headgear standard was developed to decrease ball-to-head and stick-to-head impact forces." We are always looking for new ways to keep our athletes safe. With this new measure encouraged by U.S. Lacrosse, we hope to minimize the possibility of head injuries.

### Wrestlers finish with strong season

The CV varsity wrestling team was 20-5 this season and finished fourth in Section IV out of 28 schools. Their final dual meet ranking was #20 in New York State and #4 in Section IV. The team had seven wrestlers place in the top six at the Section IV championship:

Second Place - Caleb Wiggins, Jake Riegal

Third Place - Nate Lehr

Fourth Place - Derek Goga, Nate Aurelio

Fifth Place - Brady Hope

Sixth Place - Dan Tester

The team won their third STAC EAST Division championship in a row.

Wrestlers named ALL-DIVISION STAC include:

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Nate Aurelio | Nate Lehr     |
| Will Blewett | Jack Riegal   |
| Derek Goga   | Caleb Wiggins |
| Brady Hope   |               |



### Let's Go WARRIORS!

With the weather getting warmer, why not consider attending a CV athletic event? There are many opportunities to cheer on our Warriors this spring: baseball, softball, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, boys tennis and boys and girls track and field.



For team schedules, visit:  
<http://www.cvcasd.stier.org/Athletics.aspx>.

### CV to host Special Olympics May 6

Chenango Valley will host the Regional Special Olympic Track and Field Event again this year. The event is scheduled for May 6 at the Middle School and High School.

The kickoff parade and opening ceremonies will begin at 10 a.m. on the track. Athletes from several area school districts will be participating in the competition, and many community supporters will be cheering them on from the stands.

We encourage community members to attend this exciting and inspiring event!







### Megan Proutey wins national art award CVHS Senior to be honored at Carnegie Hall

Student artist and CV senior Megan Proutey was recently awarded a National American Visions Medal in the 2017 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for her painting, "Teeth." Megan is Chenango Valley's first National Arts Award winner!

She and other national award winners will be honored at a ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 8. In recent years, the star-studded ceremony has featured special guests include Tim Gunn, Alec Baldwin, Sonia Manzano, Billy Collins, Whoopi Goldberg, and Sarah Jessica Parker.

Megan's art teacher is Mr. Robert Zanot.

Congratulations, Megan!

## Annual Ice Cream Social & Band Concert

Wednesday, May 31 - 6:30 p.m.

Back lawn near the stadium

Featuring the Concert Bands of grades 5 - 12.

Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, relax, listen to the music and enjoy a summer treat!

In the event of rain, the concert will be in the MS/HS Auditorium.

Donation: for a dish of ice cream, a cookie and a drink - \$3/per person

Proceeds benefit the BaCh senior scholarships, in addition to supporting the music program and activities.



### Please Remember Bottles for BaCh

"Bottles for BaCh" donations will be accepted at the Ice Cream Social.

The Bottles for BaCh red collection box is located in the MS/HS staff parking lot.

Donations of deposit cans and bottles can be dropped off any time during the year.

Proceeds benefit the students in our band, chorus and theater programs.

Thank you for your continued support.

## Music & Art

### 'Thoroughly Modern Millie' delights audiences

CV Theatre Guild's production showcases students' outstanding talent



Photos: Don & Tina Kunkel

### Philharmonic Quintet performs for third-graders

Chenango Bridge Elementary third-graders and their friends from Chenango Forks third grade classes were treated to a special music education program presented by the Binghamton Philharmonic Brass Quintet on April 11 at CVHS. The program, called "Link Up," introduces students to the orchestra, preparing them to actively participate by singing and playing recorders. The children loved it!





# Port Dickinson Elementary

As the school year comes to an end, we are getting ready for several construction projects that will take place at Port Dickinson over the summer. We will be working on our boilers and air conditioning systems as well as updating our multipurpose room and kitchen areas. We are going to make the cafeteria more soundproof and child-friendly. We are all excited to see the outcome of these projects.

We are going to continue with our STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) classes with Mrs. Mika and Mrs. Tronovitch. We will also continue to expand our Tinker Town, where students in grades K-2 will be able to create or design independently or with group projects. Children will continue to learn computer keyboarding lessons with Mr. Karl Krause. Finally, we will continue with our Morning Programs. This month we have been discussing the word "respect."

We are excited about these new changes to our school, and we wish you a super spring.



Jim Pritchard, principal,  
Port Dickinson Elem.

## PD shows heart in Jump Rope for Heart campaign



Port Dickinson's physical education classes raised \$9,002.50 this year for the American Heart Association's Jump Rope For Heart campaign. Wow! A total of 156 students participated in the fundraiser, and the 64 students pictured above raised at least \$50, earning them a t-shirt.



Mrs. Shelepak's 2nd grade class won a pizza party for having the most class participation in the Jump Rope for Heart campaign.

## Poetry Recitation winners

Congratulations to Port Dickinson poetry recitation winners Bryan Weaver, grade 1, from Mrs. DeBellis' class, and Annemarie Maire, grade 1, from Mrs. Hoyt's class. Bryan and Annemarie participated in the county-wide Eleanor Hendricks' Poetry Recitation at Binghamton High School on April 1. They are pictured on page 23 along with the winners of the Chenango Bridge poetry recitation.



## 103-year-old shares life lessons with young students



"Aunt Stella" with kindergarten teacher Mrs. Henderson and her student Calvin Wrisley.

Kindergartner Calvin Wrisley recently mentioned to his teacher, Mrs. Henderson, that he has an aunt who is 103 years old! So on the 103rd day of school, the teacher and student made a special visit to "Aunt Stella." They interviewed her and took her some videos of Calvin's classmates asking her questions about how things were 100 years ago.

Aunt Stella said that her mom made her clothes, and that she worked very hard at school, and walked a mile to school. She said she didn't play much, because she had to take care of her sisters and brothers, and "chase the chickens out of the tomato plants."

When asked what her favorite food used to be when she was little, she said, "ANY food, we were just thankful to have food."

Calvin's grandmother JoAnn took the photos and the videos, to share with the entire class. It was a great learning experience. We can learn so much from our elders!

## A Super celebration

Mrs. Shelepak's second-graders dressed in their favorite team jersey to celebrate the Super Bowl.

Pictured at right are Josiah Boel and BellaRose Nelson.



## PTA Box Top contest



The Chenango Valley Elementary PTA held a box top collection contest between Port Dickinson and Chenango Bridge. Both schools collected 9,355 box tops, which provides \$935.50 for the PTA to use for special activities like author visits, dances, and field days. It also helps provide items that teachers have requested for their classrooms.

Port Dickinson won the contest by bringing in 5316 box tops! Their prize was to cover Mr. Novotany in silly string.

Thanks to all who have clipped and sent in box tops. They really do make a difference. If you have any box tops you would like to donate, please send them in with any elementary student or drop them off at the Fenton Free Library.

Thank you,

Lisa Sabol  
Chenango Valley Elementary PTA

## Poetry with a bit of green



Family members were invited to a poetry recitation in Mrs. Sweeney's class. The students brought in green snacks for St. Patrick's Day, and did a great job reciting their poems.



# Chenango Bridge Elementary

We have finally made it to spring! It is great to see the sunshine, and enjoy warmer temperatures and longer daylight each day. We have had many events at Chenango Bridge Elementary School recently. Here are some of our highlights:

- \* On March 9 we had our annual "Spring into Poetry" Recitation and we selected two students to represent Chenango Bridge at the Eleanor Hendricks County-Wide Poetry Recitation on April 1 at Binghamton High School's Helen Foley Theatre.
- \* We have completed our NYS ELA assessments. We will administer the NYS math assessments May 2-4.
- \* In May/June, students in fourth grade will take the NYS science (performance) test between May 24 and June 2. The NYS science written test is June 5.
- \* Our third grade students learned to play a recorder as they participated in a program titled "Link Up," in conjunction with the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra. Many thanks to CB music teacher Mrs. Buhl for organizing the event.
- \* Work has now begun on Phase 2 of the capital project at Chenango Bridge. We are looking forward to the terrific improvements to our cafeteria, kitchen, multi-purpose room and security office, and upgrades to our fire alarm system.
- \* CB sure has talent! Many students participated in our annual Talent Show on April 6, with a variety of singing, dancing, and gymnastics. Thank you to Mrs. Buhl for organizing this event.



Mary Beth Hammond,  
principal, Chenango  
Bridge Elementary

It is important that we continue to focus on safety. Please make sure all students and parents/guardians follow the safety and security procedures that are shared monthly in our building newsletter. Also, when visiting our school, please take time to look at our two "Family Resource Center" areas, located near the main office and near the gym. As our Strategic Planning Team continues to develop home/school communications and connections, we encourage you to use this valuable resource of information.

Thank you for your continued support. Enjoy the beauty of spring!



## Student awarded in Science Fair

Congratulations to Chenango Bridge fifth-grader Lydia Herndon, who won a Bronze Award in the Southern Tier Scholastic Science Fair at SUNY Broome on March 18 for her project entitled, "The Amazing Water Wheel."

Lydia was also awarded the Donna Lupardo Award for Innovation included a certificate and \$50 check. Great job, Lydia!

## Chenango Bridge Students "Rock On!"

Five CB students represented Chenango Valley School District by participating in a videotaping of the "Rock On Café" segments for Newschannel 34. The students were given a scripted lunch menu and used their own unique personality when reading it.

Students participating were: Allison Clark, grade 3, Mrs. Cortright's class; Kaida Warwick, grade 4, Mrs. Vesce's class; Alexander Boel, grade 5, Mrs. Zano's class; Caden Atkinson, grade 5, Mrs. Reardon's class, and Covany Skinner, grade 5, Mr. Gulbin's class.

Congratulations to all for a job well done!



l-r: Allison Clark, Kaida Warwick, Covanny Skinner, Alexander Boel, Caden Atkinson.

## Chenango Bridge Elementary

### Sen. Akshar a judge in CB's 'Spring Into Poetry' event

Our annual "Spring Into Poetry" Recitation was held March 9. Teachers selected one student from each classroom to recite a published poem of their choice. Students impressed classmates and teachers with their voice inflection, memorization, creative props, and a whole bunch of enthusiasm for poetry!

Judges for the recitation was judged were Senator Fred Akshar, Superintendent David Gill, and retired CB teacher Mrs. Cheryl Ryder.

The winners of the school recitation were Lauren Vesci, grade 3 - Mrs. Liburdi's class, and Alexander Boel, grade 5 - Mrs. Zanot's class, who competed April 1 at the county-wide Eleanor Hendricks' Poetry Recitation at Binghamton High School. Thank you to the CB Poetry Committee members, Mrs. Liburdi, Miss Pierce, Mrs. Reardon, Mrs. Shafer, and Mrs. Vesci for organizing the "Spring Into Poetry" event.



New York State Senator Fred Akshar greets students in the audience with high-fives and fist-bumps before the poetry event got underway.



L-r: Port Dickinson poetry recitation winners Bryan Weaver, grade 1, Mrs. DeBellis' class, and Annemarie Maire, grade 1, Mrs. Hoyt's class; Chenango Bridge winners Lauren Vesci, grade 3, Mrs. Liburdi's class, and Alexander Boel, grade 5, Mrs. Zanot's class.

### 'Cam Jansen' author visits PD & CB



Author David Adler made a visit to Port Dickinson and Chenango Bridge, where he spoke to students. Mr. Adler has written over 200 books, including the 'Cam Jansen' mystery series.

In speaking with the students, Mr. Adler encouraged them to take note when something interesting happens, and use that as a starting point to write a story.

His visit was sponsored by the Chenango Valley Elementary PTA.

### Student's art on display at hospital



Kayleigh Callahan, a fourth-grader in Mrs. Gates' class, painted the above picture while she was a patient in the children's hospital in Syracuse. The painting is on display for the month of March in the gallery and her picture is on the exhibition poster.

While in Syracuse, Kayleigh had the opportunity to see the musical "Wicked" and meet performers Ginna Claire, who plays the lead, and Jessica Vosk, who plays the wicked witch. The Wizard of Oz was Kayleigh's favorite movie and she LOVED the musical!



## Middle School

Spring has finally arrived and the Middle School has been positively buzzing with activity as we enter the fourth and final marking period. Students just completed the NYS Assessments in ELA and are ready to take the math assessment during the first week of May.

On March 24 the Middle School Hosted "Fun Friday" after school. Students had the opportunity to participate in many different activities, such as bean bag toss, ping pong, drawing/painting, "glam" room, board games and dodge ball. I would like to thank our Student Council advisor Mrs. Lange and the eighth grade class officer advisor Mrs. Broughton for coordinating a fantastically Fun Friday afternoon. Visit the website to see photos of the event.

On the following Friday, we held our first annual Post ELA Pep Rally to provide an opportunity for students and adults to have fun together, and build personal connections and positive middle school memories. Students in the three grade levels as well as faculty and staff competed in a myriad of different activities such as "Face the Cookie," "Stack Attack," "A Bit Dicey," "On the Rebound," and "Bucket Head." The event was patterned after the popular TV game show "Minute to Win It." In the end, the seventh grade emerged as the victors. I'd like to thank the Warrior Club, advisor Mrs. Lally, Mrs. Kogut, Mrs. Samson, Mrs. Hubenthal, and Mr. Berg for coordinating an amazing event. Please visit the website to see action photos!



Eric E. Attleson, principal  
CV Middle School

With the warm weather upon us, I would like to remind parents to assist their child in making proper clothing choices. Students are not permitted to wear tube tops, tank tops, midriff tops, spaghetti straps or other revealing clothing to school. Shorts or skirts must be at or below fingertips in length with the arms placed their sides. If students are wearing such articles of clothing they will be asked to change into more appropriate school dress. Please take the time in the morning to make sure your child's outfit is appropriate for school.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or the school if you have any questions or concerns. Your support throughout the year is essential to your child's success. Follow the MS on twitter: @CVMSWarriors and on Pinterest: CVMSWARRIORS.

### *Upcoming Events in the Middle School*

- May 2, 3 and 4 – NYS math assessment
- May 3 – Board of Education Budget Hearing, 6 p.m., Library
- May 5 – MS Spring Concert, 7 p.m., Auditorium
- May 16 – *Calendar Change* – Full day of instruction
- May 16 – Annual Budget Vote, 12 noon to 9 p.m., Middle/High School Auditorium
- May 17 – Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., MS Cafeteria
- May 19 – End of five-week period
- May 24 – Five-week reports sent home with students
- May 25 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade NYS science performance assessment
- May 26 - *Calendar Change* – Full day of instruction
- May 29 – School Closed - Memorial Day
- June 5 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade NYS science written assessment
- June 6-7 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Boston

## Twelve receive awards in Scholastic Science Fair

Congratulations to these 12 Chenango Valley Middle School sixth-graders who won awards at the recent Scholastic Science Fair:



- Garrett Anderson – "What Gear Ratio Works Best For Moving a Bike Uphill?" - Gold Medal and Merlin Award
- Madeline Anderson - "Not So Eggcellent Eggs" - Honorable Mention and LaSorte Dental Excellence Award
- Lucas Baier - "Amazing Crystals" - Honorable Mention
- Lejla Cehic – "Candy Wars" - Honorable Mention
- Josh Coddington - "One Greasy Mess!" - Honorable Mention and Merlin Award
- Chad Cole - "How Does Breakfast Size Affect GWAM?" - Honorable Mention
- Joshua Conrow - "Muffin Madness" - Gold Medal and Lockheed Martin Science Excellence Award - Junior Division
- Luke Gillette - "Melting Mania" - Bronze Medal and Naval Science Award - Junior Division
- Devin Miller and Fenner Sisson – "Waterproof Match Extravaganza" - Silver Medal and Merlin Award
- Kenneth Moore – "Lights and Growth" - Bronze Medal
- Alex Zeggert - "Snow Pollution" - Silver Medal and Matthew Leslie Memorial Award

## Middle School

### Students and Good Citizen of the Month - January

#### Students of the Month January 2017

**6th Grade Team:**  
Logan Lomonaco  
Josh Conrow

**Good Citizen:**  
Corrina Rouff

**7th Grade Team:**  
Trenton Reynolds  
Cameron Singer

**Good Citizen:**  
Emma Farr-Giblin

**8th Grade Team:**  
Megan Taylor  
Autumn Dorn

**Good Citizen:**  
Bridgette Turner



Front, l-r: Trenton Reynolds, Josh Conrow, Logan Lomonaco, Emma Farr-Giblin  
Back, l-r: Cameron Singer, Autumn Dorn, Megan Taylor, Bridgette Turner, Corrina Rouff

**Our Students of the Month CARE about CV**  
C - Commitment A - Attitude R - Responsibility E - Enthusiasm

### Students and Good Citizen of the Month - February 2017

#### Students of the Month February 2017

**6th Grade Team:**  
Savannah Greenmun  
Olivia Santa Croce

**Good Citizen:**  
Kaylee Watson

**7th Grade Team:**  
Saniah Reeves  
Gabriel Beam

**Good Citizen:**  
Vincent Hill

**8th Grade Team:**  
Luke Noonan  
Megan Taylor

**Good Citizen:**  
Natalie Broderick



Front, l-r: Gabriel Beam, Olivia Santa Croce, Kaylee Watson, Vincent Hill  
Back, l-r: Saniah Reeves, Savannah Greenmun, Luke Noonan, Megan Taylor, Natalie Broderick



## High School

The 2016-17 school year is coming to an end. Spring sports will soon be concluding and in a few short weeks we will begin the year-end exercises.

Our High School Awards assembly will be held May 24 at 6:30 p.m. The Senior Awards assembly will be June 5 at 6:30 p.m. Local exams will begin after Memorial Day. The Prom will be held June 2 at Genegantslet Golf Course. Regents Exams will run from June 13-22. Graduation will be June 23 at 7 p.m. at the Stadium. Before you know it, the 2016-2017 school year will be behind us. But, before we finish this year, a few reminders.

As the weather begins to turn warm, students must be reminded of the Chenango Valley dress code which states: "A student's dress, grooming and appearance shall recognize that objectionable or immodest clothing is not permitted." This would include but not limited to extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, low necklines (front and/or back), see-through garments, "spaghetti" strap and bare mid-tops. Shorts must come down on the leg to the lowest point where the arms hang down by their sides. Clothing must ensure that underwear and cleavage are completely covered. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

When the weather turns warm, students start to think about summer vacation. Before we know it, the end of the year will be here. If your child is struggling in a particular subject, **NOW** is the time to get help. Don't wait until June to address the problem. Have your child take advantage of our staff during the day and during remedial periods for extra help. Putting in quality time and effort now through June will make the final exams much less intimidating. Please impress upon your child to make a strong final push to finish the year doing their best!

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



Terry Heller, principal  
CV Senior High School

## 'March Madness' debates history's most influential



Mrs. Haskell poses with March Madness debate winners Carter Wilson, center, and Shane Culver.

At CVHS, March Madness speculation isn't about basketball, it's about the Most Influential Person in History.

In a voluntary afterschool event created by social studies teacher Mrs. Haskell, tenth-grade students speaking as an important person in history had three minutes to convince a jury that they were more influential than their opponent. Opponents paired together during the competition included Queen Victoria vs. Jesus, Isaac Newton vs. Adolf Hitler, and Albert Einstein vs. Alex the Great.

The event, called March Madness/History's Search for the Most Influential Person, was set up in brackets like NCAA basketball, with winners in each round advancing to the next bracket.

In the end, the winners were Carter Wilson and Shane Culver, who worked as a team portraying John Locke. Congratulations!

## The importance of reading to children

Sarah Reed, a representative of the Four County Library System, visited Mrs. Terwilliger's child psychology class to speak about the importance of reading to young children.

The students will be writing children's stories later this semester, and Ms. Reed's visit gave them some great insight and ideas for their project.



## High School

### Energy alternatives explored in advanced class

The Environmental Science class, concurrent enrollment with SUNY Broome, has been discussing energy systems and alternative energy sources throughout the last few weeks. As a final activity for this unit, students built alternative energy structures using solar, wind, or water power.



The photograph at left shows a solar powered pumpman that could be attached to a water pump or oil pump to extract those liquids from the ground.

Students also produced biodiesel from simple vegetable oil and methanol.



### Senior places 2nd in national competition



Congratulations to senior Billy Aswad, who placed second at the Indoor National Field Archery Association's Indoor Nationals Tournament in Cincinnati March 18-19. He competed in the Bowhunter Freestyle - Young Adult Male category.

### Enriched global history class creates presentations



Students in Mr. Tidick's enriched global history 9 class created Power Point presentations on their choice of a famous landmark or person in history. The class of 27 students visited the computer lab to research their topic and worked a full day to develop a presentation using global history terminology, creativity and visuals. The students presented their projects in class.

Topics presented included: the Acropolis, Catherine the Great, the Great Pyramids, Christ the Redeemer, Christopher Columbus, the Kremlin, Galileo, the Great Wall, Isaac Newton, Pompeii, Mary Wollstonecraft, Copernicus, Versailles, St. Peter's Cathedral, the Taj Mahal, Ivan the Terrible, the Brandenburg Gate, the Colosseum, the Eiffel Tower, the Forbidden City, Amritsar, the Sphinx, Hagia Sophia, the Parthenon, the Wailing Wall and Vasco da Gama.

Mr. Tidick reported that these students put extensive effort into these presentations and did an outstanding job. "I am so proud of them," he said.






**Chenango Valley Central School District**  
**221 Chenango Bridge Rd.**  
**Binghamton, NY 13901**

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**Believe It! Achieve It! At Chenango Valley where Warriors Excel!**

 **VOTE** May 16, 12 to 9 p.m.  
**High School Auditorium**

**BUDGET HEARING / CANDIDATE FORUM**  
**Meet the school board candidates May 3**  
**6 p.m., High School Auditorium**

The public is invited to meet the three candidates running for two open seats on the Chenango Valley Central School District Board of Education at a Candidates Forum scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 3 in the High School Auditorium. Candidates will each be asked a brief series of questions designed to help residents make an informed voting decision.

Following the question-and-answer session, candidates will be on hand to meet district residents attending the forum. See information on the board candidates on pages 6-7 of this *Newscaster*.

**IMPORTANT CALENDAR & YEAR-END DATES**

May 16 - Full Day of Instruction (*changed due to snow day utilization*)  
 May 26 - Full Day of Instruction (*changed due to snow day utilization*)  
 June 12 - Last Day of Classes, Grades 9 - 12  
 June 13-22 - Regents Exams  
 June 22 & 23 - Half Day for Grades PreK - 8  
 June 23 - Last Day for Grades PreK - 8

**DIRECTORY**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Website .....                               | www.cvcسد.stier.org |
| CV School District Main Number .....        | 762-6800            |
| Board of Education                          |                     |
| Jason Aurelio.....                          | 237-0263            |
| Stephen Carr.....                           | 760-9605            |
| Casey Egan Doyle.....                       | 724-5674            |
| Stuart W. Elliott, President.....           | 648-6061            |
| John Hussar.....                            | 773-8196            |
| Christine Lomonaco.....                     | 772-8539            |
| Joel Luchun, Vice President.....            | 722-1589            |
| Kelly Warwick.....                          | 621-6357            |
| Michelle Porterfield Wilson.....            | 648-5544            |
| Superintendent of Schools                   |                     |
| David Gill .....                            | 762-6810            |
| Assistant Superintendent of Schools         |                     |
| Elizabeth DiCosimo.....                     | 762-6811            |
| Business Executive                          |                     |
| Elizabeth Donahue.....                      | 762-6803            |
| District Clerk                              |                     |
| Susan Cirba.....                            | 762-6812            |
| Newsletter & Website                        |                     |
| Linda Snyder.....                           | 762-6804            |
| <u>Offices</u>                              |                     |
| Athletics, Brad Tomm.....                   | 762-6904            |
| Curriculum, Tamara Ivan.....                | 762-6805            |
| Food Service, John Marino.....              | 762-6840            |
| Special Education, Tara Whittaker.....      | 762-6830            |
| Technology, Sarah Latimer.....              | 762-6820            |
| Transportation Department, Sue Ticknor..... | 762-6850            |
| <u>Schools</u>                              |                     |
| Port Dickinson.....                         | 762-6970            |
| Attendance .....                            | 762-6977            |
| Health Office.....                          | 762-6976            |
| DASA Coordinator, Jim Pritchard .....       | 762-6970            |
| Chenango Bridge.....                        | 762-6950            |
| Attendance .....                            | 762-6954            |
| Health Office.....                          | 762-6952            |
| DASA Coord., Mary Beth Hammond.....         | 762-6950            |
| Middle School .....                         | 762-6902            |
| Attendance .....                            | 762-6931            |
| Health Office.....                          | 762-6911            |
| Homework Hotline: 6th.....                  | 762-6870            |
| Homework Hotline: 7th.....                  | 762-6871            |
| Homework Hotline: 8th.....                  | 762-6872            |
| DASA Coordinator, Eric Attleson .....       | 762-6902            |
| High School .....                           | 762-6900            |
| Attendance .....                            | 762-6931            |
| Health Office.....                          | 762-6911            |
| DASA Coordinator, Terry Heller.....         | 762-6900            |

**OUR MISSION**  
 We inspire, engage and empower all students to achieve their full potential.