



NOVEMBER 2015

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TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A Special Night with Author/Musician, Eric Litwin



This was certainly an event like no other! Approximately 300 people showed up for this great family event on October 20th. Students and parents were singing and dancing in our Elementary School auditorium. You would have thought it was a rock concert all themed around popular storybook characters *Pete the Cat* and *The Nuts*.

Mr. Eric celebrates kid's love for books by combining reading with singing and playing guitar. He encourages us to find those books that our kids love, and begin reading to them at a very young age.

Mr. Eric stayed to sign the many books that children brought to the event. His books have won many awards and are on Best Seller lists. Continue enjoying Eric's books and music by visiting: www.ericlitwin.com, or www.thelearninggroove.com.

Thank you to our PTO for sponsoring this special event.



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TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Book Tasting Party

As part of a unit focused on human rights, Tully 5th graders are preparing to read *Esperanza Rising*. This book, by Pam Munoz Ryan, features a family whose human rights have been challenged. When faced with tragedy, they learned to find the courage to build a new life for themselves.

Esperanza Rising is divided into chapters, each named for an item that is harvested during the story. Students worked in teams to research twelve different fruits and vegetables and then participated in a "Book Tasting Party," trying the items they will encounter in the book. Students enjoyed sampling old favorites like peaches and cantaloupe, while trying papaya, figs, avocado, and guava nectar. Thanks to generous contributions from several families, the event was a delicious introduction to the text.



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SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



MICHAEL LOMBARDO

What are your plans after high school?

I plan to go to college and major in something that I want to learn more about.

What do you hope to achieve by the time you're 30 years old?

I hope to have a job I enjoy, a nice home, and good relationships with good people.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be and what would you talk about?

I would invite Mahatma Gandhi, a young Joseph Stalin, and a young Adolf Hitler. I would hope that Gandhi would teach Stalin and Hitler the virtues of peace and non-violence so that both would decide not to end the lives of millions of people.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?

I have faced the challenge of a busy schedule by becoming better at time management.

Who's your hero and why?

My heroes are my parents because they have shaped the person I am today.

Family: Anthony-father, Charlene-mother, Madelyn-sister, Marcus-brother

What has been the best part of your high school career and why?

I think the best part of my high school career has been the feeling that I am improving myself every day because that is a great feeling to have.

What have you learned by the activities you have participated in outside of school?

I have learned how to be a leader from leading two clubs at the Tully Free Library.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far?

I am proud of the effort I have put into my classes and the grades I have received.



ELENA McANINCH

What are your plans after high school?

I hope to go to a good liberal arts college and major in English. Then, I'll get an internship and I'll get a job at a publishing company.

What do you hope to achieve by the time you're 30 years old?

I hope to have a job I enjoy, a place to love that's a home, and people around me that I like. And I hope to have finished at least the rough draft of my book.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be and what would you talk about?

I would invite my friend, Rachel, and my friend, Julianne. I met them at different points of my life, and they have never met each other. They both are very important to me and have contributed a lot to who I am now. Hopefully, we'd have easy conversation and everyone would get along.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?

One challenge I have faced is depression. I am not unusual in this. Many people struggle with it every day. With help and persistence, it has become easier, though the battle is every day.

Who's your hero and why?

My hero is Ursula Le Guin, one of my favorite authors. Her revolutionary take on gender in science fiction awes me, and I hold her in great esteem. She is both a brilliant writer and a feminist, and I hope to follow in her footsteps.

Family: Brian-father, Gayle-mother, Moira-sister

What has been the best part of your high school career and why?

The best part of my time in high school has been the time I have put into the Newspaper Club.

What have you learned by the activities you have participated in outside of school?

I have learned dedication from my decade of karate, responsibility from volunteering at the library, and leadership from Newspaper Club.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far?

My proudest moment was getting a 100 on a paper I wrote about Lord of the Flies. I had to rewrite a chapter with all the characters' genders switched and I did a really good job.

TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

Student of the Month for September

★ STUDENT of the MONTH ★



ENGLISH

Erin Hutton
Alexander Wiers



SPANISH

Laura Rasmussen
Andrew Rosado



SOCIAL STUDIES

Ian Leiby
Elizabeth Caron



Fine Arts

Caesar Morenus
Kim Welch



MATHEMATICS

Matt Nassif
Danielle Bedford



PHYSICAL ED, HEALTH

Logan Bedford
Ellen Jaworski



SCIENCE

Drew Moss
Jessica Swift



CAREER TECH ED, FAMILY SCI

Jackson Deal
Kara Clark

TULLY JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Senator Valesky Visits Tully Central School District

State Senator Dave Valesky visited the Jr./Sr. High School on October 5th to recognize our award-winning FFA program. He also took the time to visit several classrooms and observe an 8th grade social studies lesson in the library. These students had studied regional economics as a cause of the Civil War and now they were researching modern day regional economics in America.



Students worked in teams with specific roles. Each team was assigned a region of the United States (Northeast, Midwest, Southwest, etc.) to study. Researcher 1 began the process by finding a list of states in that particular region of the country. He or she had to communicate that information to researchers 2 and 3. They had to research the economies of the individual states, making sure to coordinate their work so that there was no duplication of effort. When they finished, they reported their findings to researcher 4, who summarized the group's work by creating a Glog, or online poster, containing text, graphics, images, and video. Researchers 2 and 3 also had to report their sources back to researcher 1, who was charged with creating a complete MLA style citation page.

By working in teams with such specific lines of communication, these students were practicing skills they will need in college and the workplace. They were also using technology, including databases provided free to the district by the state through the NOVEL (New York Online Virtual Electronic Library) program.

Tully FFA Accomplishments 2015

Over the summer, the Tully FFA chapter participated in countless team and individual CDE competitions at the New York State Fair. With hard work and dedication, two of Tully's CDE teams and one individual placed first overall and have qualified to compete for national recognition at the National FFA Convention and Expo in Louisville, KY.

The Horse Evaluation CDE team, consisting of Kara Clark, Sara Sawmiller, Ellen Jaworski, and James Davenport placed first overall at the New York State Fair. Individually, Kara Clark finished first, Sara Sawmiller second, Ellen Jaworski fifth, and James Davenport eighth. In this CDE competition, participants are scored on how well they solve a scenario given to them that relates to one of the following areas: nutrition, management, marketing, reproduction, anatomy, tack and equipment. The competitors must judge different performance and halter classes and must develop oral reasons to support their decisions for placing the horses as they did.

This year Tully FFA had two Poultry Evaluation teams participate during the New York State Fair. Maggie Kosalek, Maureen Murphy, Mike Sawmiller, and Leo Touchette were all participants of the first place team. These students will be competing at National FFA

Convention as well. Taylor Grosso, Kara Clark, Spencer George, and Sara Sawmiller finished second place and have since participate at the "Big E" in Springfield, MA where they placed 5th. Individually Maggie Kosalek finished first, Mike Sawmiller second, Sarah Sawmiller third, Taylor Grosso fourth, Maureen Murphy eighth, Spencer George tenth, Kara Clark eleventh, and Leo Touchette twelfth at the New York State Fair. This CDE competition focuses on identification of various industry components, application of sound management practices, evaluations of live birds, and oral reasons of placing a class of ready-to-cook broilers. The participants also evaluated processed products and eggs.

In the Dairy Handling CDE, Matthew Currie finished first place and will now compete in both National FFA Convention in October and Big E in a few weeks. This contest requires students to demonstrate their ability to properly handle a dairy cow and get the animal into the best position to show the judges their animal's best qualities.

Tully FFA also participated in the Welding CDE, registering two teams that consisted of Landon Drumm and Spencer George who finished first and Garrett Pierpoint and James Davenport who finished in third place at Empire Farm Days. Individually Landon Drumm finished first, spencer George fifth, James Davenport seventh, and Garrett Pierpoint tenth. For finishing first, Landon Drumm received a \$1,000 scholarship to SUNY Morrisville. Owen Hoke and Ben Reed both participated in the Tractor Driving CDE placing in the top twenty. These teams had great performances. Dairy judging CDE this year finished sixth overall with the B team finishing eleventh. Tully's Milk Quality CDE team finished twelfth place overall.

The Tully FFA would like to thank all of the sponsors for each of these Career Development Events for their support including all of the volunteers that helped to train each of these teams. We look forward to competing at the National FFA Convention in October!

Respectfully Submitted By: Ellen Jaworski, Tully FFA Reporter

DISTRICT WIDE NEWS

Internet Safety

Did you know that the minimum age to open an account on most social media sites, including Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat is 13?



NYS State Trooper Brian Derochie told our 5th and 6th grade students this during his Internet Safety presentation on October 20th. Imagine the students' surprise, as none of them are 13 and many of them have one or more accounts on these sites!

Trooper Derochie talked about basic safety guidelines, including the importance of not sharing personal information on line, including passwords. He spoke about cyberbullying, and the appropriate and inappropriate use of social media.

Research shows that people's behavior on line is often contrary to what they would do in person. It's too easy to be mean or say inappropriate things when you are not face to face, or even talking over the phone. The message to students was "If you wouldn't say it to someone's face, don't type it on your screen."

Students were reminded that once they post something on line, or send a text message they no longer have control over that piece of information or picture. It can be forwarded and shared to people without their permission or without them knowing. This can be embarrassing and hurtful. Sometimes it can be illegal.

Social media is a common way to communicate. As the students asked Trooper Derochie questions it was apparent many students text and share photos on a daily basis. Trooper Derochie's message about safe and responsible use of the Internet, including cell phones, will serve our students well.





DISTRICT WIDE NEWS

Substitute Job Openings at Tully Central School District

Looking for part-time work with flexibility? Hours vary. All positions on an as needed basis.

- ◆ Substitute Bus Drivers – Requirements: clean driving record; a CDL license with a Passenger Endorsement.
- ◆ Substitute School Monitors (Bus Monitors)
- ◆ Substitute Food Service Helpers – Positions available in the elementary and junior/senior high school.
- ◆ Substitute Cleaners – Positions available in the elementary and junior/senior high school.
- ◆ Substitute Clerical
- ◆ Substitute Nurses – RN certification preferred. May consider LPN certification.
- ◆ Substitute Teachers – Positions available in the elementary and junior/senior high school. NYS certification preferred.
- ◆ Substitute Teaching Assistants

Substitute applications are taken on an on-going basis. All eligible must complete an application and will be fingerprinted through the NYS Education Department.

Applications may be obtained from the school website: <http://tullyschools.org> or may be picked up at the district office, business office, elementary or high school office.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Term Expires	Member/Title	Contact
2016	Mr. Mark Drumm, President	(315) 696-5958
2017	Mr. James Bertolo, Vice President	(315) 696-8786
2016	Mrs. Denise Cardamone	(315) 696-5599
2018	Mrs. Carrie Edinger	(315) 696-0106
2017	Mr. Steven Pierce	(315) 575-0728
2018	Mr. Matthew VanBeveren	(315) 696-5745
2018	Mr. Edward Wortley, II	(315) 696-8609
2016	Miss Cassidy McGinn Student Ex Officio Member	(315) 696-6821

Meeting Dates

Meetings are held in the Junior/Senior High School Library at 6:00 pm. Dates, time and location subject to change and additional special meetings to be scheduled on an as needed basis. Check the school website for updates. Upcoming BOE meetings through December 2015:

- ◆ **November 10, 2015**
- ◆ **November 23, 2015**
- ◆ **December 8, 2015**
- ◆ **December 21, 2015**

NOVEMBER 2015

CLOSING REMARKS



Our new NYSED Commissioner, Mary Ellen Elia, was in town recently, as a part of her statewide introduction tour. On the first day of her visit to the area, she met with school superintendents and school board members. On the second day, she met with parents, teachers, and principals.

On this statewide tour she was both delivering a message and fielding questions. In a nutshell, her message is that things are changing at NYSED. These changes will take a couple of years to fully materialize, but they include a number of important changes. She explained that teachers will be brought into the process of constructing 3-8 ELA and math Assessment items. This process will be much like the current process of constructing Regents Exam questions, which seems to work pretty well. She talked about a new goal of releasing 100% of the 3-8 ELA and math Assessment items after the scoring process has concluded, which would help with program evaluation and with identifying specific students academic strengths and weaknesses. She explained the newly created process for revising the Common Core State Standards, the first

step of which is to solicit feedback on the current standards, via a survey, which can be found at the NYSED website (www.engageny.org). Finally she talked about the possibility of administering all 3-8 Assessments on-line. On-line administration of our 3-8 Assessments would be a distant goal, with a target date of 2020. If this on-line administration process works, however, we would save money and we would have a quicker turnaround time with Assessment results, both of which would be good things.

It does seem as if there is a different tone at NYSED with Ms. Elia at the helm. It seems that there is a renewed focus on soliciting feedback from parents and teachers and a willingness to make changes based upon this feedback. My impression is that Ms. Elia is sincere in pursuing these changes, and that she understands how these changes could lead to better learning experiences for our students. If our Governor is willing to listen to Ms. Elia, we should be able to make some progress.

Robert Hughes, Superintendent of Schools

Office: 315-696-6204

Email: rhughes@tullyschools.org

Article Submission Guidelines

The Knight Insight is published ten times per year and is available online @ tullyschools.org.

The **deadline for article submissions is the 10th of each month** except for the combined issues. The deadline for the summer issue, July/August is June 30 and the deadline for the winter issue, January/February is December 30.

We must adhere to the deadline in order to publish each issue in a timely manner. All material is subject to editing. The district has the final decision whether or not to publish an article.

If you would like to submit an article, please email articles to Mary Fisher at the Tully Central School District Office at mfisher@tullyschools.org. If you have any questions, please call (315) 696-6204.

It is requested that all articles be emailed in Word format whenever possible. Please do not capitalize all the words in the article. Please do not insert or embed a picture within the actual Word article. Pictures should be emailed in JPG format at 300 dpi. If you are unable to email the picture, you may drop it off to the district office. If you want the picture returned, please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope.

If you are unable to email your article in Word format, it is helpful if the material submitted is typed. You may drop it off to the district office, mail it to Mary Fisher, Tully Central School District, 20 State St, Tully, NY 13159, or send by fax to (315) 883-1343.

Alumni News

The Knight Insight wishes to highlight news of recent graduates. If you have information relating to academic or the career path of recent graduates, please email to mfisher@tullyschools.org.

SIGN UP FOR ED ALERT

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