

STEVENS STAR



PTA Newsletter



February 2010

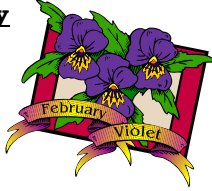
Francis L. Stevens Elementary School, Lake Hill Road, Ballston Lake, NY
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Northeastern District PTA

Calendar of Events

Thursday, February 4th

PTA Founders Day Dinner



Tuesday, February 9th

Board of Education at High School, 7:30pm

Monday, February 15th – Friday, February 19th

Winter Break

Tuesday, February 23rd

Board of Education at Charlton Heights, 7:30pm

Monday, March 1st

Stevens PTA “Parents as Reading Partners”
District Pre-K Parents meeting at Pashley, 7:00pm

Monday, March 8th & Tuesday, March 9th

Kindergarten Registration

Tuesday, March 9th

Board of Education at Stevens 7:30pm

Sunday, March 14th

Daylight Savings Time Begins “Spring Forward”

Tuesday, March 16th

Half Day for Grades 1-5

Wednesday, March 17th

Stevens Book Fair begins

Friday, March 19th

Stevens PTA Pajama Party

Tuesday, March 23rd

Board of Education at Middle School, 7:30pm

Friday, March 26th

Half Day for Grades 1-12

Message from the President

We had a busy start to the year with After School Enrichment Clubs and Family Fun Night. Thank you so much to Gretchen Belanger and Helen Roos for taking the lead for Enrichment Clubs, and all the instructors, volunteers and Steven’s staff who made it an enriching experience for the kids who participated. Thank you, too, to Valerie Simpson and Jackie Ballinger for providing an exciting Family Fun Night. As usual, we had a big turnout and a great time.

This Thursday, we will find out this year’s recipients of the BH-BL PTA Founder’s Day Awards. One person is awarded the honor from each of the five schools. We are all anxiously awaiting the announcements. I understand there will be a red carpet outside of the Edison Club this year, so come early to get a prime spot. I want to thank *everyone* who volunteers their time to our PTA and our kids. You are all winners!

See you at the next PTA Meeting on Wednesday, March 3rd at 7 PM in the Steven’s Media Center.

Amy



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

From all elementary schools to help with: DISTRICT WIDE KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION.

When: March 8th and March 9th. Two shifts available: Morning 8:30 - 11:30 or Afternoon shift 11:45 - 2:00

Where: Stevens Elementary School

There are 32 spots to fill any shift that you could work would be great!

Please check your calendars if you can help on either day, any shift, please call Tina Crocetto at 399-2555.

Burnt Hills Ballston Lake Public Library

We are replacing all of our toys and puzzles to meet the new lead regulations put out by the Federal Government. It is our hope to provide all new safe toys for children to play with when they visit our library.



We are buying a variety of things but here are a few examples:

New puzzles \$10 each
Doll House with furniture and families \$189
Wooden Train Set \$44
Shape Sorting Bucket \$9
Wooden Barn Play set \$89
Puppets \$12 each

If you would like to make a donation to help purchase these new toys, please contact Rebecca at the library.

Rebecca Verhayden Darling

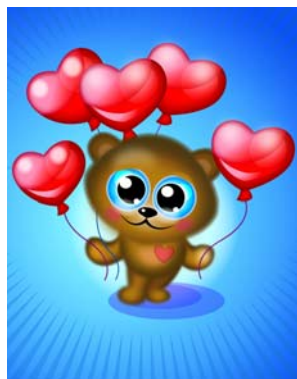
Youth Services Librarian
Town of Ballston Community Library
2 Lawmar Lane
Burnt Hills, NY 12027
Phone: (518) 399-8174
Fax: (518) 399-1687
<http://toby.sals.edu>

Silver Graphics 2010



It is Silver Graphics time again. Mrs.

Buckley has been working with our children on wonderful art. In mid February, I will be sending out an envelope filled with a picture of your child's art and order form. The order form and money are due by ***March 1st.*** If you have any questions, please call me at 884-2620. Thanks for considering Silver Graphics. Linda Fieldhouse



2009-2010 Stevens

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PTATeacher Representatives

Sue Cifaratta and
Betty Hanson

Articles for the Newsletter

Emailed or written submissions must be received by the 1st of the month for inclusion in the newsletter. Submissions by email should be sent to
mgrabb@nycap.rr.com

Staff

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Asst. Editor,
Laura Foster



Information if Your Child is Absent



Parents should always notify the school by **9:00AM**, either by phone call or email, whenever their child will be absent. If there is no call or email from a parent, the office staff must verify the student is absent by calling the parent. (A written excuse with a parent signature is still required when the child returns to school.)

bmlodzianowski@bhbl.org,
jbennett@bhbl.org

Year book Pictures



Please remember to take pictures at school events for the year book. Place pictures on a disk and leave in the main office for

Paula Wunderlich. You can also email pictures to Paula at ewunderL@nycap.rr.com Please let Paula know if you can cover a school event. Upcoming events are: **Book Fair and Pajama Party.**

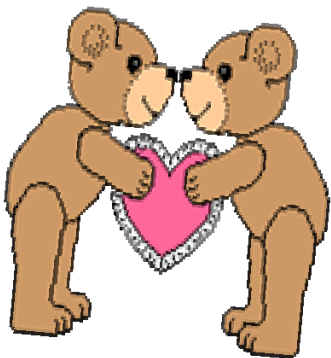
COME JOIN THE FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION!

The Stevens PTA invites all members to attend the annual BH-BL PTA Founders Day Awards on February 4, 2010, at the Edison Club in Rexford.

Each of the five BH-BL schools has selected a Founders Day Award recipient who will be honored and presented with a PTA Honorary Life Membership. The Stevens recipient is an individual who has demonstrated a high level of caring and commitment, continually going above and beyond in ways that benefit and enrich the lives of children at Stevens. We can't say who this person is because it is our district's tradition to surprise the recipient with the award.

The celebration will begin at 5:45 p.m. with hearty hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. The tickets are \$20 per person and advance purchase is required. You may obtain your tickets via the main office. If you have any questions please call Cathy Todd at 399-4438.

We hope that you will join us in honoring this very worthy individual!



Stevens Super Star Department

Our children are very fortunate to receive art instruction from Mrs. Buckley. Mrs. Buckley taught art in Ohio, New Mexico, and Michigan before coming to our school district. She began at Stevens in 1986. She then taught art at the middle school and high school before returning to Stevens in 2000. Through her career here at Stevens, Mrs. Buckley recalls many funny stories. Last year she was explaining to a second grade class the definition of surreal, as they were studying Miro and surrealism. She gave the example of pigs flying over the playground. She stated we all know pigs don't fly. One gentle response followed, "But Mrs. Buckley there is the swine flu". What Mrs. Buckley does for our students, besides ordering supplies and writing curriculum, is to equip our children with the knowledge and skills to become critical thinkers with strong values and work ethics. "Part of the impressiveness of it all is the dazzling variety of styles and approaches our children have. Art is a unique way for them to learn in a climate of standardization." How can students and parents help? Mrs. Buckley says, repeated practice is essential to learn skills. It builds confidence and enhances quality. She encourages drawing and expressive drawing, experimenting with different materials. Provide children with experiences and opportunities. Take a nature walk or visit some great museums like: Eric Carle Museum, Tang Teaching Museum, The Albany Institute of History and Art, The Arts Center of the Capital Region, Iroquoian Indian Museum, Norman Rockwell Museum, New York



State Museum, and Hyde Collection.

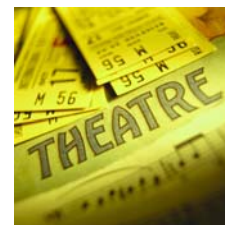
Thank you Mrs. Buckley for enhancing our children through art.

Guess what we found?

Snow pants, hats, gloves, mittens, and boots. Please go to the lost and found to find your lost clothing items. Please mark your winter gear with a permanent marker. Remember **EVERYONE** has black snow pants!!!

Save the Date!

Wonderland, a tale of Alice in Wonderland will be performed by the BH-BL Theatre for Children on Friday and Saturday, April 16th and 17th at the BH-BL High School.



You won't want to miss this wonderful opportunity to

Enjoy live theatre for the whole family!



Book Fair/Pajama Party

Our Scholastic Book Fair is approaching soon, March 17th-19th, culminating with the annual Pajama Party Friday night. It's one of the most exciting and eagerly anticipated events at school! There are many opportunities both during the day and in the evening for you to volunteer and help make this event a huge success. You can help children pick out books, set up or take down the fair, work the cash register during the Pajama Party or contribute refreshments. More information will be coming home soon. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering please contact Michele Graham at dgraham1@nycap.rr.com or call 399-6750.



Stevens Family Fun Night at the YMCA Coming in March!

Mark your calendars now: On **Friday March 5** there will be a special **Stevens Night** at the **Greater Glenville YMCA** (127 Droms Rd. in Glenville). From 6PM-9PM all Stevens families are invited to come and take advantage of the YMCA facilities, including the pool and gym. There will be activities for all ages planned in the gym. The event is free for YMCA members. Non-members will pay just \$5 per family for a great night of fun. The 5th Grade Party Committee will also be holding a fundraiser **Bake Sale** during the evening. Come join other Stevens Superstars and have a blast!

Volunteers are needed



Come join the fun of volunteering! The following programs can use your talents.

Book Fair – Contact Michele Graham at 399-6750

Pajama Party – Contact Michele Graham at 399-6750

Kindergarten Registration – Contact Tina Crocetto at 399-2555.

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