

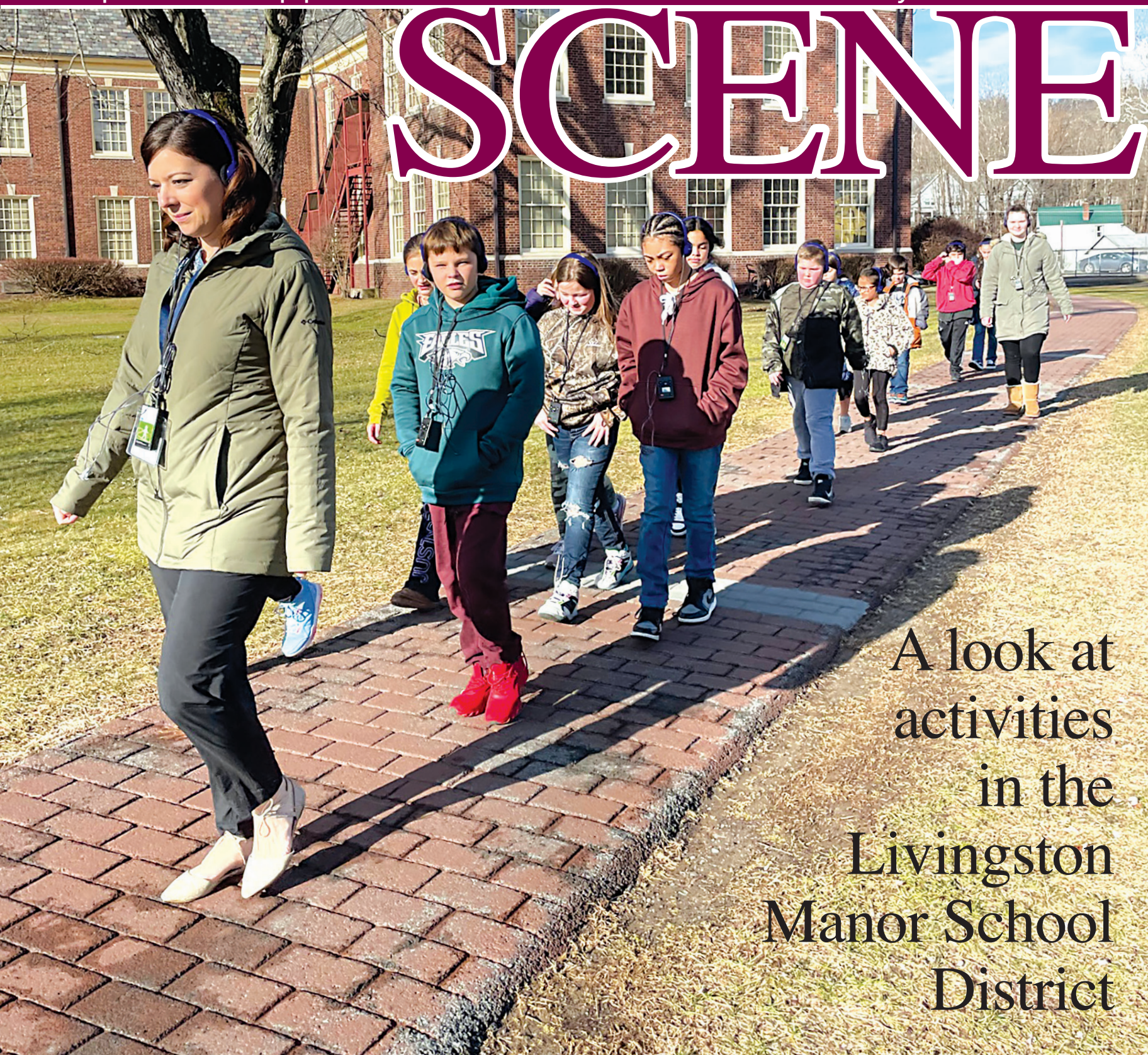
TAKE ONE FREE

SECTION L
MARCH 2023
CALLICOON, NY

SCHOOL

A Special Supplement to the Sullivan County Democrat

SCENE



A look at
activities
in the
Livingston
Manor School
District

Shaping kids into well-rounded adults

Superintendent John Evans admits that he wasn't always the most dedicated student in school. He couldn't wait to get out of the classroom, and out of his hometown of Roscoe.

After graduating in 1989, he went to school for Technology Education. Evans had always been very hands on, and so it seemed the most natural route.

"A former teacher of mine encouraged me to go back to school for teaching, which is ironic because in high school I couldn't wait to get out and here I was going back in," he laughed.

Once in education, new challenges and new opportunities kept popping up for Evans - starting out as a Technology Education teacher, then Technology Coordinator, then Director of Technology and Athletic Director, and finally Superintendent of Schools.

The move to Superintendent in 2017 was an opportunity for Evans to come back to where it all started and to be back in his home community.

Because he oversees both Roscoe and Livingston Manor, he splits his time between both schools, often being in one school in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

"I always try to plan the day, but it usually gets altered depending on what's going on with students or teachers or staff. It's constantly



STORY AND PHOTO
BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

Superintendent John Evans oversees both Livingston Manor and Roscoe Central Schools.

shifting," he said, "but one of the most enjoyable parts of my day is when I get to be out and about with the kids."

Evans likes to be visible in the buildings - walking around, popping in and out of the classrooms, talking with kids to see how things are going, what they like, and what they don't like.

One of his goals is to provide as many different and diverse opportunities to kids as possible, to

keep them interested and to best prepare them for life after school. This means bringing in new programs, clubs, activities, and extra-curriculars to help students be as successful as possible in a world that changes as rapidly as our does now.

"A kid in kindergarten is potentially going to step into a job that doesn't even exist yet when they graduate," Evans said. "I don't want to just prepare kids for a job,

I want to prepare them for life. They need the tools and skills to be able to communicate, to think critically, to be able to interact with people socially and professionally...things that transcend a job title."

Evans' main focus is on helping kids grow into well-rounded adults so that they can be successful in whatever they decide to do, which might mean coming full circle just like he did.

School Scene

'A look inside the Livingston Manor School District'

Published by
Catskill-Delaware Publications, Inc.

Publishers of the

**SULLIVAN COUNTY
Democrat**

(845) 887-5200

Callicoon, NY 12723

March 10, 2023 • Vol. CXXXIII, No. 79

Proud Member of
NYPA
NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION
Serving the weekly
community newspapers of
New York State since 1853

MEMBER
NINA
Since 1915
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER
ASSOCIATION

Publisher: Fred W. Stabbert III
Managing Editor: Joseph Abraham
Editor: Derek Kirk
Sports Editor: Anthony Morgano
Editorial Assistants: Nicole Birgler, Kathy Daley, Richard Ross, Jeanne Sager
Advertising Director: Liz Tucker
Assistant Advertising Director: Barbara Matos
Advertising Representative: Susan Panella
Production Manager: Petra Duffy
Business Manager: Sara Wendell
Assistant Business Manager: Patricia Biedinger
Telemarketing Coordinator: Michelle Reynolds
Monticello Office Manager: Alexis Rothfeder
Classified Manager: Janet Will
Production Associates: Elizabeth Finnegan, Nyssa Calkin, Rosalie Mycka, Ruth Huggler, Justin Mednick
Circulation Manager: Lillian Ferber
Circulation and Distribution: John Fischer, Phil Grisafe, Allan Davis



Thompson Sanitation

Waste Management and Recycling Services Since 1986

845-796-1032

KEEP IT LOCAL!

- Sullivan County's #1 Garbage & Recycle for Over 30 Years, Same Owner/Operator
- Competitive Pricing & Superior Service
- Servicing Local Communities throughout ALL of Sullivan County
- Keeping Jobs and Money in Sullivan County
- Residential Program... Roll-Offs... Commercial... Special Clean-Ups



www.thompsonsantiation.net

Don't Get Left On the Curb! Call Thompson Sanitation TODAY!



SUNY SULLIVAN

Discover why we are Ranked #1 Community College in New York*

Tour our eco-friendly campus • Learn about our championship athletics program



+400 acre scenic campus & trail network • organic farm • diverse & inclusive student body



Over 40+ academic programs including Media Arts, Graphic Design, Theater & Nursing

Get the full college experience!

- ☑ Live on campus in residence halls & townhouses
- ☑ We will walk you through application, financial aid, and registration
- ☑ Instant acceptance with valid high school transcript!
- ☑ Receive a two-year Presidential Scholars award with a 90+ high school average
- ☑ Didn't finish high school? We can help with that too!



Sullivan County high school grads may be eligible to
Attend SUNY Sullivan with Free Tuition!

Reach out to our admissions team for details:
admissions@sunysullivan.edu or 845-434-5750 x4287

Contact an Enrollment Specialist today: admissions@sunysullivan.edu • 845-434-5750 x4287
Sullivan County Community College • 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759 • sunysullivan.edu

*Ranked #1 Community College in New York State by Intelligent.com, based on flexibility, faculty, course strength, cost, and reputation.



The High School Student Council gets together to organize various events like Color Wars and Spirit Week.

Checking in with the student council

STORY AND PHOTO BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

Color wars, a big competition between grades in the High School, has been going on for years at Livingston Manor, but this year is feeling a little bit more special for the students on the Student Council.

A lot of things came to a halt during the pandemic, including Color Wars, and going all out to decorate the hallways for the weeks leading up to the competition, but this year Student Council is bringing it all back.

For Color Wars, each grade chooses a color and then they spend the next few weeks before the competition getting ready - decorating the wings of the hallway not just with color, but with a grand theme.

This year Color Wars will take place March 27-31. Beginning Friday after the last lunch period, the competition will go the rest of the weekend. Each grade will compete in games such as dodgeball, tug of war, crab soccer, relay races, hungry hippo, trivia and more.

"Throughout the year we host

different events or things like Spirit Week with dress up themes, or selling pink ribbons for breast cancer," said Student Council member Jocelyn Mills. "Whatever class won each day or sold the most would get paw points, and those paw points accumulate and get added to your score during Color Wars."

According to Student Council Manager, Julie Buck, there are prizes for Color Wars, but mostly its bragging rights for whatever grade wins.

Other events and fun happenings that Student Council has done this year were Halloween Door Decorating, Reindeer games, an ugly sweater contest, and bringing the Homecoming Dance back after years without, and even hosting a bonfire.

"I love being on Student Council, because classes can come to us when they have an idea or something they want to do, and we can approve it and help them get it started," said Student Council member Niveah Jones.

a single bite

One in three Americans say they were never taught about healthy food options.*

We're on a mission to educate students about real food and healthy eating habits. Our middle school Real Food Education Program is an interactive, four-part series that highlights our local food system. This school year, 750 Sullivan County students will benefit from these free presentations.

Educating young people about real food and where it comes from.

- Distinguish between whole and processed foods
- Explore new foods
- Understand the role of nutrition in good health
- Experience the connection between food & farm
- Build healthy eating habits for a lifetime

Through the Family Meal Program we're feeding our neighbors who are struggling to access nutritious food.

*The Del Monte Foods' 2020 State of Healthy Eating in America Study



TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THESE PROGRAMS:

Visit asinglebite.org, call (845) 482-1030 or email info@asinglebite.org

A Single Bite is a nonprofit organization founded by FOSTER SUPPLY HOSPITALITY

Getting students outdoors

BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

When teachers Calley Erlwein and Rene Carlson became Advisors at Livingston Manor about two years ago, one of their main goals was more physical activity, and to get kids outside.

Carlson is Advisor for the Elementary School while Erlwein is Advisor for the Middle/High School, but because they're in one building, Carlson and Erlwein usually find themselves working

together. And with the help of grants through Sullivan 180, a lot has happened in the last couple

of years.

"The basic theme of Sullivan 180 is to turn the health and well-

ness of Sullivan County around, and so we're trying to follow that and incorporate as much physical activities as we can into our building," Carlson said.

So last year, they brought yoga classes to the staff, and sensory pads to kids in the hallways. They got a

Students learn to plant, care for and grow, their own varieties of vegetables, which then go into many of the school lunches and meals made by the school's culinary staff.

birthday cart and blender bike, so instead of bringing in cupcakes or cookies for their birthday, Elementary kids have the option of playing the games and other fun activities from the cart, or bringing in smoothie ingredients to make smoothies by pedaling the bike.

According to Carlson, both she and Erlwein are big nature lovers, so part of incorporating more activity also meant finding ways to get the kids, and staff, outside more.

"When we became advisors, it was during a high point of Covid, and so getting outside felt even more important," said Erlwein. "We were looking for ways to get kids out of the classroom so they could take their masks off for a few minutes and breathe the fresh mountain air. It was a way to have a retreat from what was happening at the time."

In June of 2021 an outdoor vegetable garden was created and has been expanding ever since.

A beautiful area at the edge of the school property was converted



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
An outdoor classroom experience, students listen to lessons while walking outside on a path on school grounds.



into an outdoor classroom, for any grade to use, with tree stumps and logs for seats, and waterproof containers filled with magnifying glasses, clip boards, binoculars, and other things you may need while exploring and studying.

"Every grade has utilized the outdoor classroom at some point," said Erlwein. "We even had the band class go back there to rehearse."

With this year's grants, Erlwein and Carlson combined to get 59 set of snowshoes, from little tyke sizes to adult sizes. They also got 40 headsets for a walking classroom.

"They're like podcast lessons," explained Erlwein. "Kids put on the headsets and walk while they learn, and then they have a discussion about what they just listened to. Being outdoors is



Above: Snowshoes hang in bags, ready for outdoor adventures.



At left: Instead of bringing in cupcakes for birthdays, students have the option of making healthy smoothies with the smoothie bicycle.

just the entry and exit into a deeper lesson."

Currently the walking classroom is for third to eighth grade and involves Science, Social Studies, and the English Language Arts.

"We also got more sensory pads, but for the outdoor black top areas," said Carlson. "The High School's sensory pads will be yoga inspired and the Elementary pads will be primary game inspired."

Both Carlson and Erlwein said that they've seen a big improvement since incorporating more options to

get outdoors. Kids seem more eager and excited to learn, and for teachers and staff natural teaching moments are unfolding even more for them.

And they're not stopping there, Carlson and Erlwein said that Livingston Manor is currently in the running for a much larger grant from Sullivan 180, and although they won't know much until the Fall, they have been brainstorming lots of new ideas and grand scheme things like greenhouses, nature trails, and more.



Turning plastic into treasure

BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A reward for collecting plastic through the Trex program are benches such as the one pictured at left.

For Livingston Manor Elementary, green is more than just a color, it's taking steps to being more conscientious about plastic consumption, and what and how you can recycle it.

Thanks to Trex's University & Community Recycling Program, collecting plastic can get you a composite bench, and the Elementary recently received one.

"It's a really great program," said Teacher Jaimie Snow, "and just like teaching, we all became really passionate about it, and the kids really liked it too. It's a great way for them to see how much plastic is in the world, and then be a part of the process of keeping some of it out of the landfills."

Snow, with the help of fifth grade Science teacher Mrs. Williams and others, reached out to both parents and the community at large about their goal and how to go about collecting bags for the process.

"Once we got the initiative, everything happened really quickly," she said.

Peck's Market, the Dollar General, the Post Office, parents, neighbors, and the staff at school jumped on board, and pretty soon Snow's classroom was filled with plastic.

According to Snow, the program has a six month collection window with a goal of collecting 500 lbs of plastic. Each month the kids weighed and reported the amount collected before Snow or another volunteer took them to one of the participating drop-off retailer locations - the closest ones being in Middletown.

What surprised Snow and the students the most were things they didn't realize you could even recycle. Things like the plastic casing around a pack of toilet paper or a case of water, bubble wrap inside packages, bread bags, wood pellet bags, plastic produce bags, dry-cleaning bags, ziplock bags and more.

"All these wrappings and things people generally don't know what to do with and just throw them out because they can't put them in the

plastic bins at the recycling center," said Snow. "When you get packages from amazon, those plastic bags can be recycled too."

Part of the process the students at school help with is sorting through the bags and cutting off any labels or addresses that might still be on them. They also weigh the plastic using different kinds of scales and learn what plastic is made of.

Snow said the greatest reward is when they received the Trex bench after reaching their goal of 500 lbs, dropping it all off, and waiting.

"The kids now have this physical thing that they can say okay, we did that. Everything we collected is in this bench," she said, smiling.

The Trex bench sits at the end of the hallway where kids can take a seat, with a big sign board of photos of the students participating in the process.

Their next six month collection period begins in April. Their next goal is to work towards getting benches for school grounds where kids and staff can sit outside.

KLINGER
Power Sports
33 West Street, Walton
Phone: (607) 865-6326







can-am **KYMC** **CFMOTO** **Kawasaki**
Let the good times roll.

ski-doo

ATVs, Mule UVs, Teryx, Dirt Bikes, Motorcycles,
Can Am Spyders/Rykers, Snowmobiles & Trailers

Hours: Mon-Thur, 9am - 5:30 pm;
Fri, 9am - 5pm; Sat, 9am - 4pm

Visit Us At: www.klingerpowersports.com

94521

MANOR MOTORS INC.



Complete Auto Repair **Collision Repair**

(845) 439-5447
www.manormotorsinc.com
CORY GAEBEL

7am-5pm Monday-Friday
Closed Saturdays

477 Old Route 17
Livingston Manor, NY 12758

105496



Elementary students go through plastic packaging to cut off address labels and make sure everything is clean.



Together, we are empowering a healthier generation at LMCS!

SULLIVAN180  **Learn More Sullivan180.org**
Follow us on   Call 845-295-2680



**VALUES-DRIVEN PROGRAMMING
CAMPERs LOOK FORWARD TO ALL YEAR**

the 

Frost Valley YMCA Summer Day Camps

Safe affordable fun for ages 4-16! Bus stops in Sullivan and Ulster Counties.

- Teen Camps
- Horse Camps
- Farm Camp
- Specialty Camps



SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE.



CALL: 845-985-2291 EMAIL: daycamp@frostvalley.org

Thriving Families Grief Support Group

Children grieve differently than adults. Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties offers the Thriving Families Grief Support Group to promote healing by providing an opportunity for youth ages 6 through 17 to express their thoughts, verbalize their feelings, and share their experiences of grief.

Our bereavement services are available to all members of the Orange and Sullivan communities, regardless of whether a loved one received hospice care.



 **HOSPICE**
of ORANGE & SULLIVAN
(845) 561-6111 | hospiceoforange.com



High School Instrumental Music Teacher Daniel Smith talks to Sound Recording students about what they'll be working on in class.

A sound future

STORY AND PHOTOS BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

Music Teacher Daniel Smith has always had a personal interest in sound recording, but it wasn't until the pandemic forced school concerts to go virtual that he would consider bringing that personal interest into the classroom.

A graduate of Livingston Manor, Smith has always loved music. He played percussion in band from fifth to twelfth grade, attending All-County, All-State, and NYSSMA festivals, as well as playing in bands outside of school, later studying music, music education, and performance at SUNY Fredonia.

"I studied a bit of sound recording tech at Fredonia," Smith said, "and when our concerts went virtual during the pandemic, we were having to record everything and I was doing a lot of the tech side of it myself while the kids

did their thing. So once I knew we were coming back in, I thought it would be a really nice skill set to bring to the students here."

And it all started with one computer gifted by the graduating class two years ago.

Each graduating class raises money over the course of four years, helping pay for their trips, their cap and gowns and more. With the money they have leftover they give gifts, and they asked Smith what he wanted.

"At first I was thinking of instruments and all these things to strengthen the program that I had already been running, but then it dawned on me that maybe this would be a good opportunity for me to start that sound recording program that I had been thinking of," he said. "So with their gift, we got one computer, and then I brought in some things I had at home - microphones, mixers, cables."

COMMERCIAL

RESIDENTIAL
LIC.#28615HI

D. Buckel & Sons

PAINTING CONTRACTORS

INTERIOR • EXTERIOR • SPRAY PAINTING

PAUL BUCKEL PHONE: (607) 498-5950 CELL: (631) 523-5747
FULLY INSURED • EPA • LEAD SAFE CERTIFIED

104733

BUCK

Environmental Solutions LLC

845-665-1950

**Offering
Pest Management
Services and Environmental
Consulting**

**Child & Pet Friendly,
Organic Tick & Mosquito
Control Options**

110992

Smith got through one year of having four students working off of one computer.

At the beginning of this year, Smith requested to get four more computers to help build the program, and the Administration quickly approved it, helping make Sound Recording a new elective at the school.

“The Administration is really supportive here,” Smith stated. “We want to build more electives throughout the school in the arts and music, and even in history and english. We want to have more choices for students moving forward.”

Smith gets students started by first learning about the history of microphones, audio players, record players, 8-tracks, CD’s, etc. before quickly arriving to present day where everything is digital. They then move into the studio DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) and start recording with microphones. They learn to work with various work stations, pick-up patterns, direct input, recording, mixing, producing music, editing music, producing video, and

more.

“A lot of it is just practice,” said Smith. “The quicker they just start doing stuff and putting things together and working, the easier it all becomes.”

For Smith, who normally teaches a very traditional form of music, it’s nice to have a little bit of diversity in what he’s teaching within Music Ed. and feels strongly that the skills students learn in band can easily be brought into the studio.

“What’s great is that Sound Recording isn’t just for the kids in band or who are interested in being a musician. It’s also for kids who are interested in things like podcasting or journalism, radio, things like that,” he explained. “We’re living in a digital world. Everything is content creation whether you’re advertising

for a small business or working for a marketing firm, or creating a podcast for fun or a job. All of these areas need good sound production.”

For Smith, like the rest of the teachers and Administration, it’s all about more opportunity and more choice.



Full Excavation and Landscaping Services

Fully Insured

845-807-6484

Livingston Manor

MOUNTAIN TOP LANDSCAPING





We're Transporting the Most Precious Cargo

Our drivers go above and beyond when it comes to our passengers' safety.

Rolling V drivers are responsible for the safe and reliable transportation of more than 7,000 school children annually. School is back in session, so please remember to drive carefully – it could be your child, a loved one or a neighbor on a bus nearby!

To learn more about our commitment to providing safe transportation for the children in our community, visit rolling.com/parent-portal

To join our winning team, visit rolling.com/recruitment