## SCHOOL

A Special Supplement to the Sullivan County Democrat

A look at activities in the Livingston Manor-Roscoe School District Part 2

# SCENE

"A united, better school district with more opportunities for kids and more financial stability for our taxpayers.

That's what everyone voted for when they approved the merger, so now it's our job as administration and faculty to make all of those things come to fruition. It's not a small task, but it's exciting."

#### **John Evans**

Livingston Manor-Roscoe Superintendent |







Superintendent John Evans is ready for what's to come with the continuing merger between Livingston Manor and Roscoe school districts.

## Super guidance through the merger

STORY AND PHOTO BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

Although the merger between the Livingston Manor and Roscoe Central Schools was recently voted in, much of their school year will pan out as normal with the help of teachers, administration and Superintendent John Evans.

"Everything in my world right now is consumed by the merger and things related to the merger," said Evans, "but it's a really positive vibe. I think there is a little fear of the unknown, with a lot of excitement, too. Things are obviously changing, and the ball is in motion, but we're doing everything we can to keep things normal for the kids while also being open to the eagerness around all of the possibilities that can come out of the merger."

Currently, administration is in the middle of what Evans coined as a "thought exchange" with students and the community-at-large about a name, school colors, and mascot.

A public meeting will then be held to work with the consultants over what both adults and kids would like it to look like, eventually narrowing it all down to make a final decision.

Come July 1, there will be no more separate ambitions of Livingston Manor or goals of Roscoe, but the hopes and objectives of two districts combined into one - embracing and encompassing the communities and their students, building something new and stronger.

"It's going to be a lot of work. We have to bring the students together, the faculty together, and neighbors together," noted Evans. "A united, better school district with more opportunities for kids and more financial stability for our taxpayers. That's what everyone voted for when they approved the merger, so now it's our job as administration and faculty to make all of those things come to fruition. It's not a small task, but it's exciting."

#### **School Scene**

'A look inside the Manor-Roscoe School District, Part 2'

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### CAS KIDS

CAS Kids offers completely free drop-in arts education for children ages 4 - 12 years old at Catskill Art Space on Main Street in Livingston Manor. Please visit www.catskillartspace.org/classes for more information and to register your child.



THEATRE Tuesdays 3:30 - 4:15 CAS Kids theatre class focuses on building confidence, developing social emotional skills, and practicing teamwork through games and improvisations. No theater experience needed, just come ready to play!



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SPRING BREAK INTENSIVE April 14 - 18 During the week of spring break, CAS Kids offers classes in art and theatre from 9:30-11:45 am. Registration is encouraged as capacity is limited.





# A whole world to explore

STORY AND PHOTO
BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

iddle School Social Studies Teacher Zackary Enoksen has always had a love of outdoors, spending much of his time as a child outside, and now as an adult fishing and hunting when he's not in the classroom teaching.

in the classroom teaching.

In an effort to share his passion for the outdoors, Enoksen, with approval from the administration, has started an Outdoor Club for middle schoolers (seventh and eighth grades) at LMCS. It will be considered an after school activity for students who may have an interest in hunting, fishing, hiking, or learning about wildlife.

"This is of course a pilot year," noted Enoksen, "so that we can go into next year having a good understanding and hold on how many students are interested, and what they're interested in."

Enoksen recently sent out a survey with questions such as 'what experience would you like to get out of the club', 'what topics are you interested in', and other questions asking about days and times for each specific interest, off-campus day trips, and more.

About 30 kids so far have responded, and with permission from the parents, Enoksen is getting the ball rolling.



Social Studies teacher Zackary Enoksen, advisor for the Outdoor Club.

Some of the opportunities Enoksen is working towards offering, based on interest, would be a helping hand getting a hunting or fishing license, education on important safety practices, seasons, how to process an animal, public speakers and sessions with DEC officers, learning from wildlife rescue and rehabilitation specialists, species identification and

more.

"I just think an Outdoor Club would be a great addition to the after-school activities," stated Enoksen. "It fits the area, and giving kids the opportunity to learn about something like fishing or hiking if they don't necessarily have anyone in their life to learn that from, which is important."



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## Getting government off the ground

The Livingston Manor Middle School Student Council was reformed.

STORY AND PHOTO BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

or the first year in quite some time, the Elementary Student Council is back at Livingston Manor Central School.

Fourth Grade Teacher Kimberly Luning went to the Administration to talk about once again having a student council amongst the Elementary, and when the idea was happily approved, everything quickly began to piece together.

"I sent out an interest form," said Luning, "and there were so many students interested that we had to hold an election."

Each student from the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades that wanted to be a representative had to create a speech explaining why they wanted to be a student council representative, what would make them a good representative, and what changes or ideas they had for the school as a whole, and then present it to their class.

Three representatives were chosen for each grade, with the exception of sixth - due to a tie - leaving them with four representatives, to make a total of 10 excited students as part of the council.

"Having the Elementary Student Council is an exciting thing and I hope it continues after this year," expressed Luning. "You can see in each classroom that there are born leaders, and the council gives those students the opportunity to both develop and use those skills. It also gives students who



may normally be a bit more shy the opportunity to voice their opinion."

Luning went on to say that the Student Council is important in students learning to take initiative, to work together and collaborate with their peers, and promote positive social interactions.

Once the representatives of the Elementary Student Council were chosen, Luning and the students had their first meeting, creating charts and voting on what they wanted to do and accomplish. They decided on fun activities for the school, bringing about change in certain areas, and making an impact either within the school or

within the community.

The very first thing they're working on this year is an Earth Day Initiative.

"They are going to go into the younger grades, read them a book about Earth Day, and then do some sort of activity with them," explained Luning.

They'll also be hosting a bulletin board competition amongst the fourth, fifth, and sixth graders where they create boards for the hallways that promote an Earth Day initiative, and then they'll have a vote for best bulletin board.

The Student Council created a spirit week for the Elementary to boost

school spirit and school morale, and are planning their very own Color Wars for the end of June promoting teamwork, learning strategies, and more.

"One thing that they're also very focused on is bringing about changes, specifically bringing things back that were taken away or changed, like food in the cafeteria and dodgeball," Luning chuckled, "so we have been having discussions on learning how to have our opinions and voices heard, in a polite way, while also backing them up with evidence and facts."

As the year moves forward, this is just the beginning for the Elementary Student Council.





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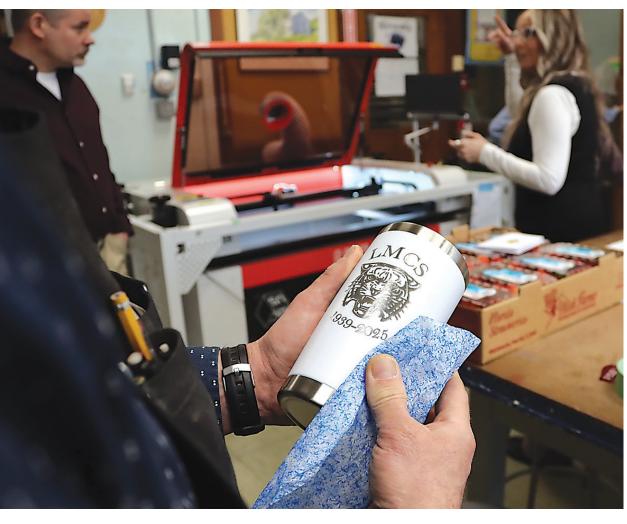
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# Engraving memories

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY AUTUMN SCHANIL

f you've ever gone to a store to get your dog's name engraved on a tag and happily watched as each letter took shape under a tiny laser, you can probably imagine that same excitement multiplied watching an image or letters develop form on a cup, tile, or wooden stool.

Students at LMCS not only get to watch, they get to design what will be engraved.

Thanks to grant money and the dutiful research of Technology Teacher Dave Hubert, art and technology students have access to



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an AP Lazer machine right in their classroom.

"I had been looking at these machines for quite a while, so when Mr. Larson (MS/HS Principal) sent out an email this summer asking if there were any big ticket items we were interested in," Hubert explained, "I mentioned this engraver."

Once the engraver arrived over the winter, Hubert set to work, with the help of students, to set the machine up following the very detailed and precise instructions. He, along with MS/HS Art Teacher Jessica Mall, then had an extensive training via Zoom on how to operate it, as well as keep it



maintained.

You can engrave almost anything from stone to glass, ceramic and metal, to brick and even fabric. Both Hubert and Mall are already incorporating engraving into the projects that their students are currently working on in class.

"My photography class is learning different design programs, so the students are working on creating logos with their name," Mall stated. "They have a two part design, and then they'll create monograms. Once they're finished they'll be able to bring in an item of their choice to engrave their custom design on."

In previous years, students have cut wine bottles to create wind chimes, and then painted on their designs. With the AP Lazer, they'll now be able to create the chimes and then have the option to use the engraver for their designs rather than paint.

For Hubert, his Design and Drawing for Production students will soon be engraving their logo designs onto an item or material of their choice, and the woodworking class will be creating game pieces that have to fit into a game board that will be engraved using the AP Lazer machine.

"You can make puzzles, engrave a table or nightstand, a box," smiled Hubert holding a Yeti mug that the class just experimented on. "The possibilities are kind of endless, and you can engrave anything from a logo you create to a photograph you take."

According to Mall, a big thing they're excited about is using the engraver to help raise money for their Art & Tech Scholarship that is given to graduating seniors. They'll use the laser to engrave original 1939 stone roof tiles with an image of the school and sell them. A keepsake to last a lifetime.

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#### College Scholarships available for volunteer efforts

he 2025 Sullivan 180 Scholarship application is now available. The scholarship program recognizes volunteer efforts in projects that support the Sullivan 180 mission to build a healthy community through people, places, and policy; with an intentional focus on prevention and empowering a healthier generation.

Communities and organizations participating in the 2025 Sullivan 180 grant program welcome volunteer assistance in various activities, including but not limited to gardening, beautification, caring for public spaces, project documentation, outreach, or fundraising.

The Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan, through a donor-advised fund established by Sullivan 180, offers a limited number of scholarships to Sullivan

County residents who volunteer in a significant way with a Sullivan 180 project.

Applications are due by August 21, and must be completed electronically via the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan's Online Portal. Applicants should submit a personal essay explaining the volunteer experience and how it impacted them personally, a letter of recommendation from the Sullivan 180 project leader, a letter of recommendation from a member of the community or other non-relative and photos from the volunteer experience. Visit Sullivan180.org for directions and links for applying.

Scholarships are announced in September; and are applied toward the 2026 spring semester at an undergraduate college of one's choice.

For more information on the

scholarship program or how to get involved in a Sullivan 180 project, contact Anne-Louise Scandariato, Director of Community Engagement at 845-295-2405 or Anne-Louise@ Sullivan180.org.

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