

Schalmont News

CENTRAL SCHOOLS

■ *Ferrari, Valentine:*

Top Schalmont Scholars in 2008

Schalmont High School has named Angela Ferrari as valedictorian and Antonia Valentine as salutatorian of the Class of 2008. They joined 16 other students in making it to the top 10 percent of their class of 178 students.

Valedictorian

In addition to her studies, Ferrari participates in a variety of clubs and extracurricular activities. She is president of the English Honor Society, vice president of the National Honor Society, and was previously president of the International Club. She also has been an active member of the Concert Choir, Key Club, Science Honor Society, and GSA Club.



Angela Ferrari

Over the years, Ferrari has served her community by mentoring elementary students, helping clean up neighborhoods, volunteering at a local shelter, and helping organize a fundraiser that collected thousands of dollars for a family member with a serious illness.

Ferrari was inspired to pursue her goal of being valedictorian when she was just seven years old, after watching her brother's graduation ceremony. She gives her parents and

their positive role model the credit for much of her success, but said, "I had to work hard to maintain it."

That hard work resulted in many awards and honors. At the recent Senior Awards Ceremony, Ferrari earned the Laura Bove Fernandez Memorial Foreign Language Award, Knights of Pythias Lodge #540 Achievement Award, Michael Sarandrea Scholarship Award, scholarships from the Rotterdam Elks and Schalmont Dollars for Scholars, and Schalmont awards for high academics in social studies and math. She previously earned a Bausch & Lomb Science Award, a Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society Award for outstanding proficiency in American History, and Schalmont awards for high academics in math, science, history and English.

Ferrari plans on studying accounting and finance at Bentley College in Boston, Mass. She hopes to become a tax attorney.

Salutatorian

Valentine has been a very involved student throughout high school. She is currently president of the International Club, vice president of the English Honor Society and secretary of the National Honor



Antonia Valentine

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Budget, board elections, and bus proposition results

Mariaville Field Day

Students spend some time playing and learning about teamwork



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Students Share Health Insight

For Lauren Defayette's 37 middle school students, health class is a safe place to discuss a variety of challenging topics. Recently they had the opportunity to research some of those topics and share their findings with fellow students at a "Health Share Fair."

The Health Share Fair was the end-product of a multi-dimensional learning experience created by Defayette and MS librarian Linda Fasano. The two educators helped students

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2007-08 Schalmont High Achievers

Schalmont High School

At this year's Senior Awards Ceremony, more than \$40,000 in scholarships and 70 awards were presented to students.

Army Scholar-Athlete Award

Anthony Saccocio, Jessica Strang

Art Honor Society Award

Kaysha Haile, Brian O'Connor

Bausch & Lomb Science Award

Madison DeCerce

Bruce Bouck Memorial Scholarship

Kenneth Lancto

Clarkson University High School Award

Katelyn Lancto, Kyle McKelvey

Colonial Council Principals Award

Danielle Freeman, Keith Tygert

Daughters of the American Revolution Award

Tiffany Milano

Dignity for All Award

Rebecca Siegel

Distinguished Athlete Award

Kyle Longo, Amanda Vitullo

Dollars for Scholars Award

Cara DellaVilla, Angela Ferrari, Danielle Freeman, Jessica Strang, Antonia Valentine

Dominick Stramenga Memorial Scholarship

Eric Ciarmello

Elmira Key Club Award

Michael Azzaro

Friends of Music Award

Vocal: Christopher DeNofio, Marina Pavoldi
Instrumental: Kristina Bourassa, Robert White

Gifford Grange #1549 Award

Kevin Brown

George Eastman Young Leaders Award

Kaileen Frank

High School Departments/Clubs Awards

Art: Kaysha Haile

Business: Jennifer Valerio

Computer Science: Tiffany Milano

Drama: Marina Pavoldi, Clair Smith

Family and Consumer Science: Alexander Philipchik

English: Allesandra Badalucco

Language: Bartholomieu Comegys

Mathematics: Angela Ferrari

Music: John Chandler, Eric Ciarmello

PE: Amanda Gogis, Kenneth Lancto

Science: Tiffany Milano

Social Studies: Angela Ferrari

Student Council: Jessica Strang

High School Faculty Award

Robert White

HOBYS Youth Leadership Award

Adam Lawyer

Hudson River Bank & Trust Co. Award

Nicholas Bove, Holly Mercoglan

Jack McDonald Memorial Scholarship

Ryan McLoughlin

Knights of Pythias Lodge #540 Achievement Award

Angela Ferrari

Laura Bove Fernandez Memorial Foreign Language Award

Bartholomieu Comegys, Angela Ferrari

Michael Sarandrea Scholarship Award

Angela Ferrari

Mont Pleasant Lodge #717 Award

Nicholas Hanson

Mother Rose of Lima Award

Aubrey Ploof

NY Lottery Leaders of Tomorrow

Antonia Valentine

NYS Comptroller Achievement Award

Bartholomieu Comegys

Outstanding Career & Tech School Award

Jeffrey Mancini

Perfect Attendance Award

Laura Mastrianni

Principal's Award

Jessica Strang

RPI Medal, Math & Science Award

Andrea Fortman

Rotterdam Elks Scholarship

Angela Ferrari

Rotterdam Kiwanis Club Scholarship

Bartholomieu Comegys



HS MasterMinds Win League: Congratulations to the Schalmont High School Varsity MasterMinds Team on taking the top spot in Albany Area League 2. They had a 9-2 record before competing in the final round of games on May 29 at Time Warner Cable. The finals will air on channel TW3 beginning on July 5. Pictured from left to right are (back row) Principal Terry Nash; team members Al Tarquinio, Nick Bove, Bart Comegys, and Ryan McLoughlin; club sponsor Ann Soehl; and (front row) team members Rebecca Siegel, Tiffany Milano, and Ally Badalucco.

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**Rotterdam Lions Scholarship**

Amanda Frost

Rotterdam Policemen's Benevolent Award

Alicia Caldara, Jennifer Collins, Brittany Patterson, Casey Stearns

Rotterdam Democratic Club Award

Amanda Adkins

Rotterdam Republican Club Scholarship

Amanda Gogis, Jack Kowalski

Rotterdam Senior Citizens Assoc. Award

John Chandler, Cara DellaVilla

Ryder Scholarship

Allesandra Badalucco, Antonio Saccocio

SADD Award

Alicia Caldara

Santabarbara Scholarship Fund

Antonia Valentine, Robert White

Schalmont Athletic Assoc. Award

Jacob Berberich, Julie Bowman, Kevin Brown, John Chandler, Kristyn Cuomo, Amanda Frost, Lisa Gallo, Casey Jensen, Kenneth Lancto, Ryan McLoughlin, Aubrey Ploof, Dustin Quay, Michael Saburro, Thomas Tierney, Daniel Tompkins, Cayla Volans, Amanda Vitullo, Megan Wilgocki, Rachel Zeh

Schalmont Elementary PTO Award

Alicia Caldara, Cara DellaVilla, Danielle Freeman, Amanda Gogis, Shayna Hamil, Dylan Iler, Casey Jensen, Alessandro Tarquinio, Daniel Tompkins, Keith Tygert

Schalmont Food Service Award

Ryan McLoughlin

Schalmont Scholar Athlete Award

Thomas Tierney, Kayla Volans

Schenectady Masonic Lodge #1174 Award

Rebecca Cooper



Warm Hugs from Schalmont: The Schalmont Middle School HUGS Club recently presented 14 "quillos," hand-made quilt-pillows, to Jen Joy (right), a representative from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Eighth-grader Laura Earls (left) and seventh-grader Isabella Borini (center) made the official quilt presentation. The quillos will be used to comfort children receiving treatment for pediatric cancer and other catastrophic childhood diseases. St. Jude covers a large portion of the costs for treatment at its medical facilities in Memphis, Tenn. It also provides housing for each young patient and a parent at one of three facilities: Ronald McDonald House, Target House, and Memphis Grizzlies House. The HUGS Club quillos will be sent to families staying in those facilities.

Scholastic Excellence Award

Clare Smith

Schonowe Volunteer Fire Co.

Kristal Hicks

Schonowe Volunteer Fire Co. Auxiliary

Kaysha Haile

Semper Fidelis Award

Christopher Whitman

Society of Mayflower Descendants

Anthony Saccocio, Rebecca Siegel

Sons of Italy Lodge #321 Award

Jessica DeMarco

STA Award

Eric Ciarmello, Cara DellaVilla, Danielle Freeman

Student Progress Award

Brett Quay, Jeniffer Valerio

Student Sage Award

Julia DeMarco

Triple "C" Award

Jacob Berberich, Jeffrey Mancini

University of Rochester Frederick Douglas & Susan B. Anthony Award

Andrea Fortman

U.S. Air Force Math & Science Award

Casey Jensen

Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Award

Gino Zarrillo

Xerox Innovation & Information Technology Award

Seanna Ryan

Schalmont Middle School**Geraldine Corrigan Award**

Jessica Bellai

Paula Selkis Award

Kyle Chrysler, Megan Strjkek

Perfect Attendance Award

One Year: Nick Cutter, Jacob Feulner, Jasmin Flashman, Nicole Gentile, Marley Gigler, Peter Kalil, Kyle Lawyer, Katarina Miley, Dylan Reynolds, Avi Weinstock. *Two Years:* Alex Hildebrand, Ryan Lynch, Alexander Tang. *Three Years:* Cody Castiglia, Kristen Lancto

Presidential Award

Danielle Attanasio, Jacquelyn Barnett, Jessica Bellai, Victoria Candida, Kyle Chrysler, Jonathan Culbert, Courtney Cusano, Joseph D'Ambrosio, Victoria Diana, Kaitlyn Dusse, Laura Earls, Tyler Emigh, Michelle Gallo, Briana Gallucci, Alexandria Gazzillo, Nicole Gentile, Marley Gigler, Nathaniel Hileman, Rebecca Hyde, Peter Kalil, Rachel Kessler, Shelby King, Kristen Lancto, Ryan Lynch, Liza Miller, Taylor Negus, Cody Nelson, Jennifer O'Connor, Brian Pomykai, Hannah Saccocio, Katie Saccocio, Ariana Schrader-Rank, Allison Soltis, Megan Strjkek, Alexander Tang, Jolene Vincent, Joshua Warner, Avraham Weinstock, Jacqueline Wood, James Zalewski

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■ **2008 Top Scholars** – *continued from pg. 1*



Schalmont Top Scholars:
The 18 seniors in the top 10 percent of the Class of 2008 all had more than a 94 percent grade point average.

Society. She also is a member of the Science Honor Society and Key Club. Through Key Club, she has mentored elementary students and participated in the Adopt-a-Grandparent program. As a volunteer usher at Proctor's Theatre, she gets to help her community while indulging in her love of musicals and Broadway shows.

Valentine was pleasantly surprised to discover that she had earned the title of salutatorian. She said, "I feel very honored to be the salutatorian and represent my high school class."

This latest honor is one of several she has received during high school. She earned a Student Sage Award from Russell Sage College last year, and this year received awards from the New York Lottery Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship, Santabarbara Scholarship Fund and Schalmont Dollars for Scholars.

Valentine will attend the College of St. Rose in Albany this fall. She plans on studying accounting and business administration so she can become an accountant.

Top 10 Percent

Students in the top 10 percent of the Class of 2008 all had more than a 94 percent grade point average. The following students joined the valedictorian and salutatorian at the top of their class: Allesandra Badalucco, Nicholas Bove, Kevin Brown, Alicia Caldara, Bartholomieu Comegys, Amanda Frost, Kaysha Haile, Tiffany Milano, Anthony Saccocio, Casey Stearns, Clare Smith, Jessica Strang, Alessandro Tarquinio, Thomas Tierney, Cayla Volans, and Robert White.

STA Award

Jessica Bellai, Nicole Gentile, Rebecca Hyde, Ryan Lynch, Liza Miller, Hannah Saccocio, Alexander Tang, James Zalewski

STA Student of the Year

Kyle Chrysler

Scholar Athlete Teams

Fall Team	Average
Boys Cross Country	93.6
Girls Cross Country	95.5
Boys Soccer	91.6
Girls Soccer	91.9
Girls Swimming/Diving	90.5
Girls Volleyball	95.0
Golf	91.9

Winter Team	Average
Boys Basketball	91.3
Girls Basketball	94.2
Boys Bowling	92.9
Girls Bowling	91.3



A Fun Lesson in Teamwork: At the Mariaville Elementary School field day, students in grades K-5 played a variety of games that taught them how to stay fit and work as a team.



Spring Team	Average
Boys Baseball	90.7
Boys Tennis	90.5

Boys Track and Field	91.0
Girls Track and Field	96.3

■ Students Share Health Insight – *continued from pg. 1*



Learning to Combat Peer Pressure: Students in Lauren Defayette's health class researched a variety of topics for the Schalmont Middle School Health Share Fair. The student pictured above is part of a group that created a multi-media presentation about friendships, cliques, gossip and bullying.

brainstorm physical and mental health-related issues. Students then chose topics such as gambling, alcohol and drug abuse, smoking, bad influences, body image, and friendships.

"They took it very seriously," said Defayette. "Their concerns are the same as ours when we were that age, but the pressures they experience – the media, TV and Internet – are different."

After making a selection, students studied their topics in the library using books and Web sites. Some even conducted surveys. They later hosted tables at the Health Share Fair and presented their findings on poster boards, handouts, brochures, and in Microsoft PowerPoint presentations. Each presentation explained the topic and its associated health challenges.

One student's research topic dealt with how parents and children relate to each other when it comes to rules and understanding feelings. At the fair, she said her research revealed that "if you treat your parents nicely, they'll treat you nicely and be respectful if you want more privacy."

According to Fasano, the experience taught students how to synthesize a large amount of information and share the important points with others. She said, "They informed their peers as well as themselves."

Voters Approve 2008-09 School Budget

On Tuesday, May 20, Schalmont Central School District residents voted by a margin of 568 to 510 to pass the proposed \$41,550,000 budget for the 2008-09 school year.

Michael DellaVilla, president of the Schalmont Board of Education, said, "We're very grateful for everyone who came out to vote."

The budget is a 3.63 percent increase in spending over the 2007-08 school budget. After factoring in other revenue, such as state aid, the 2008-09 budget will be balanced with a 2.99 percent increase in the school tax levy (i.e., total amount of money the district collects from local taxpayers). This is the lowest percentage increase in the last five years.

"We focused on our existing programs to continue the educational progress we've seen over the last few years," said DellaVilla. "This budget will allow us to enhance students' learning experience without adding new programs."

**"We're
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District officials will not set school tax rates (i.e., amount of tax residents pay per \$1,000 of home value) for homestead and non-homestead properties until August.

Voters elected Carl Strang to a third term on the school board and Kevin Thompson to a second term on the school board.

They also passed the school bus purchase proposition to purchase three large buses and two small buses for \$381,000. Schalmont is eligible for state aid reimbursement on a portion of the total cost, so the real cost to the district for all five buses will be \$163,865. Schalmont's current fleet will not increase because older buses will be traded in towards the purchase of new buses.

Visit www.schalmont.org for more information about the 2008-09 school budget.



School Board Calendar

The Schalmont Board of Education will set its summer meeting schedule in July.

Tuesday, July 8

Schalmont District Office
401 Duanesburg Rd.

School Calendar

Visit www.schalmont.org to view the 2008-09 school calendar approved by the school board. The full district calendar should be available online by early August.

Reunion Calendar

Planning a Schalmont High School class reunion? Once you have a date, visit www.schalmont.org/alumni/alumni.htm to share the details.

Class of 1988

Saturday, Nov. 29

Mallozzi's Clubhouse
2354 Western Ave., Guilderland
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SHSreunion1988/members>

HS Adds Three to Wall of Distinction

Schalmont Central School District recently honored three alumni during the Schalmont High School Alumni Wall of Distinction Induction Ceremony.

The honorees for 2008 are Margaret (Ryan) Anderton, class of 1978, Thomas P. Eichler, class of 1962, and Dr. Valerie Gaus, class of 1982. They were joined at the ceremony by their family members, Wall of Distinction selection committee members, Schalmont Board of Education representatives, and other members of the Schalmont community.

The Wall of Distinction was established in 2007 to honor alumni who have made significant contributions to their school, community and/or country. Honorees serve as role models for Schalmont students and as symbols of the high caliber of graduates produced by this district. Their examples are intended to inspire and motivate students to excel, both in academics and in life.

If you nominated someone who was not selected this year, his/her nomination will be kept on file for reconsideration next year. Your nominee also will receive a letter con-



Predicting the Future: Everyday, students pass by the Alumni Wall of Distinction in the Schalmont High School lobby. Perhaps some of them are already picking their spot on the wall.

firming the nomination and inviting him/her to submit additional information for consideration in 2009.

Visit www.schalmont.org for more information about the Wall of Distinction, this year's honorees and pictures from the induction ceremony.



Produced in cooperation with the Capital Region BOCES Communications Service.

Schalmont

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