



■ *Donadio, Fortman:*

# Top Schalmont Scholars in 2009

Schalmont High School has named Alyssa Donadio as valedictorian and Andrea Fortman as salutatorian of the Class of 2009. They both will deliver speeches at the high school **graduation ceremony on Friday, June 26, at 7 p.m.** in Proctor's Theatre, 432 State St. Donadio and Fortman joined 15 other students in making it to the top 10 percent of their class of 164 students.

### Valedictorian

Donadio's academic skills earned her the honor of being valedictorian, but she has also been involved in a variety of extracurricular activities. She is a member of the International Club, English Honor Society, Science Honor Society, and National Art Honor Society. She is also a junior volunteer at Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital.

"My parents always encouraged me to be the best I could be while allowing me to make my own decisions along the way," said Donadio of the inspiration for her achievements.



Alyssa Donadio

This summer may find her enjoying some of her favorite pastimes – attending concerts, hanging out with friends, playing with her Yorkies, swimming, and tanning – but next fall she plans on

attending the College of Arts and Sciences at Cornell University. Her goal is to major in biology and minor in Spanish. Eventually, she would like to attend medical school and become a general practitioner.

### Salutatorian

Fortman has also been very active outside of her studies. She was treasurer of the Science Honor Society for one year, co-captain of the Science Olympiad for two years, and is a member of the National Honor Society, English Honor Society, Art Honor Society, and Introspection.



Andrea Fortman

She is also co-captain of the varsity cross country, indoor track and outdoor track teams. She is a volunteer Tae Kwon Do teacher, a member of the Schoharie River Center's Environmental Study Team (EST), a knitter who creates pieces for charities, and an acolyte at her church.

"EST is a major part of my life, as is running, and I enjoy them both and would spend more time on them if I could," she said.

The title of salutatorian is the most recent of several honors that Fortman has earned over the years. She was selected as a Colonial Council All-star for cross country

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## A Better Way to Grab a Bite

*District adds NUTRIKIDS system to school cafeterias*

The Schalmont Food Services Department is in the process of switching to a NUTRIKIDS Point of Sale (POS) Computer System to improve the speed, accuracy and privacy of cafeteria purchases.

The system was piloted at Jefferson Elementary School beginning in the second week of June 2009. It will be rolled out to all five Schalmont schools beginning in the third week of September.

"Until recently, we were one of the few districts in the Capital District still using a paper system of recording meals. We made

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# 2008-09 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

Andrea Fortman, Kyle McKelvey

### Bausch & Lomb Science Award

Megan Lesperance

### Bruce Bouck Memorial Scholarship

Kyle McKelvey

### Carol Duchesne Service Award

Andrea Fortman

### Christopher Nicholas Memorial Award

Alyssa Simon

### Clarkson University High School Award

Elizabeth Blakely, Christian Blakely

### Colonial Council Principals Award

William Chandler, Raegan Karbowski

### Daughters of the American Revolution Award

Andrea Fortman

### Dignity for All Award

Laura Wooster

### Distinguished Athlete Award

Amanda Lawson, Coleman Jennes

### Dollars for Scholars Award

William Chandler, Conor Hart,  
Michael Azzaro, Megan Denny,  
Maria Pizzino, Ashlene Potter

### Dominic Cusano Memorial Scholarship

Joshua Montanaro

### Easy Method Driving School Music Award

Louis Lohraseb

### Elmira Key Club Award

Maria Mastroianni, Gregory Olsen

### Friends of Music Award

*Vocal:* Emily DiCarlo, Louis Lohraseb  
*Instrumental:* Peter Tricchinelli, Brian Renaude

### George Eastman Young Leaders Award

Kelly Piotrowski

### Gifford Grange #1549 Award

Annie Shields

### Henry Simon Memorial Award

Janelle Calkins, Erik Whalen

### High School Departments/Clubs Awards

*Art:* Laura Wooster

*Art Honor Society:* Amanda Bliss, Allison Christman, Anthony Guagliardo, Laura Day, Stephanie Giesselmann

*Business:* Nadia Viscusi

*Computer Science:* Devin Hallem

*Drama:* Emily DiCarlo, Anthony Guagliardo, David A. Banker

*Family and Consumer Science:* Jeffrey Roberts

*English:* Daniel McCrossan

*Language:* Peter Tricchinelli, Alyssa Donadio

*Mathematics:* Alyssa Donadio

*Music:* Emily DiCarlo, Louis Lohraseb

*PE:* Andrea Fortman, Eric Fabian

*Science:* Alyssa Donadio

*Social Studies:* Alyssa Donadio

### High School Faculty Award

Andrea Fortman

### HOBY Youth Leadership Award

Bethany Biernat

### Hudson River Bank & Trust Co. Award

Kaileen Frank, Jonathan Wood

### Hughes Guidance Award

Allison Christman

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## Junior Studies Mandarin Chinese, Travels to China

Cultural immersion is a great way to learn, according to Zachary McNulty. The Schalmont High School junior recently spent a week in China after almost two years of studying Mandarin Chinese through the school's distance learning program.

"[The trip] helped me speak the language and helped me understand the culture," said McNulty.

His trip was part of a program sponsored by the Albany Chamber of Commerce. It took him through some of China's ancient cities, such as Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou, and Hangzhou. It also included a visit to the Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City and Tian An Men Square.



Some of McNulty's favorite excursions were side-trips with his distance learning teacher and other students to night markets and a variety of restaurants. He was surprised to discover that traditional Chinese food seemed

to have few vegetables and mostly consist of meat and rice or noodles.

"Each province has its own style of cooking. It was all really good," he said.

McNulty hopes to teach Chinese after attending college. He said the trip helped expand what he has picked up in the Mandarin Chinese distance learning class.

"You don't really understand how their minds work until you go over and speak to someone," he said.



### Jack McDonald Memorial Scholarship

Alyssa Simon

### Knights of Pythias Lodge #540 Achievement Award

Max Greppo

### Maple Ski Ridge Ski Patrol Award

Max Greppo, Sean Koetzner

### Michael Sarandrea Scholarship Award

Clarissa Evendon

### Mont Pleasant Lodge #717 Award

David Banker

### Mother Rose of Lima Award

Madison DeCerco

### NY Lottery Leaders of Tomorrow

Andrea Fortman

### NYS Comptroller Achievement Award

Raegan Karbowski

### Outstanding Career & Tech School Award

Cassandra Sponable

### Perfect Attendance Award

Danielle Fisher, Ashlene Potter

### Principal's Award

Amanda Lawson

### Rotterdam Elks Scholarship

Jeana Longo

### Rotterdam Kiwanis Club Scholarship

Megan Denny

### Rotterdam Policemen's Benevolent Award

Megan Denny, Jeana Longo, Seanna Ryan

### Rotterdam Republican Club Scholarship

Brian Renaud, Janelle Calkins

### Rotterdam Republican Committee Award

Danielle Fisher, Eric Fabian

### Rotterdam Senior Citizens Assoc. Award

Jeana Longo, Kyle McKelvey

### RPI Medal, Math & Science Award

Katelyn Perkins

### Ryder Scholarship

Andrea Fortman



**HS Alumni Honored:** Schalmont High School recently honored three alumni on the Wall of Distinction: Gail DeAngelo, class of 1988 (center); Michael James Mugits, class of 1971 (right); and David Van Patten, class of 1972 (represented by his wife, Dana, left). The Wall of Distinction was established in 2007 to honor alumni who have made significant contributions to their school, community and/or country. If you nominated someone who was not selected this year, his/her nomination will be kept on file for reconsideration next year. Nominees will also receive a letter confirming their nomination and inviting them to submit additional information for consideration in 2010.

### SADD Award

Maria Pizzino

### Santabarbara Scholarship Fund

Andrea Fortman

### Schalmont Athletic Assoc. Award

Michael Azzari, Janelle Calkins, William Chandler, Nicole Cooper, Laura Day, Danielle Fisher, Andrea Fortman, Kaileen Frank, Katie Glasser, Devin Hallem, Christopher Harrigan, Conor Hart, Thomas Helveston, Christopher Hotaling, Coleman Jennes, Katelyn Lancto, Marissa Leone, Jeana Longo, Alexandra Lynch, Kyle McKelvey, John Pitucci, Ashlene Potter, Jaclyn Saccocio, Mark Waite, Adam Gray

### Schalmont Elementary PTO Award

Brian Renaud, Reagan Karbowski, Nadia Viscusi, David Banker, Coleman Jennes, Kaileen Frank, Brian Ellis, Edda Sacco, Conor Hart, Jessica White

### Schalmont Food Service Award

Dakota Eckert

### Schalmont Scholar Athlete Award

Andrea Fortman, Kyle McKelvey

### Schenectady Masonic Lodge #1174 Award

Allison Christman, Sean Koetzner

### Scholastic Excellence Award

Seanna Ryan

### Schonowe Volunteer Fire Co. Auxiliary

Trenten Hewes

### Semper Fidelis Award

Edward Ruther

### Society of Mayflower Descendants

Katelyn Lancto, Daniel McCrossan

### Sons of Italy Lodge #321 Award

Maria Pizzino, Danielle Reali

### STA Award

Clarissa Evenden, Eric Fabian

### STA Memorial Scholarship

John Warzala

### Student Progress Award

Brett Quay, Jeniffer Valerio

### Student Sage Award

Laura Wooster, Edward Ruther

### Triple "C" Award

Michael Testa, Samantha Sponable

### University of Rochester Frederick Douglas & Susan B. Anthony Award

Benjamin Fontana

### U.S. Air Force Math & Science Award

Michael Azzaro

### Wells College 21st Century Leadership Award

Carla Mastroianni

### Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Award

Megan Lesperance

### Xerox Innovation & Information Technology Award

Connor Blakely

### Schalmont Middle School

### Daughters of the American History Award

Hunter Morris

### Geraldine Corrigan Award

Amanda Mascitelli

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## 2009 Top Scholars – continued from pg. 1



### Schalmont Top Scholars:

The 17 seniors in the top 10 percent of the Class of 2009 all had more than a 93 percent grade point average.

both her junior and senior year. She also received the DAR Good Citizen Award, Scholar Athlete Award, RPI Medalist, University of Rochester Frederick Douglas and Susan B. Anthony Award, and Cumberland Farms Believe and Achieve Award.

Her parents have been an important part of her education, according to Fortman. “They support my decisions and push me when I need it. Coach [Craig] Sargent has also inspired me to

work hard not only in running, but in every aspect of my life,” she said.

Fortman plans on attending Cornell University next fall and hopes to eventually become an environmental engineer. “I don’t know exactly where I want to work, but I want to leave my mark on the world,” she said.

### Top 10 Percent

Students in the top 10 percent of the Class of 2009 all had more than a

93 percent grade point average. These students are pictured above from left to right: (front) Mike Azzaro, Madison DeCerce, Jeana Longo, Seana Ryan, Jaclyn Saccocio, Emily DiCarlo, Andrea Fortman, Erik Whalen, (back) Gino Zarrillo, Christopher Hotaling, Kyle McKelvey, Louis Lohraseb, Kaileen Frank, and Katelyn Lancto. Top scholars not in the picture include William Chandler, Alyssa Donadio and Annie Shields.

## Schalmont Middle School (continued)

### Paula Selkis Award

Louie Mastroianni, Elisa Sacco

### Perfect Attendance Award

*One Year:* Randy Dinaram, Dalton Lewandowski, Tabatha Wright

*Two Years:* Lindsey Burns and Taylor Provost

*Three Years:* Amanda Mascitelli

### Presidential Award

Christopher Amorosi, Chloe Beaugard, Carly Benson, Sara Biancosino, Isabella Borini, Lindsey Burns, Joseph Caldara, III, Dominic Caputo, Alexandra Cardinal, Allysa Carroll, Keegan Ciarmello, Sierra Clegg, Andrew Clifford, Miranda Cookingham, Kara Curtin, Nicolette Cuttita, Nicholas Daversa, Giuliana DiGioacchino, Michael Dougall, Abigail Dunn, Danielle Durrant, Gary Ellis, Natalie Ericson, Jacob Fallat, Colin Fisher, Rachael Gac, Liam Glennon, Elizabeth Glick, Erika Gogis, Haley Grimes, Amanda Grossman, James Hamilton, Alyssa Hart, Kylie Hartley, Matthew Hilton, Elizabeth Johnson, Alexander Kaczor, Jake Kalil, Sabrina Kelly, Gabriella Lanaro, Thomas Larned, Calvin LaVallee, Tyler Lehr, Anthony Leo, Dalton Lewandowski, Alexis Malatesta, Joshua Marthy, Amanda Mascitelli, Louie Mastroianni, Cassandra Matalavage, Tyler Mattick, Michaela Meers, Omar Mohamed, Hunter Morris, Jeanna Munroe, Joseph Neri, Eric Pareis, Bridgette Patneauade,

Leonardo Pavoldi, Tiffani Renner, Jesse Ross, Elisa Sacco, Kellie Shields, Drake Sichak, Breena Sperry, Sarah Sroczynski, Brittany Sutliff, Morgan Umholtz, Victoria VanAlstyne, Ciara Viallo, Kara Whitaker, Grace White, Michael White, Angela Yodis, Jillian Zaloga

### STA Award

Carly Benson, Isabella Borini, Lindsey Burns, Alexandra Cardinal, Giuliana DiGioacchino, Abigail Dunn, Erika Gogis, Alyssa Hart, Dalton Lewandowski, Amanda Mascitelli, Michaela Meers, Eric Pareis, Leonardo Pavoldi, Brittany Sutliff

### STA Student of the Year

Chloe Beaugard

### Scholar Athlete Teams

#### Fall Teams

Boys Cross Country  
Girls Cross Country  
Football  
Golf  
Boys Soccer  
Girls Soccer  
Girls Tennis  
Girls Volleyball

#### Winter Teams

Boys Basketball  
Girls Basketball  
Boys Bowling  
Girls Bowling  
Girls Indoor Track

#### Spring Teams

Boys Baseball  
Girls Softball  
Boys Tennis  
Boys Track and Field  
Girls Track and Field

## ■ NUTRIKIDS in Cafeterias – *continued from pg. 1*

this switch so our cafeterias would run more efficiently and be more accurate in reporting to the state Education Department,” said Marcy von Maucher, director of Food Services.

Under the POS system, all students will be issued a four digit pin number to use for all meal plan-based cafeteria purchases, both breakfast and lunch.

“For students, the benefit is not having to remember to get lunch money from mom or dad every day. Also, when you purchase a 20-meal plan, you get a bonus meal,” said von Maucher.

A student who does not have a meal plan will still have a four digit pin number, but he/she may choose not to use it and instead pay by cash.

Pin numbers will be issued for all students and sent to their homes with class schedules/back-to-school packets in August 2009 unless they were a part of the pilot program at Jefferson Elementary School. Each student’s pin number will remain the same throughout his/her K-12 education.

### Purchasing a Meal

Under this new system, the process

for purchasing a cafeteria item at the MS or HS will be as follows:

- A student selects food/beverage items in the cafeteria.
- A student enters a pin number on a key pad by the cashier.
- If a student has forgotten his/her pin number, the cashier finds it and the student’s account by searching an alphabetical listing of student names.
- Once a pin number is entered, a student’s name, photograph and any food allergies will appear on the cashier’s POS computer screen. The screen will not display a student’s free or reduced lunch status.
- The cashier will then scan the student’s selected items.

At the elementary schools, students will not have to memorize a pin number because the cashier will access a class roster on the computer system and select students by name.

“After the initial transition period, we will be able to serve more students faster,” said von Maucher.



**Eat Up!** School meals must include milk, fruit, vegetables, a starch, and protein, and follow fat, sodium and sugar content guidelines.

### Parent Perks

For the immediate future, parents will continue to use the current system of adding money to students’ meal plan accounts, which involves sending in a check or cash to the cafeteria.

Approximately two to three months after the complete rollout of the POS system this fall, parents will be able to go online to add money – via credit card – to their students’ meal plan accounts. They will also be able to review their children’s purchases by accessing an online database of information linked to their children’s individual pin numbers.

“NUTRIKIDS offers our families a lot of benefits,” said von Maucher.

## Voters Approve 2009-10 School Budget

On Tuesday, May 19, Schalmont Central School District residents voted by a margin of 680 to 414 to pass the proposed \$42,325,000 budget for the 2009-10 school year. The 2009-10 school budget will not increase the school tax levy from its current 2008-09 level.

“The board and I are very grateful for all of the people who took the time to come out and vote. The result was very positive for education in this district,” said Superintendent Valerie Kelsey.

Two candidates, Albert Falcone and Gregory Campoli, submitted petitions to run for the two three-year seats available on the school board. Voters elected Falcone to his second term on the school board with 764 votes and Campoli to his first term on the school board with 753. Campoli will fill the seat being vacated by current school board member Denise Pendt.



Produced in cooperation with the Capital Region BOCES Communications Service.

# Schalmont

## CENTRAL SCHOOLS

401 Duaneburg Road, Schenectady, NY 12306

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Mark F. Kellett

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Melissa Braham

### Phone

(518) 355-9200

## Postal Customer

**WHAT'S INSIDE?** NUTRIKIDS Coming to Cafeterias, Schalmont High Achievers, Jr. Studies Chinese and Travels to China

### School Board Calendar

Schalmont Board of Education public meetings are held at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

#### Monday, June 22

Middle School LGI Room  
2 Sabre Dr.

### Reunion Calendar

#### Class of 1969

Friday, July 31, at 6:30 p.m.  
The Appel Inn  
590 Route 146  
Altamont  
pmbutch@yahoo.com

#### Class of 1979

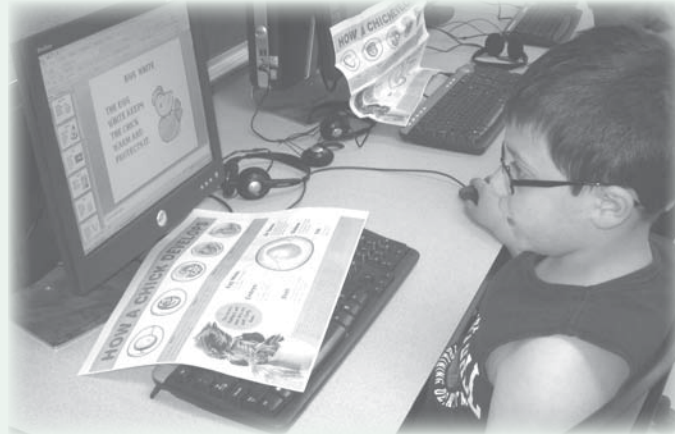
August 28-29  
TBA  
mmicheli@nycap.rr.com

#### Class of 1989

Saturday, Sept. 26, at 6 p.m.  
Mill Road Restaurant  
Latham  
schalmont89@yahoo.com

#### Class of 1999

November 2009  
TBA  
valkie33@hotmail.com



### Second-graders Learn PowerPoint:

Special education teacher Loraine Bittner recently helped teacher Shannon Farrell's second-grade class learn to use Microsoft PowerPoint software in the Jefferson Elementary School computer lab. Students used content from science lessons on the life cycle of chickens to create presentations on how chickens develop. They developed skills such as typing, modifying text, searching for and working with pictures, and adjusting layouts.

## A Note from the Nurse

A variety of health information is maintained and can be provided by school nurses. Following are just two examples. Call your child's school or visit [www.schalmont.org](http://www.schalmont.org) and click on "School Nurses" for more information.

### New York State to Survey Students' Weight Status

New York State now requires schools to track each student's Body Mass Index (BMI) and weight status category as part of school health examinations. Every year, the NYS Department of Health will survey some schools for the number of pupils they have in each of six possible weight status categories.

If Schalmont is surveyed by the state, the district will share summary group data only. The district will not share individual

names or information. Parents who wish to exclude their child's data from such group calculations must contact their child's school nurse.

### Schools to Track Dental Health Certificates

State law now requires schools to keep a dental health certificate for students new to the district and those in grades kindergarten, 2, 4, 7, and 10. You can ask a school nurse for a dental health certificate to take to your child's next dental check-up.