

Williamsville election packets available

Two of three School Board incumbents will run

by **JESSICA L. FINCH**
Associate Editor

Williamsville School Board President Romona Popowich and Board Member Carolyn Giambra announced at the March 13 meeting that they will run for re-election in May.

However, Khalid Qazi said that after 10 years on the board he has decided not to seek re-election.

"It is time for someone else to take this seat," Qazi said of his tenure.

Popowich will be seeking her third term after winning a seat in 2001 against 10 candidates and then being elected again in 2004.

"I want to be part of moving the

district forward, staying ahead of the curve," she said. "I have three children that benefited from the outstanding education here, and I want to ensure the next generation of children have the same opportunity that my kids did."

Her focal points during the campaign will be creating a budget that strikes a balance the community can support and to continue her efforts at the state level to prohibit new mandates without additional aid.

Giambra did not respond to requests for comment.

Campaigning season began on March 14, with election packets available in the district office at 105 Casey Road. Candidates must return their petitions, with 66 signatures, to the district of-

fice by 5 p.m. Monday, April 16.

Information and petition forms are also available at www.williamsvillek12.org.

Three seats on the nine-member School Board are open at each election. Board members serve for three years.

This year's annual candidates night will be held from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3 in the district office boardroom, 105 Casey Road.

Each candidate will be given an opportunity to state his or her qualifications and reasons for running for the board. This will be followed by a question and answer period. Questions will be written on cards handed out at the meeting.

A moderator from the Clarence Unit of the League of Women Voters will read the questions. Each candidate will be allowed to answer each question. There will be a summation by each candidate at the conclusion of the program.

Candidates need to note that no literature on their behalf can be handed out at the forum. Also,

no statements or presentations can be read by someone in the candidate's absence.

This year's vote will take place

on Tuesday, May 15.

For information call District Clerk Mitzie Serafin at 626-8092.

Amherst School election information set

In the Amherst Central School District, there are two seats open — David J. Dengler and Laura Meyers-Rogerson. Anyone interested in picking up a petition, call district clerk secretary to the superintendent Sharon Krol at 362-3051 or visit the district office, 55 Kings Highway, Amherst. Petitions and bios must be given to Krol by April 16.

Sweet Home to elect three board members

The terms of three current members of the Sweet Home Central Board of Education are set to expire this year.

Scott Johnson, Douglas Galli and board president Michael Morrow are each up for election on May 15.

Morrow has announced he will not seek re-election. but Johnson and Galli will be running. Johnson was appointed to the board last year when Heidi Dizer resigned because she moved out of the district.

For information on candidate applications, contact the district office at 250-1400. The deadline to submit is April 16.

School News

St. Leo the Great students have been awarded the following scholarships: Michael Siegelhurst, the Pace Scholarship from Cardinal O'Hara High School; Catherine Maier, Summer Tuition Award from Sacred Heart; Megan Kelly, Academic Excellence Scholarship from Mount St. Mary's; Sarah Broxup, Holy Angels Scholarship. Also, Mary Kate Benzinger, Academic Excellence Scholarship from Mount St. Mary's; Joseph Adinolfi, St. Francis Xavier Quarter Scholarship from Canisius High School and Honors and Friends of O'Hara Scholarships from Cardinal O'Hara; Zachary Derrico, Signum Sidei Scholarship from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute; Shauna Murphy, Betsy Murphy and Scholarship Achievement Scholarships from Mount St. Mary's.

Williamsville Central School District begins energy efficiency project

The New York Power Authority and the Williamsville Central School District have partnered on an \$8.7 million energy efficiency project, at all 13 of the districts' educational facilities. The project, part of the Power to Schools program, is expected to save the school district \$520,000 annually.

"Conserving energy is a great way to cut operating expenses and sustain essential services," said Timothy S. Carey, NYPA president and CEO. "NYPA's Power to Schools program helps districts like Williamsville to make more efficient use of electricity, reduce their energy bills and use more of their tax dollars to educate their students."

The Power to Schools program, authorized by state law, enables NYPA to assist public and private elementary and secondary schools in managing energy costs through energy efficiency and shopping for the economical power in the competitive marketplace for electricity.

"The Williamsville Central School District is proud to be working with NYPA on the energy-efficiency projects slated to begin shortly throughout the district," said Superintendent Howard S. Smith. "We contacted NYPA in the fall of 2005 about exploring ways to cut our energy costs. When we learned about the Power to Schools Program, we began working with NYPA to develop a program that would meet the unique needs of our school district."

Energy audits conducted by NYPA identified several energy-saving measures within the school district's 13 schools. They include:

- Upgrade of less efficient incandescent lighting with T-8 fluorescent lights and electronic ballasts.
- Retrofit of exit signs that utilize incandescent or fluorescent lighting with LED technology.

- Installation of carbon-dioxide sensors to optimize the outside air volume brought into buildings, reducing the volume of conditioned air that is exhausted.

- Replacement of air dampers and actuators to better control air flowing into and out of the buildings.

- Replacing all steam traps at South High, Dodge Elementary and Maple East Elementary schools to protect the boiler equipment from damage, maximize the use of the steam, and improve space temperature control.

- Replacement of old inefficient boilers at South High School and Country Parkway Elementary school.

- Installation of an Energy Management System at South High School to better control heating, cooling and ventilation.

- Connecting the perimeter heating loop at the East High School with the heat pump loop. The connection will allow the building to maximize the use of the most efficient boiler when outdoor temperatures are mild.

- Installation of a small capacity chiller at the Transit Middle School to prevent having to cool the entire building when in limited use.

- Installing automatic swimming pool covers.

Overall project costs will be financed through NYPA's energy services program, allowing the school district to avoid up-front expenses and repay the financing costs over several years through a portion of its energy bill savings.

The New York Power Authority has completed 1,500 energy efficiency projects in government buildings across New York State since 1990, saving almost \$96 million in energy costs per year and reducing electricity consumption by some 912,000 megawatt-hours (MWh) annually.

PIANO STUDIOS

• Beginning & Advanced Students • Accompanist

• Suzuki Method for Beginners • Teacher Training

Mary Handley 834-2266

Immerse your child



in what he/she loves doing most...

at Summer Stage

WNY's Original Performing Arts Day Camp

.....

Musical Productions • Drama • Video • Dance
Mime • Puppetry • Mask-Making • Costume Design
Script Writing • Arts and Crafts • Scenery Construction
Field Trips • Special Events • Theme Days

.....



June 25th to July 20th

End of Camp Performances

July 21st at

UB Center for the Arts

Junior Campers in Wizard of Oz, 2005

"Our children loved their time at Summer Stage. This is a terrific, long running four week musical theatre summer camp in Williamsville. It's one of the best things we've ever done and the kids hated to see it end."
from an article written by Kathleen Rizzo Young from *The Buffalo News*.

Conveniently Located on Sheridan Dr. near N. Forest in Williamsville
Maris Battaglia-Biel & Richard Biel • Camp Directors

NOW IN OUR 23rd SUMMER

For Brochure, Please Write or Call

SUMMER STAGE

P.O. Box 332 • Williamsville, NY 14231
(716) 688-4961

Jazz festival, Taste of Sweet Home set for March 29

The Music Department of the Sweet Home Central School District will be presenting its annual Jazz Festival beginning at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 29 in the high school auditorium, 1901 Sweet Home Road.

Performing will be the Sweet Home Middle School Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Gavin Petrie; the Sweet Home High

School Jazz Ensemble conducted by James Marone; and the Kenmore East High School Jazz Ensemble directed by Phil Aguglia.

A special appearance will be made by the nationally renowned Dave Schiavone Quartet.

In conjunction with the Jazz Festival will be a Taste of Sweet Home. Local restaurants will be

offering samples from their menus to those in attendance.

Participating restaurants are: Anderson's, Andolini's Pizza, Banchetti, Besta Pizza, Fatman Pizza, Franco's Pizza, McDonald's, Rosina Foods, and Tops Friendly Markets.

All seats are \$8, which includes a Taste of Sweet Home. For tickets, call 250-1368.