



SUMMER 2021

Tools of the Trade

A Publication of the Southern Westchester BOCES Center for Career Services

THE CLASS OF 2021 IS ON ITS WAY FOLLOWING RECOGNITION CEREMONY



The annual end-of-year Recognition Ceremony was a testament to students and staff who have closed out a year unlike any other.

District Superintendent Harold Coles in his address to the Class of 2021 said it was a "year that has been somewhat of an adventure, and somewhat of a testament to perseverance."

In an effort to host a safe event and to celebrate those who have completed their two-year programs, the Center opted to create a virtual event – or a series of virtual events, really. Specific Recognition Ceremony traditions were pre-recorded, as were the commencement addresses by center administrators and BOCES leaders, along with words from student leaders. Each program had their own ceremony in which students received their certificates. Ultimately these pre-recorded portions were assembled to create a series of videos,



enabling students and their families to view a presentation dedicated to their specific program. The videos debuted on the Center's website at careers.swboces.org on June 10.

Security, Policing and Law students Leslie Patino and Brandon Lopez carried in the flag while Culinary Arts student Marcelo Rosales recited the Pledge of Allegiance. All three students will be entering the armed services, Leslie to the Navy, Brandon to the Army and Mareclo to the Air Force. Sound Production

CEREMONY, continues page 2

Evangelos Michas named Principal of SWBOCES Center for Career Services

SEE STORY ON PAGE 5



IN THIS ISSUE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2 Staff Spotlight: Kevin McCa | 5 Culinary Arts Worldly Cuisine |
| 3 Sound Production App | 6 Traffic Stop Practice |
| 3 Humvee Ambulance Project | 7 CCS Students at Advocacy Day |
| 4 CCS YouTube Channel | 8 Student Artwork Exhibited |

A Message from the Director



What an amazing year it has been! Although it has been said before, there is no way to describe the 2020-2021 school year other than unprecedented.

Part of what made this year so amazing was the efforts of everyone here to show up, be creative and patient in their work and to see the year to a close. And we did it!

We saw the Class of 2021 off into the future during our virtual Recognition Ceremony, in which we pre-recorded each program, enabling students to receive their certificates with their friends and teachers. Thank you to all who made this possible by recording speeches and creating multiple videos for our families to enjoy.

Throughout the year our students stayed focused and did spectacular work. Students participating in SkillsUSA made us all proud by winning 14 medals in this year's virtual event. A special congratulations to Commercial Art student Sofia Sanchez for competing in the SkillsUSA Nationals competition and for being awarded the New York State Skills USA title for Advertising Design.

Further congratulations to Sound Production student Elisabeth Kramer, winner of a Wellesley Book Award.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not offer my hearty congratulations and best wishes to our staff members who have retired this year. Good luck to Culinary Arts teacher Chef Peter Tomaskovic (26 years), Electrician and Construction teacher Richard Thomas (17 years), Assistant Director of Operations and Facilities Patrick DeTomaso (16 years), Transition Coordinator Joseph Iaconetti (12 years) and bus driver Reggie Clayton (32 years). And last, but not least, SWBOCES Senior Director of Adult, Community and Career Services Claudia Murphy (10 years).

May you all enjoy a restful and safe summer. We look forward to welcoming you back in the fall!

Dahlia A. Jackson

Director, Southern Westchester BOCES
Center for Career Services

THE CLASS OF 2021 IS ON ITS WAY FOLLOWING RECOGNITION CEREMONY

CEREMONY, continued from page 1

student Morgan Solomon sang the National Anthem.

Director Dahlia Jackson greeted those watching and informed them that graduates would receive their Certificates of Completion of their programs at the Center for Career Services. She also noted that the New York State Board of Regents has instituted a Career and Technical distinction category for the New York State diploma.

"This is a designation used to identify students who have been granted a high school diploma with honors, and many students who have been successful in completing their programs of study will receive endorsed diplomas," she said.

Sound Production student and Class of 2021 Salutatorian Christian Ferenandez from New Rochelle High School delivered a special greeting.

"We are beginning a new chapter in our lives, and we have so many people to thank," said Christian, who will be attending SUNY Purchase later this year.

"It is now our time to take this encouragement, along with tools we have gained these past two years at the



Center for Career Services, and start building our future," Christian said.

Class of 2021 Valedictorian Michele Novominski, an Emergency Medical Services student from Edgemont High School, HOSA President and National Technical Honor Society member, had her own words of encouragement to share.

"Believe in yourself," said Michelle, who will be attending Pace University in the fall. "We all have greatness, but greatness is only determined by service. So, apply your service to the world. Whatever occupation you are seeking never give up. Never let anyone dictate what you can and cannot do. It is all up to you."

SWBOCES Senior Director of Adult, Community and Career Services Claudia Murphy took time to recognize those retiring from the center this year.

Among those honored were Culinary Arts teacher Chef Peter Tomaskovic (26 years), Electrician and Construction teacher Richard Thomas (17 years), Assistant Director of Operations and Facilities Patrick DeTomaso (16 years), Transition Coordinator Joseph Iaconetti (12 years) and bus driver Reggie Clayton (32 years).

"To all our retirees we wish you joy and happiness. May you find joy in remembering past successes, and may you find happiness in pursuing new dreams," Ms. Murphy said.

In a surprise, Ms. Jackson presented Ms. Murphy with a bouquet of flowers as an acknowledgement of her own retirement after 10 years with BOCES and a total of 20 years in education.

Viewers will also enjoy "Student Voices," a video montage of Career Services students who share what their time at BOCES was like and their hopes for the future. The video was produced by students in the Sound Production program.

Finally, it was the time students had been waiting for — receiving their certificates!

Visit www.swboces/careers.org to view individual videos for each of our programs.

Sofia Sanchez made it to Nationals in SkillsUSA competition



A few clicks here, a few clicks there and before she knew it Sofia Sanchez, a junior at White Plains High School, was on her way to compete at the national level for SkillsUSA. On June 17, she participated in the virtual event. Moments before the competition began, it was announced she had won the New York State SkillsUSA title for Advertising Design.

Of course, the competition involved more than just a few simple clicks on a computer, but the end result proved Sofia is on her way to becoming a talented and creative graphic designer.

Sofia is a student in the Commercial Art program at the Center for Career Services. She said she always had an interest in art and enjoyed the art classes at her high school, but when she learned about BOCES and its program, "I felt BOCES was a better option for me," she said.

During the course of her studies Sofia has become skilled in using Adobe Illustrator, an illustration software program. She recently used it to create a portrait of a K-Pop artist.

"I found it interesting I could do it on a computer," rather than with a pen and paper, she said.

This spring Sofia was among several students

to compete in SkillsUSA, a competition that has students from different programs in the region compete with one another on specific tasks. The event was held virtually this year.

During the regional competition Sofia was tasked with creating a logo. Competitors were given a prompt about what the company wanted.

"We had to make four thumb nails and pick one," Sofia said, adding that competitors had to complete their logo within a certain amount of time.

"I was kind of stressed due to leaving early," she said of having to finish more quickly as the bus to her homeschool leaves earlier than other students. However, the time constraints did not play a role in the outcome. Sofia received a second place for her work.

"I was surprised," she said. "I wasn't expecting to win anything."

With her regional victory, Sofia was eligible to compete at the state level. It was another



timed competition. This time competitors had to recreate an ad provided by SkillsUSA.

Sofia said she was less nervous during the state competition because she had a better understanding of what the competition was about and what the process entailed.

The judges liked what they saw, and Sofia was selected to compete at nationals.

"I'm excited," Sofia said weeks before the national competition. "And a

little nervous. We will have to wait and see what happens."

"She's a great kid and super talented," teacher Damian Powers said, adding he is not surprised she did so well.

When she is not busy competing for SkillsUSA, Sofia is a member of her homeschool's National Honors Art Society. She is interested in studying graphic design and hopes to one day study at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Elisabeth Kramer:

WELLESLEY BOOK AWARD WINNER



The one thing Elisabeth Kramer knew from the time she was little was that she would attend Southern Westchester BOCES Center for Career Services just like her father did. He was in the Construction/Electrical program, and she, well, it was just a matter of time before she found her place here.

Now that she has, she could not be happier.

"I've always loved singing and music," she said. "Singing is like therapy for me."

Initially Elisabeth, a junior at Westlake High School, was enrolled in the Animal Science program, but when she began to doubt if this is an avenue she wanted to pursue, she looked into the other programs offered here. She spent three days as a guest in the Sound Production program, and it was not long before she knew that was where she wanted to be.

"I was touring the TV Production and Sound Production classes and my eyes lit up," she said.

Not long after officially joining the Sound Production program, her school counselor, Kevin McAllister, visited the classroom and asked her to fill out an application. She was not sure what it was for.

She did not have to wait long to find out. Elisabeth was the recipient of the Wellesley Book Award and received a copy of "The Book of Gutsy Women: Favorite Stories of Courage and Resilience," by Hilary Rodham Clinton and Chelsea Clinton.

"It came as a surprise to me," Elisabeth said of the honor. "I was very proud of myself. I came in in the second quarter and had no idea what I was doing, and I was able to get an award after being the last to come into the class."

Wellesley's Dean of Admissions Jennifer Desjarlais wrote regarding criteria for the award, "the Wellesley Book Award honors young women who have been top scholars in high school as well as talented performers in extracurricular areas. The Book Award Program recognizes young women who have excelled and gives them the opportunity to become better acquainted with Wellesley. Young women should be chosen for their intelligence, determination, motivation, and achievement."

"Liz came to the Sound Production program during the 2nd marking period of this year. At first, I was a little concerned about her ability to thrive in this program, as she was the only female

student and appeared to be quite reserved," Mr. McAllister said. "Liz had very quickly quelled all my concerns about her being the only female student in a predominately male-driven industry. She dominated the program."

"Liz is impressive on so many different levels," he continued. "Her budding talent is undeniable, and her ability to master the science of sound production is uncanny. She will only get better over time, and as it stands, she is on track to have an amazing senior year with us."

Mr. McAllister said he recommended her for the Wellesley award, because he was so "impressed with her ingenuity and tenacity to thrive."

"As the award states, it is an award which recognizes a junior female student that is of strong character and exceptional quality. Liz has most definitely contributed to the class in a significant way, and I would recommend her for all awards that acknowledges her abilities."

Part of Elisabeth's excitement with the Sound Production program is the opportunity to use Pro Tools, a digital audio workstation. Elisabeth plays the ukulele and piano and enjoys creating her own music. Pro Tools lets her edit her work and more.

"With Pro Tools there are a million things you can do, you can edit and watch it all come together," she said.

She has not given up her interest in pets and veterinary medicine. She loves to horseback ride and often

hangs out at her mom's veterinary clinic. But music, she said, is her true passion.

"I'm always singing in my room," Elisabeth said. She tends to favor country and pop music.

"She came in like a trooper," Sound Production teacher Sean Harty said, adding that it was not an easy thing to do considering she had missed so much material relating to vocabulary, hands-on work and more.

Mr. Harty met with Elisabeth via Zoom to help her catch up and several of her classmates also helped her learn the material she had missed.

Her hard work paid off, Mr. Harty said. She had the highest grade for the juniors in her class.

"I know her parents are very proud of her," he said.



'Pretty In A Minute' visited cosmetology class for an informative, fun session



Southern Westchester BOCES cosmetology student Luz Gonzalez sat at her styling station at the Center for Career Services

styling her hair. "I love this," she said, looking at her reflection.

Luz had straightened her hair with a brush from "Pretty In A Minute." The tool left her hair straight and shiny. She was not the only one pleased with the results.

"It feels lighter and it makes hair silky and smooth," Astrid Maldonado said of her friend's hair.

The two girls, both juniors at Harrison High School, are enrolled in the BOCES cosmetology program. On May 17, the morning and afternoon classes enjoyed an information session with Drew Souza, a platform artist with "Pretty In A Minute."

Throughout his presentation, Mr. Souza brought a ton of energy, information and fun. During both sessions, he demonstrated several hair styling tools that his Florida-based company makes. He then pumped up the music and let the students try the tools for themselves.

Mr. Souza emphasized that having high-quality tools is one of the



PRETTY
IN A MINUTE



most important things that the aspiring cosmetologists need to be successful. Students tested the flatirons, brushes, curling irons on one another's hair as well as their own.

"They make the hair really shiny," said Allyn Caja, a junior at New Rochelle High School. "With other straighteners, you could not get it this straight with one pass."

This visit to the Center for Career Services' cosmetology program was not Mr. Souza's first. Every time he stops by the campus, he demonstrates his tools and discusses his company's "Pretty In A Minute" education program. Students also have an option to purchase the tools in special-priced bundles.

"This is an awesome industry – one that is always changing," said Mr. Souza. "You will not succeed without updating and educating yourself."

Due to new trends and styles that evolve over time, the students will need to stay on top of what is "hot" in their field. That is one of the reasons that's the company offers students an opportunity to enroll courses where they

can learn more about trends, techniques and barbering. It also offers certifications in specific practices, such as keratin treatments and extensions.

Sound and Television Mural:

One project, two requirements fulfilled and a lasting testament of skills



Commercial Art student Angel Contreras needed a project to do to complete the Senior Options requirement at his home school. He also needed

to come up with an exit project for his art class. It seemed obvious what had to be done: combine the two projects. The result can be viewed outside of the sound and television production classrooms — a giant mural of sound and video equipment through the ages.

Angel, a senior at Edgemont High School, said the senior project is typically a hands-on one students can do, or they can complete an internship. When he mentioned he was looking for a project to fulfill the home school requirement to his Commercial Art teacher, Damian Powers said he had the perfect thing.

It just so happens Mr. Powers was working with the Sound and TV Production teachers, who wanted him to design a sign for their program. Instead, he handed the project over to his student.

"He took over the whole project," Mr. Powers said. "He talked to the teachers,

created a mock-up thumbnail and presented it to Mr. Harty and Mr. May."

"The main idea was the evolution of technology and how far it has come," Angel said. "I did a collage of technology through the decades."

Angel began his project by photographing different types of equipment related to the programs.

Using Adobe Photoshop, he was able to put his images into a collage format. Once he felt he had the perfect look, the piece was printed out on a large-scale printer. The next step was hanging it up on the wall outside of the Sound and TV Production classrooms, which was the toughest part of the job — aligning each panel so it matched the one next to it and stuck to the wall smoothly, leaving no wrinkles.

It was the perfect project for Angel, who said he loves his class because "it's very relaxing and you can work at your own pace."

"I was able to use my skills for the final project," he said, adding that he came to BOCES through the encouragement of a friend and found "the Commercial Art program appealed to me."



Commercial Art student Angel Contreras, a senior at Edgemont High School, was selected to create a mural for the TV and Sound Production programs for his senior project. The mural depicts technology through the ages and currently hangs up outside the TV and Sound Production classrooms.

Culinary students gain valuable experience in the kitchen and beyond



Culinary students at the Center for Career Services this year had an opportunity to use their skills, while also gaining valuable work experience.

Through her job experience, Arden Gerhardt, a junior at Pelham Memorial High School, has learned different styles of cooking and gained experience with differing sauces and food pairings. She has also taken what she has learned at BOCES and applied it to her job.

"I definitely feel the experience here brings a different level to work, a whole other standard at work," she said.

Culinary teacher Chef John Damiani has placed a record number of his students in restaurant settings this spring. His goals were to place students in jobs where they could expand the skills they learned in the culinary program while gaining experience in the industry. He has a total of 15 students who are currently placed in summer jobs, many of whom have already started working, at area country clubs and restaurants.

Arden and Antonio Licea, a junior at New Rochelle High School, are two out of many students who have found placements. They are both working at the Bonnie Briar Country Club in Larchmont. They work on a rotation, enabling them to gain experience working in different parts of the restaurant, including front and back of the house.

Arden, who is currently working in the front of the house, said it's been a great opportunity.

"It's just awesome," she said.

Arden said she has enjoyed bussing tables, although at times it can be stressful.

Antonio has been busy with a stint in the kitchen, where he has assisted the Garde Manger, an individual in charge of cold foods, and has also worked running the



club's pizza stand.

"At times, when we are really busy and the cooks need help, they will ask me," Antonio said. "It gets really busy, especially on Friday nights."

Arden said some of the work she has done includes keeping the works station clean and refilling anything that has run out, such as cutlery and condiments.

Antonio has noticed the passion among the chefs he has worked with at the club, something he has brought back to the BOCES kitchen.

"You learn you have to have everything done right, but quicker," he said of his job. "She and I were always slow," he said of Arden. "Now we are in the oven in about 10 minutes before the others," he said of his classroom experience. "Over here it's way more chill. I like working under high pressure."

"I thought I was going to hate it," Antonio admitted, only to be proven wrong. Based on his first year, he hopes to one day open his own fine dining restaurant. "I feel like I've learned so much more than I thought I would."

Arden also has plans to continue in the industry. She wants to earn an associate's degree in baking and pastry from the Culinary Institute of America and one day work at a Disney park or resort.

Due to her experience at BOCES, she cooks at home just about every night.

The jobs have also assisted students in earning their ServeSafe certification, a revered industry certification focused on food and kitchen safety that also gives students a leg up when they apply to college, Chef Damiani said. The certification is administered by the National Restaurant Association in all 50 states. Some states require restaurant managers to have the certification, which needs to be renewed every five years.

"It's the first time doing this with the kids this year," Chef Damiani said of the certification. Students were required to take an exam, which was administered in May.

"I have a really good group of kids this year. They are interested in the program and hard-working," he said.

And others have noticed.

Chef Damiani received an email from Chef Matt O'Connor, CEC, one of the chefs his students are working with at the Bonnie Briar Country Club, that said, in part: "The kids are doing great so far. We are almost through our first rotation and they have such a positive attitude, work hard, don't complain and are eager to learn. They are a pleasure to have. I hope they all come back for the 2022 season and grow here."

Evangelo Michas named Principal of SWBOCES Center for Career Services



Evangelo Michas, who has been serving as Interim Principal at the Center for Career Services since October, has officially become the principal of the Center. Mr. Michas was appointed principal by the Board of Education at the April 21 meeting. The appointment is effective July 1.

In his new role, Mr. Michas said, his goals continue to be to assist students in exploring potential careers and to train workers for the 21st century. To that end, he said he will work to ensure the Center's programs meet students' needs.

"I want to thank the Southern Westchester BOCES Board of Education for the trust they

have in me and for the opportunity to continue to lead our CTE programs," Mr. Michas said.

Mr. Michas first joined Southern Westchester BOCES five years ago and as the Work Based Learning Coordinator before being named assistant principal. He has more than 20 years experience working in Career and Technical Education and special education. He taught home economics in Greenburgh, for Job Corps in Brooklyn, and taught Culinary Arts again in Greenburgh before coming to SWBOCES. He is certified in CTE, elementary education, Worked Based Learning Coordination and special education.



FASHION STATEMENT: STUDENT DESIGNS SPREAD MESSAGES OF HOPE AND SUPPORT



There are fashion statements. And then there are Fashion Statements.

Students in the Fashion Design and Merchandising Program at the Center for Career Services certainly sent a loud message with their end-of-year projects during an impromptu fashion show.

The students were assigned to design and make streetwear fashion, which typically consists of baggy-style pants. To go with their pants, they designed their own logo to support a cause of their choice which was later put on a T-shirt. Students used Photoshop to create their logos along with mood boards for inspiration.

The class designed logos for T-shirts supporting a number of important social issues: The environment, civil rights/BLM movement, women's rights, immigration, Indigenous people's rights, disability rights, LGBTQ /Pride and stop Asian hate.

"I am so proud of all of you," teacher Carmen Galiano said. "I see a lot of A's coming your way."

During one recent class, students donned their designs, did their hair and make-up, and found a spot on campus to show off their work. With cameras rolling, they strutted their stuff.

Each year, Ms. Galiano produces a fashion show featuring her students modeling their creations. Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, she opted to do a show with just her students, rather than present it to the entire campus. She recorded their walks down the catwalk outside — complete with stops and spins — and put together a video of the event.

"I wanted to do something that reflects on what I feel about it personally," Armanya Martinez, a junior at New Rochelle High School, said of the women's rights message she supported. She said she wanted women to feel confident in their bodies and she hopes her message will help other women. "I wanted it to come off as aggressive, loud and strong," she said. Her logo consists of a woman with a mohawk screaming into a mi-

crophone. The words "Be Bold" are written underneath the image.

Jake Glinski, a junior at New Rochelle High School, focused on Black Lives Matter "because it's a very important problem in our society."

The pants Jake made included a number

twist to express themselves. So, streetwear became the category," she said.

"One student said that this assignment was made for them," Ms. Galiano said. "Most of them knew right away which social movement to choose. The issues were so important to them."

Throughout her classes, Ms. Galiano makes a point of sharing with her students the history of fashion. When it comes to streetwear, it's something that began in the 1950s, when James Dean and Marlon Brando made the white T-shirt and jeans style popular.

"It has changed and evolved through the 60s and 70s from hippies to punks," Ms. Galiano said. "T-shirts became like billboards or protest signs. You can literally tell the world who you are by wearing your favorite rock band or sports team logos — from the 80s hip hop culture to the 90s grunge look."

These styles, she said, are known as "tribes."

"We refer to these as style tribes, when fashion evolved from the streets instead of from high fashion. These days fashion bubbles up from the masses instead of trickling down from fashion designers. To be successful, you must really understand what people want to wear," Ms. Galiano said. "We are in the most casual time in history, but people always want to look their best, even when they are casual. After a year of pajamas, now we can get back out into the streets and beyond."

The messages the students shared were inspired by the news and current events.

Students were assigned to pair a social movement of their choice to their favorite style tribe. They were also encouraged to think globally and consider styles outside of the United States. Among the different areas represented were grunge from Seattle, a historical nod to the hippie movement, Harajuku from Japan, and the motorcycle women of Morocco.

Visit our website to view the fashion show video.



of pockets and straps. They were inspired by new wave technology to be worn during protests that offers protection from tear gas, Jake said.

Harrison High School senior Gabriel Malis focused on the environment, a cause he supports, saying that without a healthy earth, people would not be able to support and fight for other causes and issues.

His logo is an "M" with the earth at the center, surrounded by other natural elements.

"I wanted to include important parts of the environment, like the ocean, stars and sun," Gabriel said.

This was his first experience making his own clothes and now he feels equipped to continue as he goes off to college. His hope is to one day develop his own quality brand. He plans to study the business of fashion design at the Philadelphia and Jefferson University.

Ms. Galiano said the idea for this year's project came from the students.

"I had surveyed them with the question, if they could do whatever they wanted, what would that be? The majority wanted to do casual garments with their own personal



EMS students kept on their toes during weekly training exercises



The EMS classroom at Southern Westchester BOCES turns into a mock-triage center once a week when teacher Robert Del Greco surprises his classes with a hands-on test of their skills.

As students learned how to treat soft tissue injuries, they were confronted with two hypothetical situations — a gunshot wound to the chest and a victim who had intestines protruding from an abdominal wound.

"These exercises put you on the spot," said Conrad Huang, a senior at New Rochelle High School. Conrad hopes to become a firefighter and saw benefit in EMS training. "You are going to have to get used to that."

NRHS senior Jenifer Lopez agreed the exercises are beneficial. She said they help aspiring EMS technicians like herself be prepared for any emergency situation they may encounter.

In the first hypothetical scenario, the gunshot wound victim was suffering from an open chest wound. Students acting as First Responders contended with how the victim can cause blood to gush based on their inhale and exhale. Students were entrusted with placing an inclusive dressing on the victim, which created an airtight seal and stopped them from losing blood. The students also checked the victim's vital signs and the gunshot's exit wound if there was one.

Students were introduced to a special type of gauze that has petroleum jelly on it. The material comes in a sealed package. To treat

the gunshot wound, patients learned that they can toss the petroleum jelly-soaked gauze away and just use the package to seal up the wound with medical tape, leaving one corner un-taped so that the material does not stick to the wound.

In the second scenario, students were confronted with a hypothetical motor vehicle accident. The victim had been thrown from their vehicle, causing a slit in their lower abdomen that made their intestines protrude. This is known as an evisceration wound.

"This is not a 'kill me quick' type of wound," Mr. Del Greco explained, adding that the student EMS' would be responsible for ascertaining if the victim had sustained any other injuries. They needed to check if the victim's airways were open and if their breathing and circulation were normal.

In this instance, in order to prepare the victim for hospital transport, the students had to package the wound. This means placing a large bandage loosely over the impacted area and taping it to the victim's skin. The purpose is to prevent any dirt or germs from affecting it. The first step was to moisten a sterile bandage before placing it over the wound.

"Resist the urge to clean off the intestines," Mr. Del Greco instructed. "Leave it to the surgeons."

He added that the use of a common household item is an option. Once the dressing has been placed, they can cover it with aluminum foil.

Earlier in the class, Mr. Del Greco explained the different types of wounds and divided students into two groups. Each participant took turns dressing different injuries.

"This helps make it more visual," Mr. Del Greco said as the students practiced on two dummies set up with different wounds. "It makes it more real."

To make the gunshot wound even more realistic, the dummy was equipped with a hidden pump that caused fake blood to spurt out. The other hypothetical victim had its fake intestines protruding.

These exercises also helped to reinforce concepts and treatments that the students had learned previously.

"In EMS, there is a lot of repetition," Mr. Del Greco said. "We always talk about what step we are on: the A, B, Cs — airway, breathing and circulation."

Mr. Del Greco is a member of the Valhalla Volunteer Ambulance Corps and offers his own experience to help students learn. "It doesn't have to be pretty, it just has to work," is often what he tells his students about caring for a patient. The important work that the students are learning will help to stabilize a patient so that the patient can receive the necessary medical care for a good outcome.

"We are learning and practicing at the same time," said Virginia Francisco, a senior at NRHS, after she took a turn practicing on each of the dummies.

“In EMS, there is a lot of repetition. We always talk about what step we are on: the A, B, Cs — airway, breathing and circulation.”

— Teacher, Mr. Robert Del Greco



SOUTHERN
WESTCHESTER BOCES

SWBOCES Center for Career Services
65 Grasslands Rd. • Valhalla, NY 10595
914-761-3400

Claudia Murphy, Senior Director,
Adult, Community & Career Services
Dahlia Jackson, Director
Evangelo Michas, Interim Principal
Brian Howard, Director of Communications
Alicia Smith, Writer/Photographer
Jeffrey Braun, Graphic Design

Southern Westchester BOCES
17 Berkley Drive
Rye Brook, NY 10573
914-937-3820
www.swboces.org

Board of Education

Catherine Draper, President
John V. Filiberti, Vice President
Sheryl Brady
Lynn Frazer-McBride
Robert Johnson
Valarie D. Williams

Central Administration

Harold Coles, Psy.D., District Superintendent
Jacqueline O'Donnell, Chief Operating
Officer/ Deputy District Superintendent
James A. Gratto, Assistant Superintendent for
Educational Services
Stephen Tibbetts, Assistant Superintendent for
Business and Administrative Services

SWBOCES NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services, its officers and employees, does not discriminate against any individuals, including but not limited to students, employees or applicants on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, citizenship status, marital status, partner status, genetic information, predisposing genetic characteristics, weight, military status or service, political affiliation, or domestic violence victim status.

This policy of nondiscrimination includes access by students to educational programs; counseling services for students; course offerings and student activities; recruitment, appointment and promotion of employees; and employment pay and benefits. This policy also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to the Compliance Officers at Southern Westchester BOCES, 17 Berkley Drive, Rye Brook, NY 10573. (914) 937-3820.

Civil Rights Compliance Officers

Suzanne Doherty
Director of Human Resources

17 Berkley Drive
Rye Brook, NY 10573
Ph: (914) 937-3820
complianceofficer@swboces.org

Stephen Tibbetts
Assistant Superintendent for
Business & Administrative Services
17 Berkley Drive
Rye Brook, NY 10573
Ph: (914) 937-3820
complianceofficer@swboces.org

SWBOCES IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Section 504 Coordinator

Thomas Briggs
Director of Facilities and Operations
17 Berkley Drive
Rye Brook, NY 10573
Ph: (914) 937-3820
tbriggs@swboces.org

"The job of BOCES is to support the work being done in schools by providing services and supports they are not able to provide for themselves."



Chaotic scene greets Animal Science students in the name of learning



Animal Science teacher Michael D'Abruzzo announced "It's an emergency!" as he hit a button on his computer to start the sound of an ambulance siren. "All right, let the chaos begin!"

Students immediately scrambled to find the supplies they would need for a dog that had a broken back leg. They tended to the "injured" pet like true pros.

The exercises of providing first aid to an injured animal was a competition among students developed by the teacher to help students master first aid skills on pets. He divided the class into small groups and had them work on hypothetical injuries on a stuffed dog used for such purposes. One student was responsible for attending to the injured animal; another watched and evaluated the animal tender's techniques; and a third student was the panicked pet owner and another distraction to further add chaos to the situation. The groups had three minutes to complete each procedure.

"I know what to do," Jade Saccomanno, a senior at Harrison High School, said after completing each scenario. "I think in a real-life situation I am confident in my skills."

Jade added she preferred to work on applying different types of bandages on a wounded pet over administering CPR because the bandages are easier.

Following each of the exercises, the students discussed how each pet rescuer did and

made suggestions as to what could be done differently.

The students administering the first aid were judged on whether they secured the scene, demonstrated the correct intervention, completed the task within the time limit, and shared information on how best to transport the injured animal to the veterinarian's office.

In another situation, a child was cutting a dog's hair and accidentally clipped the dog's ear causing it to bleed. In other hypothetical situations students had to work on a dog that was oozing blood, another in which the animal was spurting blood and finally a dog that was choking on a toy in which initially, the animal was conscious, but fell unconscious.

"Remember, in an emergency situation it doesn't have to be the prettiest thing. Our job is to secure the animal and get them to a vet, that's first aid," Mr. D'Abruzzo told his students.

Working under pressure was the most challenging part of the competition, Arlette Rivera, a senior at New Rochelle High School, said.

"But I was able to tune out the noise," she said.

While the scenarios were hypothetical, the practical knowledge was real.

"It's obviously a learning experience," Arlette said of the competition. "But it's always better to know ahead of time and better to be prepared," she said.