

# College meteorologist visits Fulton school

Last Tuesday morning Mr. Murray's meteorology students were in for a treat. After compiling wikis with sixth grade students at Volney Elementary last month, the seniors had the chance to go to that school and see Dr. Scott Steiger. Steiger is an assistant professor of meteorology at SUNY Oswego. His visit was aimed toward getting the younger kids interested in meteorology and mainly entertaining questions that they had. Overall it was an interesting intra-district field trip.

In April, Murray's students were asked to help the sixth graders create a wikispace. A wikispace is an online article editable by anyone. For an example, check out Wikipedia. The wikispaces were created about weather related

topics. Topics ranged from dust and sandstorms, to hurricanes, to blizzards. Students were required to make up a scientific description of the event and find a newsworthy article about it. It was also recommended to gather pictures and videos for the page. The wiki was an interesting thing that brought students, six years apart, together for a common goal.

At Volney, Dr. Steiger went over a collection of different weather events. His talk ranged from the recent tornado in Joplin, Missouri to the lake effect snow we receive each winter. It seemed that the majority of his presentation was geared toward the younger students, as he spent most of his time answering their questions. Among the things he talked about were

his own interest in storm chasing, the DOW, or Doppler on Wheels, and his research on lake effect snow.

Some of the students wanted to hear further detail on his lake effect research, because he had compiled a lot of interesting data. He went into how one lake effect system over Ontario had a swirling motion to it, much like a tornado, but quickly moved to a different topic. Senior Marcus Earl said, "I wish he had said more about that lake effect snow, since that's what he's known for."

But all in all the students agreed that Dr. Steiger did have a good presentation and one that was well worth seeing.

By Tyler Crandell



G. Ray Bodley High School, Fulton, NY

Volume 2, Number 141

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

## Thursday's chorus concert will be sentimental journey

By Christine Proud

This Thursday the G. Ray Bodley choruses will have their last night of music for the school year. The Concert and Women's Choir will take center stage at 7:30 sharp and delight the audience with the wonderful music they have been preparing since March. This concert, however, will be a bittersweet even for all members. This is the last high school concert for the graduating class of 2011 and the last concert beloved director Mrs. Walrath will conduct and accompany.

Mrs. Walrath has been conducting the Women's choir for many years and is the accompanist for the Concert choir. Many students will miss Mrs. Walrath. Her uniqueness can make anyone's day a tad bit brighter. Also the seniors of 2011 will face a farewell to the Concert choir. Whether they had joined as a freshman or this is their first year in the choir they have had a special experience at the least.

The Women's choir will perform first for the evening. The songs chosen reflect the fun that can be had in chorus. The girls will be singing *Jump*, originally by Van Halen but using the style from the television show, *Glee*. They will also perform A 1950's medley, *Until we meet again (an Irish blessing)*, *Summertime* from the Broadway musical *Porgy and Bess*, also they will be performing famous song *It's Rain-*

*ing Men*. The songs will be a wonderful thing to listen to before the concert choir takes stage.

After the Women's choir finishes the Concert choir will be next to take the stage. Director Mr. Nami has helped push the various songs into the students heads, and it will be enjoyed by all. The concert choir will be singing a classical piece called *Come Sing and Be Joyful* also they will sing a song by the band the 1960s' quartet, The 5th Dimension called *Up, Up, and Away*. The concert choir will also honor their seniors by singing the song *I Carry Your Heart with Me*, the song is a touching piece and is based off the famous poem by E.E Cummings.

Also at this concert something will be a little different. The Women's Choir which consists of freshman and sophomore girls and the con-

cert choir, which consists of all males in G.R.B and the upperclassman females, will sing a song together. The two choruses will be under the direction of Mrs. Walrath while they are accompanied by Mr. Nami. The song is called *Everybody Rejoice* and is from the hit musical *The Wiz* which is an adapted version of L. Frank Baum's classic novel, *The Wizard Of Oz*.

Thursday's concert will be a few hours of music, some sadness and some laughs as the groups say goodbye to the 2011 school year, the 2011 seniors and long-time teacher and colleague Mrs. Walrath. The concert starts at 7:30pm sharp and chorus members are reminded to be there at 7 pm to warm up. Come out and see the last concert of the year. It is free and afterwards refreshments will be served.

**Battle of the Athletes:  
Wed. June 8**

**Sign up with your Phys. Ed. teacher now!**

**Open to all Raider athletes  
for just \$1**

## Opinion

# Students need to do their part in education

By Patty Morrison

The other day I got to thinking I sat down, and I was talking to one of my teachers about what kids need to do to succeed in high school and how teachers can help kids at this school to succeed in their education.

I have a lot of strong opinions about this, and it is going to be hard to write about them, but I'm hoping that this might be the spark of change. When you get an opinion from the eyes of someone who is living in times that need to be changed you spark a revolution. It's just like the people in the American Revolution; they saw that they needed a change, and they voiced their opinions on it.

This school is going downhill. I see it, the teachers see it, and other students see it. So what can be done to make a change and get the school back to where it used to be when my parents were in school?

The first thing that I see that needs a change, is that someone needs to figure out how to get the kids who want to learn into a classroom together. When a kid is around other kids who share their same work ethic, and want to have a successful future, their attitudes are in line, and they will succeed. But if they are around students who do not care, and get final averages of fifty, what is going to happen to their desire to learn? They will just stop caring at some point. I have seen it happen to my friends. They just stop putting in the effort.

It is a teacher's job to educate students, yes, I understand that kids have to put in the effort too, but how can a teacher possibly educate a class that has more kids who don't care than kids who do? One teacher I had last year said that he had a class where a majority of the kids in it "didn't even have a pulse." They slept through the entire bell, so he taught to the five or six kids who actually cared. Why are we doing that to teachers? Why are we putting the pressure on them to make sure all of their kids pass when many of the students don't even care enough to stay awake?

And the goal of the budget cuts is to get kids to graduate? That's a catch-22 in itself. How can anyone possibly expect to get kids to graduate



when teachers are being cut, and the classes that may or may not keep them in school are also being axed? They're expecting to do more with less? That's not how it works. If a senior in high school can see that, why can't adults and the administration?

Some kids only come to school because they take art classes or music classes, or take a language that they really, really enjoy and love to speak. Some kids only keep their grades up because they play sports, and to play a sport you're supposed to have a C average. With all of these programs in line to get cut, what is going to make the kid keep coming to school? Nothing. So, in reality cutting programs will probably just increase the dropout rate. It is not going to keep kids in school and help them graduate.

**"...how can a teacher possibly educate a class that has more kids who don't care than kids who do?"**

Of course, you're always going to have kids who don't care, I understand that too. But, if they don't care and their parents don't encourage them to care, why waste your time? If they don't care now that, "if you don't get good grades, you aren't going to get into a good college, and then you won't get a good job," how are you going to be able to change their minds and make them care?

The answer is simple: You can't. That is something that they have to do on their own. You can encourage it all you want, but you have to face the facts: some kids just don't care, and cutting programs and teachers isn't a way to solve that problem.

**The Yearbooks are coming!**  
Listen to the  
morning announcements  
for more details.

## Quote of the day:

"Kids: they dance before they learn there is anything that isn't music."  
~William Stafford

Seniors! Stay in touch with your class! Check out the new website for the senior class at <http://grbclass2011.blogspot.com/>

## Look your Best!

We are your  
full-service  
Salon!

## Reflections

-THE- Salon & More  
608 South 4th Street-Fulton  
Call for an appointment today!  
Phone: 592-4415  
*Proud 20 Year sponsor  
of GRB Journalism*

## Opinion

# Near-death experience is an eye-opener

By Andrew Pitcher

A week ago Friday, while driving into Oswego, I was eyewitness to the accident involving the motorcyclist and the two teenage girls.

According to reports, the driver may not have been paying attention to the road and while using her cell phone she crossed into the other lane and impacted with the cyclist.

The damaged car containing both teenage girls passed by my truck as we veered tightly to the left to avoid a collision with it. The car took out a section of barrier, and fell into the river. Fortunately both teenagers were not badly hurt, with one black eye and bruises. On the other hand the cyclist was terribly hurt, unconscious and in shock as his abdomen was forced up against one of the barrier bars similar to a car getting hit on the side, stepping out of the truck it looked like a murder scene, as if someone had sawed off his leg.

I stood in the road while directing traffic in front of my truck while my mother called the police. Another man who was mowing his lawn was taking care of the two teenage girls, who swam to the river's edge and climbed up to the road. After firefighters and paramedics arrived on the scene, I stood out of the way as each man played an important role. It was amazing seeing each man in action, like complicated clock-



work. Medics cut, firefighters cleaned up flesh and pieces of motorcycle, officers pieced the scene together, getting statements from both of my parents about what happened. I just have to add how polite and kind the officers were.

I was eventually back inside the safety of my truck and out of the way while professionals worked, and I eventually became stuck on the idea that the car could have hit my truck, or the cyclist could have been me. This made me realize that life is such an amazing gift, and I only receive a chance to live, one time. I had been taking life for granted, forgetting the things that are most dear and important to me, and that's not the people who send me smiley faces through text messages like most teenagers seem to believe, or that their parents are horrible. I have started to realize that yes, family is the most important thing, but each single consecutive memory that you gain and the people you love mold you into whatever person you may be.

I have started to relook at how I see things. School is the second most important thing at this time in my life rather than anything else, and it still leaves room for my friends too. But homework comes before friends. Family comes before anything, as they are the ones who will listen and support me when no one else will. At the top of my list is my mother, who raised me as a child since I had no father, and the father figure I have now.

These things matter before everything else. Sometimes the ones you may see before your last breath are just what I needed to wake up too.

## Rapture preacher says he miscalculated

California preacher Harold Camping has admitted that he got the date of the Rapture wrong when he predicted it would take place on May 21, and revised the date to October 21. Mr. Camping, who predicted that 200 million Christians would be taken to heaven that Saturday before the Earth was destroyed, said he felt so terrible when his doomsday prediction did not come true that he left home and took refuge in a motel with his wife.

His independent ministry, Family Radio International, spent millions...some of it from donations made by followers...on more than 5,000 billboards and 20 vehicles plastered with the Judgment Day message. But Mr. Camping said that he has now realized the apocalypse will come five months after May 21, the original date he predicted. He had earlier said Oct 21 was when the globe would be consumed by a fireball.

It is not the first time the independent Christian radio host has been forced to explain when his prediction did not come to pass. He also predicted the apocalypse would come in 1994, but said it did not happen then because of a mathematical error.

Rather than give his normal daily broadcast on Monday, Mr. Camping made a special statement before the press at the Oakland headquarters of the media empire that has broadcast his message. His show, "Open Forum," has for months headlined his doomsday message via the group's radio stations, TV channels, satellite broadcasts and website.

Apocalyptic thinking has always been part of American religious life and popular culture. Teachings about the end of the world vary dramatically, even within faith traditions, about how they will occur. Still, the overwhelming majority of Christians reject the idea that the exact date or time of Jesus' return can be predicted. *By Morgan Firenze*

## GET READY FOR SPRING SPORTS

- JERSEYS ■ SCREEN PRINT TEAM SHIRTS
- EMBROIDERY NAMES AND SCHOOL LOGOS
- FULL SIZE PLAYER NUMBERS AND NAMES
- DOZENS OF COLORS AND OPTIONS

STOP IN TODAY!

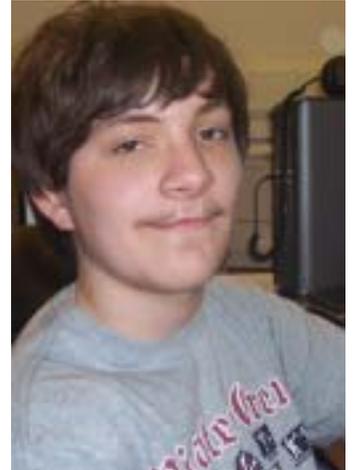
Or email your order to [uniformorder@windstream.net](mailto:uniformorder@windstream.net)

Mention This Ad to receive 15% Off Your Team Order!

129 Cayuga St. Fulton, NY 13069  
(315) 692-4117

**School of Thought** compiled by Andrew Pitcher

# What are you planning on doing this summer ?



"Playing Lacrosse".

"Going to Lake George".

"Hanging out with my friends."

"Practicing Guitar."

Troy Richardson

Chase Halstead

Richard Fox

Justin Purtell

# Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



**Today:**



Mostly sunny. High around 90.  
Record high: 92 (2010).  
Avg. high: 73.

**Tonight:**



Clear skies. Low in the mid-60s.  
Record low: 360 (1966).  
Avg. low: 51.

**Tomorrow:**



Cloudy with a shower or storm. High around 80.  
Record high: 91 (1954).  
Avg. high: 74.

*GRB junior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ [www.centralnewyorkweather.com](http://www.centralnewyorkweather.com)  
Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.*