

# Orchestras onstage tonight for Winter Concert

The G. Ray Bodley High School Music Department will conclude its 2015 concert season in fine fashion this evening when the GRB Symphonic and Concert Orchestras each take to the stage for "A Winter Concert." The music begins at 7:30 pm, and there is no charge for admission.

The Concert Orchestra will perform "Dance of the Toy Flutes" and "Wizards in Winter" as well as the timeless holiday classic, "Frosty the Snowman." The Symphonic Orchestra will follow with one of the most



popular songs of all time, "White Christmas," along with "In Praise of Christmas" and Trans-Siberian Orchestra's "Christmas Eve Sarajevo 12/24."

A special treat between the two orchestras will be an appearance by the Viocelli, conducted by Orchestra teacher Mrs. Adele, which will be performing "Christmas Selections" by Robert Frost.

The evening will conclude with the combined orchestras performing "Peace on Earth/Drummer Boy,"



G. Ray Bodley High School, Fulton, NY

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## Raiders swim well in loss, bowlers win

The Raider swimmers had their first loss against the Baldwinsville Bees Wednesday night, with a final score of 95-83. The defeat, while breaking the team's short undefeated streak, was not from a lack of trying by the Raiders and does not foretell any shortcomings in the future.

This meet was much more difficult than the previous two, and the swimmers held on valiantly. Everyone performed well, with many having season bests, thanks to being pushed harder by the competition. Unfortunately, most events ended with a very close loss for the Raiders, including the 200 IM, the butterfly, and the relays.

Andrew Distin placed second in both the 200 IM and 100 butterfly while also taking place in the victorious 400 freestyle relay along with Caleb Almeter, Josh Hotaling

and David Tallents.

Tim McAfee turned in one of the strongest efforts of the day by winning the 100 breaststroke in a time of 1:07.8 while Paige Drake was first in the diving event with a score of 133.1. Also turning in a notable effort to break the six minute mark in the 500 freestyle was Alex Semchenko, as he finished third with a time of 5:59.93.

Despite the loss, this meet performance was actually quite a good sign for Fulton. The Raiders are continuing to drop time, and this meet was anticipated to be one of the hardest of the season. As the season progresses, the swimmers will continue to improve, and should fare better almost every meet.

Next Tuesday's meet will be against Oswego, at the Oswego High School. There,

### Tough loss for icemen

It may be warmer than usual outside, but for the Red Raider hockey team the offense remained cold on Tuesday night in a tough 2-1 loss to Baldwinsville. Fulton gave the defending champions all they could handle but came up short while falling for the sixth straight time.

Rocco Cannata scored on passes from Josh Dynka and Stan Kubis to create a 1-1 stand-off through two periods, but the Bees emerged with the lone third period marker to skate away victorious. Spencer Evans posted 23 saves for the Raiders, who will face another tough test on Friday when they travel to West Genesee for a 7:30 pm start.

the Raiders hope to bring their record up to 3-1, and defeat Fulton's traditional rival.

*By Caleb Almeter*

In other sports action on Wednesday the Raider boys bowling team charged to 5-0 on the season by easing past Cortland 2-1. Ryan Denson led the way with a 636 series while Bayley Raponi scored the high game of 244 en route to a three game series of 617. Also scoring big for Fulton was Lucas Clark with a 618 series. The boys are back in action today when they face Homer in a 3:30 pm start at Strike n Spare Lanes.

The girls improved to 4-1 on the year with a 2-1 win over Cortland as Megan Guernsey continued to hold the hot hand with the high game of 239 and the high series at 647. Emily Gerth followed up with a 489 series and Zoe June rolled 427 over three games for the girls, who will also face Homer today at 3:30.

### Blood Drive

Wednesday,  
Dec. 30!

GRB cafeteria  
contact Paige Noel for  
an appointment

Save a life  
...donate blood!

### This week in Raider Sports

Today: Bowling vs. Homer (3:30 pm @ Mattydale)

Fri. Dec. 18: Boys Bball @ Homer (6:30/8 pm @ SUNY Cortland); JB wrestling @ Phoenix Tourney; Hockey @ West Genesee (7:30)

Sat. Dec. 19: V Wrestling @ Phoenix Tourney (9 am); Indoor track @ CNYITA Meet (10 am @ OCC)

## Opinion

# Kwanzaa created to celebrate African culture

By Julia Polly



December 26, a Saturday, marks the beginning of the celebration of Kwanzaa!

Kwanzaa is a week long holiday that celebrates African thought, practice, and other works in its reaffirmation of the sense of the person in their family, community, and culture. As well as celebrating and recognizing the wholeness of the environment and their kinship with it, Kwanzaa focuses on the culture of ancient African traditions, and celebrates the person and their heritage.

Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase “matunda ya kwanza” which means “first fruits” in Swahili, which is a Pan-African language that is the most widely spoken African language. “First fruits” is in reference to the celebration of the bounty of life, the goodness of it, and the celebration of it with family and friends to reestablish the bonds between others.

An important note on Kwanzaa, is that it was created by a professor of Africana studies, Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966, and the reason he created this week long holiday was to stress the importance of celebrating and preserving African culture and the African American community. It is a cultural holiday, not a religious holiday, meaning that it can be celebrated by many African Americans no matter their religion.

What Kwanzaa also stands for is an expression for the recovery and reconstruction of African culture, which was important in the 1960s during the Black Liberation Movement. Kwanzaa celebrates the seven principles, or the Nguzo Saba, which are Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith).

Other known parts of Kwanzaa are the symbols which are heralded during the celebration which represents the parts of culture that are celebrated, such as the Mazao (The Crops) representing the African harvest celebrations, Mkeka (The Mat) which is symbolic of African tradition and culture and history making it representative of the foundation and the Kinara (The Candle Holder) which represents the ancestors. Other elements are Muhindi (The Corn)

symbolic for the children and the future of the African American community, the Mishumaa Saba (The Seven Candles) which is representing the seven principles, Kikombe cha Umoja (The Unity Cup) representing the unity of the community, and Zawadi (The Gifts) which represents the love and family values and bonds within the community between parent and child.

Colors such as Red, Green, and Black are the main colors for Kwanzaa. Decorations generally consist of African baskets, art objects, and other symbols.

Be sure to wish others happy holidays this season! Hanukkah has ended and next is the Winter Solstice that is celebrated by many people.

## What's happening at G. Ray Bodley High School?

The next meeting of the **Fultonian Yearbook** is Monday after school in room 102. New members are welcome.

Cookie dough and magazine orders from the **Sophomore Class fundraiser** will be in today. Please pick them up in Mr. Fasulo's room.

**Senior Fundraising candy** is now available in Mr. McCarten's room, Seniors stop down and get a box, fundraising money will go toward the senior trip and senior dinner dance.

There is no **French Club** meeting this week. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 22 after school in Mlle Coleman's room to make holiday cards and enjoy some holiday sweets.

Attention **freshmen!** There will be a meeting on Friday at 2:30 in Ms. Severance's room for any ninth graders who wants to sell chocolate.

The **HOPE Club** will be having a holiday party on Monday, Dec. 21 from 2:30-3:30 with lots of snacks, music and fun.

## What's for lunch?

**Today:** Dominos pizza with salad, corn and pears.

**Thursday:** Hot turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and applesauce.

**Order your 2016 yearbook  
by Wednesday, Dec. 23 and save \$10  
Pay \$50 instead of \$60 and save some \$\$**

**A minimum \$10 down payment  
reserves your book at the reduced rate!**

**See Mr. Senecal in room 118. Order forms are available  
in the main office or from Mr. Senecal.**

**Order online at: [YearbookOrderCenter.com](http://YearbookOrderCenter.com)**

**School code: 13715**

**Submit yearbook  
photos online at  
[www.hjshare.com](http://www.hjshare.com)  
our school code is:  
fultonian  
Spirit Week & Fall  
sports photos  
needed!**

## Christmas classics to enjoy this season

By Zachary Almeter

This Christmas, be sure to get yourself into the holiday spirit with my personal favorite Christmas specials of all time: *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, *Merry Madagascar*, and Harry Connick Jr.'s *The Happy Elf*.

*A Charlie Brown Christmas* is the very definition of a true classic. All of Charles M. Schulz's *Peanuts* characters are very excited for the most wonderful time of the year, except for Charlie Brown, who is distraught over the fact that his friends seem to have gotten out of touch with the true meaning of Christmas.

Even his little sister Sally and dog Snoopy seem to have forgotten the real reason for the season. Charlie Brown's best friend, Linus, takes it into his own hands to teach the *Peanuts* characters-and the audience-what Christmas is really all about. His famous recital of Scripture has become synonymous with the true meaning of Christmas.

The special celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and features a timeless soundtrack by the Vince Guaraldi trio. It was also responsible for a sharp decline in the popularity of the aluminum Christmas tree in the late 1960s. If you need a little reminder of what Christmas is really all about, this is the one for you.

*Merry Madagascar* is based on Dreamworks Animation's *Madagascar* trilogy and set in between the first two movies. After defending Madagascar from an attack from the Marauding Red Night Goblin, Alex the lion, Marty the zebra, Gloria the hippo, and Melman the giraffe realize they have



Currently celebrating its 50th anniversary, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* remains a perennial holiday favorite, delivering its message about the true meaning of Christmas.

unknowingly shot down Santa and his sleigh. They take it upon themselves to deliver the presents to the children of the world, but when they are provided with an opportunity to return home to the Central Park Zoo, they must make the ultimate decision.

Back on Madagascar, the lemurs are celebrating Julianuary. King Julien is honored with lots of presents, but he is still not feeling the holiday spirit, and it's up to Santa to teach him that it is better to give than to receive. *Merry Madagascar* has all the elements of a truly great Christmas special, and is destined to become another holiday classic.

Harry Connick Jr.'s *The Happy Elf* follows Eubie the elf on his self-imposed mission to bring the joy of Christmas to the dark and dreary town of Bluesville, even if it means going directly against Santa's orders.

I have not actually seen the TV special, but I did recently see the junior musical version, which featured my cousin Adam as the Mayor of Bluesville. *The Happy Elf* is jam-packed with original songs by Harry Connick Jr. and is recommended to anyone in need of a little Christmas cheer.

These TV specials are truly ideal for a magical holiday season. They will help you get in touch with the true meaning and spirit of Christmas.

## Look your best!

Book now for the  
prom & dinner dance

Happy holidays!

## Reflections

-THE- Salon & More

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(across from McDonalds)

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## What is the best gift you have received for Christmas?



"Family."

Mr. Jones



"The TV in my bedroom"

Bayley Raponi



"My nieces and nephews."

Mr. Lyons



"My son Owen was born on December 21st."

Mr. Leece

# Meteorology and you

Today:



Cloudy with rain showers

**50°**

Average: 36°  
Record: 62° (2000)

Tonight:



Chance rain

**33°**

Average: 22°  
Record: -16° (1965)

Tomorrow:



Rain/snow mix

**37°**

Average: 35°  
Record: 61° (1973)

By Carson Metcalf



Former GRB student and current SUNY Oswego senior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist. Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.