

Goshen
It all adds up to better math skills

More than 100 Goshen Intermediate School students and members of their families attended Family Math Night May 10.

Students measured, estimated, balanced fractions, and made marshmallow tetrahedrons, while their parents tested their skills at pattern blocks and brain teasers. There were activities for children of all ages.

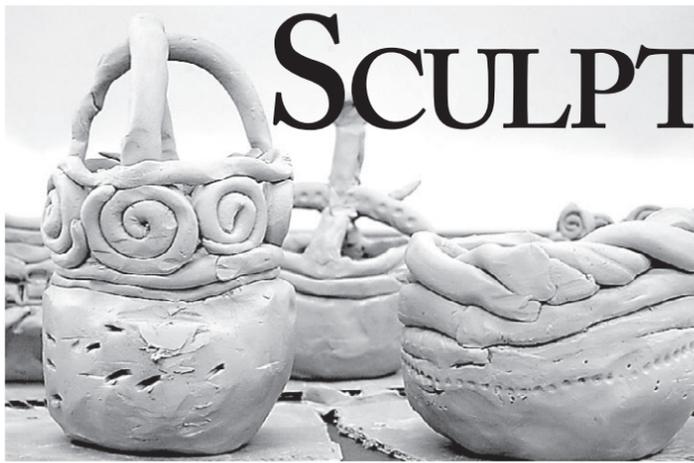
The admission fee was a nonperishable food donation for the Youth Ending Hunger Club. Through the generosity of all who attended, more than 150 food items were collected.

"Family Math Night was organized to allow parents to experiment with hands-on math activities with their children," said Beth Carlino, math teacher. "It gives parents an opportunity to view many of the manipulatives and activities that our students participate in during enrichment time."



Outstanding science teacher

Sheryl Lynch, a kindergarten teacher at Scotchtown Avenue Elementary School in Goshen, was recently named Outstanding Science Teacher of the Southeastern Section of the Science Teachers Association of New York State. Photo provided



SCULPTOR molds minds with feats of clay

Using his hands and a bit of imagination, Cliff Mendelson taught Monhagen Middle School children how to create Native American-inspired clay pots Wednesday afternoon.

The daylong workshop, "A Day in Clay," is being offered at the school as part of Arts-in-Education programming.

Mendelson, a sculptor and teacher at the Westchester Arts Workshop in White Plains, said his workshops help to enhance existing school curriculum and add a new dimension to the relationship between art, culture and personal expression.

While in art class, middle schoolers got a lesson from Mendelson on how clay was used in the Native American culture and then got to try their hand at making their own pots using a coil technique.

"The program is very inspiring and educational to all those involved," Mendelson said. "I like to create a working artist's studio environment in the classroom."

Mendelson brought in actual finished work as samples for students as well as photos of American Indian pottery designs to inspire the kids.

Photo provided
These are some examples of clay pots made with the coil technique.

Cliff Mendelson shows Monhagen Middle School students how to shape clay into pots as the American Indians did. Photo provided



Is your school or student doing something special? Send press releases and pictures to Community News Editor Eric Stutz at the Times Herald-Record. E-mail high-resolution digital photos (200-300 dpi) to estutz@th-record.com. Do not send low-resolution images; they do not reproduce well. All press releases must include a contact name and number. Questions? Call 341-1100, ext. 3707. Sorry, information cannot be taken over the phone.

Sandfordville teacher tops Sam's Club list

Beverly Braxton, a teacher at Sandfordville Elementary School in Warwick, was honored as 2006 Sam's Club Teacher of the Year.

Sam's Club in the Town of Walkkill donated \$1,000 to the Warwick School District recognizing Braxton's achievements.

The nomination letter, written by Linda Blake, the mother of Braxton's former student Orion, said, "She's an innovator in education systems and teaching methods, pioneering the PIE program (Parent Partners in Education) combining two grades at any one time. She is well-educated, compassionate, caring and president of the PTA. After 9/11, she got community funds to create a remembrance/memorial garden with a solar fountain that her students planted and maintain. She is a black teacher who champions diversity and programs that highlight minority and ethnic accomplishments. She's the greatest."

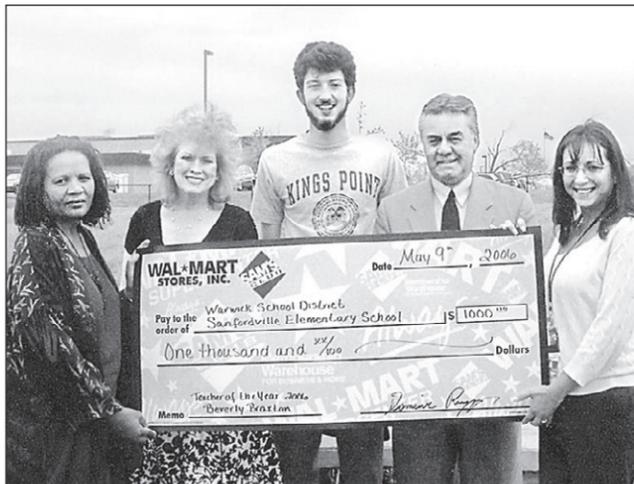


Photo provided
From left are Beverly Braxton, Linda Blake, Orion Blake, Roger Longfield, principal of Sandfordville Elementary, and Tina Mangieri, business manager of Sam's Club in the Town of Walkkill.

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