

## Scholastic Art Awards Abound

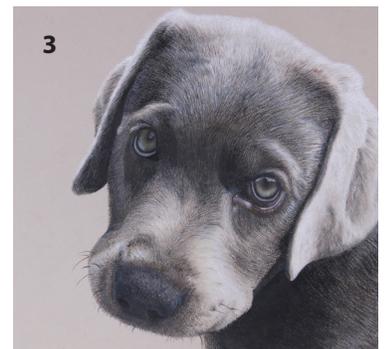


Several Tully students entered the Scholastic Art competition this year, among four thousand other contestants, hoping for the recognition that their art made an impression. With all types of media being represented, there was a limitless amount of talent. Our Gold Key winners were Evelyn Chatfield for her drawing *Stella*, Bryce Keller's drawing *Clover*, and Andrew Polak's drawing *Bad Hair Day*. Our single Silver Key winner was Jack VanBeveren's drawing titled *Cerberus*.

Honorable Mentions went to: Gabrielle Flatt for her mixed media *Grimace and Cheeto*, Bryce Keller's painting *Harvest Vegetables*, Chloe Collins' drawing *Secretary Bird*, Ella Hall's drawing *Chicken*, Brier Huggins' stippling *Llama*, Aurora Randall's drawing *Aurora*, Meadow Seamon's drawing *Tate*, Isaac Stoogenke's drawing *Smirk*, Jack VanBeveren's drawing *Fade Into You*, and Julia Wortley's drawing *Snow Leopard*.

All artwork receiving an award was displayed on OCC campus where senior high art classes were able to take a field trip to view. Congratulations to all our talented students! We are proud of your efforts!

Art pictured on this page from top right: 1) Meadow Seamon, *Tate*; 2) Jack VanBeveren, *Fade Into You*; 3) Bryce Keller, *Clover*; and 4) Ella Hall, *Chicken*. Bottom row, left to right: 5) Isaac Stoogenke, *Smirk*; 6) Jack VanBeveren, *Cerberus*; and 7) Andy Polak, *Bad Hair Day*. More art is pictured on pages 4-5.





## Principal's Message

This month in P2, students will learn more about Humor, Appreciation of Beauty & Excellence, and Purpose. Students in third through sixth grade will complete the NYS Assessments in ELA this month. Students in third and fourth grade will test on April 10-11, and students in fifth and sixth will test on April 15-16. If you have any questions or concerns about assessments at Tully, or you wish to receive additional information, please contact your child's teacher or me. I hope that everyone has a wonderful Spring Break. We really pick up the pace for the last quarter of the school year when students return.

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## A Hodge Podge of Days



Elementary school has always been seen as a fun and creative space while learning, and special days that the students celebrate add to the excitement. This year, it just so happened that our youngest students celebrated their 101st day with a Puppy Parade on the same day as Valentine's Day, an already exciting day. Our older students at the elementary celebrated their 100th day the day before Valentine's Day, giving them two days in a row for festivities. Any fourth grader that attended TES for Pre-K, also got to celebrate their 1000th day of school on the same day as their 100th day of school for this year. With all the excitement of different celebrations going on within a couple of days, we chalked it up to a hodge podge of a week!

## PTO News

Happy spring, TES Families! The PTO will be launching our annual Read-A-Thon this month. For those of you who have never participated in the Read-A-Thon, this is our LARGEST and ONLY fundraiser. We ask that you sponsor students to read by giving monetary donations. Students will also have the opportunity to obtain reading incentives, which consist of earning prizes after each reading milestone is obtained. Be on the lookout for more information as we get closer to Spring Break! Our next PTO meeting will be April 10, 2024. Meetings are held virtually at 7:00p.m. As a reminder, we are a 501c(3) organization who gladly accepts tax free donations. If you are interested in donating, please contact a PTO board member, or ask someone at the school how you can support the TES PTO.

## Much Ado in the Maker Lab



Students in Pre-K through fourth grade are now enjoying regular time in the Maker Lab with Mrs. Machado. There, they are learning computer sciences. Younger students who are new to computer usage, play games and use visual aids to learn how the computer works, including the mouse, keyboard, headphones, and signing in. Students who understand the basics of computers will hone in on

typing correctly and use digital tools to create a product. Coding will also be touched on for these students. Staying safe online is another standard that Mrs. Machado will work with the students on. Whatever the lesson, students are eager to use computers in a fun and interesting way!

## Principal's Message



Our last marking period is upon us, and spring is here! At this time of year, our seniors are busy making plans for what comes next after graduation and hopefully enjoying every minute that they have remaining in their Tully school careers. At the same time, our staff is busy preparing for the courses that will be offered for the 2024-2025 school year. We are very excited about some of the changes that will be coming next school year, and are thrilled with the news that the Class of 2031 (current 5th grade) and the Class of 2030 (current 6th grade) will both be transitioning to our school community in the fall.

Students will transition from elementary school to junior high through a series of activities including an individual annual review with a junior high counselor, a "Welcome Day" in the spring, and an orientation in August. Early in the school year, we host Curriculum Night where parents can learn about courses and classroom expectations. Our 6th and 7th grade programs will include flex classes that offer opportunities for enrichment, support, and project-based learning activities. Also, students will take a variety of coursework in both career technical education, world languages, and fine arts in addition to their core curriculum, offering the opportunity to have an understanding of the future elective options available in those subject areas.

Due to the change in our school configuration, we will also be reconfiguring the caseload structure for our school counselors. Beginning next school year, Mrs. Newton will work with all students in grades 6-12 with last names beginning with the letters A-K and Mrs. Davin will have students whose last names begin with L-Z. Our school counseling program includes career education and exploration, academic review and support, classroom instruction, and individual counseling. Additionally, counselors provide social-emotional learning and prevention education through the life skills program. A school social worker is available for students at all grade levels to support their mental health and wellness. As the logistical details about the current elementary students coming over to the Junior-Senior High School come more into focus, that information will be communicated to families and the community. Again, we are so excited to have the classes of 2030 and 2031 at the Junior-Senior High School next year!

*Michael O'Brien, JSHS Principal • Phone: 315.696.6235 • Email: mike.obrien@tullyschools.org*

## Trivia Knights



This year's Trivia Night was held at the beginning of March with ten teams signing up to participate. This Senior High Student Council-led event is always a fun time with questions that range from Disney classics to current events, sometimes stumping even the most engaged students. This year's MC was Mr. Mahns who kept the rounds lively. In the end, a senior group with the moniker of "Dutch Rabbit" took the prize and was named this year's Trivia Knights!

## NHS Advocates Heart Health



The month of February is Heart Health month and the National Honor Society takes it seriously. Each year, they advocate for heart health by sponsoring Jump Rope for a Cause. Senior high students can volunteer to jump rope for a full minute, earning themselves a sweet treat and a monetary donation courtesy of the NHS to the American Heart Association. This year, sixty students participated, which allowed the NHS to make a donation of \$150 on behalf of the Tully student body in memory of Thomas Reardon. Mr. Reardon was the father of seventh grade history teacher Kelly Bovi.

In addition, students that were old enough and had parent permission were allowed to donate blood to the American Red Cross. Staff got involved in this too, during their free time. Over forty people signed up to donate blood, helping the NHS reach beyond their goal of 23 units. Tully is very proud to see our students and staff volunteer in such a meaningful way!

## Senior Spotlight - ELLA HALL



**People/Pets in your family:** Missy (mom), Glenn (dad), Emily (sister), Olive (cat), and Fig (rabbit)

**What has been the best part of your high school career and why?** The best part of my high school career has been being involved in so many art classes as well as being an active member of Environmental Club. I feel like I really was able to develop myself

within my art experiences, and they have helped me with my creativity beyond just on paper. I have been president of our Environmental Club for the past two years, and I love getting to be so closely involved in local environmental matters in which our chapter really makes a difference.

**What are your plans after high school?** After high school, I will be attending OCC's honor program for two years. Following that part of my life, I hope to enroll in the University of Vermont to study environmental and food sustainability. I plan on immersing myself in nature during my time after high school with hiking, conservation, and wellness.

**If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be, and what would you talk about?** If I could invite two people to dinner, I would invite Bob Ross and Betty White. They are both such humble characters and I feel like we would have a lot of fun together while talking about art and any life experiences between each other. They are both incredibly talented, and I feel I could learn a lot from each of them.

**What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?** The biggest challenge I've faced is being physically out of school in my sophomore and some of my junior year. Teaching myself all of the content was really difficult at those times, especially because I was taking college and AP classes. I overcame those challenges when I returned to school by using all the time I could to stay after and make sure I was caught up while understanding the material.



Artist: Evie Chatfield  
Title: *Stella*



Artist: Aurora Randall  
Title: *Aurora*



Artist: Gabby Flatt  
Title: *Grimace and Cheeto*



Artist: Brier Huggins  
Title: *Llama*

## Senior Spotlight - ALEX SHAFFER



**People/Pets in your family:** Eric (dad), Karley, Sydney, Brooke (sisters), and Batman and Robin (cats)

**What has been the best part of your high school career and why?** The best part of my career at Tully has been my experience with basketball. I have been playing since the third grade, and when I moved to Tully in fifth grade, the first friends I made were my teammates. Basketball has brought me so much

happiness, and also shown me struggle, which I think was necessary to go through, as adversity brings out the greatness in people.

**What have you learned from the activities you have participated in at school?** I have learned to never settle for what you have now, but also appreciate the present. If you don't try now, when will you be able to find success?

**What is your proudest moment in high school so far?** While I can't think of a single moment of pride, the culmination of my efforts academically is something I am very proud of. Over the course of my high school career, I have kept my grades high and excelled in almost every course I've taken because of the effort I have put in.

**What are your plans after high school?** I plan on going to college at either Le Moyne or SUNY Albany and getting my bachelor's in business in order to become a financial advisor.

**Who's your hero and why?** My hero is my dad; he is by far the most influential person in my life, and while we have very different personalities, he is someone I can depend on in almost every situation because of how great of a role model he is. He is a bus driver for Tully, and truly cares about his job; he loves being able to help people whenever there's a chance, without expecting anything in return, which I think is his most defining characteristic. My Dad has consistently taught me how to become a better person not only by telling me but also by leading through example.

★ Coming in May: WATCH FOR SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS ON FACEBOOK ★  
★ ★ ★ ★



## Calculator Rovers



Students in Algebra I and IA got to have some fun while doing a little programming. They were seen in the hall with rulers, rovers in which their calculators were attached to, and animal figurines. The students were challenged to use their knowledge of rate of change to determine the speed of their rover to get as close as possible to an animal figurine without hitting it. Some students were cautious when first programming their calculator so they wouldn't run over their animal, which called for some adjustments. Others went all in, deploying a fast rover, hoping it would stop before hitting their figurine. While becoming a fun competition among peers, in the end of it all, one group got .1 centimeter away from their animal. That's precise programming! Special thanks go to Mrs. Brenner, an OCM BOCES Instructional Support Service worker, who came in to facilitate the rover instruction.

## A Blast from the Past

With the Alumni Association gathering and Class of '74 Reunion approaching, we wanted to share a bit of Tully JSHS history with the community. In 1969, the Tully JSHS building was brand new with most of the building being functional for use. The students that year were eagerly anticipating the first day of school in the new building, especially since the beginning of school was delayed for them due to some piping issues.

Mr. Fisher, an alumnus of the Class of '74, remembers, "During study hall periods we students all carried the library books in specific order over from the elementary building like ants to be placed properly in the new library." In addition, a time capsule was placed within the building structure. The cornerstone block located at the front of the school labeled "1969" is actually hollow, filled with memorabilia from the classes of '69 - '75. The yearbook of 1970 documented the filling and placement of the time capsule.

While this time capsule is sealed until the fall of the building, other time capsules have been placed on the grounds. How cool to find one and see what items from Tully's history have been placed in it - a real blast from the past!



Artist: Chole Collins  
Title: *Secretary Bird*



Artist: Julia Wortley  
Title: *Snow Leopard*



Artist: Bryce Keller  
Title: *Harvest Vegetables*



## BOCES Blog

Max Albro, Tully senior that attends Seven Valleys, has become one of the most accomplished students in the history of the OCM BOCES Computer Technology program at the Cortlandville campus. His teacher, Richard Tokar, says Max is the first student at OCM BOCES to earn three professional certifications through the Computing Technology Industry Association, or "CompTIA," one of the world's top trade associations for information technology professionals, and is currently working on his fourth.

On top of his CompTIA accolades, Max is an excellent student. He's already on track to earn 21 college credits through Tompkins Cortland Community College, or TC3. He's also participating this year in SkillsUSA, a national organization that supports students in trade, technical and skilled service occupations. Because Max took first place in Information Technology Services at a regional competition in February, he will be heading to the state competition in April.

Max has already been accepted into the honors program to study computer information systems at SUNY Brockport. He thinks his dream job would be to create and own

a company that offers cloud-based servers to companies. "My dream is to have a tech company of my own," he said. "There's something way more novel about being able to say that you started a company or created a product yourself."

*Article courtesy of Jacqueline Wiegand.*

## Athletics News



Congratulations to Ryan Rauber for earning 2nd in state for the 300-meter run. Ryan also broke the school record and a 20-year-old Section 3 record!

## Parks and Rec

Our Parks and Recreation youth basketball program had a wonderful season participating in the John Tobin basketball league in Cortland. One of the highlights of the season was Youth Night at the JV and Varsity basketball games. The youth in attendance got to form a tunnel and welcome the basketball players onto the court.

We'd like to shout out a huge thank you to all our volunteer coaches who have run effective, educational, and fun practices starting with our youngest first and second grade players right through to our sixth grade teams. Your time is greatly appreciated!



## Alumni Association

**Tully Alumni Association Gathering  
Sunday, September 22, 2024**

**12:00 p.m - 4:00 p.m.**

**The Loft - Vesper Hills Golf Course**

**All alumni welcome!!!**

**Special acknowledgments to the  
Class of 1974 for their 50th reunion.**

## Alumni News



Carly Bastedo, 2021 Tully graduate, won the 14th annual Hancock Estabrook First Year Oral Advocacy Competition at Syracuse University College of Law. Thirty-four first-year students participated in the competition. While attending college, Carly is employed at the Tully Free Library and also volunteers at the Tully Area Historical Society.

## From the Superintendent



As we gear up for the upcoming budget vote on May 21, 2024, I wanted to bring to your attention some crucial updates regarding our financial situation and the proposed budget by Governor Hochul.

First and foremost, it's essential to highlight the significant impact of Governor Hochul's proposed budget on our community.

The proposed budget has Tully facing nearly a 7% decrease (approximately \$470,000) in foundation aid. This substantial reduction comes as a shock, especially considering the 3% increase (approximately \$208,000) we received last year. This translates to almost a \$700,000 swing to the negative for our district this year.\*

One critical factor contributing to this decrease in foundation aid is the steady decline in Tully's student enrollment. Despite this decline, we have continued to receive the same level of funding, placing us in the "save harmless" category. However, Governor Hochul's proposal to end "save harmless" has resulted in this decrease in aid, exacerbating our financial challenges.

This year also marks the ending of the largest portion of COVID relief funds placing more strain on our budget. Finally, we must also factor in inflation, health insurance increases, and contractual obligations. This all results in a budget deficit of a little over two million dollars. Our Board of Education has been working diligently to put out a responsible, balanced budget to the community for the annual vote.

In response to these challenges, we have established two priorities for this budget season:

1) Protecting student well-being, growth, and safety: Our students' welfare, academic growth, achievement, and overall safety will always remain our top priority. We are committed to providing a supportive and nurturing environment that fosters their personal and academic development.

2) Maintaining fiscal responsibility: We recognize the importance of fiscal responsibility for our community and our taxpayers. We will strive to manage our resources efficiently and effectively, ensuring that every dollar is allocated judiciously to meet the needs of our students.

You are invited and encouraged to attend the Public Budget Hearing on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the JSHS library. As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

\*Important note: These numbers are based on the Governor's proposed budget. The final, approved budget numbers could be different, but were not finalized for the publication of this letter.

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## Culture Corner Germany



Did you know that the hamburger was named after the German seaport of Hamburg? Sailors used to bring shredded beef back from their travels and a chef in the city of Hamburg created this delicious dish! You can find all sorts of yummy goodness in Germany including all types of sausages, breads, and drinks to feast on while there. Germany is located in Europe, bordering nine other countries, and is sometimes referred to as the "Land of Poets and Thinkers." This is because many famous composers, artists, writers, and intellectuals including Bach, Beethoven, Einstein, Gutenberg, Nietzsche, and the Brothers Grimm were native to Germany. Other famous things have come out of Germany as well, such as the Christmas tree tradition. Placing a Christmas tree inside was first recorded in the 1500s in a cathedral located in Germany. Beautiful cathedrals and castles are located all over, with well over 20,000 castles for tourists to visit. Traveling from castle to castle shouldn't take too long thanks to the Autobahn. The Autobahn is Germany's highway system that has no speed limit, and you need to fill up your car before you travel it, as it is illegal to run out of gas while traveling the Autobahn. If you are nervous about driving on the Autobahn, you can always call a taxi, which most likely will be a Mercedes-Benz. Car producers such as Audi, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, and Volkswagen all reside here, making it one of the largest car-producing countries in the world.

Germany is an interesting place to visit. To learn more about it, ask around – you'll be sure to find someone in Tully that has ties to this adventurous country!

## Board of Education Meetings

The planned schedule for Board of Education meetings for the 2023-2024 school year is as follows:

April 17, 2024  
 May 7, 2024 (Public Budget Hearing)  
 May 21, 2024 (Budget Vote & Elections)  
 June 11, 2024

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## TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS



### APRIL

- 3 No Late Buses
- 4 NJHS/NHS Induction, 6:30 p.m.
- 5 JSHS MP3 Ends
- 8 **Superintendent Conference Day**  
**No Students; Solar Eclipse**  
JH/Modified Spring Sports Begin
- 10-11 NYS 3rd/4th Grade ELA Testing
- 12 NYS 8th Grade Science Testing
- 13 ACT (off-site)
- 15-16 NYS 5th/6th Grade ELA Testing
- 16-17 NYS 7th/8th Grade Math Testing
- 17 No Late Buses; BOE Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 19 No Late Buses
- 22-26 **Spring Recess, No School**

Dates are subject to change. Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.

