



NEWS RELEASE

*Sweet Home Central School District
of Amherst and Tonawanda*

SWEET HOME
In pursuit of lifelong learning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: CHERYL A. KRAJNA, PUBLIC RELATIONS
1901 Sweet Home Road • Amherst, New York 14228

Heritage Heights music teacher to debut 'Amusement Park Suite'

The Heritage Heights Elementary School Chorus, Dance Ensemble, Instrument Ensemble and Backstage Club will present the world premiere of "The Amusement Park Suite," composed by Heritage Heights music teacher Deborah A. Imiolo-Schrivier, at concerts April 28-30.

More than 100 students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be part of the premiere.

Imiolo-Schrivier was inspired by the sights and sounds of the amusement park Fantasy Island to compose the suite, she explained.

The first movement is "The Red Baron Airplane Ride." The Chorus chants the thoughts of a child as he races to his favorite color airplane, checks the engine and prepares for take-off. The Dance Ensemble re-enacts this childhood experience and the Instrument Ensemble of unpitched percussion instruments creates the sound effects.

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"The Amusement Park Suite"

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The "Bumper Cars" are featured next in a playful poem of mixed meter. Once again, the Dance Ensemble dramatizes this ride in creative movement and the Instrument Ensemble plays a bumping rhythm on the conga and bongo drums.

The Suite concludes with a ride on the wicked Wild Cat Roller Coaster. Lyrics are divided into three parts. One describes Imiolo-Schrivver's sister and cousins and their enthusiasm for the bug-cart coaster. Another part describes Imiolo-Schrivver's fear and her triumph over that fear to ride the ride. The last verse is the Wild Cat coaster speaking itself. The dancers' movements reflect the ups, downs and turn-arounds of the ride. The Instrument Ensemble enhances the piece with the clicks and clacks of the track and other various sounds.

"When I was a little girl my family and I spent many summer days playing in (the) amusement park," Imiolo-Schrivver said. "I have the fondest memories of Tarzan the Lion Tamer and Mademoiselle Jaque, the acrobat/gymnast who performed tricks on a swing way up in the air. I loved watching the show in Western Town, seeing the man fall off the roof, then getting the Sheriff's badge in the shape of a star. I also remember the saloon show with the Can-Can ladies dancing in their fancy dresses and singing songs."

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"I loved the Mother Goose ride, the super slide and the Roto-Whip," the composer continued. "But we always had to ride the Red Baron Ride first because it was my cousin Danny's favorite ride, and he was the only boy of all the cousins."

"Later, when the park expanded, I loved the Tilt-O-Whirl, the Trabant, the Old-Fashioned Cars and especially the Bumper Cars," Imiolo-Schraver said. "I loved chasing my family around until they were cornered just right — then I would bump right into them at full speed ahead with the pedal down as far as it could go. Of course, they'd crash right back into me. I feared Devil's Hole, trembled at the sight of the Wild Cat Roller Coaster until my dad bribed me a quarter to go on it. Then I loved it!"

"The Amusement Park Suite" will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28 in the auditorium of Heritage Heights Elementary School, 2545 Sweet Home Road, Amherst; at 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 29 in the Heritage Heights auditorium; and at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30 in the auditorium of Sweet Home High School, 1901 Sweet Home Road, Amherst. Admission to all concerts is free.



FLAG DAY IS COMING TO SWEET HOME!

Great photo opportunities abound:

Heritage Heights: Flag Day will be held Monday, June 15 beginning with a ceremony at 8:45 a.m. around the flag pole in front of the school.

Willow Ridge: 9 a.m. ceremonies Friday, June 12. Every grade level will perform songs including "Fifty Nifty United States" and "You're a Grand Old Flag." The Boy Scouts will raise the flag. All students will follow the school's Twirlettes group on a parade through the surrounding neighborhood. Field Days also will be held that day, beginning at approximately 11 a.m.

Glendale: Ceremony begins at 9 a.m. Friday, June 12. Classes will make banners and parade floats for the annual Flag Day parade. Field Days begin after lunch with many outdoor activities.

Maplemere: Flag Day will be observed Friday, June 12 as part of a special occasion at the school. Students will take part in a joint dedication ceremony, with the Town of Amherst, of Cindy Park. Students will march to the park, beginning at 9:15 a.m. Maplemere and high school band members will perform. The history of Cindy Park will be told and a dedication plaque will be unveiled. Students will march back to school at 10:50 a.m. After lunch, Field Day activities will be held.



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Photo/story opportunity

Principal goes to great heights to mark students' successes

Maplemere Elementary School Principal Dr. Michelle M. Kavanaugh plans to go to great heights for her students, in recognition of their reading achievement this past summer.

Responding to a challenge issued by students at the end of the 1996-97 school year, Kavanaugh will dress in her wedding gown and dance the chicken dance on the school roof. She must perform the stunt because the school's students exceeded the required 2,500-book goal.

The challenge will be met during the school's "welcome back" picnic and concert at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5 at the school, 236 E. Maplemere Road off Maple Road. Kavanaugh is expected to begin her activity at 6:30 p.m.

This Summer Principal's Challenge originated with the school's PTA last year, when Kavanaugh danced the Macarena after the school met the goal of doubling PTA membership in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the

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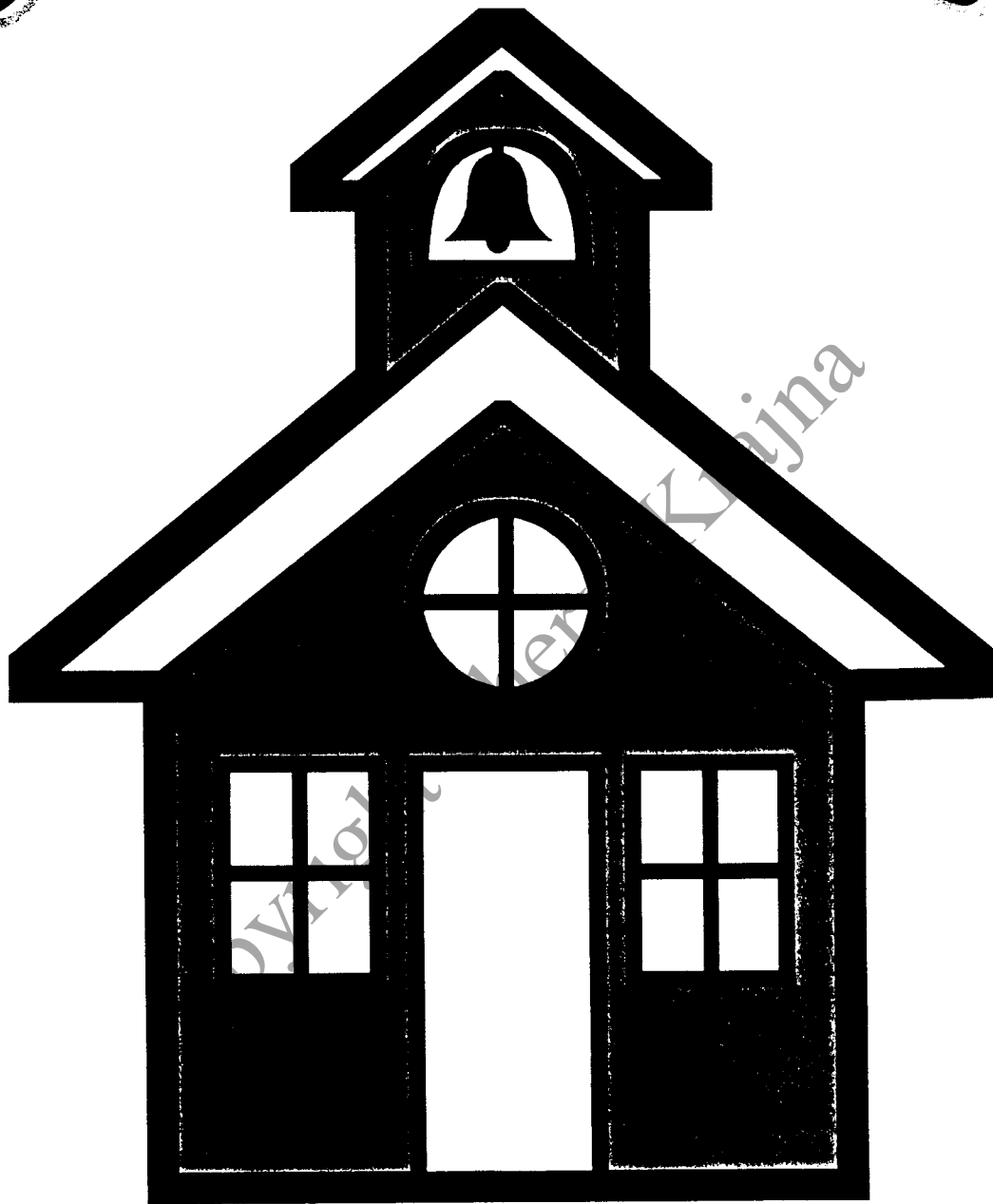
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Maplemere principal's challenge

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national PTA. It is part of the school's Parents as Reading Partners Program, which worked in conjunction with the Audubon Library's summer program, "Go Wild: Read!" Paper paw prints have been made with the name of each book read and the student reader's name. These paw prints have been placed around the school to mark the readers' achievements.

Each year Maplemere hosts a September family event to welcome back parents and students and to provide an opportunity for new families to meet other families in the school, Kavanaugh said. In addition to Kavanaugh's challenge, folk singer Glenn Colton will perform a concert in conjunction with the school's 1997-98 Values Education theme, "Gratitude is Our Attitude."

YOU'RE INVITED...



**TO THE FIRST
DAY OF SCHOOL!**



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MEDIA INVITATION

*Sweet Home Central School District
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Story ideas:

Spend the first day of school at Sweet Home!

The Sweet Home Central School District will open its doors to students Wednesday, Sept. 3 for the 1997-98 school year, and your cameras can be there to capture all the action for your viewers!

For children and parents, the first day of school can be both a happy and sad time, with some anticipation thrown in for good measure. The first day of school, particularly for a kindergarten student, signals a new venture. It is not surprising to see moms and dads gathered at the busstop, cameras and camcorders in hand, to capture this milestone for posterity.

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First day

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Sweet Home invites you to spend the first day of school in our district. Let your cameras capture the look on the face of a first-time student as he/she boards the bus for the first time, disembarks from the bus in front of his/her new school and meets his/her teacher.

Several multi-age classrooms are in operation in the district's four elementary schools — Glendale, Heritage Heights, Maplemere and Willow Ridge. Multi-age classrooms offer students unique opportunities to learn from and teach each other.

Middle School students will return to find a brand new, modular computer Technology Lab. Students will rotate among the different modules, learning through hands-on experiences about topics such as weather, transportation, engineering, video production and publishing.

Four new classes will meet at Sweet Home High School:

— Forty freshmen will attend "Reading for Success," a course designed to improve the transition from Middle School to High School and assist students with reading skills, assignments and more.

— Two seniors will take part in the Connections Program. They will spend part of their day here at school at part of their day at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, where they will receive intensive preparation for careers in the health field.

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First day

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— Thirty freshmen will attend a new Algebra class to help prepare them for the Course I Regents Exam, which they will take after the second year.

— A new Advanced Placement course, English Language and Composition, will offer seniors the chance to conduct an in-depth study of authors and their works, and will expose students to a number of different writing styles.

On the first day of school, students in grades K-5 will follow their regular class schedule, 8:20 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. All Middle School students will begin their regular full-day schedule, 8:50 a.m. to 3:17 p.m. All High School students, grades 9-12, also will begin their regular full-day schedule, 7:55 a.m. to 2:38 p.m., on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

Come join the fun at Sweet Home! For more information or to schedule a time for interviews/taping, call Cheryl A. Krajna, public relations specialist, at 689-5227.