

Education

Back to school 'buzz' at the Randolph School

There's a huge buzz swirling around the Randolph School in Wappingers Falls as they prepare for the start of their 55th year of teaching children in the Hudson Valley! The "buzz" that began last May is not only about using their brand new awe-inspiring arts building (The Studios) which contains a library, music space and art studio this fall, there's an actual "buzzing" sound on campus that has been growing since last spring as well.

Indeed, the buzz about the new building that was designed to wrap around the school's outdoor amphitheater is thrilling. The literal "buzz" however, comes from inside the two, teacher-children, hand-built and painted, brood boxes that currently contain about 44,000 honey bees! The school's Langstroth hive began with a wooden package of approximately 11,000 Italian bees and one Queen. "The bees took to their Queen immediately which put us back to work quickly, requiring us to build and add a second brood box less than two months after their arrival," says Karen Teich, Admissions Coordinator. "The next step for the school's faculty, staff and students is to make and add Honey Supers."

Becoming Bee Keepers and caring for a hive has long been a desire at the Randolph School. It fits well with their hands-on approach to learning. "We use the outdoor classroom every day and incorporate an outdoor component to our curriculum every year. We garden, make our own maple syrup and now, we're

learning how to become Bee Keepers and care for a colony," says Teich. "Through pollination, bees play a critical role in the survival of agriculture as well as human life."

According to Pre-Kindergarten teacher, Jules McGorty, "We hope to instill a love of learning that lasts a lifetime in all of our students and as teachers, we consider ourselves life-long learners. Sharing our new knowledge of Bee Keeping with our students is an exciting adventure that I'm really looking forward to."

Along with a generous parent-lead donation to purchase the supplies needed to make their Langstroth hive, the school has been working with local Bee Keepers to learn the ins and outs of bee keeping. Former Randolph School parent and Bee Keeper, Deborah Davidovits initially offered crucial advice on how to get started and helped locate the perfect place on campus to build the hive. More recently, Bee Keeping expert, Dan Girton, has provided instructional workshops and continues to guide Randolph's new Bee Keepers during hive inspections and beetle and mite treatments.

Randolph School teachers combine their knowledge of child development and learning goals with students' interests to craft a dynamic and engaging curriculum that encourages the growth of higher level critical thinking skills. Information and materials are presented in a challenging, relevant, and open-ended way. Their progressive, hands-on approach to learning

incorporates multi-age groupings, a commitment to diversity, a passion for the arts and the natural environment and an emphasis on making meaningful connections with our community. Their mission

is to encourage the development of a life-long love of learning in every child.

For more information, please contact Karen Teich at (845) 297-5600 or Karen@randolphschool.org.



Five year olds Alana and Phoebe help Pre-K teacher Evan Miklos paint their hive.
-Courtesy photos

DCC names Chief Diversity Officer

Wazir Jefferson, Ed.D., a City of Poughkeepsie native with 15 years of higher education experience, has been named Dutchess Community College's first chief diversity officer.

Under the leadership of President Pamela Edington, Jefferson will lead the development and implementation of diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives to increase student success.

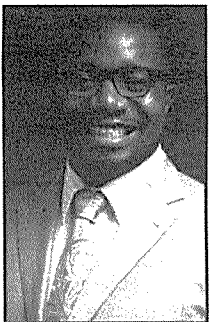
Jefferson most recently served in roles at The University of Utah, including special assistant to the vice president for Equity and Diversity, student success advocate and assistant residential education coordinator/diversity education coordinator.

"DCC has identified diversity as both a core institutional value and a goal, and I'm very pleased to facilitate the impressive work being done by faculty and staff to create an inclusive environment that fosters stu-

dent success," said Jefferson. "I look forward to working with students, faculty, staff and the community at large to celebrate our differences and enhance dialog about diversity, equity and inclusion."

Jefferson holds a doctorate in education from The University of Utah, a master's degree from George Washington University and a bachelor's degree from Temple Univ.

The position of chief diversity officer was created following a refresh of DCC's mission statement to include diversity as a core institutional value and goal.



Wazir Jefferson



Randolph bee keepers Jesse Leaver and Karen Teich keep notes after closing up the hive.

College Notes

The following residents were awarded Faculty Honors for the spring 2018 semester at Trinity College in Hartford, CT: Aaron F. Supple of Fishkill, William F. Estony of Hopewell Junction

The following local students graduated with honors from Adelphi University during its May 2018 commencement exercise:

Cassandra Steinbuch of Wappingers Falls graduated cum laude earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Sabrina Blanke of Wappingers Falls graduated summa cum laude earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Amberly Jaycox of Wappingers Falls graduated summa cum laude earning a Bachelor of Science in Communication Disorders.

Renee McDonald of Poughkeepsie graduated summa cum laude earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing: Rn to Bs.

The following local students were named to the President's List at LIM College for the Spring 2018 semester: Jessica M. Bauman, of Fishkill, Elizabeth C. Cordi of Wappingers Falls.

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville honored local graduate during May commencement. Local student Louis Bastone of Wappingers Falls earned a Master of Science in Integrated Supply Chain Management.

Connecticut College honored local graduates in the Spring 2018 semester. The following Poughkeepsie students were:

Kathryn Rose Soricelli, English and Theater; Connor Patrick Wise, Economics.

Seton Hall University is pleased to announce the following local students who qualified for Spring 2018 Dean's list.

Ramiz Alejilat of Poughkeepsie, Brian Connor of Wappingers Falls, Alexandra Greco of Hopewell Junction, Madison Stangel of Hopewell Junction, Mackenzie Stangel of Hopewell Junction and Alexander Strom of Poughkeepsie

Gloriann Langva graduated from the

University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education.

The following local students received degrees from New York Institute of Technology as fall graduates of the Class of 2018. The following local students earned degrees: Isaias Salazar of Wappingers Falls graduated with a BS degree in Architectural Technology. Ericka Knox of Wappingers Falls graduated with a MS degree in Instructional Technology.

Jack Beaty of Beacon was named to the 2018 Dean's List at Union College. Beaty is a member of the Class of 2019, majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

Brianna O'Connor, of Hopewell Junction, earned a Bachelor of Science in exercise and sport science from Coastal Carolina University on Aug. 3.

Amanda Camilleri, from Wappingers Falls, graduated from Le Moyne College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

John Hanos of Poughkeepsie received a Master of Professional Studies degree in Fashion Merchandising & Retail Management from LIM College in May 2018.

The University at Albany congratulates the local students who graduated during Commencement May 18-20. Graduates from August 2017 and December 2017 were also recognized:

Jessica Ni of Beacon graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in East Asian Studies.

Michelle Anderson of Beacon graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

Daijia Bean of Beacon graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

Marcus Quintana of Beacon graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

Kenya Isabell of Beacon graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

Russell Ng of Beacon graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nanoscale Engineering.

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