



November 29, 2023

GRADES 7 & 8 WINTER CONCERT - 12/6

Our first school concert of the year will take place for our Grades 7 & 8 students on Wednesday, December 6th at 7:00pm here in the AMS Auditorium.



For those who cannot attend in person, family and friends can tune into a livestream of the concert on our school Youtube

Channel. Simply [click here](#) and look for the “live” icon that will appear shortly before 7pm on the concert night.

YOUTH PREVENTION NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

The Rensselaer County Department of Mental Health is conducting a Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey during the week of December 11, 2023. Here at AMS the survey will be administered in Grades 6 and 8. Additional information about this important, county-wide initiative can be found in [this letter](#). Thank you.



AMS Student Council is once again collecting toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. **We are collecting new, unwrapped toys from now until December 11th** near each science office as well as in the vestibule at the main entrance.

The Capital District is the #3 toy collection point in the entire US! To date, the Marines have distributed 652 million toys to over 291 million deserving children. Help put a smile on a child's face this holiday season. We thank you in advance for your support.

MEET OUR NEW STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR

Below is an introductory note from Joe DeNisio, our new Student Assistance Counselor. We congratulate Alyssa Evans, our previous Student Assistance Counselor on her promotion at Rensselaer County and thank her for her service to the Averill Park community. We welcome Joe and know that his years of experience and great skill set will benefit our students, families and staff here at AMS.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR

ALGONQUIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. DeNisio is new to AMS this year as the Student Assistance Counselor. He has spent the past 19 years in the field of education and prevention. He received his bachelors at SUNY Brockport and masters degree at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

Mr. DeNisio comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience in prevention, health education, and working with youth in a variety of capacities. Historically he has worked in collaboration with the Student Assistance Program co-facilitating Evidence Based Curriculum to promote wellness and healthy decision making, prevention education, Community Circles, environmental strategies and schoolwide efforts.

As a Student Assistance Counselor Mr. DeNisio enjoys getting to see all the students in the classroom and offering the prevention side of wellness to the students. He is looking forward to joining the AMS school community and getting to work with the students and families.

In his free time, Mr. DeNisio enjoys spending time with family, and friends. Some of his favorite things to do are auto mechanics, cooking, snowboarding, and sharing time with animals. Some favorite places to visit are Tug Hill, the ocean and the Grand Canyon.

Best of Health,
Mr. DeNisio MEd.

CONTACT

Joe DeNisio MEd.

Room #402

denisioj@apcsd.org

jdenisio@rensko.com

(518)674-7120

Telephone

TRANSFORMATION PROJECT RECOVERY COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION

arts letters & numbers



Collaborative project focusing on combating the stigma associated with substance use disorder by showcasing talents of those affected.

Promoting awareness, support, hope and recovery.

2 DECEMBER 2023

3-6 PM OPENING EVENT

OPEN FOR VIEWING
DECEMBER 3RD - 6TH
3:00PM - 6:00PM

Arts Letters & Numbers

1548 Burden Lake Road
2nd Floor
Averill Park, NY

This is a free event

For more information visit
www.artslettersandnumbers.com/transformation-project



**NOPIATES
COMMITTEE**
Awareness. Prevention. Support.

Stard Lake Center for Arts
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**THE TROY
SAVINGS BANK**
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



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INDUSTRIES, INC.
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This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Arts program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with support of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by The Arts Center of the Capital Region.

TRANSFORMATION PROJECT RECOVERY COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE & ART EXHIBITION



Collaborative project focusing on combating the stigma associated with substance use disorder by showcasing talents of those affected.

Promoting awareness, support, hope and recovery.

9
DECEMBER

2023

3-6 PM

OPENING & PERFORMANCE EVENT

**Sand Lake Center
for the Arts**

2880 NY-43
Averill Park, NY



This is a free event



For more information visit

www.artslettersandnumbers.com/transformation-project



arts letters & numbers



This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Arts program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with support of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by The Arts Center of the Capital Region.



NOVEMBER

APO NEWS



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS - The 2023 Holiday Happenings will be on Thursday, November 30th, from 2:30-4:30pm, right after school! At this event we get into the holiday season with gusto by decorating the cafeteria, making holiday crafts, and writing letters to Santa to help Make-A-Wish! Tickets are \$10. There will be crafts, pizza, hot cocoa, treats, music, and more! Come join the fun! [Sign up here](#) to help or donate items that will be needed! Hope to see you there!



The AMS Winter Luau will be on February 7th from 2:30-4:30. We will be playing beach ball volleyball, making crafts, playing games and of course LIMBO!!!! Sign ups will be coming out closer to the event!

Kiwani
Builders Club
Building Leaders

Winter Clothes Collection

Donate November 13th-December 15th
Hats, Gloves, Ear muffs, Mittens, and Scarves...etc.
The Donation box will be outside the main office
For Joseph's House in Troy

Thank you to the AMS community for making the Kiwanis Builders Club, **Socktober** collection a success! The socks will keep friends at Joseph's House in Troy warm this winter.



FROM THE LIBRARY

EMAGAZINES THROUGH SORA

Your child has access to always available digital magazines! You can find magazines for every subject in the Sora app, which your child may already be using for ebooks and audiobooks. The collection includes current issues and back issues for education and entertainment today. The best part? Each issue can be borrowed by as many people at a time as needed, with no waiting.



Check out the collection [HERE!](#)

NEW FOR NOVEMBER - SPECIAL SORA COLLECTIONS

[Native American Heritage Month](#)

Celebrate the traditions, languages, and stories of Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and Island communities.

['Gobble' up a Good Book](#)

Celebrate Thanksgiving, food, and gratitude!

November is Picture Book Month

Fall is the perfect time to cozy up with your favorite people and enjoy new and old picture book favorites.

CHROMEBOOK PREPAREDNESS

If your child forgets their Chromebook or arrives at school with its battery dead, three times in one quarter, they will have lunch detention. Having their Chromebook in school, charged and ready to go is part of their job as a student. Additionally we have a very limited number of loaner Chromebooks that need to be utilized by students who may be experiencing a technical issue. Please encourage your child to charge it and bring it to school as part of their after school routine. Thank you.



AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR CHILD TO SEE AN AUTHOR

APHS Art teacher Logan Kline has written a fabulous new picture book, Finding Fire.

He is going to do a workshop at the high school, and we wanted to offer it to any AMS students who are interested to join in. It would be in the winter, after school, (date TBA). Students will take a bus to APHS with Mrs. Ekstrom. They will either need to be picked up at APHS, or sign up to take the late bus home from there.



For more information about Finding Fire, please see this slide show:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/162C75I42LU6YQeV_gFWVMIVgnTpody665IISrdM6uzk/edit?usp=sharing

If you would like your child to attend, please email Mrs. Ekstrom at ekstromr@apcsd before December 8th.

FROM THE POESTENKILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Back By Popular Demand! Book Lover Ornaments

Our Book Lover Ornaments were super popular last year so we're bringing the program back again! We'll be making Book Lover Ornaments on Thursday, 12/14, at 6:00 pm.

These adorable ornaments are super easy to make and would only look great on your own tree, but would also make an incredible gift for any of your book loving friends or family members. You can fill the ornament with any books you choose. Some ideas that we had include:

Fill an ornament for yourself with all the books you read in 2023

Fill an ornament for a book club friend with all the books your club has read together

Fill an ornament for a teacher with the books they've read aloud in class

Fill an ornament for your adult child with all the favorite books you read together when they were young

Fill an ornament with all the books written by a favorite author

Fill an ornament for yourself or a loved one with your/their all time favorite books

Registration is required for this teen and adult program and participants must supply a list of the books they plan to fill their ornament with by 12/10 so we can have them ready for the event.

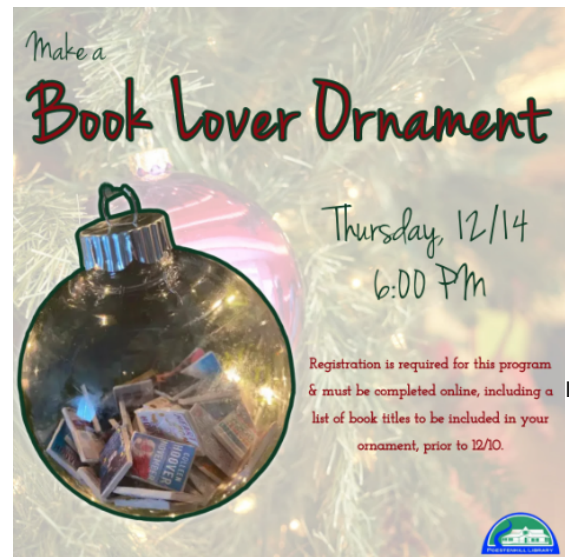
To register and supply book list:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd3ipnS6onMbVoe2yn9lqeQy4o9NGKuMXL0zODK6s8yVeL2ZQ/vi-ewform>

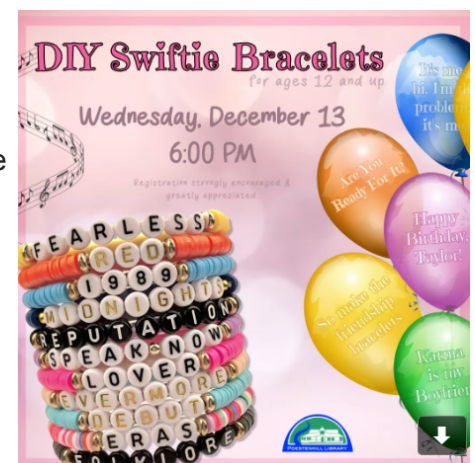
Happy Birthday, Taylor!

We're in our jewelry making era. How about you? Come celebrate Taylor's birthday at the Poestenkill Public Library on 12/13 by making your own Swiftie bracelets! No prior jewelry making experience needed. All supplies will be provided.

This program is best suited to ages 12+. Registration is strongly encouraged and greatly appreciated. You can register by adding your name to the sign up sheet in the library or by giving us a call at 518-283-3721.



not



Make Your Own Blanket

It's cold out, but we have just the thing to keep you warm and cozy over holiday break: Fleece Tie Blankets! Join us at the Poestenkill Public Library on 12/28 to make your own 48" blanket.

This project is recommended for ages 8+ but all are welcome. Younger participants may need additional assistance from an accompanying adult.

Supplies for this program are limited so registration is required.

You can sign up at the library or give us a call at 518-283-3721 to reserve your seat.



The Poestenkill Public Library has introduced a new Books and Treats (BAT) subscription box program just for teens ages 13-18. Interested teens can register to receive a box each month. What's in the BAT Box? Each box is jam packed with library books hand-picked for each subscriber based on their preferences, along with snacks and super-fun themed goodies to keep!

Registration for December boxes is open until 12/4. Registration forms can be found at the library, or there is an online registration available via the library's website as well: <https://www.poestenkilllibrary.org/teen-scene/>

Please see the flyer below for more information.

BAT BOX

BOOKS AND TREATS JUST FOR YOU

ONLY AVAILABLE TO YOUNG ADULTS, AGE 13 - 18

Request Before 12/4

Pick-up 12/20 - 12/27

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. FILL OUT A REQUEST FORM & TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR READING HABITS.
2. OUR LIBRARIAN WILL HAND-PICK BOOKS FOR YOU BASED ON YOUR PREFERENCES, PLUS SHE'LL INCLUDE SNACKS AND THEMED TREATS FOR YOU TO KEEP!
3. PICK UP YOUR PERSONAL BAT BOX AT POESTENKILL LIBRARY DURING THE DESIGNATED PICK UP WEEK.
4. ENJOY YOUR BAT BOX.
5. RETURN THE BOOKS & BOX TO THE LIBRARY BY THE DUE DATE. KEEP EVERYTHING ELSE!

SCAN FOR DECEMBER BAT BOX REQUEST FORM

For more information call Poestenkill Library at 518-283-3721 or email Director@Poestenkilllibrary.org

REMEMBER TO REQUEST A BAT BOX EVERY MONTH!

POESTENKILL LIBRARY TEEN BAT BOX AND TREATS JUST FOR YOU

ONCE UPON A BROKEN HEART

HOTEL MAGNIFIQUE

VERONA COMICS

POESTENKILL LIBRARY