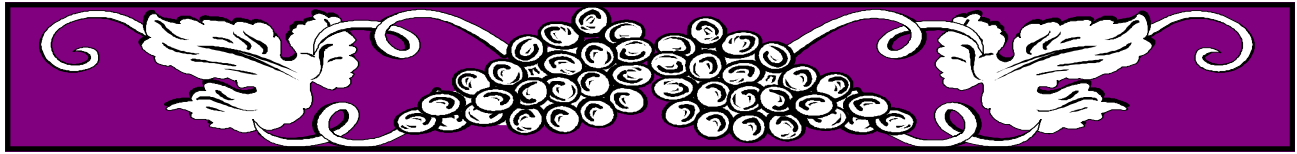


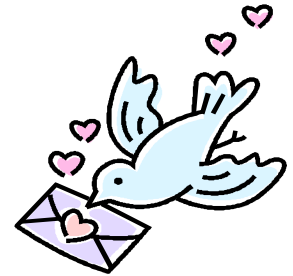
# the grapevine

NTA TEACHING ASSISTANT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Looking for tips on motivating your students after the holidays? See page 3.

## Special Delivery



New Windsor School has been making the holidays special. Mrs. Anderson's class is pictured left with the special cards they made. They worked with Mrs. Delgado's and Mrs. Bolinger's class. All of the students made holiday cards for soldiers overseas and Walter Reed Hospital. Mrs. Anderson's class has been working with Mrs. Delgado's class since 2005 sending things to soldiers overseas. They have sent bookmarks, pillows and Veteran's Day cards so far. They send them to Major Jennifer Caci. The Major's sister, Kelly, is the New Windsor school psychologist and her other sister, Jillian is a teacher at NFA. The students are planning on sending them something for Valentines Day. We applaud these students, teachers and teaching assistants for giving back to those who need our support. (Article and photo courtesy of Sheila Manning)



### Contacts:

NTATAC Executive Committee

Sheila Manning (NWS)

Joni Mongelli (TH)

Berenda Johnson (PK)

Glenda Faison Crawford (GAMS)

NTA Office 562-8120

NTA President Phil Cordella

Vice President Vicky Pittman

Treasurer Angela Sartori

Secretary Karen Roberts

Human Resources 563-3424

NTA Benefit Trust Fund

562-7988

NECSD website:

[www.newburghschools.org](http://www.newburghschools.org)

NTA website:

[www.newburghta.org](http://www.newburghta.org)

Grapevine newsletter e-mail

[Grapevinetanews@aol.com](mailto:Grapevinetanews@aol.com)

Editor: Maureen Pavlik

Asst. Editor: Patty SanSevero

Pictured at the NTA: L-R, Berenda Johnson, Sheila Manning, Melissa Pileggi, Joni Mongelli, Kathleen Murphy, Lauren Gentile and Glenda Faison Crawford.



**SAFE HOMES  
BASKETS A SUCCESS!**



**PSSST.... Did you hear**

Winter Edition

# Interview With A Teaching Assistant ...

## Jacqueline Adorno—Meadow Hill School

**What is your teaching assistant position at your building location?** I am a classroom teaching assistant at Meadow Hill working with autistic students since Sept. 2003.

**What would you say are your greatest joys and challenges to working as an elementary/secondary TA?** My greatest joy would be the children. They have so much to offer and they are so aware of who we are. It is wonderful when you see them express their joy when we work with them.



Jacqueline and Tony

### Special Interests:

- I enjoy spending time with family.
- I love working out at the gym.

**Name any classroom projects you may have contributed to either with your class/student or school:** In our classroom, we are always preparing projects for the children. The children's artwork and projects are displayed around the classroom or is sent home for the parents to see.

**What advice would you offer to a teaching assistant newbie?** My advice to any new assistant is to be open-minded. Know that there are going to be challenges and take everyday one day at a time and just try to do your best.

### All About Me:

Married—17years to Tony on Aug. 31.

Children— a daughter, Danielle, 13

Pets—a cockatiel named Buddy

Born in Manhattan, raised in the Bronx.

Moved to Newburgh, NY in September 1994

Husband works for the Rockaway Fuel Company so he commutes everyday to the city.

## Favorite Quote or Words of Wisdom

My favorite quote is from the Nike commercial,

**"JUST DO IT"**

As for anything you may encounter in life...if you really want it then go for it...just do it!!! Life is too short.

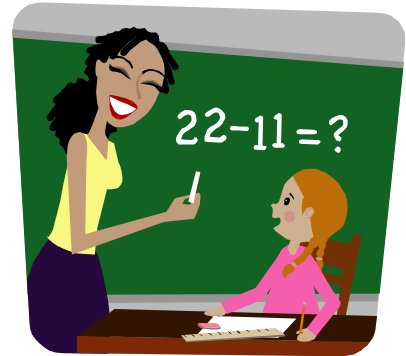
Pictured right is Tony, a family friend, Jacqueline and Danielle.



**Assistant Editor's Note:** Hello! My name is Patricia SanSevero. I work at Gardnertown School. If you would like to be interviewed here, you can email me at: [Grapevinetanews@aol.com](mailto:Grapevinetanews@aol.com)

## Motivating Students After The Holidays

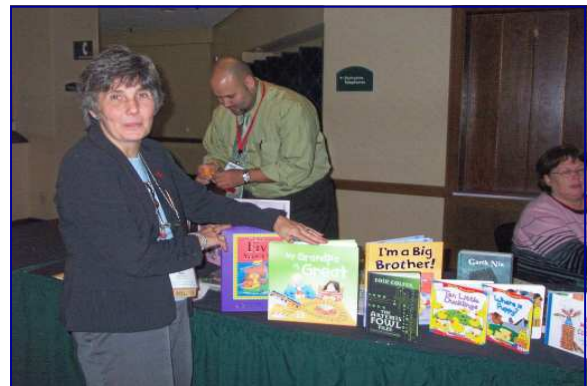
- Stick to a time managed schedule that the students are already familiar with.
- State clearly and explicitly what students need to do to succeed.
- Collaborate with your classroom teacher to involve the students in hands-on learning or project-based learning that meets the grade level curriculum and standards.
- Remember that if you are not enthusiastic about their progress, your students won't be either.
- Get to school early and talk with your students about what they are doing in school, what they hope to learn and what they are enjoying.
- You can use the KWL chart—Know, Want to Know, Learned —this can help them to get involved, raise their hands and participate!
- Find simple ways to recognize student contributions and excellent work (a positive comment to the class or a remark to a student after class).
- Inject some humor into lessons that require students to focus on the material for longer periods of time.
- Place students in groups or centers so that students can achieve success together, therefore relieving student performance anxiety.



## SRP Leadership Conference

At the **SRP Leadership conference** in Albany, Sheila Manning donates books from our chapter to NYSUT. She is also pictured below at the conference with visiting school board member, Dawn Fuchek. Two happy attendees were Glenda Faison Crawford and Kim Riley (It was Kim's first conference). Workshops were offered and teaching assistants from Newburgh filled three tables. Newburgh TA's left energized and just in time to celebrate SRP day on November 15th.

Speaking of what we can do for others, a **Bowl For Kids' Sake 2008 fundraiser** has been set for Sunday, March 30th at Bowling Time Lane on Rte. 9W in New Windsor. This is a fundraiser and awareness program for Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS). For more info, contact Marci at 562-5900 or 342-3939 ext32 or [mgurton@mentorachild.org](mailto:mgurton@mentorachild.org).



NYSUT Labor Relation Specialist  
Kathy Schultz



## Dates To Remember...

### JANUARY

15—Martin Luther King Jr. birthday

21—Martin Luther King Day  
Schools closed

29—General Membership Meeting

### FEBRUARY

5—Primary Election Day  
Schools closed

12th—Building Rep. Meeting

18th—President's Day  
Schools closed

20—Evening Parent Teacher Conferences

### MARCH

3—Exec. Comm. Meeting

11—Building Rep. Meeting

20-26—Spring Recess



You have to be in it to win it!

Okay, okay, here's the scoop.....

Are you smarter than your students?

E-mail the *Grapevine* within a week after publication with the correct answer to the question below. A winner will be chosen from the correct entries. The winner will receive a shoulder attaché bag with the Newburgh Teaching Assistant logo on the front as pictured above with Sheila Manning, Lisa Maier and Anne Marone. Good luck!!!!

**Question:** Which gland in the human body is called the master gland? (Spelling counts!)

E-mail the answer to: [GrapevineTanews@aol.com](mailto:GrapevineTanews@aol.com)

This contest is open to all NECSD teaching assistants with the exclusion of the Executive Committee and all Grapevine Committee members. The winner will be listed in the next edition of the *Grapevine*.

Congratulations to the Fall Winner of the \$20.00 Barnes and Noble gift card: TA **Lauretta Hazelwood** from the Pre-K Center at Washington Street. The question was:

What famous children's authors first book was reputedly rejected by 28 publishers before Random House bought the book rights?

Answer: Dr. Seuss.



Dear Members,

Welcome to a new year for the teaching assistants. Last year, we were able to donate 10 baskets to Safe homes, our supported charitable organization. Teaching assistants taught in-service classes for the first time. NTA TAC sponsored two scholarships for college bound students and walked to raise money and awareness for breast cancer.. We continue to watch the progress of our chapter. As we reach our goals, we prove that teaching assistants are capable of great things. Let's carry on working as the great team of professionals we are. Get involved with our chapter. Together we can make a difference. Hope to see you at future meetings!

**The Executive Committee**

[teachingassistant@hvc.rr.com](mailto:teachingassistant@hvc.rr.com)



**Newburgh  
Teachers'  
Association**

**AFL-CIO**



Articles/ideas listed in the *Grapevine* are not necessarily those of the Newburgh Teachers' Association, NECSD, NYSUT or AFT.