



# THE EDUCATOR

Newsletter of the Arlington Teachers' Association

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MAY 2011

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## Support the School Budget on May 17

This year's school budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 17. The ballot will also include a bus proposition and school board candidates.

The support of every ATA member is vital to ensure a positive outcome to the long budget process. If you do not live in the district it is important that you talk to your friends and family who do and to encourage them to get out and vote on the 17th. Make sure to tell them why passage of the budget and the bus proposition are important to you and how they will benefit the children of the district. It is also imperative for us to select school board candidates who will be supportive of both our organization and the high quality of education that the Arlington district provides.

To the right you will find some facts to help you inform others about the 2011–2012 Arlington school budget, the bus proposition, and the candidates running for election to the school board. More information can be found at [www.arlingtonschools.org](http://www.arlingtonschools.org).

### BUDGET FACTS

- The proposed 3.84% tax levy increase is the lowest in 15 years
- The average tax increase for a \$350,000 home is \$20 per month
- If the budget fails, a contingency budget could be adopted that would cut community use of school buildings and reduce spending on equipment
- The difference in taxes on a \$350,000 home between the proposed budget and the contingency budget is \$17 per year

### SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

The terms of three current school board members, John Basso, Patricia Hogan, and MaryBeth Kaminsky, are expiring and four candidates are running to fill these three seats. The ATA recently interviewed all of the candidates and is endorsing two of them: **Lisa R. Kaul** and **Sean Johnston**. Remember to turn to the back of your ballot to vote for these candidates!

### BUS PROPOSITION

When school buses reach a certain age or number of miles NYS requires that they are replaced. Taxpayers are asked to permit the district to purchase new vehicles. This would cost a family with a home valued at \$250,000 \$7.74 per year over 5 years, starting in 2012-2013. If the bus proposition is not passed the district will have to lease buses, which will be more expensive. Additional transportation costs would mean having to reduce funding for other parts of the budget.

## Times Square Rally Shows that We Are One

On Saturday April 9, a contingent of Arlington teachers traveled to Times Square in NYC and participated in the "We Are One - Unity Rally" along with approximately 10,000 other union members. The rally was organized by the New York State AFL-CIO and included a broad range of unionized workers, from both public and private sector trade unions. After the closing session of NYSUT's Representative Assembly thousands of teachers, led

by NYSUT President Dick Ianuzzi, marched to the rally

armed with banners, chanting "This is what democracy looks like!" In Times Square all of the rally participants showed their solidarity by cheering and applauding the series of speeches from the leadership of each of the unions that were represented.

AHS teachers Sue Backus, Matt Backus, and Lisa Nicolaisen showed their union pride by creating a large ATA banner



Photo by Mark Doerrier

Thousands of union members turned out for the "We Are One" Rally in Times Square on April 9th.

See Rally on page 7

## Trivia Challenge

Answer the question below correctly and you could win an ATA Polo shirt!

**Which two Arlington schools are named after former employees?**

Last month's winners, selected at random from among the correct responses received, were **Lucille Ogden** from AHS and **Brian Fallis** from AMS. They correctly identified **Arthur S. May Elementary** as the original location of Arlington High School. They are now the proud owners of ATA polo shirts. Answer this month's question and you could win a polo shirt too!

Submit your answer to the above trivia question to [rmchugh@acsdny.org](mailto:rmchugh@acsdny.org) by May 27th. Winners will be randomly selected from the correct submissions.

# The Most Difficult Battle of My Life

Over the last two and a half months, I have learned some valuable lessons. First, an individual's health, family and friends are more important than anything else in life. Second, I have always known that Arlington is a special place to work, but this difficult time has proven to me that our faculty and staff are some of the most wonderful people around. As I'm sure you can all understand, this has been the most difficult battle of my life. The stroke I suffered on February 15<sup>th</sup> almost took my life. I was very fortunate that Greg Nieman and Leslie Battistoni were at the ATA office at the time my stroke began. Greg called my wife, and then 911. I was rushed to the hospital by La-Grange paramedics and then had emergency surgery to alleviate swelling of my brain. My care included an induced coma for a week and another week awake in ICU at Vassar Hospital. Originally the doctors were not optimistic for my survival or for my capabilities if I did survive. I write today to report that I am recovering at a remarkable rate. The doctors have expressed that my prognosis is to be well enough to return to the classroom and the ATA in September.

I also wanted to write to our membership to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you. It has been almost three months now and I continue to

think of all of the acts of kindness and support that came from all corners of the Arlington district. The support that you provided to me and my family was amazing. The letters and cards that were sent, the meals that were prepared for us, and the contributions that were sent to provide relief and distractions for my children were much appreciated. I believe that my remarkable recovery has been expedited because of the support that we have re-

*I have always known that Arlington is a special place to work, but this difficult time has proven to me that our faculty and staff are some of the most wonderful people around.*

ceived from all of you. As the ATA President for the last seven years I have worked to support and help both our Association as a whole, and many members on an individual basis. It was new for me to be on the receiving end of all of your support. I will forever be thankful to all of you.

Our profession is at a crossroads, and I am sorry that I am not currently with you. These are the battles that I thoroughly enjoy, and here I sit on the sidelines. I ask you to join me in thanking Greg Nieman

for assuming my position. His leadership has been invaluable to all of us. He, along with the other officers and the negotiations team, has worked tirelessly to keep our Association on the path we have been following.

When I am able to return I will visit with as many of you as I can. The days ahead provide challenges to us all. Our profession faces assaults from our government, the community, the press and from within the district. I commend you all for providing the best educational program in the Hudson Valley while you work this year without a contract. As it has proven in the past, we all must work together to get through difficult times. You all have rallied around me and my family to see us through this difficult episode in our lives. I look forward to rejoin you all to protect our most important profession, and the future of our careers. Standing together is the only way that we can do this. At this time I ask all of you to participate as much as possible. Please ask your building representative or call the ATA office to offer a few minutes of volunteer time.

Thank you for all of your support both personally and professionally.

Sincerely,

Bob Maier

## ATA Completes Purchase of New Office Building

Over the last 10 years the Arlington Teachers' Association has been renting office space at the Freedom Executive Park on Route 55. We would like to announce that we are now the proud owners of our own building, located at 46 Davis Avenue in Arlington (near Vassar College).

It will probably be a month or two before we are actually all moved in. As we proceed, there will be the need to hire people to do some work on

the building. Some of our ATA members have the necessary

skills and we prefer to hire our own members if possible. We are still in the process of evaluating the extent of the renovations needed, but we would like to begin a record of our members who are carpenters, electricians, masons, plumbers, landscapers, or do snowplowing. If you have an interest and want more information call the ATA Office at 454-7002 or email at [ATA4547002@aol.com](mailto:ATA4547002@aol.com).



Photo by Ron Higgins

The new ATA office building is located at 46 Davis Avenue in Arlington, near Vassar College.

—Ron Higgins, Welfare Trust Chair

# Additional Certification Can Broaden Employment Opportunities

Teachers seeking to expand their employment options may want to consider an additional certificate or an extension to an existing certificate. Course work for each of the extensions and the additional certificates can be found at NYSUT's Education and Learning Trust ([www.nysut.org/elt](http://www.nysut.org/elt)). ELT courses are pre-approved by the Office of Teaching Initiatives to meet the requirements for these certificates. Check the ELT catalog on line to see when courses will be offered in your area. Here are some options.

### Middle School Extensions:

For the extension to teach a subject in grades 5-6 a teacher must hold a valid provisional, permanent, initial, or professional certificate in English language arts (7-12), language other than English (7-12), mathematics (7-12), biology (7-12), chemistry (7-12), earth science (7-12), physics (7-12), general science (7-12) or social studies (7-12). The teacher shall satisfactorily complete six semester hours of coursework in middle childhood education which shall include study in early adolescent development and instructional strategies in middle childhood education.

For the extension to teach a subject in grades 7-9 a teacher must hold a valid initial or professional certificate in childhood education (grades 1 through 6) or a valid provisional or permanent certificate for teaching common branch subjects in the lower (PreK-3) and upper (4-6) ele-

the teacher must complete the New York State Teacher Certification Examination content specialty test in the subject for which a certificate extension is being sought.

### Bilingual Extension:

A teacher seeking a bilingual extension must complete 12 Semester hours of coursework. The coursework must include study in each of the following subjects:  
 (1) theories of bilingual education and multicultural perspectives;  
 (2) sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics;  
 (3) methods of teaching English language arts and native language arts to bilingual English language learners using the native language and English;  
 (4) methods of teaching other content to bilingual English language learners using the native language and English.  
 The teacher must also achieve a satisfactory level of performance on the New York State Teacher Certification Examination bilingual extension assessment.

Ensure that your certification is up-to-date by logging on to NYSED's TEACH portal at <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/teach/>  
 Certification extension coursework can be found at [www.nysut.org/elt](http://www.nysut.org/elt)

mentary grades (PreK-6). The teacher must complete 30 semester hours in coursework in the subject to be taught and six semester hours of coursework in middle childhood education, which shall include study in early adolescent development and instructional strategies in middle childhood education. In addition,

## Teacher Evaluation Development Committee is Formed

A provision of the federal "Race to the Top" grant that NY was recently awarded is for the development of an annual professional performance review (APPR) system for all teachers. While the state has provided a list of guidelines as to what the reviews will consist of it is left to the individual districts to determine the exact details. In Arlington, a committee consisting of the superintendent, assistant superintendents, administrators, and ATA representatives was recently formed. The ATA would like to ensure its members that it will strive to develop the fairest evaluation system possible and welcomes your input. The state APPR guidelines can be found at [usny.nysed.gov/trtt/reg.html](http://usny.nysed.gov/trtt/reg.html).

### Negotiations Update:

*"The next step in the negotiation process will be mediation, which involves a neutral party looking at both sides' proposals. This person then makes recommendations as to how an agreement could be reached. Mediation is set for June 1st."*

— Donna Doerrier

## Spotlight on the Contract: Outside the Classroom

*Each issue of The Educator will spotlight a particular part of our contract in an effort to make our members more familiar with their rights and the terms and conditions of their employment. If you have a section you would like to see featured, email [rmchugh@acsdny.org](mailto:rmchugh@acsdny.org).*

"The private and personal life of a teacher is not within the appropriate concern or attention of the Board or Administration except as it may interfere with the teacher's responsibilities to and relationships with students or the school system or impair his/her ability to fulfill his/her teaching duties."

"Teacher participation or non-participation in voluntary extra-curricular, community, church, club or social activities shall not be considered in evaluating teacher performance."

**Explanation:** These provisions (Article VI, page 8, and Article XIV, page 19, respectively) together say that what teachers do outside of the classroom is not to be considered during any evaluation process, as long as their activities do not interfere with teaching duties. Teachers should not be discriminated against due to lifestyle choices. In addition, their participation in any community or extra-curricular activities at school cannot be taken in to account by administrators when evaluating a teacher, such as for tenure.

# Foundation Keeps Hope Alive for Students

Several years ago AHS guidance counselor Marc Provost was sitting in his office with a senior who had recently lost her



Photo by Scott Cookinham

Teachers and administrators from six Arlington schools battled for the trophy at the Annual Gift of HOPE basketball tournament.

mother. The student was worried that she would no longer be able to go to college in light of her family's new financial hardship. Provost was struck by her loss and decided to help her, and others like her, keep their dreams of attending college alive. He created a foundation called "The Gift of HOPE: Helping Others Pursue Education" with a goal of providing money to any graduating senior who had suffered the loss of a parent.

Today, HOPE is an official non-profit organization with Provost, AHS teacher Scott Cookinham,

and guidance counselor Connie Weber serving on its board. It gives out scholarships at the end of the school year to all seniors who have suffered the loss of a parent or guardian at some point during their academic career. Money raised during the year is divided equally among all eligible students and sent directly to the schools they plan to attend.

The largest HOPE fundraiser of the year is the annual faculty basketball tournament. This year the tournament was held on April 15th. Over 65 faculty members from Arlington High, Arthur S. May Elementary, Arlington Middle, LaGrange Middle, Union Vale Middle, and Vail Farm Elementary participated in the game and many more volunteered to help, donated snacks to sell, or just attended to show their support. Team shirts were sponsored by the ATA. In the end, the AHS team was the tro-

phy winner, but the real focus of the night was to raise HOPE scholarship money. Ticket, t-shirt and concession sales, and a 50/50 raffle combined to raise \$6200.

This year there are 20 graduating seniors who will be receiving HOPE scholarships. With just over \$10,000 in the foundation's account it will be able to award \$500 to each student.

Provost would like to raise awareness about the Gift of HOPE foundation. "I would love teachers at other schools [besides AHS] to know that students they may

have now that suffer the loss of a parent will benefit when they graduate as long as I am still around. That means that if a second grader loses a parent, emailing me their name will get them right on the list for the class of 20?." He can be reached at [mprovost@acsdnv.org](mailto:mprovost@acsdnv.org).



Photo by Scott Cookinham

HOPE founder and basketball tournament host Marc Provost livens up the evening in his period dress.

## Annual Trash Bash Helps Clean Up Arlington

On Saturday, April 30th, 2011 a group of 19 people, including teachers, their family members and Beekman postmaster Dave Edmonds, helped clean a stretch of



Photo by Siouxzanne Harris

Helpers at the Trash Bash don their protective gear before heading out.

Route 55 from Freedom Road to Paige Storage. I was impressed that

children also supported and learned from this event. Jaime McGuire, whose mom teaches at Arthur S. May, was excited to return for a second time to clean. Volunteers came from all three middle schools, Arlington High School, and Arthur S. May, Beekman, Traver and West Road elementary schools. Those who helped had many reasons why we all need to be involved in Adopt-A-Highway: to keep our community clean, to show that we care about the community we live and work in, to help keep the earth

clean and safe, and to represent the ATA. In addition to feeling great about a job well done, volunteers at this Trash Bash were treated to a gift card grab bag. Congratulations to Judy McGuire who won a \$25 card and Siouxzanne Harris who won a \$10 card. We had a beautiful day to work and our volunteers did an amazing job! Hope to see you and others in the fall.



Photo by Siouxzanne Harris

ATA members cheerfully cleaned Route 55.

—Deborah Pollack, ATA Trash Bash Coordinator



# The Arlington Teachers' Association 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Miniature Golf Outing

For the benefit of the Arlington Education Foundation

Bring the whole family for a day of Miniature Golf, Free Food, Music, Crafts, Prizes, Raffles, and Lots of Fun!

\$7.00 per player

Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> 11am-2pm

Overlook Golf Center

DeGarmo Road, Poughkeepsie

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### Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Players: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to: Arlington Teachers' Association*

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**PLEASE RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND FEE IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED, "ATA MINI-GOLF" TO THE MAIN OFFICE OF YOUR SCHOOL BUILDING OR SEND DIRECTLY TO:**

**Arlington Teachers' Association, 488 Freedom Plains Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603**



Sponsored By:

Arlington Parent Teacher Association, Arlington Teachers' Association, Raymond Opticians



## Come to the 2011 Recognition Dinner!

On Friday, June 17th, the ATA will hold its annual recognition dinner/dance. The evening provides an opportunity to recognize to say goodbye to those who have decided to retire. The event will be from 6:30—11:30 p.m. at Christos, with dinner at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$47.00 per person, which includes hors d'oeuvres dinner and a cash bar.



**New teachers — fill out the entry form at right to enter a raffle for two free tickets!**



**ENTRY FORM**

2 Free Tickets to the ATA Recognition Party

*You must be in your first three years of teaching in Arlington to be eligible.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form through interoffice mail to the ATA Office.

## 2010—2011 ATA Officers

### President

Bob Maier

### First Vice-President

Greg Nieman

### Second Vice-President

Edward Hotaling

### Treasurer

Kathleen Blank Cicala

### Chief Negotiator

Donna Doerrier

### PR Committee Chair

Kristi Bogaczyk

### Community Action Chairs

Steve Hertzog

Robert McHugh

### Welfare Trust Chair

Ron Higgins

### Newsletter Editor

Sam Falk

### Editorial Assistant

Robert McHugh

### Senior Building Representative

ASM — Johanna Pungello

BES — Anne Schillinger

NES — Elise Pattison

VFES — Pam Goetz

OPS — Anne Marie Beesmer

Traver — Siouxzanne Harris

JDWR — Betsy Marshall

TIS — Jen Spagnola

AMS — Greg Fredricks

LMS — Patty Bauerlein

UVMS — Dave Lazarus

AHS — Steve Hertzog

AHS — Noreen Mills-Martin

CAO — Sue Lesser

# What's Going On?

"What's Going on" is a monthly feature of The Educator. It highlights noteworthy accomplishments by ATA members. Do you know of a colleague who deserves recognition? Let The Educator know by emailing [sfalk@acsdny.org](mailto:sfalk@acsdny.org). We can't know what's going on at all of your schools without your help! Congratulations to ATA members at the following schools for their contributions to the Arlington community and beyond.

### Arthur S. May

A school-wide fundraiser to aid the people of Japan was held the week of March 28. It was called "PJs and Pennies for Japan." Students, parents, teachers, and staff participated. Everyone who donated any amount of money that week got to wear their pajamas to school that Friday. Amazingly, after counting all the bags of change, we raised

a total of \$1,280.92. All money was donated to the Red Cross. Our school store, run by Michael Yarmosky's fourth grade class, donated all proceeds received that week to add to the total donations. Special Education teacher Debra Lisewski helped with counting ALL the bags of change, and brought the donation to the Red Cross. As a school community we all came together to help the people of Japan. It was important for us to show our support for those who were suffering. We all enjoyed this fun PJ day too!

— Melissa Maggiacomo

### Beekman

The annual "Thanksgiving in April" food drive, organized by second grade teacher Michelle Cartmill collected 5,200 items for the Dutchess County Food Pantry. The number of items col-

lected was the largest in the building's history.

### Noxon

Our school has "Culture of Kindness" themes that we put into practice each month. One such theme is "Share With Others," which we like to focus on throughout the year. Recently, the first grade classes taught by Betty Ann Adams, Vivian La-Colla, and me collected personal care items, small stuffed animals and puzzle books for the residents at Lutheran Care Center in Poughkeepsie. At the end of April I visited the center after school with some of our first graders and their mothers. The children passed out the gifts and hand-drawn pictures as we all chatted with the residents and wished them a "Happy Spring." It was a positive, hands-on way to "Share With Others." — Cheryl Moreau

## Officers Attend NYSUT Representative Assembly

The 39<sup>th</sup> annual NYSUT Representative Assembly had a more intense and electrified tone than the last few RAs. From April 7-9, Second Vice President Ed Hotaling, Chief Negotiator Donna Doerrier, and Community Action Committee Co-Chair Steve Hertzog represented the ATA as delegates to the annual convention which took place this year at the Hilton on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Manhattan. The main focus of the RA is to allow a democratic body of representatives to review the NYSUT constitution and bylaws, work in committees to draft amendments and resolutions, and elect NYSUT's Officers and

Board of Directors. There is also an opportunity for the delegates to network with leaders of other NYSUT locals and hear reports and encouraging speeches from the NYSUT leadership as well as other labor leaders and individuals in government and the business community who have an interest in the future of labor and education.

AFT President Randi Weingarten, NEA President Dennis VanRoekel, AFL-CIO President Denis Hughes, New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, Kerry Kennedy, daughter of late Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and CNBC economic analyst and commentator Ron Insana were some of those who spoke to the gathering of more than 1500 delegates from throughout New York State. Typically the Governor and U.S. Senators come to speak also, but the Senators were busy in Washington

with the federal budget and the Governor declined the invitation to attend. Those who addressed the delegates at the RA urged action on the part of all union members to personally get involved with their labor organizations and participate in the efforts that are required to maintain the influence and admiration that NYSUT has gained through a generation of work and sacrifice.

NYSUT awards such as "Teacher of the Year",

"Retiree Member of the Year", and many other honors were given at the RA. The ATA was recognized for increasing our VOTE/COPE contributions and also earned a community service award. Several inspirational

performances, such as dances from the "Keltic Dreams" Irish step dancing group from PS 59 in the Bronx, singing from the Walt Whitman High School Choir (a week after their Carnegie Hall performance), and musical satire from the "Labor Diva" Lynn Marie Smith entertained the convention goers.

Immediately following the final adjournment of the RA, all of the delegates began a monumental march down 6<sup>th</sup> avenue and along 42<sup>nd</sup> street to Times Square where we met with thousands of other educators and unionists who came to the much anticipated "We Are One" labor rally. Participation in the RA and the rally were energizing, inspiring and helped raise the spirits of many during a dismal time for educators and unions.

—Steve Hertzog, CAC Co-Chair

**Those who addressed the delegates at the RA urged action on the part of all union members to personally get involved with their labor organization**

# Union Pride Displayed at Rally

Continued from Front

to carry at the rally. "The rally was important to go to," said Sue Backus, "because the squeaky wheel gets the grease and if we do not get out and show that we are one our wishes and needs will be ignored." Arthur S. May teacher Erica Dunn concurred. "I decided to go because I believe we must stand together and make ourselves heard. We have to use our voices for good rather than complaining without action. Too many people worked too hard to secure our union rights, and the challenge to the existence of those rights is disrespectful and unacceptable. If we don't do anything to be part of the solution, we have no right to complain about the problem."

The spirit of the event was captured by *NYSUT United* reporter Liza Frenette in "In Times Square, the Revolution Starts Now." (April 23, 2011) "Iannuzzi was one of the first union leaders to address the crowd, which stretched from the dais near 42nd Street as far as the eye could see. 'What we're facing is an attack on working conditions, whether it be overcrowded classrooms or overcrowded docks,' Iannuzzi said to a canopy bedecked with waving signs and banners. 'We hear this garbage about how it has to do with deficits, but it's an attack on collective bargaining.' Dennis Van Roekel, president of the National Education Association, pointed out that the very same people who caused the economic meltdown asked for and are receiving tax cuts. 'What kind of crazy world is this?' he asked."

There were a number of salient points and recurrent themes that were included in the speeches heard at this rally.

- Being able to negotiate your own working conditions and pay is a basic human right.
- It was the American labor movement that built a strong middle class, and we are now under



AHS teachers (from left) Matt Backus, Dan Flanagan, Donna Doerrier, Robert McHugh, Lisa Nicolaisen, and Sue Backus display their ATA pride.

Photo by Mark Doerrier

attack. Over the course of the last 20 years the rich have gotten richer and the lower and middle classes have gotten poorer.

- The attack on the collective bargaining rights of teachers in Wisconsin was not intended to reduce expenditures: the unions agreed to pay and benefit cuts. The recent wave of attacks by Republican governors is intended to weaken unions that tend to support and vote for Democratic party candidates. A popular rallying cry was "We are Wisconsin!"

- The Republican and Tea party demand for no new taxes for millionaires and corporations while cutting benefits and entitlements for the middle class is unfair and unjust. The burdens of the current fiscal crisis should be equitably shared by all segments of society.

- On Election Day, it is more important than ever to get out the vote and remember which public officials supported our cause and who worked against us.

Now more than ever we need to come together as union members and remember that the working conditions and benefits we now enjoy are a direct result of the struggles and sacrifices of our union brothers and sisters who have preceded us.

—Ed Meyer, AHS

## Letter to the Editor: The Time is Now

Having spent the past two days writing grant proposals in my Arlington cubby-hole office, believe me...the last thing I want to do is write an article for the ATA's newsletter! But Sam Falk's "United We Stand, Divided We Fall" article on the front page of the March issue of *The Educator* newsletter struck an inspiring chord in me.

Like Sam, I never really considered myself a union person. Yeah, I always belonged, knew that it was in my best interest, but didn't really understand the impact that NOT having a union might have. Then my daughter took a job in one of the neediest neighborhoods in inner-city Philadelphia...in a charter school! Talk about deplorable working conditions...

- No instructional or guided reading books for her Grade 2 inclusion kids
- Not enough chairs in her classroom for students to sit on
- A lunch period to herself ONE DAY A WEEK! The other 4 days she is required to eat with her students.
- A long work day with no end in sight
- No cap on the # of faculty meetings
- No contract...I'm not talking about a contract with steps etc....I mean NO CONTRACT . She gets a letter stating that she can have a teaching job (not defined) as long as they need her and that all they have to do is give her 2 weeks notice!
- And then there's her meager salary that is about \$10,000 below the public school down the road.

Need I go on? Most of us in Arlington take these and other elements of our contract and working conditions for granted. As we're seeing in Wisconsin, things can change for the worse in a flash. Getting and staying active in the ATA means that our voices will be heard...don't delay...the time is now!

—Sue Lesser, CAO



Ed Hotaling (AHS) and Betsy Marshall (JDWR) joined the crowd at the "We Are One" rally.

Photo by Mark Doerrier

# Dates to Remember

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## MAY

15th—Car, Truck, and Bike Show, 12—4 p.m., AHS

17th—**School Budget Vote**

ATA Executive Council Session, 4 p.m., AHS room 1432

24th—Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Vail Farm

27th—HOPE Fundraiser, 3:30—6:30 p.m., The Dubliner

30th—Memorial Day, No school



## JUNE

3rd—Unity Pub, 3 p.m., Mahoney's at Gold's Gym (Titusville Rd.)

7th—Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m., AHS

ATA Executive Council Session, 4 p.m., AHS room 1432

11th—ATA Miniature Golf Outing, 11 a.m.—2 p.m., Overlook Golf Center

13th—Last Day of Classes, AHS

17th—ATA Recognition Dinner, 6:30 p.m., Christos

21st—Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m., CAO

22nd—Last Day of Classes, Elementary & Middle Schools



# Announcements

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Renovations on the new ATA office will begin soon and we need your help! If you are a carpenter, electrician, mason, plumber, landscaper, or do snowplowing, please call the ATA Office at 454-7002 or email [ATA4547002@aol.com](mailto:ATA4547002@aol.com) to let us know. See p. 2 for of this issue of *The Educator* for more details.

On May 20th there will be a Leukemia & Lymphoma Fundraiser in honor of Zachary Cookinham from 3:30—6:30 p.m. at The Dubliner. There will be raffles and appetizers for anyone donating. Contact Colleen Napora at AHS with any questions.

**Do you have an announcement to share?**

*The Educator* welcomes all submissions from ATA members. Email announcements, photographs or article ideas to Sam Falk at [sfalk@acsdeny.org](mailto:sfalk@acsdeny.org)

**Check out the newly updated ATA webpage at [www.arlingtonteachers.com](http://www.arlingtonteachers.com) for photos, contact information, benefits forms, issues of *The Educator* and more.**