

Staff Spotlights- October 2015

Gianleo Duca



Position: High School Assistant Principal

Prior occupation: I worked at South Colonie as a Social Studies teacher and summer school principal.

How do you spend your free time? I love to spend time with family and on home improvement projects.

Tell us about your non-human family: We have a Yorkshire Terrier named Mack, he is six years old.

What is the weirdest job you ever had? I worked in demolition at a high rise in Boston.

If you won an evening with a celebrity chef, what would you have them prepare for you? I would ask them to prepare a full Thanksgiving meal.

A teacher who inspired you as a child: I had a Social Studies teacher and coach who taught me a lot about digging deep to achieve goals.

People would be surprised to know: I like to cook and try to use as many locally grown ingredients as possible.

Your dream place to live: A tropical island.

What advice would you give your thirteen year old self? Remember that anything can be yours if you are willing to work hard for it.

What is at the top of your bucket list? I'd love to take my family on a summer long European vacation.

If you could have any job in the world for just one day, what would it be? General Manager of the Boston Bruins.



Toni Montuori

Position: Cleaner

Prior occupation: I worked as an institutional cook/dietary supervisor for NYS. Also private work in property management.

How do you spend your free time? Creating art (sculpting, drawing, painting), digital photography, downhill skiing, bird watching, reading, professional tinker.

Tell us about your non-human family: BFF's Onnie and Addison - two female rescued Dee-O-gees from Tennessee.

What is the weirdest job you ever had? A professional organizer for unorganized people.

If you won an evening with a celebrity chef, what would you have them prepare for you? Organic filet mignon with a wild mushroom demi glaze (on the side).

A teacher who inspired you as a child: Mr. Moffett, a soft spoken gentleman who gave me an appreciation for poetry.

People would be surprised to know: I didn't finish my studies at Rutgers University, but still got a degree in Awesome! Also I've donated nine gallons of blood to-date!

Your dream place to live: For six months within driving range of Cape Cod, NYC and Saratoga, while travelling the other six!



What advice would you give your thirteen year old self: READ!

What is at the top of your bucket list? Six months here and six months there.

If you could have any job in the world for just one day, what would it be? Photographing world injustices and crimes against humanity, then bringing them into the public eye.

Kristen Zepf



Position: Full-year leave replacement teacher. French grades 6-7

Prior occupation: I taught middle school French in South Colonie for seven years.

How do you spend your free time? Practicing (and instructing) yoga, hiking and being with my family.

Tell us about your non-human family: We have two cats and a dog.

What is the weirdest job you ever had? I very briefly tried telemarketing when I was younger. It may not sound weird, but it felt like the Twilight Zone!

If you won an evening with a celebrity chef, what would you have them prepare for you? Anything new and different- I love to try new things and I love to cook!

A teacher who inspired you as a child: Two teachers- My high school English teacher, Ms. Moore because she helped me to

think outside the box and my violin/orchestra teacher, Mr. Cornell because he was so warm and kind to everyone.

People would be surprised to know: At one time I played the washboard in a string band- when the usual rhythm players weren't around. Usually I played the fiddle.

Your dream place to live: In the mountains.

What advice would you give your thirteen year old self: Do what you love and have no fear- the sky is the limit!

What is at the top of your bucket list? To spend more time in the province of Quebec- especially some of the farther reaching places where there is the most rugged beauty and they only speak French.

If you could have any job in the world for just one day, what would it be? An international tour guide.

Anything else you want to share? My husband and I teach swing dancing!



Nicole Holehan

Position: Assistant Principal at the High School

Prior occupation: I worked at Shenendehowa High School as a Health teacher for eight amazing years. Prior to that I taught health at Doyle Middle School in Troy for a year.

How do you spend your free time?

I am a spinning instructor at a local studio. I enjoy traveling, hiking, kayaking, rollerblading and above all hanging out with my family.

Tell us about your non-human family: I have two adorable dogs. Lucky is an 8 year old Goldendoodle who follows you around with a ball in his mouth ready to play and Luna is an 11 year old Maltese who is the true definition of a lap dog.

What is the weirdest job you ever had? I think being a health teacher covers this one, as I got to talk about all of the topics that most people don't want to speak of!

If you won an evening with a celebrity chef, what would you have them prepare for you?

Filet mignon, shrimp and lobster with gluten free gnocchi in a parmesan cream sauce.

A teacher who inspired you as a child: My soccer coach and technology teacher inspired me. He always motivated me and still continues to support me as an adult. Small communities are special that way.

People would be surprised to know: I played Division II soccer and was a member of an arena football dance team.

Your dream place to live: Sedona, Arizona

What advice would you give your thirteen year old self? Life teaches you hard lessons. Learn from them and grow, but above all remain resilient and make decisions you can live with.

What is at the top of our bucket list? Visiting all of the wonders of the world!

If you could have any job in the world for just one day, what would it be? I would want to be a travel author who gets paid to tell you where all of the "local hot spots" are in different parts of the world.

