

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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18th Annual Sports Fishery Advisory Board Essay Contest Is Announced

Mayville: -- Carrying on a tradition that has lasted for nearly two decades, the Chautauqua County Sports Fishery Advisory Board is again sponsoring the Annual "Spring Fishing Essay Contest for Chautauqua County".

Now in its 18th year, the contest is for elementary and middle school students in Grades 3 through 6. The contest is open to all students attending public and private schools, and any home schooled student living in Chautauqua County.

"Last year, we received well over 700 entries for the essay contest," said Sports Fishery Advisory Board Chairman Zen Olow. "This shows that there continues to be a real interest in fishing and lake ecology in Chautauqua County."

The topic of the 2010 contest is; **"Fishing in Chautauqua County is fun....Where would you go and who would you like to fish with?"**

Chautauqua County Executive Gregory J. Edwards said, "Fishing is an important recreational activity within our region. I am excited to see the Spring Fishing Essay Contest still going strong, and I encourage all schools to participate in this educational program."

The contest officially opens February 1, 2010, and all entries are to be submitted to the following address by March 5, 2010:

Chautauqua County Sports Fishery Advisory Board
Office of the County Executive
Gerace Office Building
3 North Erie Street
Mayville, New York 14757

Entries can be submitted singly or together by the class. The student's name, grade, teacher and school should be legibly printed on each entry, and each entry must follow the topic, **"Fishing in Chautauqua County is fun....Where would you go and who would you like to fish with?"** Entries will be judged on originality, and teachers are encouraged to work with students by incorporating the essay writing into a teaching activity.

This year, Edwards will be joined by members of the Sports Fishery Advisory Board and local Legislators in visiting each school that submits an entry, and to present the winners with their prize. Each teacher will be recognized for his/her support of the project.

Two Grand Prize winners will be awarded a fishing trip with the County Executive. The announcement of the Grand Prize winners will be made at the Legislature's meeting in Mayville on April 28, 2010.

The Advisory Board hopes that the essay contest can be an interesting educational experience for students, and helpful to the teachers. It is intended to promote an awareness of Chautauqua County's ecology, the factors that affect it and the role each student plays in maintaining its quality in the future.

If you have any questions, please contact Zen Olow, Chairman of the Chautauqua County Sports Fishery Advisory Board at 640-2776.

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