



Seal Sightings

Selinsgrove Area High School's quarterly newsletter

Selinsgrove Area High School

December 2009



Students in the German 3 class drew their own artwork in commemoration of the graffiti on the Berlin Wall before it was taken down suddenly in 1989.

It was twenty years ago today ... in Germany

Twenty years ago, on November 9, 1989, the Berlin Wall came tumbling down to the cheers of crowds all over the world, especially in Germany. This year the German people marked the anniversary of this momentous event with celebrations all over the country. In Selinsgrove Area High School, students in all German classes watched daily news reports about the happenings surrounding this anniversary in Germany and what life was like for Germans living on both sides of the wall while it stood.

Students in Frau Feidt's German 3 class also completed a unit on the Berlin Wall that appropriately coincided with this anniversary. Students discussed and watched films about this period in history and even created their own sections of the Berlin Wall which were displayed in the classroom. The unit culminated in a debate about whether life was better in the East or the West.

Art students help feed hungry

Students taking Mrs. Brozekat's Ceramics classes this semester are involved in helping to fight hunger in our area by assisting in fundraising efforts for the

From the Principal:

I would like to thank everyone who has enrolled in the GiantAPlus program. If you haven't already, you can do so online or at the store. This year the money will be used to help support our extracurricular programs.

We will begin scheduling soon. Class meetings will be held in January to discuss the process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the guidance office.

We also want you to remember that students are not allowed to make up work on days when absences are illegal or unexcused, and educational trip forms must be submitted ten (10) days in advance. Please remember this, especially for the upcoming holiday season.

—Reed Messmore, Principal

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank.

Each student is creating a bowl or mug to be given to people who attend a fundraising luncheon called Soup in a Bowl. Each student's creation will be a reminder for those attending the luncheon that hunger exists in our area as they use the pottery throughout the years to come. The luncheon will be held on February 26, 2010.

Christmas the German way

Every year students enrolled in German classes and the German Club at the high school visit the Mifflinburg Christkindlmarket to experience Christmas and the winter holidays the German way.

The Mifflinburg Christkindlmarket is very similar to markets found all over Germany and Austria at this time of year. Students enjoyed a variety of German delicacies, watched as Sankt Nikolaus made the rounds, enjoyed the singing of the Kurrendesänger (children's choir) and were amazed by the talents of Hilby, the Skinny German Juggle Boy, as they toured the various little booths with their homemade goodies. Students enjoyed experiencing a real slice of authentic Germany in their own backyard!

SAHS scrimmages with WVIA

Nine students banded together to create our first Scholastic Scrimmage team.

Public television station WVIA, in partnership with the Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit and the U.S. Army, created the Scholastic Scrimmage program to engage and reward students in its member districts. The Scrimmage challenges selected students from WVIA's member school districts about science, math, language arts, fine arts and social studies. Contestants try to be the first one to buzz in with a correct answer and gain points for their team. The schools advance through a playoff bracket with the final goal of winning \$4,000 or \$2,000 for their schools.

The members of this year's inaugural team were Corinne Aucker (team captain), Kevin Biallas, Robert Bingaman and Sarah Goodling. Andrew Oreskovich was the team alternate. Amber Wenrich served in the invaluable role of team manager, while Alex Knitter, Davis Markle, and Brett Orren donated their time as a "mock" team for the practice sessions. Librarian Laurie Knitter coached the team.

The outcome of the matches is currently confidential; however, the team's effort and performance were outstanding, according to Mrs. Knitter. Air dates on WVIA are scheduled for January. Check local listings for specific dates.

WVIA profiles two artists

Two students recently appeared on WVIA-TV's Artist of the Week program.

Katie Richards, performing artist, and Steven Zerbe, visual artist, were selected from the high school to participate in the program. Their one-minute vignettes aired on WVIA during the week of November 23. Interested parties may also access their interviews on YouTube.com.

Artist of the Week is designed to call attention to high school students who have excelled in the study of the arts. Each participating high school selects two students, one visual artist and one performing artist, to be interviewed at the WVIA studios for a one-minute vignette.

SAHS theater prepares to stage *Everybody Loves Opal* in winter

Rehearsals are underway for the SAHS winter production of *Everybody Loves Opal* by John Patrick. Directed by Joyce and Lizz Hendricks, the cast consists of Hannah Aurand as Opal, David Martin as Bradford, Francesca Damiano as Gloria, Patrick Charvat as Sol, Jake Edmunds as the police officer, and Andrew Burd as the doctor. (Cats are still being auditioned for the role of Mr. Tanner.)

Opal lives in a tumbledown mansion at the edge of the city landfill. She collects things—anything that can be toted home in her little red wagon. Opal is also an optimist; no matter what catastrophe befalls her, she responds with



Students make toys for tots

The Life Skills class and Peer Helpers have made 75 wooden toys to be given to Toys for Tots and the Haven Mission this holiday season.

"Ye Olde Clock Shop" in Manufacturing Tech 1 will be completing 80 mantel clocks before the holiday break.

unfailing kindness and unshakeable faith in the goodness of human nature. Enter Gloria, Bradford and Solomon, three cons hiding out from the authorities with "up to no good" written all over them. Will their plots and plans for Opal succeed or will good eventually triumph over evil?

Everybody Loves Opal will be performed on Jan. 21-23 at 7:30pm in the high school auditorium. Tickets will be sold at the door beginning at 7 p.m. each night of performance.

State FFA officers visit SAHS

The Selinsgrove FFA Chapter welcomed two Pennsylvania State FFA Officers to their classrooms on November 19.

Allison Hoover and Samantha Barrick-Poust spoke about opportunities available to students enrolled in agricultural education and how to become an FFA member. The State Officers presented fun and educational interactive workshops that encouraged students to become involved in the FFA.

They encouraged students to take the knowledge and skills they have acquired in their agriculture classes and apply it to FFA events, such as the career development events, which help students explore a career interest in agriculture. They also had an informal lunch with the Selinsgrove lunch with the Selinsgrove FFA Officers.

Members of the State FFA Officer Team are ambassadors for agriculture and the FFA for one year. They strive to live up to the FFA Mission statement which states, "FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education."

Guidance Department News

Seniors applying to post-secondary institutions should contact their guidance counselors to inform them where they want their transcripts sent. Seniors using an on-line application form should complete the transcript request form located in the guidance office. Please keep in mind college and university deadlines and allow the guidance department at least one week for processing transcript information.

Juniors planning to attend the SUN Area Technical Institute next year visited shops of their choice on Tuesday, December 8. Registrations forms will be distributed soon and forms must be returned by the due date.

The PSSA testing schedule for juniors:

PSSA Reading & Math: April 7-16, 2010

PSSA Writing: April 19-23, 2010

PSSA Science: April 26-30, 2010

Make-up exams: May 3-7, 2010

Please do not schedule vacations or other absences during the testing windows.

The Guidance Department will be sponsoring a Financial Aid Night on Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. This program is an excellent opportunity for any students in grades 10 through 12 and their parents to learn more about financial aid. A representative from Susquehanna University's Financial Aid Office will present information and answer questions regarding the financial aid process.

The deadline to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is May 1, 2010. The guidance department maintains an open file for anyone interested in scholarship opportunities. Please stop by the guidance office for further information.

On January 25, 2010 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., an Open House for parents of eighth graders will be held at the high school. Parents and students will meet with the high school department chairpersons. A representative from SUN Area Technical Institute will describe program opportunities. A member of the admissions office from Susquehanna University will also present information about high school academic preparation for college.

The Guidance Department will distribute the course description booklets and course selection sheets in the ninth grade Career Futures and 11th grade Career Prep classes. The Guidance Department will meet with sophomores to distribute course description booklets and course selection sheets in a large group setting. This meeting will occur in the auditorium during resource period.

Any junior planning to apply to two or four year colleges should consider taking the SAT either May 1 or June 5. More information is available in the guidance office or at www.collegeboard.com.