



Seal Sightings

Selinsgrove Area High School's quarterly newsletter

Selinsgrove Area High School

May 2008

FFA team wins Quiz Bowl

What teenager would possibly know the answers to such diverse questions as "How do you decontaminate soil saturated with a hazardous chemical?" "How quickly can a person be killed in a tractor rear overturn?" and "What is the potential room temperature at eye level during a fire?"

Selinsgrove's Future Farmers of America Quiz Bowl team does.

The FFA team took first place at the Pennsylvania Agricultural Safety and Health Quiz Bowl at the annual Pennsylvania Farm Show.

The team consisted of PJ Adam, Jonelle Wetzel, and Jason Zimmerman.

Teams competed in a quiz show format to demonstrate their knowledge about farm safety and health hazards and recommended practices. Teams have to study a range of resources such as the National Agricultural Safety Database (NASD) Website, Pesticide Education Manual, Penn State Agricultural Fact Sheets, and the American National Standards Institute. Participants not only learn about farm safety and health, they also increase their leadership and public speaking skills and learn how to promote agricultural safety and health through their organizations.

Pennsylvania Agricultural Safety and Health Quiz Bowl is administered by the Penn State University Agricultural Safety and Health Program and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Division of Health and Safety.

Photographers do well in Lewisburg Art Show

Six students took a total of 13 awards in the annual Lewisburg Arts Festival photography contest. Entrants participated in three levels of skill: Youth, Amateur and Advanced Amateur.

Adara Wickham won the Best in Show award and a \$100 cash prize for her colorful macro composition.

Natasha Mundo took first place in Freestyle, Amateur class.

Five students took awards in the Youth Class.

Lauren Donkochik took second place in Pets/Animals.

Carrie Laskoski took second place in Things, third place in Pets/Animals, and honorable mention in Things.

Ariana White took first place in Pets/Animals, second

From the Principal –

Another year is coming to a close.

For summer school, please check with the guidance department as to allowable sites and courses and how they will affect your child's credit standing.

I want to congratulate all of our students and their accomplishments this year.

I hope everyone has a safe and productive summer and comes back to school ready for a new year.

Some dates for the end of the year:

May 20	Spring Choral Concert
June 1	Baccalaureate
June 4	Graduation
June 6	Last day of school

place in People, and third place in Places.

Adara Wickham won first place and honorable mention in the Things category.

Abby Yavorek earned a third place award in Things, and three honorable mentions in Places, Things, and Pets/Animals.

In addition, 2007 graduate Kristina Kauffman was awarded first, second, third place and several honorable mention awards in the Amateur Class.

Photos can be seen at <http://web.mac.com/macavada/Site/2008LewisburgArtsFestival.html>.

Gray named top FFA member

D. Brian Gray was named the 2008 Pennsylvania FFA Star in Agri-Science at the 92nd Pennsylvania Farm Show.

His selection was based on an interview, his leadership activities and his Supervised Agricultural Experience Program. He is the current chaplain and past treasurer of his local FFA chapter. His Supervised Agricultural Experience program consists of Dairy Beef Production and a Wildlife Conservation program. His conservation program includes wildlife habitat improvement on his family farm and coordinating a tree sale with the Snyder County Conservation District. This past summer he won a regional and state proficiency award in Environmental Science and Natural Resources and received a silver ranking



at the national level of the FFA. He was also awarded a Wildlife Conservation Award from the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Brian attended the Pennsylvania Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences this past summer. In the summer of 2006, he canoed and kayaked the Susquehanna River with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American High School Students, the Selinsgrove Track and Field team and was a co-captain of the Selinsgrove Soccer team.

Brian will advance to Eastern States Regional completion to be held in September 2008 in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Window exhibit places fourth

The Selinsgrove FFA chapter's window booth exhibit entitled: "Is The Avian Flu Coming To You?" placed fourth at the 2008 Pennsylvania State Farm Show in Harrisburg. The display exhibited various ways and signs to watch for in order to prevent the spread of bird flu to our nation's poultry flocks. The exhibit had taken second place last September at the Beaver Community Fair.

The PA FFA Window Design Contest is held annually in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Farm Show. The competition is opened to all 134 chapters from across the state. After a review of submitted applications, photos, and prior competitions, state officials accept eighteen to compete.

Agricultural department named for statewide recognition

The high school Agricultural Education Program was selected for the 2008 Outstanding Post Secondary School Award by the PA Association of Agricultural Educators (PAAE) Organization. To be eligible for the award, education for adults in Agriculture must be offered by the local department. Adult education is being offered through the Selinsgrove Young Famers Association that has a current membership of 47. Selected for this award is based on total program evaluation of a ten page application and supporting documentation. State award presentation will take place at the PAAE summer conference to be held in Morgantown, PA in mid July.

Guidance News

This summer juniors planning to attend a four-year college should consider visiting the colleges they are interested in applying for admission to and eventually attending. They should contact the admissions office of the college/university they are interested in visiting and schedule a tour and interview.

We recommend that juniors begin their college search **early** and notify their counselor about their plans. Counselors need to be notified by the student when he or she applies on-line to a college or university so that transcripts can be forwarded.

Athletes planning to play a sport in college should register with the NCAA Clearinghouse and visit the website: www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. The guidance department is available to discuss college or career objectives with any student.

PSAT Testing will be held Wednesday, October 15, 2008.

2008-2009 SAT Saturday Test Dates

October 4, 2008	at Selinsgrove
November 1, 2008	
December 6, 2008	at Selinsgrove
January 24, 2009	
March 14, 2009	
May 2, 2009	at Selinsgrove
June 6, 2009	

Register for the SAT at collegeboard.com/reg

The guidance department has information available to all students about summer programs that would enhance student academic, leadership, and personal skills as they prepare for post-secondary and career objectives.

2008-2009 AP Exam Dates are May 4-8 and May 11-15, 2009. Students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses will be required to take the exam offered by College Board and pay the required fee. Letters will be mailed during the second semester to notify parents of payment due and dates for testing.

All students will be given their schedule for the 2008-09 academic school year before leaving for summer vacation. Each student's schedule should reflect future goals of post-secondary education and/or career objectives, keeping in mind graduation requirements.

Students that have conflicts in their schedules or concerns should arrange an appointment with their counselor during the month of June and/or August 4 to August 15.

Students are encouraged to call the guidance office at 372-2237 to schedule an appointment with their counselor early because enrollment in some courses is fixed. **No changes will be made to student schedules the week of August 18 to August 22.**

Students need to take time now to finalize their schedules so that schedule changes are minimal once the school year begins. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

As the state winner, the application will be forwarded to Region Six national competitions. Regional winners will be announced in mid August and the national winner will be named in December at the National Association of Agricultural Educator (NAAE) Convention to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Peer Leadership gives back



A group of individuals from this year's Peer Leadership retreat volunteered their time and energy to clean up the entire length of Old Colony Road. The crew spent about two hours on a recent Saturday morning walking both sides of the road removing, bagging and piling up all sorts of litter and discarded items. PENN DOT provide all the bags, gloves, vests and signs for the project.

The PLUS (Peer Leadership Uniting Students) program uses this Adopt-A-Highway program to give the students a chance to earn hours for community service. All students attending the PLUS retreat are encouraged to participate in the clean up. It's their opportunity to give something back to the community.

FFA members to attend state level competition in June

Seventeen FFA members will be attending the 79th Annual Convention and Activities Week to be held June 10-12, 2008 at the Pennsylvania State University.

Those attending are PJ Adam, State Office Candidate; Brian Gray, Agricultural Mechanics; Kyle Kessler and Scott Lenig, Small Gas Engines; Jonelle Wetzal, Delegate; Kelvin Womer, Tractor Driving; Michelle Gehers, Mary Herman, and Kolby Kessler, Livestock Judging; Jason Adam, Derrick Cook, Matthew Gehers, Travis Hackenberg, Cory Maneval, Coy Weller, Wildlife Contest.

TSA competes at states



Three Technology Student Association members qualified at the TSA regional conference in February to represent the Selinsgrove chapter at the State Leadership Conference April 9 -12 at Seven Springs resort in Champion, PA.

Stephanie Carstetter, David Martin and Jacob Ross represented Selinsgrove for three days of competitions and events along with about 1,500 other high school and middle school students from Pennsylvania. All three performed well and are already preparing for next year.

TSA is a nationally recognized organization that prepares its members for the challenges of a dynamic world by promoting technological literacy, leadership and problem solving skills through competitive events, conferences and chapter programs resulting in personal growth and opportunities.

Listen to announcements at the beginning of the new school year for an open invitation to learn more about becoming a member of this club.

Two place in business competition

At the Future Business Leaders of America State Competitions in Hershey, the Selinsgrove Chapter had two members receiving awards.

Joe White, senior, placed seventh in Cyber Security and sixth in Internet competitions; this was Joe's fourth consecutive year at FBLA State Competitions.

Hayden Conrad, sophomore, placed tenth in Introduction to Technology Concepts.

Mrs. Julie Hatzel McDermott, who is retiring, was also recognized for her thirty-seven years as an adviser to the FBLA members at Selinsgrove.

Students submit Google Doodles

Art students have submitted entries to Google's Doodle 4 contest.

A nationwide competition, the Doodle 4 contest was designed to give students an opportunity to provide designs to be used on the Google website. Based on the theme "What If," the contest invited students to submit designs for special holiday and commemorative versions of the Google logo.

The prize for the winning student is \$25,000, along with a \$35,000 award for the student's school to be used for computer technology purchases.

Students entering the contest were Chelsea Beaver, Lyndsey Bettleyon, Krystal Duke, Courtney Lester, and Amy Star.

Club headed for outdoor fun

The Outdoors Club went whitewater rafting April 26 on the Youghiogheny River.

The club will go climbing at Seneca Rocks, West Virginia May 7-10 and backpacking in West Virginia May 22-26.

German Students Take Prizes

Students Celebrate Foreign Language Month



Students at Selinsgrove High School celebrated Foreign Language Month, March, with some very special activities again this year.

Each day of Foreign Language Week, March 5-9, students participated in activities promoting and celebrating foreign languages and cultures. Activities included a dress for your language day, a foreign language dance-off among the language clubs, a foreign film night featuring the Scottish film *Dear Frankie*, and a food day for which members of all of the language clubs prepared and presented a variety of delicious foreign dishes.

Every day students had the opportunity to guess the identity of a famous foreign celebrity, and on the last day of the week, the names of all students who had participated in the various activities throughout the week were put in to a hat and a winner was selected to win a dvd player and movie package.

Changes made in busing policy

The district has made a careful review of transportation needs and has made the following changes for the 2008-2009 school year.

Parents who have made arrangements other than using their student assigned school bus stop (due to child care/family members/separation/divorce issues) may not be able to make those same arrangements for the upcoming school year.

For Selinsgrove Borough students, the only transportation being provided will be for those kindergarten students who would like to be shuttled from Selinsgrove Elementary School to Jackson Penn Elementary School and returned in the afternoon. Everyone else will walk to their assigned school buildings.

Students who live in developments west of 18th Street are considered walkers as well and will use the roadways in their developments to get to the crossing guard at 18th Street and Seals Avenue to get to the Selinsgrove School District Campus safely.

This notice is to give parents ample time to make any arrangements for their child's transportation other than those previously made.

Parents who move their residence this summer should contact the Transportation Office at 372-2208 and leave their name, name of child, new address and any new phone numbers as soon as the new information is known.

Parents with questions or concerns should contact the Transportation Office at the above number.

Students enrolled in fall German classes at Selinsgrove High School took all the prizes in the annual German-American Day contest sponsored by the German Heritage Society of the Susquehanna Valley.

The topic of this year's contest was "Celebrating Our German Heritage Today." Students created a variety of projects encompassing this theme, including videos, collages and essays.

The two first place winners of \$50 were Jonelle Wetzel and Carrie Laskoski. The two second place winners of \$25 each were Eric Bailey and Tim Toth. All of the winners also received a membership to the society. The winners were decided upon by the members of the German Heritage Society.

Two artists honored at juried art show in Lewisburg

Two students earned Honorable Mention awards in the Scholastic Art Competition in Lewisburg. One hundred fifty pieces from 125 students and 18 high schools competed in the juried competition.

Lyndsey Bettleyon and Luis Tirado both earned Honorable Mentions in the drawing category. The exhibit ran from April 19 to May 3 at the Packwood House Museum in Lewisburg.

Other students who entered were Jeremy Bucher, Kyla Goodling, Ellie Herman, Heera Khan, Bryndee Nolder, and Stacey Solomon.