



THE GROVE GAZETTE

Selinsgrove Area High School Student Newspaper

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Musicians Honored Again

By Liz Whitmer

Whether it's being an active member in clubs, playing a school sport, or participating in the music program, almost every student has a school-affiliated activity in which they enjoy participating; however, being club president or an all-star athlete aren't the only praiseworthy accomplishments for which students strive.

Being in band can be beneficial not only mentally, but also socially. Junior Noah Wise says, "...I've made a lot of friends through PMEA [Pennsylvania Music Educators Association] festivals and they are a great place to learn and have fun." Making the PMEA festival is equivalent to an athlete being named to the District All-Star team in their sport – a high and rare honor which denotes effort and practice over a long and dedicated career.

For the students in our school's band, they have the opportunity to audition in Williamsport for PMEA District Band and District Orchestra. By auditioning for these advanced bands, they have the chance to play with some of the best high school musicians in our district.

To audition for either group, each musician must play a selected solo, sight-read a piece, and play different scales, which is done for three teachers in a blind audition. If they are selected out of the group of students to go on to the district group, they can then audition for a chair (which denotes a ranking among their peers). After making it to districts, the auditions begin again for regional band or orchestra.

There are only two students, juniors Noah Wise and Jacob Bodinger, who were selected to play for the district orchestra from the Selinsgrove Area High School. The PMEA District Orchestra took place at Mansfield University on January 14th and 15th.

Selinsgrove is well-known for their strong band, directed by Mr. Ed Smith, and members of the symphonic band get to prove it at the PMEA District 8 Band Festival. Seven students from Selinsgrove Area High School will be participating in district band with more than 150 other musicians from across the state. On January 27th-29th, almost 40 schools from District 8 will send their most gifted musicians to Jersey Shore Area Senior High School to perform alongside other students who possess the same skill level.

The guest conductor will be Dr. Deborah Conferdo, a music educator at Temple University, and the festival host is the Director of Instrumental Music at Jersey Shore Area Senior High School, Mr. Christopher Lahr.



Selinsgrove PMEA District Band members rehearse

For anyone interested in attending the PMEA District 8 Band Festival, a concert open to the public in the auditorium of Jersey Shore Area Senior High School, will take place on Friday, January 29th at 7:00 pm. Tickets will be available at the door for \$6.

Grove Gazette Editorial Staff

News Editors: Savanna Foor & Dan Napsha

Sports Editor: Angelo Martin

Opinion/Editorial Editor: Isabel Bailey

Graphics Editor: Lindsey Trusal

The *Grove Gazette* is a student organized newspaper. If you are interested in working for the *Grove Gazette* as a writer, editor, or photographer, please join us during the first half of lunch on **Friday, January 22nd** in Room 222 for our next meeting. You can also email Mr. Switala at wswitala@seal-pa.org if you cannot make the meeting.

100th Farm Show Hit for the SAHS FFA

By Nathan Moyer

While many attended the week-long 100th Anniversary of the Pennsylvania Farm Show for the food, entertainment, and vendors, the Selinsgrove Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter traveled to Harrisburg on January 11th to honor three Selinsgrove seniors as they received the FFA Keystone Degree while nine freshmen received their FFA corduroy jackets.



Photo by Valarie Fry

Senior Kyle Sassaman (left) and junior Kevin Dressler (right) were two of 384 Pennsylvania students to earn their Keystone FFA Degrees.

The Keystone Degree is the highest degree an FFA member can receive while in high school and the second-highest degree that can be obtained in their FFA career. As a prerequisite, the students must earn the Greenhand and Chapter degrees in addition to completing an application that tracks their progress in the FFA. Seniors Kevin Dressler, Kyle Sassaman, and Erin Beaver joined 384 Pennsylvania members who earned the award. Along with a framed certificate, members are given a gold charm which hangs from the waist and is worn with official dress outfits.

In addition, nine freshmen were given their FFA jackets in a ceremony sponsored by FFA alumni. In order to receive a jacket, students must finish an application explaining why a jacket would be important to them and how they will

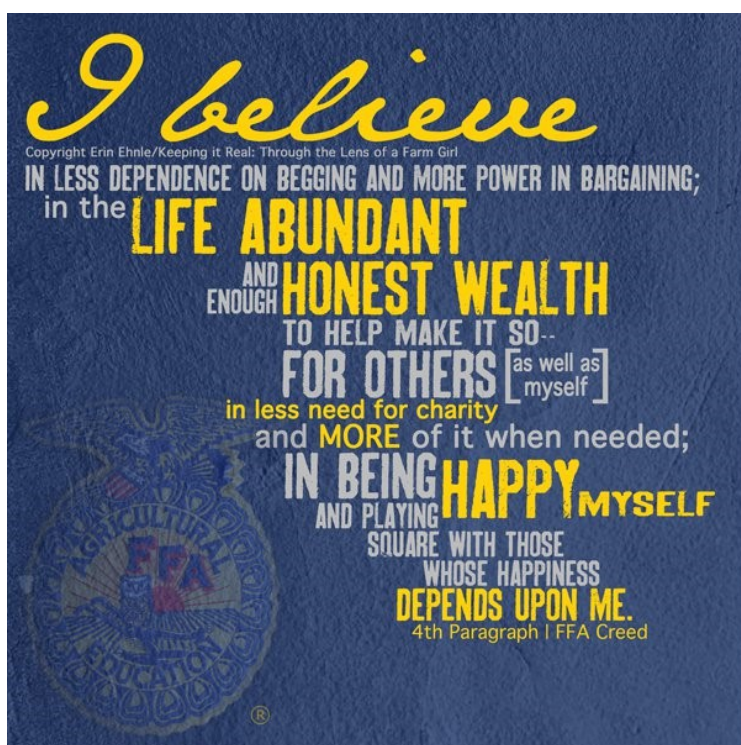
make the most of their FFA career. Freshmen Nathan Kline, Dakota Gearhart, Kerry Bingaman, Garrett Benfer, Kyle Martin, Ryan Perkinson, Kevin Straub, Lucas Bailor, and Nate Sauers all received jackets, among 553 others statewide. Ryan Perkinson looks forward to wearing his jacket again, and in his words, “the opportunities it may bring me.”

Many upperclassmen recalled the first time they put on their jackets and how far they have come. Junior Alyssa Landis felt nostalgic as she watched the freshmen zip up their jackets. She reminisced that she was just like them not too long ago. “Those jackets will lead to great opportunities, friendships, and memories,” Landis said knowingly.



Photo by Valarie Fry

From left to right are the nine freshmen who received jackets: Nathan Kline, Garrett Benfer, Kerry Bingaman, Kyle Martin, Nate Sauers, Dakota Gearheart, Ryan Perkinson, and Kevin Straub



New Murals Brighten Up the School!

Daniel Napsha

Selinsgrove's artistic talent is on display in the high school hallways with new mural art aiming to enliven the school.

Students in Mrs. Nobre da Veiga's *Drawing and Painting 2* class were tasked last semester to make mural art to be hung around the school. The assignment went along with lessons on public art and its power to enrich and uplift a community. In practice in the United States for the last century, public art has attracted public attention and acclaim worldwide, notably in Philadelphia, a city specifically studied.

Students worked in small groups together. They applied one of the main goals of public art, to inspire an audience, and on plywood painted meaningful quotes atop related images. Seniors Erin Reed and Katie Pauling, with junior Natalia Brown, wanted to showcase their "crave for adventure," as Erin said. They painted an outline of the continents, a compass, and airplane with the quote, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."



Junior Natalia Brown, seniors Erin Reed and Katie Pauling pose with their mural art.

Another team of student artists looked at the high school experience for ideas. Maddie Garden chose a quote about resilience and finding the good in everything because to her, "High school is a place where problems can come up but the only way to survive is learning to deal with it all," she explained. For her mural with Mara Marius, the two painted a dancer in the rain.



Juniors Maddie Garden (left) and Mara Marius (right) take a minute with their creation.

Other students looked to pop culture to apply the theme of inspiration. A painting by juniors Teagan Dawson, Alexis Medina and Kayla Germini depicts

a swimming turtle with the saying "Just Keep Swimming", an allusion to *Finding Nemo*. With *Nemo's* sequel, *Finding Dory*, coming out this year, the saying was "on their minds," as Alexis offered their reasoning.



Juniors Alexis Medina, Teagan Dawson, and Kayla Germini (left to right) are proud to show off their creation

Additionally, junior Julie Good and sophomore Ailyah Mercado painted a mural representing their interest in music. Their art, which is in the hallway leading to the arts wing, shows a music staff with different notes. On the notes, the girls wrote, "When Words Fail, Music Speaks."



Hanging next to the elevator, junior Julie Good and sophomore Ailyah Mercado welcome students to the art hallway.

Senior Dylan Whitmer and junior Zack King worked on the sixth and final mural completed last semester. Dylan specifically wanted to paint a scene of space to highlight his "passion for astronomy," which coincides with his desire to major in astrophysics in college. The artwork depicts space, with a satellite, planet, comet and rocket in addition to Earth.



A view of space, as depicted by senior Dylan Witmer and junior Zack King

Unlike previous murals in the school that were painted on the walls, this set of artwork was completed on plywood to make it long lasting by avoiding routine wall maintenance. This method is still effective in facilitating the theme and achieving the desire to "brighten up the school and make it more aesthetically pleasing," as expressed by Mrs. Burns.

SPORTS

Senior Class Dominates the Mat

By Angelo Martin

Led by head coach Seth Martin, the Selinsgrove wrestling team has gotten off to a team dual meet record of 6-7.

While many in the wrestling program had hoped to win more matches as a team, the Seals have had a plethora of incredible individual performances, most notably from the senior class.

Selinsgrove's senior class of Joey Radel, Andrew Boob, and Aaron Boob have scored a combined 51-9 record on the season in individual matches. Andrew Boob, the elder of the brothers, leads the team in pins with 14 on the season, with fellow seniors Aaron Boob and Joey Radel behind him with 10 each.



Photo by Kaylee Rishell

Senior Andrew Boob battles his Shik. opponent

"There's not many of us, but we have really shown the area that you don't

need a big senior class to be successful. Joey (Radel), my brother (Aaron Boob), and myself have really put a lot of time into this the past four years, and it's paying off in a big way this year," said senior Andrew Boob.

The highlight of the Selinsgrove wrestling season came at the Selinsgrove Holiday Tournament over Christmas break. All three seniors (Radel and the Boob brothers) finished the day with 5-0 records, good enough for gold medals in their respective weight classes. Radel took home the title in the 170 lb. weight class, Aaron Boob did the same in the 195 lb. weight class, and Andrew in the heavy weight division at 220 lb.

While the seniors have led the way for Selinsgrove, underclassmen Garrett Campbell, Max Charles, and Shawn Mathews have also been key for Selinsgrove. Campbell, a junior, is 12-7 on the year with eight pins, which makes him fourth on the team in both wins and pins behind the trio of seniors. Freshmen Max Charles and Shawn Mathews have also given the Seals many points throughout the year. Charles and Mathews are a combined 18-13 on the year, and has been critical in giving Selinsgrove much needed depth in the lower weight classes.

Pomykalski & Klinger Sisters Headliners

By Angelo Martin

Another season is well underway in the area bowling alleys and Selinsgrove's teams continue to shine with several impressive individual performances. Led by head coach Jeff Herman, junior Steven Pomykalski, senior Paetyn Klinger, and sophomore Piper Klinger have each garnered attention throughout the area in bowling.

Perhaps the most impressive of the three has been senior captain Paetyn Klinger. Averaging a score of 207 per game, Klinger is currently seated 3rd in all of the Heartland Conference in individual competition. Klinger also has completed three games of scoring over 250, an astonishing mark bowlers aspire to achieve even once in their career. The highlight of Klinger's season came on January 9th, when she reached a series high of 711 and notched a personal record of 259 in a single game.

"I really felt confident that day. Everything Coach Herman has coached me to do came together. While it was a great day for me personally, I think more

importantly it gave me something to build on towards the end of the season," noted the senior standout Klinger.

While Paetyn's hot hand has been a highlight for the Seals, one cannot overlook the accomplishments of her sister, Piper Klinger. The other Klinger sister holds a personal match record of 210, and has averaged a score of 172 per match, good for 10th in the Heartland Conference.

"My sister has really been coming along this year. She continues to get better each and every match. Bowling must run in the family," elder sister Paetyn said with a slight laugh.

On the boy's side, junior Steven Pomykalski has been the lead dog. Averaging a score of 182 per match, Pomykalski completed a personal record of 221 on the season in a match against Mifflinburg.

"We struggled a bit as a team, but there is a lot of hope for the future with such a young team and personally I feel like I have been making great strides all year," noted Pomykalski.



Photo by Marci Klinger

Sophomore Paetyn Klinger ready to release.

Boys Basketball Look to Finish Strong

By Sam Rodkey

As they approach the halfway mark of the season, the Selinsgrove Boys' Basketball team continues to make strides in a positive direction despite the team's 6-6 record. The Seals are still building chemistry and are poised for a strong run at the District IV playoffs.

"All we have to do is make the playoffs and anything can happen. We lost to the District champion Milton at the buzzer last year in the playoffs, so crazy things can happen," said sensational senior guard Juvon Batts.

Batts has benefitted all season by playing alongside speedy junior guard Brice Harro. Harro had a career high night with 18 points in the Seals huge defeat of Mifflinburg (60-49) on January 5th. With Batts and Harro controlling the backcourt, the Seals boast arguably the best guard duo in the Heartland Conference.

"I think our games compliment each other in a way. Brice has given me so many good looks all season," noted Batts.

While many may be entertained by the flashy ball handling skills of guards Brice Harro and Juvon Batts, Selinsgrove has gotten tremendous help from their big men. 6'5" junior Hunter George continues to be a threat in the post as other Heartland Conference teams have struggled time and time again to guard the center

underneath. George leads the team this year in rebounds and double digit scoring games.

Alongside George, junior Griffin Kirchner has been potent in the Seals offense. A hybrid forward who is one of the Seals strongest shooters, Kirchner has been a great compliment to

guard duo of Harro and Batts. "Griffin (Kirchner) has really helped Brice (Harro) and I out. He knows how to get open," explained senior guard Batts.

With only half a season in the books, the Seals look to take one game at a time in order to qualify for the District IV playoffs under the leadership of Coach Mike Stebila.



Senior Javon Batts looks to break the Jersey Shore defense and score

Photo by Lindsey Trusal

Foor's Return to Propel Lady Seals

By Dawson Klinger

Despite the Lady Seals Basketball team getting off to a 3-7 start overall, and 2-6 in the Heartland Conference, there is much optimism for Selinsgrove with the return of junior guard Savanna Foor.

Savanna Foor, a captain for the Lady Seals, was knocked out early in the season with a knee injury. Averaging 9.2 points per game with a 50% three-point field goal percentage, Foor had been tough for the Lady Seals to replace; however, in the absence of Foor, Selinsgrove was able to gain much experience for their front court and junior Sam Rodkey was able to improve her skills as a point guard.

In the absence of Foor, Rodkey shouldered the scoring load for the Lady Seals. Rodkey has averaged 10.7 points per game, and has led the team with 2.0 assists and 5.6 rebounds per game. Senior Emily Breheny has also been impressive with 5.8 points per

game, 8.8 rebounds per game, and 3.0 blocks per game. Freshman Anna Piecuch and Marley Sprenkel have been nice additions to the team, each logging plenty of time on the court and contributing to the team in every way possible.

"Losing Savanna (Foor) early on in the season was a big hit to our offense, but maybe even a bigger hit to our defense. While she is known for her shooting, Savanna (Foor) is easily one of our best defenders," noted junior guard Sam Rodkey. In a January 13th game against undefeated Danville, Savanna Foor was able to make her return.

While the Lady Seals lost 49-38, they were able to battle the Ironmen the whole game. With four minutes left to play, Selinsgrove was tied with Danville 38-38. It would take a Danville 11-0 to finish the game in order to win.

With Foor back in the lineup, the Lady Seals were able to show the potential for the rest of the season.



Junior Samantha Rodkey looks to pass to sophomore Marlo Ptacin

Photo by Lindsey Trusal

ENTERTAINMENT

Student Profiles

Camden Troutman, Senior

So far is this semester easier or harder for you than last semester? What is your favorite class this semester? *This semester is easier and my favorite class is Spanish.*

What is your favorite throwback song? *Turn My Swag On.*

If you could be fluent in any foreign language, what would it be? *Spanish.*

If you had to pick between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, who would you vote for? *Hillary Clinton.*

What was your favorite moment of 2015? *The time I found fifty dollars on the street.*



Emily Flory, Junior

So far is this semester easier or harder for you than last semester? What is your favorite class this semester? *This semester is easier and my favorite class is Ceramics.*

What is your favorite throwback song? *Milkshake.*

If you could be fluent in any foreign language, what would it be? *Spanish.*

If you had to pick between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, who would you vote for? *Hillary Clinton.*

What was your favorite moment of 2015? *When Niki called out Miley. (Miley what's good)*



Alex Reader-Burns, Sophomore

So far is this semester easier or harder for you than last semester? What is your favorite class this semester? *This semester is easier and more fun. WAHG 1 is my favorite class.*

What is your favorite throwback song? *Soulja Boy.*

If you could be fluent in any foreign language, what would it be? *Spanish.*

If you had to pick between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, who would you vote for? *Hillary Clinton.*

What was your favorite moment of 2015? *The end of school.*



Emily Miller, Freshmen

So far is this semester easier or harder for you than last semester? What is your favorite class this semester? *This semester is harder and Algebra two level two is my favorite class.*

What is your favorite throwback song? *Holiday by Green Day.*

If you could be fluent in any foreign language, what would it be? *Japanese.*

If you had to pick between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, who would you vote for? *Hillary Clinton.*

What was your favorite moment of 2015? *The farm show when I drank hot sauce.*



A New Year and New Resolutions to Keep

By Markie Reiland

The New Year has finally begun and brought many people the hope of a new lifestyle as they try to make this the year they stick to their resolutions.

Junior Steph Mengle made a few resolutions of her own and shared why she feels able to make changes now, claiming, “New Year’s brings a fresh start for everyone to make new decisions and leave the mistakes of last year in the past.” With an opportunity for a fresh start, 45% of Americans will make resolutions; however, only 8% actually follow through with their plans and achieve their goals according to WFAA.com.

After being stuck in old habits, many find it difficult to change their ways and by February begin to lose motivation. Fortunately, there are some steps one can take to make the process of following through with resolutions easier.

First, the goal should be something about which you are passionate. If you do not *really* care to change your ways, you will not. Some people make goals only because the goals are common or they feel pressured to change. People will only stick to their goals if they have the drive and the desire.

Next, the goal should be something possible. Setting your sights too high will only set you up for disappointment. It is best to think of a resolution that is reasonable and attainable. If you are trying to become healthier, do not make your resolution to eat only fruits and vegetables all day. Choose something you are more likely to follow through, such as trying to drink more water and less soda.



Lastly, make sure you have a support system. Tell friends and family about your goals and ask them to help you stay on track. Friends and family are great sources of encouragement when it comes to keeping up with tough resolutions.

While changing your lifestyle is not as easy as it may seem, following these tips for the New Year will make the goals much more attainable.

Our New Year's Resolutions...

“TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO CHALLENGE THEMSELVES. IF IT DOESN'T CHALLENGE YOU, IT DOESN'T CHANGE YOU... AND VOTE FOR FDR OF COURSE.” –MRS. W.Z

“For everyone to be nice to each other.” –Syndey Reibschied

“Change the dress code.” –Hailey Inch

“Get a swimming pool and a hot tub.” –Jack Rynearson

“Get rid of the keystones as a graduation requirement.” –Dr. Krause

“For all bullying to stop.” –Mrs. Bollinger

“Cleaner mat room facilities.” –Carly Winn

“Tell the science teachers to not take the rules so seriously.” –Austin Paca

“For students to expect more of themselves.” –Mr. Parise

“Be taught useful curriculum rather than curriculum only designed for standardized testing.” –Ashley Blair

“Try to serve healthier food.” –Johanna Kantz

“RAISE MORE MONEY FOR THE MUSIC PROGRAM.” –SEAN STUMPF

“Reduce drugs.” –Marilyn Wagner

“Warmer temperatures in certain rooms.” –Mrs. Hoover



My Turn by Isabel Bailey

Next time you open a *Vogue* magazine, compare the photos and lay-out of any female to any male model.

In it, you will see a woman looking beautiful but vacant, as if she just forgot what she was going to say. A man will stare straight back at you, looking smart and powerful. Both are portrayed as attractive and beautiful people, but the way in which their beauty is mixed with their mind is quite different.

Gender roles have been a huge subject in recent years. The questions of “what a woman is”, “what a man is”, and “if we’re really that much different” seems to be a vibrant part of today’s conversations. The emergence of a third gender doesn’t seem that impossible anymore.

Clothes are becoming more and more unisex, long hair is worn on anyone, and nail polish isn’t confined to women. Besides physical aspects, some are replacing their pronouns like she, her, hers and he, him, his with they, them, theirs. Some people may go by any of these pronouns because they don’t want to be viewed one way or the other just because of their gender.

We have to admit that when we find out someone is a woman or a man; we naturally associate them as a certain type or in a certain role. This is not something to be guilty of, but many feel that they don’t want this initial judgment or association. First they want to be a person, and then they want to be a gender.

The issue with the photos of women and men in fashion magazines is that they show a very one-way view towards female and male roles in society. An amazingly designed dress on a woman in a magazine is pleasing to the eye, but almost always the woman modeling the clothes is staring off into the distance, looking as if she doesn’t really care about much. Too often the female model is shown with her mouth partly open, looking blank.

Too many models looking like this in too many ads and magazines begins to send the message that women are like flowers: pretty to look at, but not much more than that. Opposite to this is the male model who, as you look at the photo, stares right back at you seriously, as if he has a specific plan of power or action. He looks smart, as if he’s going to jump off the page and cure cancer.

The problem? Women are left looking thoughtless. And once again men look powerful. Men should be powerful, and they can be smart, don’t get me wrong. But as long as men are portrayed as powerful and smart, women should be too. Women are powerful, intelligent, and hold important positions in society today; however, our country still hasn’t left the all too well know idea of illustrating women as merely pretty and not much more than that.

Images are a huge part of society. They influence us and teach young kids how the world works. So with every advertisement of a female model looking hopeless we are sending the message that women are blank and men are the ones that will lead. It is gender propaganda.

It is no wonder that men and women today feel a pressure to fulfil a certain role in society. These pictures of models in magazines are what people who rally against gender specifics are reacting to. This pressure to fit a specific mold has been felt for so long, that the youth of today are pushing to break it.

These pictures of models are one of the reasons people feel the necessity to be referred to by any pronoun. They are sending the message that we all need to hear a little bit more: people are people, and while men and women are different, one is not lesser than the other.

Maybe the answer isn’t a third gender, but just a different look at women and men. Fresh slates aren’t usually possible, but beginning to recognize men and women as equal in the areas of their appearance **and** their brains seems to be the first necessary step.



The Grove Gazette is pleased to continue producing a monthly cartoon series by Freshman Jenna Eberly. Her first installment is also presented below in case you missed the last edition of the Grove Gazette

