

# around the VALLEY

MARCH 2017



929 lakeshore drive  
leesport PA 19533-8631

SCHUYLKILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

## WELCOME our new superintendent!



On February 28, the Board of Directors of the Schuylkill Valley School District appointed **Dr. Cynthia Mierzejewski** to a four-year term as the new superintendent, effective July 1, 2017. Dr. Mierzejewski, currently the acting superintendent in the Wilson (West Lawn) School District, will serve as assistant to **Dr. Warren Mata** during a transitional period from May 30 to June 30. Dr. Mata will continue in his role as

superintendent until his retirement on June 30.

Formerly the assistant superintendent at Wilson, Dr. Mierzejewski holds a doctorate in educational leadership from Immaculata University, a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction and Elementary and Secondary Principal's Certificates from Penn State University, and a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from Alvernia University.

Her professional background also includes employment as the director, assistant director and program administrator at the Berks County Intermediate Unit, junior/senior high school principal in the Tulpehocken Area School District, assistant principal at Fleetwood Area High School, and chemistry teacher at Fleetwood, Wilson and Reading Central Catholic high schools. Dr. Mierzejewski has also served as adjunct faculty at

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**SCHUYLKILL VALLEY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

929 Lakeshore Drive  
Leesport PA 19533-8631

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**Warren F. Mata, Ed.D.**

Superintendent

**Mr. Michael T. Mitchell, Jr.**

High School Principal

**Mrs. Maggie E. Drake**

High School Assistant Principal

**Mr. Joshua Kuehner**

Middle School Principal

**Mr. Jeremy L. Crills**

Assistant Middle School Principal

**Mrs. Melissa Kelchner**

Elementary School Principal

**Mrs. Melissa A. Rhoads**

Assistant Elementary School Principal

**Mr. Brian F. Lacey**

Director, Special Education & Pupil Services

**Mr. Michael Billman**

Director, Information Technology

**Mrs. Wendy Boarder**

Business Manager

**Mrs. Changming Wang**

Assistant Business Manager

**Mr. Craig A. Strunk**

Director, Buildings & Grounds

**Miss Stephanie L. Deibler**

Athletic Director

**Mrs. Becky Robinson**

Director of Food Services

**Ms. Robin Brightbill**

Director of Human Resources

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Mr. Kevin Raudenbush, *President***

**Dr. Jay R. Melvin, *Vice President***

**Mrs. Linda R. Lash, *Secretary***

**Mr. Paul L. Bendigo**

**Mr. Robert M. Dempsey**

**Mr. Jeffrey B. King**

**Mr. George H. Mertz III**

**Mr. G. Dane Miller**

**Mr. Geoffrey P. Miller**

**BOARD MEETINGS**

Committees generally meet the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Board meetings are generally held the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the high school's LeRoy K. Seip room.

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Administration 610-916-0957

High School 610-926-1706

Middle School 610-926-7111

Elementary School 610-926-4165



A culture that promotes academic excellence, responds to the needs and interests of young adolescent students, and commits itself to helping all students achieve at a high level has once again earned the middle school the distinction of being designated as a "Pennsylvania School To Watch." Schuylkill Valley is one of only 38 schools in Pennsylvania, and 400 schools nationwide, to receive this designation. According to **Dr. Warren Mata**, superintendent of the district, this award recognizes the unique, student-centered environment created by teachers and staff who love working with middle school-aged children and put their needs first. "In an era where test scores seem to be the only measure of school success, this award shows that our middle school is a great place to help children navigate some of the difficulties of the adolescent years," Dr. Mata said in a recent interview with the Hamburg Item. **Mr. Joshua Kuehner**, principal at the middle school, agreed. "The administration and faculty are dedicated to educating the children of the community in a

way that addresses the whole student, not just the academics component of education," he said. "The stability of our program guides students on the right track to a successful future." Activities like the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) program, Genius Hour, outdoor education camp and fun, team-building events in the student advocacy program highlight the middle school's four focus areas – organization, responsibility, cooperation and respect. "The dedication of the faculty and support of the administration and community at SV allow for growth and discovery in an ever-changing world," said Mr. Kuehner.

**SUCCESS STARTS HERE**

In September, 2016, the Pennsylvania School Board Association launched its "Success Starts Here" media campaign to share the good news about public education in our state. Schuylkill Valley participated in the project by submitting a story detailing the extraordinary amount of co-curricular activities offered in the district. Our administration believes that advisor-supported and student led activities contribute to SV's high graduation rate. At right please find the "Success Starts Here" article about Schuylkill Valley.



# is One To Watch!



## Success Starts Here

The Schuylkill Valley School District is alive with activity! The campus, with an enrollment of 2,054 students in three schools, offers more than fifty diverse clubs and activities. The high school alone boasts a seventy-five percent participation rate in co-curriculars. All of this is possible through a unique partnership between students and faculty.

According to **Athletic Director Stephanie L. Deibler**, who oversees co-curricular activity, the district's culture allows students and faculty to work together for a common good. "Student participation is high because we try as much as possible to allow and encourage kids to try different activities outside their comfort zone," Miss Deibler said. At the high school, students can start their own clubs with approval from Principal **Mr. Michael Mitchell** and Miss Deibler. The school provides a faculty advisor, classroom space and a weekly activity period during school hours so that students can explore a multitude of interests without conflicting with after-school activities. The diversity of co-curriculars, from rock climbing, to welfare of animals, to agricultural club

and more, encourages students to reach beyond the usual to acquire new skills. No one club or activity is given priority over another, and coaches and advisors are guided not to pressure students to focus solely on one activity. This creates a culture of inclusivity, where a football player can also participate in the school musical and serve as student council president.

"We make sure our teachers, advisors, coaches and music directors understand that a school district isn't just what goes on between seven in the morning and three in the afternoon," Miss Deibler explained. Faculty and staff advise co-curriculars with the understanding that the activities are as much a part of students' future success as the district's academic component. "All of our co-curriculars are imbedded into our teacher's union contract," Miss Deibler said. "But most of our faculty want to advise because they know that it's good for students, their families and our community. We all want to make sure that when kids leave here they're prepared to be better leaders."

## SV Welcomes New Superintendent **continued**

Immaculata University, Wilkes University and Cabrini College.

Dr. Mierzejewski and her husband of 35 years, David, have two children and one grandson. She enjoys traveling, reading, attending theater events and spending time with her family. "I am really excited about starting my tenure at SVSD," Dr. Mierzejewski said. "I can't wait to get to meet administrators, staff and community members. I look forward to learning about the SVSD students' educational experiences and to work with the whole community to enhance what is already in place."

Our new superintendent brings a wealth of experience in supervision, instructional leadership and curriculum development. "I am very pleased with our board's selection and am confident that Dr. Mierzejewski will be an excellent fit for our district," said Dr. Mata. "Her reputation as a school leader and her expertise in so many areas of education are known throughout the county." The Schuylkill Valley community warmly welcomes Dr. Mierzejewski with all good wishes for success.



# HIGH SCHOOL

## Boys' Basketball Scores Division III Title

The boys' basketball team, lead by Head Coach **Mr. Taylor Grim** won the Division III title and began PIAA state play-offs on Saturday, March 11.



## Football Honors

Congratulations to the following SV football players who were honored by the Berks County Football Coaches Association and the *Reading Eagle* for their outstanding performance on the field during the 2016 season:



(L to R): **George Limberiou** (12th grade, second-team All Section at guard), **Brock Klahold** (12th grade, second-team All-County, first-team All-Section at linebacker), **Brian Brent Hoffman II** (12th grade, second-team All Section at both wide receiver and defensive back).



Photo courtesy of Pardon Photography

## STRIIIKE!

The girls' bowling team, coached by **Ms. Trish Christman** won the Division II title.



# WINTER SPORTS

## Girls' Swimming Takes Home Gold



Congratulations to the SV swim team, led by Head Coach **Mr. Kyle Campbell** for their winning accomplishments in the District III AA Team Championship on March 4. The girls won the overall championship and the following students earned medals.

### **GOLD:**

**Emily Griesemer**

10th grade, 200 Free Relay

**Colin Gwiazdowski**

11th grade, 50 Free

**Lauren Hart**

11th grade, 200 Free Relay

**Mikala Persky**

12th grade, 200 Medley Relay

**Rachel Rehrig**

12th grade, 200 Medley Relay

**Marlee Rickert**

9th grade, 100 Free, 200 Free Relay, 200 Medley Relay

**Emily Van Der Sleen**

10th grade, 200 Free Relay, 200 Medley Relay

### **SILVER:**

**Emily Griesemer**

10th grade, 400 Free Relay

**Colin Gwiazdowski**, 100 Free

**Lauren Hart**

11th grade, 400 Free Relay

**Mikala Persky**

12th grade, 400 Free Relay

**Emily Van Der Sleen**

10th grade, 400 Free Relay

### **BRONZE:**

**Dawson Mohl**, 11th grade, 500 Free

**Marlee Rickert**, 9th grade, 100 Back

The teams earned a spot in the PIAA state championships to be held March 15 – 18 at Bucknell University.



**Colin Gwiazdowski**

## District III Wrestling

Schuylkill Valley junior **Jack Bennett**, wrestling at 138 pounds in the District III AA tournament on February 24, rallied from a six-point deficit to win the bronze medal and secure a spot in the PIAA state championships, held at the Giant Center in Hershey last weekend. Jack is coached by **Mr. Duane Maurer**.



# HIGHSCHOOL

## National Honor Society Inductees

Excellence in scholarship, service, leadership and character were celebrated on February 16 at the National Honor Society (NHS) induction of 25 junior and senior students. The ceremony, held at the high school, featured **Mrs. Dana Heins**, SV faculty member, as the keynote speaker. **Mrs. Lisa Chillot**, SVHS science teacher, is the advisor for the school's NHS chapter.

National Honor Society Inductees



### 2016-2017 INDUCTEES:

Donald Ballou  
Connor Becker  
Zachary Bevans  
Kasey Bubel  
Bryce Burnett  
Gracey Butsack  
Elizabeth Clement  
Madison Davidson  
Emily X. M. Gunkel  
Laura Henne  
Carson R. Himmelberger  
Lucas Horrell  
Hallie Jacobs

Olivia Jenkins  
Cassandra Miller  
Fiona Murphy  
Cecily Ramirez  
Hunter E. Rice  
Ellen Robinson  
Autumn Schell  
Gabrielle Spracklin  
Colby Stichter  
Carissa Trievel  
Kara Unger  
Katarina Werber

## Music Honors

The district congratulates the following students on receiving county-level recognition:



**Daniel Behler**, 12th grade, was selected for County Senior Band and County Senior Chorus



**Hunter Mountz**, 12th grade, was selected for County Senior Chorus

The following students placed in their categories:

### Invasive Species – 1st Place

Thoneca Akhter, 12th grade, and Emily Gunkel, 11th grade

### Hydrogeology – 2nd Place

Laura Henne, 11th grade, and Tristan Kucera, 10th grade

### Wind Power – 2nd Place

Olivia Jenkins, 11th grade, and Fiona Murphy, 11th grade

### Material Science – 2nd Place

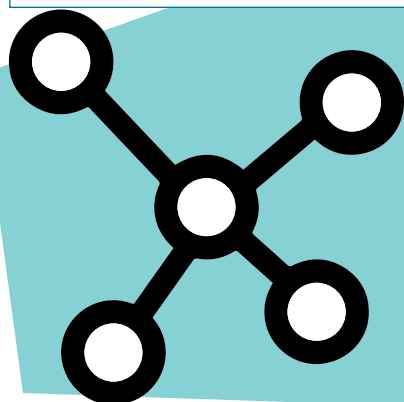
Lucas Horrell, 11th grade, and Olivia Jenkins, 11th grade

### Towers – 3rd Place

Zachary Bevans, 11th grade, and Steven Phan, 12th grade

## Science Olympiad

Ten students from the high school's Science Olympiad team competed in the Berks County Invitational at Kutztown University on January 5, 2017. The team, led by Olympiad advisors **Mr. Bill Gampe** and **Mr. David Smith**, both science teachers at the high school, placed seventh out of sixteen teams.







(Photo courtesy of Matt Boyd)

## SV Junior Hallie Jacobs

Junior **Hallie Jacobs**, daughter of Jarrad and Stephanie Jacobs of Bern Township, was selected as Miss Susquehanna Valley's Outstanding Teen on January 28, 2017 in York, PA. Hallie's platform, "Literacy: A Dream You Hold In Your Hand," inspires a passion for reading in all students and provides access to quality books. She has distributed more than 500 books to Berks County children and created two libraries for local non-profits that serve children. Additionally, she represents Schuylkill Valley as a member of the Berks Youth Advisory Board's VoiceUp program and is a member of the Reading Squadron's Civil Air Patrol. At SV, Hallie is the Junior Class President, a member of the National Honor Society, soccer team, *Valley Voices* and chorus, yearbook club, PYEA and *Around the Valley* morning television show. She also is a junior coach for "Girls on the Run" and participates in the district's fall dramas and Panthers-On-Parade spring musicals.

In June, Hallie will compete in Pittsburgh for the title "Miss Pennsylvania's Outstanding Teen." The current title is held by SV senior **Alysa Bainbridge**.

## BCTC Students of the Quarter

Kudos to the following SV students who were selected as Berks Career and Technology Center West's "Students of the Second Quarter:"

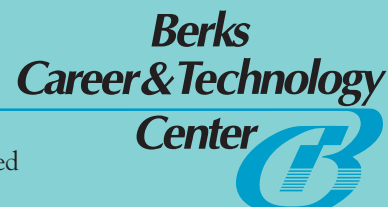
**Anna Brzostek**, 10th grade, Cosmetology

**Nicholas Hansen**, 12th grade, Culinary Arts

**Sydney Himmelberger**, 10th grade, Early Childhood Education

**Brett Snyder**, 12th grade, Recreational and Power Equipment Technology

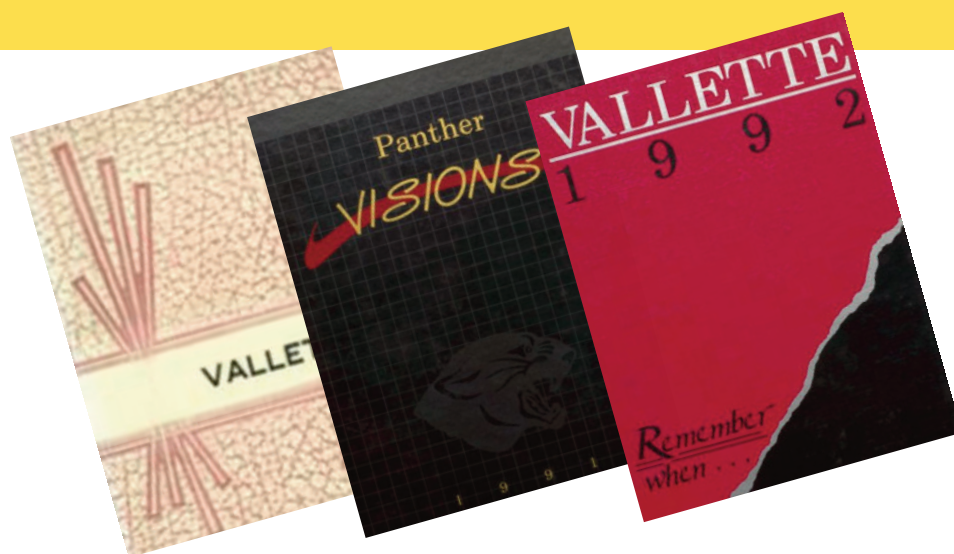
**Jessica Stacey**, 10th grade, Health Occupations



## SV Yearbook Recognition Ads New This Year! (Seniors Only)

**HIGH SCHOOL**

Parents, family and friends are invited to commemorate student achievements and important milestones for members of the Class of 2017. All ads must be completed online by the deadline of Friday, March 17. Click here for the link to the order form.



## ALUMNI - Take a Walk Down Memory Lane

Did you forget to pick up your yearbook, class photo or prom picture when you were at Schuylkill Valley? There is still time to claim those memories! The high school office has a number of yearbooks, photos and senior slideshows from recent classes that were purchased but never taken home. In addition, we have extra yearbooks and photos that are available for anyone to purchase, with some dating back to the 1960s and '70s!

Check the website here for a list of available items or, for more information, call **Mrs. Cynthia Roden** at the high school, 610-916-5497.

## Geography Bee

Congratulations to 8th grader **Addison Angstadt**, the winner of this year's Geography Bee held January 13, 2017 at the middle school. **Drew Campbell**, 7th grade, earned second place. The winning question was, "The endangered snow leopard is being protected in the Annapurna Conservation Area, which includes the Annapurna Massif, in which Asian country?" The answer is Nepal.

The finalists of the grade level geography bees were 6th graders **Nicholas Bhatti**, **Emily Gao**, and **Amanda Hoover**; 7th graders **Drew Campbell**, **Sarah Gilbert**, and **Reagan Rittenhouse**; and 8th graders **Aiden Gensure** and **Ty Loftus**.

Special thanks to **Mr. Tod Witman**, SVHS social studies teacher, who served as the moderator, and SV PTO for their generous donation of prizes.

Addison has now taken a qualifying test and is waiting to hear if she is one of the top 100 participants to qualify for the State Geography Bee. State champions travel to Washington, D.C. in May to compete in the national tournament where the top prize is a \$50,000 college scholarship, \$500 in cash, and a trip to the Galápagos Islands.



(L to R) Geography Bee runner-up **Drew Campbell**, 7th grade, **Mr. Tod Witman**, social studies teacher and bee moderator, and winner **Addison Angstadt**, 8th grade

## MIDDLESCHOOL



**Aiden Gensure**, 8th grade, winner of the 2017 SV Middle School Spelling Bee



2017 SV Middle School Spelling Bee Finalists

## Middle School Spelling Bee

When eighth-grader **Aiden Gensure** thinks back on middle school, he might "reminisce" about the time he won the 2017 Schuylkill Valley Middle School Spelling Bee, sponsored by the *Reading Eagle*. On February 24, Aiden emerged from a field of twenty-nine qualifying students to win by correctly spelling the word "reminisce." Seventh-grader **Anna Kate Gwiazdowski** was the runner-

up after an unprecedented ninety-minute, twelve-round bee.

Aiden was presented with a medal by **Mr. Cliff Plummer**, the *Eagle's* spelling bee representative, and earned a spot at the Berks County Championship Spelling Bee Finals on March 13 at the Miller Center for the Arts in Reading. The middle school is so proud of the spelling talents of all of the students who participated in the bee:





2017 SV Middle School Geography Bee Finalists

#### GRADE 8

Addison Angstadt, Samuel Arentz, Brice Dornblaser, Aiden Gensure, Isabella Hoeltzel, Ella Jenkins, Daniel Koch, Reinhold Louis, Rachel Santos, Cole Schweitzer, Briana Silasavage, Canon Stewart, Joey Weidner and Emily Zaharia

#### GRADE 7

Anna Kate Gwiazdowski, Hadley Pontician, Daniel Scalia, Dylan Slusser and Emma Walsh

#### GRADE 6

Charlotte Baumgard, Chad Gangewere, Emily Gao, Peyton James, Nikailyn Madden, Michael Orth and Delaney Yeakle

#### GRADE 5

Laura Schlappich, Devin Welker and Chase Wunsch



## WHAT'S happening?

### April 7 and 8

Panthers On Parade presents  
"The Wizard of Oz," 7:30 p.m.

### April 12 – 17

Spring Break, NO SCHOOL

### April 11

PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., SVES Cafeteria

### April 21

Kindergarten Music Program, 9:30 a.m., SVES

### April 28

Junior/Senior Prom, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Wyomissing

### May 4

First Grade Music Program, 9:30 a.m., SVES

### May 9

PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., SVES Cafeteria

### May 11

Senior High Spring Concert, SVHS auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

### May 17

Elementary school Art Show and Fourth Grade Band and Chorus Concert, SVES, 7:00 p.m.

### May 18

Fifth and Sixth Grade Spring Concert, high school auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

### May 18 and 19

Kindergarten Registration, call 610-926-4165 to request a registration packet.

### May 25

Seventh and Eighth Grade Spring Concert, SVHS, 7:30 p.m.

### June 7

Baccalaureate, 6:30 p.m.

### June 8

Last day for students and Commencement Exercises, 6:30 p.m.

# PTO

## UPCOMING PTO EVENTS

- **No Cook Night**

at The Works in Wyomissing, Thursday, March 16. Discounted wristbands will be available for the Ballocity on that date.

- **Spirit Wear Sale**

begins March 24

- **Scholastic Book Fair**

May 9 – 18

- **Summer Kick-Off Luau,**

June 2, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., SVES parking lot. Food, games, bounce houses, dunk tank, music, face painting, balloon twisting, petting zoo, photo booth, community vendors, Chinese Auction and BBQ cook-off.

Donations are needed for the raffle. Please contact chairperson **Mrs. Kelly Myers** at [kgolub@hotmail.com](mailto:kgolub@hotmail.com) to contribute.

The PTO is accepting nominations for the Board positions of President, Secretary and Committee Lead. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know, please email [svpto@gmail.com](mailto:svpto@gmail.com) or attend the PTO meeting in the SVES cafeteria on April 11 at 6:30 p.m. Voting will take place at the May 9 meeting.

Many thanks to **Mrs. Aliesha Woods**, president, **Mrs. Kimberly Yarletts**, secretary and **Mrs. Sue DelConte**, committee lead. Your dedication to our students and staff are most appreciated!



## An Evening with Someone Special

On Friday, February 10, the PTO hosted its first “Special Someone Dance” at the elementary school. Nearly 200 girls and their “dates” (a dad, grandfather or other special someone) dressed up and danced the night away. Volunteers provided light snacks and refreshments. Beautiful decorations, raffle prizes, guessing contests and a photo booth made the evening fun. Fourth grader **Abigail Ruth**, daughter of **Bill** and **Kelly Ruth** of Mohrsville, was escorted by her father. “I had a great time spending the night with my dad and my friends,” Abby said. “I was glad my dad didn’t embarrass me on the dance floor!”



## Many Thanks

Many thanks to the members of the “Special Someone Dance” and “Bowling Date Night” committee:

**Mrs. Lisa Lawson**, chairperson

**Ms. Audrey Anivatate**

**Mrs. Sue Briedegan**

**Mrs. Stephanie Jacobs**, SVES Librarian

**Mr. Chuck Lawson**

**Mrs. Elena Marie**

**Mrs. Kelly Myers**

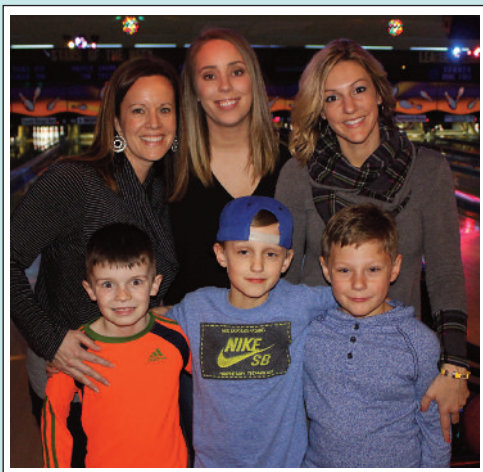
**Mrs. Lori Smith**

**Mrs. Beth Thompson**

**Mrs. Lawrna Walborn**



# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



(L to R) Connor & Tara Huggard, Beckham & Kristin Stone, Ethan & Melissa Gehman

## Mothers & Sons Strike Out For Fun

On Friday, March 10, and Saturday, March 18, the PTO's first "Mother and Son Bowling Date Nights" were held at Hiester's Lanes in Reading. Hundreds of teams took to the alleys to share an evening of fun and friendship. Snacks, refreshments and raffle prizes were provided as moms and their boys bowled together. Special thanks to all of the volunteers who coordinated this memorable event.



Jennifer Mealey and Dustin Lerch

## Breakfast is the Most Important Meal of the Day

By **Becky Robinson, RDN, LDN**  
Schuylkill Valley Food Service Director

### Top 5 reasons SV Panthers should NOT skip breakfast:

1. Children who skip breakfast will tend to eat MORE calories throughout the day.
2. Breakfast consumption not only makes children more attentive, but can also help them focus and thrive during the school day.
3. Most breakfast foods provide essential nutrients such as iron, calcium, vitamin D and fiber.
4. Studies show that adolescents who eat breakfast regularly maintain a normal weight range.
5. Children who eat breakfast miss LESS school and reduce the risk of illnesses.



### Quick breakfast ideas:

1. Oatmeal with sliced bananas or blueberries.
2. Whole grain toaster waffles and peanut butter.
3. Breakfast taco – scrambled eggs and cheese in a warm taco shell. Top with salsa!
4. Yogurt and fruit topped with low-fat granola.
5. Whole grain toast topped with peanut butter and a banana, cheese or cottage cheese and apple butter.
6. Hard boiled eggs and an English muffin.
7. Fruit and yogurt smoothie.

The most important meal of the day song from Sesame Street.



Resources: [Kidshealth.org](http://Kidshealth.org), [National Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](http://National Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics), and [Healthychildren.org](http://Healthychildren.org)

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



SVES Principal Mrs. Kelchner and Assistant Principal Mrs. Rhoads ready to go!

### SVES Wins County-Wide Literacy Contest Third Year in a Row

Students at the elementary school helped stamp out illiteracy during the 2017 Literacy Council of Berks County Read-A-Thon. By contributing a total of \$6,248.50, SVES won the county-wide contest for the third year in a row! Students in all grades were invited to collect pledges for reading books during a one-week period in January. The goal was to motivate young people to read and instill a life-long love of reading. On March 3, in conjunction with

“Read Across America Week,” students celebrated their accomplishment at a Panther Pride Assembly where those who collected at least \$10 in pledges were entered into a drawing to “pie” Mrs. Missy Kelchner, principal, or Mrs. Melissa Rhoads, assistant principal. Later this spring, members of the Reading Fightin’ Phillies baseball team will join students at the school to congratulate and inspire them at a special assembly.



### Teachers in the Parks

school, led a group of twelve students in twice-weekly activities at the park pavilion between the Schuylkill Valley Community Library and the Leesport Pool. Themes for each week included oceans, insects, camping, summer Olympics, space, carnivals and parks, and the activities incor-

porated books and experiments to match each theme. Students created an ocean in a bottle, hiked on the Schuylkill River Trail, participated in an insect scavenger hunt, made solar oven s’mores in pizza boxes and held a mini-Olympics based on math games. According to Ms. Hummel, the program didn’t seem like summer school because the students were having so much fun they didn’t realize they were learning. “Our goal was to make learning fun while creating a long-lasting program that helps some of our students bridge the summer learning gap,” Ms. Hummel said. “So many times when we’re in the classroom we’re told what we have to teach. With

TIPS we got to be innovative and creative, and to integrate all the subjects that we enjoy.” Students, too, felt the joy of learning. Third-grader Katlin Kier, daughter of Timothy and Bethanne Kier of Leesport, said her favorite part of TIPS was the nature hike. “I liked when we walked on the Schuylkill River Trail and had to find certain bugs,” Katlin said. “We also did yoga and it was funny when Mr. K. tried to do yoga.” Taylor Riggins, another third grader and the daughter of Donald and Marian Riggins of Leesport, encouraged other children to attend. “My favorite part of TIPS was the reading groups, because it’s good to know new things,” Taylor said. “You will love TIPS if you go. Teachers In The Park – they rock!”

One of the nicest things about summer is spending time in the beauty of a park. This summer, students who will be in third and fourth grade during the 2017-2018 school year can play – and learn – while they are exploring the outdoors, too.

**“Teachers In The Parks (TIPS),” a six-week program that focuses on fun ways to learn math and science, will again be offered to SVES students this summer.**

Last year, Ms. Heather Hummel, Mrs. Sandra Borkey, Mrs. Sandra Griffiths and Mr. Joel Kleinspehn, all teachers at the elementary

**Parents of students in second and third grades should watch for a registration paper to come home with their child. The cost is \$99 and due by April 21.**



## Hot Shots Basketball Contest

To wrap up its season, Schuylkill Valley Youth Basketball (SVYB), led by **Mr. John Kowalski**, held a contest for players at the high school gym on Sunday, February 26. Girls and boys in grades two through six were invited to participate in a shooting contest, with different scores assigned to various shots of greater difficulty. While scores were being tabulated, all in attendance, including adults, had the opportunity to compete in the three-point contest for a dollar a shot, with the money being split equally between SVYB and the winner. Fourth-grader **Kowen Gerner**, son of **Tom Gerner**, Shartlesville, and **Tinecia and Ryan Hartman**, Leesport, outlasted all participants and won the three-point contest. Other winners were:

### 6TH GRADE BOYS:

- 1st **Mason Bagenstose**
- 2nd **Mark Rajnath**
- 3rd **Chad Gangewere**

### 6TH GRADE GIRLS:

- 1st **Sara Haag**

### 5TH GRADE BOYS:

- 1st **Donovan Miley**
- 2nd **Micah Nagle**
- 3rd **Julian Kemmer**

### 5TH GRADE GIRLS:

- 1st **Natane White**
- 2nd **Bryn Kleffel**
- 3rd **Julia Missimer**

### 4TH GRADE BOYS:

- 1st **Dillon Lackner**
- 2nd **Cooper Hohenadel**
- 3rd **Luke Spotts**

### 4TH GRADE GIRLS:

- 1st **Taryn Rittenhouse**
- 2nd **Addison Moser**
- 3rd **Maddie Gordos**



### 3RD GRADE BOYS:

- 1st **Brady Ruth**
- 2nd **Gabriel Kier**
- 3rd **Ben Ostrowski**

### 3RD GRADE GIRLS:

- 1st **Elyssa Sellers**
- 2nd **Carly Keith**

### 2ND GRADE BOYS:

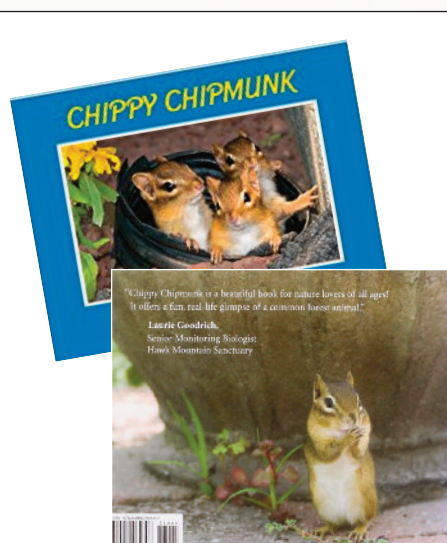
- 1st **Zackery Reeser**
- 2nd **Samuel Weidner**
- 3rd **Alex Gehret**

The first-place winners of the sixth grade contests had their names engraved in a trophy that will be displayed in the seventh grade hallway of the middle school. Thank you to Mr. Kowalski and all of the coaches who hosted a fun afternoon highlighting basketball skills.



## SOCKtober Donation Drive

Every night in the United States an estimated 600,000 people live on the streets. Last fall, students and staff at the elementary school made a big difference in the lives of our homeless neighbors at the Hope Rescue Mission by donating 650 pairs of new socks in the Socktober donation drive. Socktober, an initiative started by Kid President, is a movement to get kids and adults to help the homeless in an easy, fun way. **Mrs. Lauren Matthews** and **Mrs. Joanna Schlottman**, guidance counselors at SVES, led the effort at the elementary school and were delighted by the generosity of our students.



## Family Reading Night

The third annual Family Reading Night was held on March 1 at the elementary school. **Kathy Miller**, author of the *Chippy Chipmunk* book series, was the special guest during assemblies at school that day and throughout the evening, which also included a scavenger hunt, bingo, crafts and refreshments. Thank you to all of the SVES staff who made this fun evening possible!

# PANTHER PRIDE STADIUM CAMPAIGN

Panther Pride Stadium Campaign (PPSC)  
committee of Schuylkill Valley School District



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE  
**ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017

**Berkleigh Golf Club**

14623 Kutztown Road

Kutztown, PA 19530

**Shotgun Start: 1:00 p.m. | Dinner 5:00 p.m.**

*Golfer / Foursome registration includes a ticket for one hot dog and a bag of potato chips per player before golf. Dinner after golf includes: pulled pork, ¼ chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, and dessert.*



**For more information on event sponsorship, golf and dinner registration, or to volunteer, please contact Jeremy Crills at 610-413-8148, [jcrills@schuylkillvalley.org](mailto:jcrills@schuylkillvalley.org)**

**OR, email the Committee, [PPSC@schuylkillvalley.org](mailto:PPSC@schuylkillvalley.org)**

*This fundraising event supports the renovations of the stadium facilities at Schuylkill Valley High School and the addition of an athletic field house to accommodate multiple athletic teams, events, students, youth and community groups throughout the year. On behalf of the committee, we THANK YOU for your support. Your Panther Pride for the project ensures its impact and legacy on our community, and most importantly, our students.*



**YES**, I/We will support the **SV PPSC Golf Outing** in the following way/s:

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Golfer registration (includes dinner), **\$100/golfer = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please register my Foursome (includes dinner), **\$400/foursome = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Dinner guests ONLY, # **dinner guests at \$25/pp = \$** \_\_\_\_\_ / # guests \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in the following SPONSORSHIP level (see sponsor flyer/payment enclosed) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *I cannot participate, but please accept my donation in the amount of \$* \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Foursome Golfers (Names)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Daytime phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please enclose check, payable to "SV Panther Pride Stadium Campaign" and mail to:

**Panther Pride Stadium Campaign Committee** P.O. Box 861, Leesport PA 19533

Also include logo or text for sponsor signage if applicable, or e-mail .jpeg files to: [jcrills@schuylkillvalley.org](mailto:jcrills@schuylkillvalley.org)

*The SV Panther Pride Stadium Campaign is a 501(c)(3) organization - a portion of your contribution may be tax deductible. The official registration and financial information of the SV Panther Pride Stadium Campaign may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*





**SV PANTHER PRIDE  
STADIUM CAMPAIGN  
ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**  
SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017  
**Berkleigh Golf Club**  
14623 Kutztown Road | Kutztown, PA 19530

## 2017 Sponsorships Opportunities:

<b>Platinum Package (1 Available)</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Company banner/s hung at course entrance and dinner area</li> <li><b>Exclusive</b> sponsorship on <b>ALL</b> tournament signage</li> <li>Introduction at Shotgun start and special sponsorship recognition at Dinner reception</li> <li><b>2 golf foursome packages</b> (golf and dinner for 8 guests)</li> <li>Acknowledgement in printed materials</li> </ul>	
<b>GOLD PACKAGE</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green &amp; Tee signage of your choice – <b>All Par 3 Holes &amp; Closest to Pin Contest Hole</b></li> <li>Special sponsorship recognition at Dinner reception</li> <li><b>2 golf packages</b> (golf and dinner for 8 guests)</li> <li>Acknowledgement in print materials</li> </ul>	
<b>SILVER PACKAGE</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green &amp; Tee signage – <b>Longest Drive Holes</b></li> <li>Special sponsorship recognition at Dinner reception</li> <li><b>1 golf package</b> (golf and dinner for 4 guests)</li> </ul>	
<b>BRONZE PACKAGE</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sponsorship signage on Putting Green – Viewed by all golfers</li> <li><b>1 golf package</b> (golf and dinner for 4 guests)</li> </ul>	
<b>Hole sponsor</b>	<b>\$ 100</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signage on ONE Hole (tee + green)</li> </ul>	
<b>Supporting sponsor</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name recognition on group signage at registration / check-in</li> </ul>	
We are unable to participate this year, but we have <u>enclosed a donation</u> .	<b>\$ _____</b>
We would like to <u>donate</u> the following <u>raffle item</u> <i>(describe)</i> _____	

\*Please enclose check, payable to "SV Panther Pride Stadium Campaign" and mail to:

**Panther Pride Stadium Campaign Committee** P.O. Box 861, Leesport PA 19533

Also include logo or text for sponsor signage if applicable, or e-mail .jpeg files to: [jcrills@schuylkillvalley.org](mailto:jcrills@schuylkillvalley.org)

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Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

## 2017 Panthers-on-Parade Show:

# The Wizard of Oz

THERE'S NO PLACE  
LIKE HOME.



Tickets go on sale to the public Monday, March 20, 2017, for this year's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Performances will take place on Friday, April 7, and Saturday, April 8, 2017, at 7:30 p.m.

General admission price is \$11.00; price for senior citizen tickets (62 years of age or older) is \$8.00. All ticket orders are filled on a first-come/first-serve basis and are not refundable.

All orders will be by mail only (SVHS, 929 Lakeshore Drive, Leesport, PA 19533). There will be no orders taken over the phone. Tickets will be mailed back if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided, or they may be picked up at the ticket booth the nights of the performances. **Orders received after Wednesday, March 29 will be held at the ticket booth.**

Payment must accompany all orders. If paying by check, please make checks payable to **Schuylkill Valley High School**.

Questions or concerns regarding tickets should be forwarded to [tgoldeb1@gmail.com](mailto:tgoldeb1@gmail.com).

### FRIDAY April 7, 2017 Ticket Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ general admission tickets @ \$11 each = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ senior citizen admission tickets @ \$8 each = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ total # ticket | total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK (# \_\_\_\_\_)

### SATURDAY April 8, 2017 Ticket Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ general admission tickets @ \$11 each = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ senior citizen admission tickets @ \$8 each = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ total # ticket | total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK (# \_\_\_\_\_)

Cut out the order form above and include with check or cash in an envelope addressed to:

**Schuylkill Valley High School**  
929 Lakeshore Drive  
Leesport, PA 1953

Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like the tickets mailed to you. Otherwise they will be held at the ticket booth. **All orders will be by mail only. There will be no orders taken over the phone.**





929 LAKESHORE DRIVE  
LEESPORT PA 19533-8631



**schuylkill valley**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

NONPROFIT ORG  
PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Reading, PA  
Permit No. 208

**RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

## Book Sale April 28 + 29

### Schuylkill Valley Community Library



### **In Our Community**

The Schuylkill Valley Community Library will hold its annual book sale on Friday, April 28, from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., and on Saturday, April 29, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Baked goods will be available during those hours. The library is accepting donations of used books in good condition, games, puzzles, DVDs and CDs. For more information, contact the library at 610-926-1555.

The next issue of the Schuylkill Valley School District Newsletter (June) will be available online ONLY at **[www.schuylkillvalley.org](http://www.schuylkillvalley.org)**.

If you would like to receive a printed copy of the newsletter, please call the Administration Center at 610-916-0957.