



Faculty Madness Basketball Fundraiser



High School Faculty Madness team

The district's annual Faculty Madness basketball tournament, hosted by the SVHS Student Council, was held on Friday, March 15, at the high school. Teams of faculty and staff members from each of our three schools competed, cheered on by fans and families from the district. More than \$2,500 was raised by the sale of t-shirts and other memorabilia, and the proceeds were donated to the Conner Kleffel Scholarship Fund. This year, two scholarships from the fund in the amount of \$2,600 each will be awarded to selected graduating seniors. Applications will be accepted until May 3, and the recipients of the scholarships will be announced at commencement exercises on Friday, June 7, 2019.

(continued on page 3)

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**SCHUYLKILL VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

929 Lakeshore Drive
Leesport PA 19533-8631

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Mrs. Maggie E. Drake

High School Assistant Principal

Mr. Joshua Kuehner

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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

superintendent's MESSAGE



One of the priorities for the Schuylkill Valley School District is to provide a safe and secure environment that ensures productive learning for students and staff. Over the past several years, the district has put in place both proactive and reactive safety programs. In cooperation with community partners, such as local law enforcement and local emergency responders, as well as elected officials and medical/mental health service providers, we have recently added even more programs.

In regard to physical structure, the district has in place safety/security measures and an on-going All Hazards Emergency Plan. The district also plans on engaging in continuous safety assessments for all of the buildings. Schuylkill Valley School District is participating in community-sponsored emergency programs such as the Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) program and the Stop the Bleed program where school personnel and others are trained to use the provided equipment in case of cardiac or bleeding emergencies.

Two new programs that are being implemented this year are CrisisGo and Safe2Say Something. CrisisGo is an emergency communications platform that allows emergency response plans

to be electronically shared among staff and local law enforcement. It is also a key communication method to be used in any type of emergency. Safe2Say Something is a statewide system for submitting tips regarding safety concerns. The tips are then directed to local law enforcement and school districts to act upon as appropriate.

In-service training has been provided for all staff. In March, teachers attended a full day of training in both proactive and reactive safety topics. Teachers and administrators were led by the Northern Berks Regional Police Department in developing situational awareness and reacting in emergency situations. Another session introduced staff to the CrisisGo platform and the third session on student resiliency was facilitated by a representative from Caron Foundation.

This is not an exhaustive list of the district's work with our safe schools' programs, nor is it the end of our continuous process of building services and training initiatives. We look forward to working with all of our community partners to assist in identifying needs and solving problems.

Dr. Cindy Mierzejewski
Superintendent

This newsletter is the official publication of the Schuylkill Valley School District. Submit news of school or community interest to editor Mrs. Anne Ostrowski at svdistrictnewsletter@gmail.com. Please include your name and phone number for verification.



Middle School Faculty Madness team

Faculty Madness

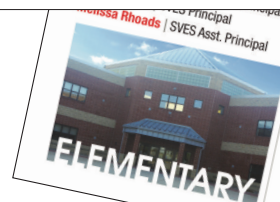
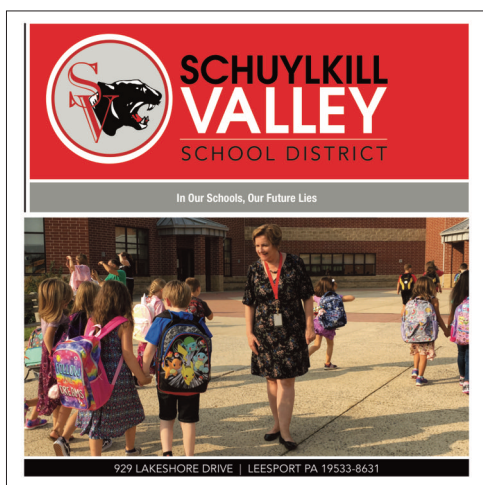
Elementary School Faculty Madness team



SVSD Annual Report

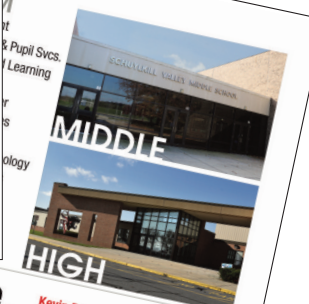
The district recently produced a new, award-winning annual report that tells our story in a unique and meaningful way. We are very proud of this report and invite you to view it at the following link <http://bit.ly/2udIPR2> and on the SVSD website under District Information. Special thanks to **Mrs. Anne Ostrowski**, Editor, Schuylkill Valley District Newsletter, and **Mrs. Julie A. Bunnick**, Graphic Designer, Office of the Executive Director, Berks County Intermediate Unit, for their talent and skill in creating this vibrant and engaging report.

Kudos to **Addison Angstadt**, 10th grade, **Zoe Limberiou**, 11th grade, and **Lily Whitmoyer**, 12th grade, for photographing our campus buildings for the report. **Mr. Matthew Cullen**, photography teacher, supervised their participation. Congratulations to Mrs. Bunnick, who won a PenSPRA Award of Excellence in Graphic Design for her work on the project.

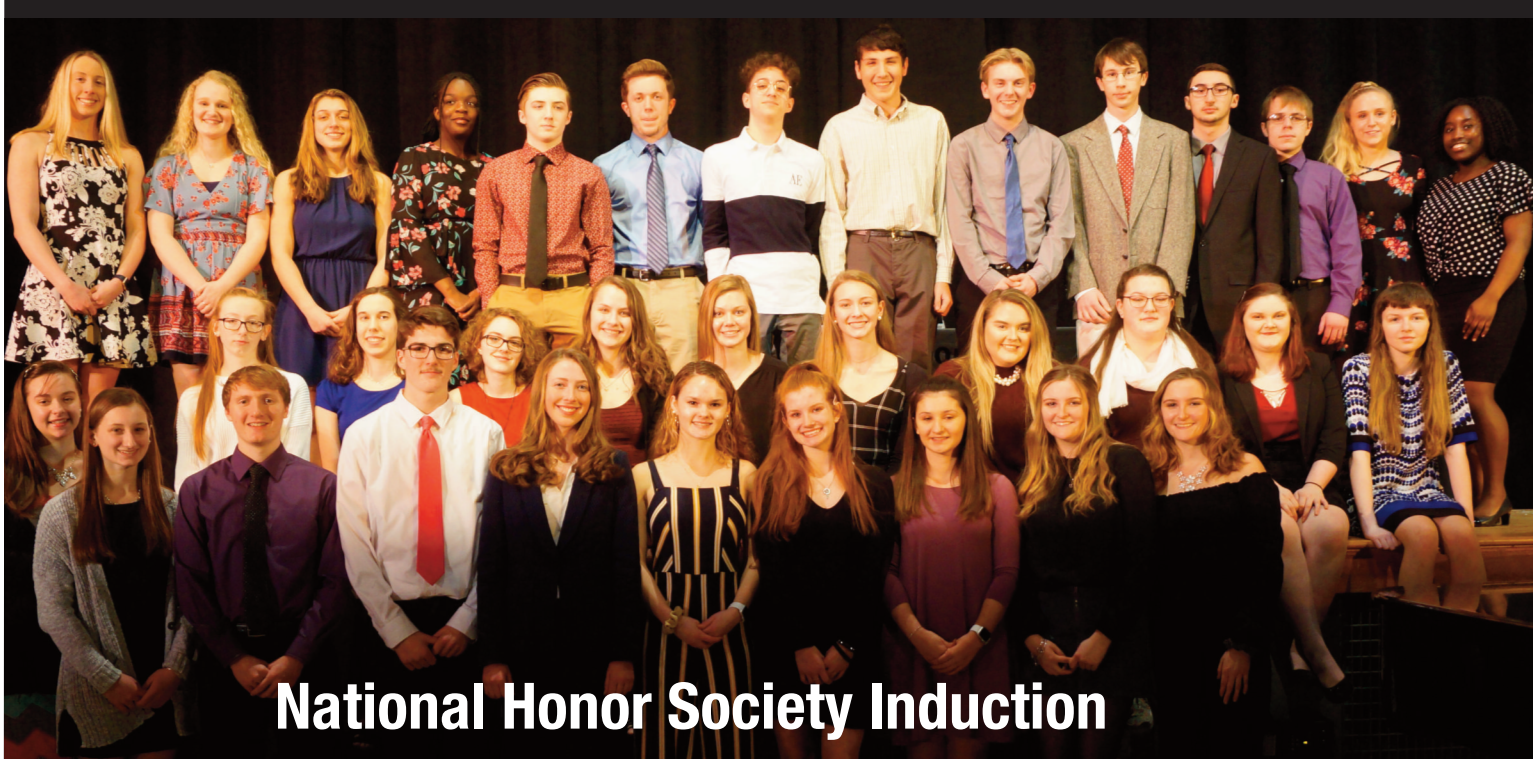


SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HIGH SCHOOL



National Honor Society Induction

On February 13, the Schuylkill Valley chapter of the National Honor Society welcomed thirty-five new members in its annual induction ceremony held at the high school auditorium. The keynote speaker was **Mrs. Courtnie Geissler Nein**, a 1994 SV alumna and recent SV Hall of Fame inductee. Seniors **Rosaly Diaz De La Rosa**, **Scott Horning**, **William Stevenson** and **Macy Zimmerman** delivered speeches on the four pillars of the National Honor Society – scholarship, service, leadership and character. The NHS is advised by **Mrs. Lisa Chillot**, science teacher.

The newest inductees are:

Jesulayomi Adejo	Gaetshelyne Najac
Rowan Angstadt	Tyler Perry
Cassidy Brown	Hannah Phillips
Stephanie Brumbach	Abigail Rea
Gabriella Canova	Danielle Sue Readinger
Meghan A. Cook	Katlynn Rheine
Logan Downey	Marlee Rickert
Samuel Eddinger	Cassidy R. Rittenhouse
Kayla Fischer	Hope Rozycki
Angelina M. Gentile	Byron Patrick Searle
Sadie Goad	Taylor M. Shekalus
Graham K. Haupt	Jenna Marjorie Stoudt
Victoria Jamison	Julia Stricker
Emily Kale	Savanna Stricker
Kaydence Muller	Trevor E. Teprovich
Declan Murphy	Jonathan A. Walls
Maximus T. Murphy	Austin J. Witinski
Zachary Myers	



SV PYEA intern and executive committee member, **Allyson Rea**, 12th grade, organized Salvation Army holiday donations.

PYEA Shares The Love

The SV chapter of the Pennsylvania Youth Education Association (PYEA) held a Salvation Army Angel Tree gift drive over the holiday season. In this project, people “adopt” a name and purchase gifts for children based on a list of their needs. Because of the generosity of the administration, faculty, staff and students of the Schuylkill Valley community, the PYEA was able to sponsor eighty children this year, an increase of ten children over last year’s drive.

PYEA members also visited the elementary school on January 17 to provide a reading lesson to the third grade classes. They read a book about snowmen, did a melted snowman craft with the classes, and raffled off a “snow day” themed gift bag to a lucky student. PYEA students who participated in this special day of reading were:

Addison Angstadt	Liz Heffner	Samantha Stewart
Gabriella Canova	Riley Pontician	Julia Stricker
Cloey Fleming	Alyssa Potts	Savanna Stricker
Natalie Hamm	Allyson Rea	Abbey White
	Danielle Readinger	Macy Zimmerman



Leos Give Hope to the Homeless

On December 18, members of the high school’s Leo Club traveled to downtown Reading to serve dinner to the homeless population at the Hope Rescue Mission. Prior to the trip, the students prepared barbecue, baked potatoes and cookies to distribute. Those who participated found the trip very rewarding and enjoyed meeting and serving the many men who shelter there.



HIGH SCHOOL

Student Council members **Makayla Lowery**, 9th grade, **Nicole Danks**, 11th grade, **Riley Pontician**, 12th grade, vice-president **Tessa Dracha**, 12th grade, and president **P. Thomas Becker III**, 12th grade

Student Council

The Schuylkill Valley High School Student Council serves the school community in many ways. Their annual traditions of showing a movie in exchange for a canned goods donation, fundraising for senior week activities, and celebrating Spirit Week bring enthusiasm and fun to the campus. Student Council once again hosted the Faculty Madness Charity Basketball Game at the high school on Friday, March 15, with all proceeds going to the Conner Kleffel Scholarship Fund.

Led by president **P. Thomas Becker III**, vice-president **Tessa Dracha** and parliamentarians **Jenna Stoudt** and **Madison Kepner**, the club has twenty-one members who are dedicated to helping make school an enjoyable place to learn and grow. **Mrs. Traci Pawling**, Spanish teacher, is the advisor to the club.

Student Council members are:

Jesulayomi Adejo
P. Thomas Becker III
Maximo Beras-Goico
Nicollas Bernhart
Nicole Danks
Rosaly Diaz De La Rosa
Tessa Dracha
Evan Edris
Madison Kepner
Makayla Lowery
Tanner Mountz
Rayven Muller
Harlee Neuin
Danielle Readinger
Jillian Phillips
Riley Pontician
Allyson Rea
Taylor Romberger
Riley Slifer
Jenna Stoudt
Vito Zazo



Accolades

Senior **Mikayla Davis** won first prize for her essay in the high school category of the 2019 BARN Agriculture Day Essay Contest. She received a monetary prize and her winning entry appeared in the March 20 issue of *Reading Eagle's* Berks Country magazine.

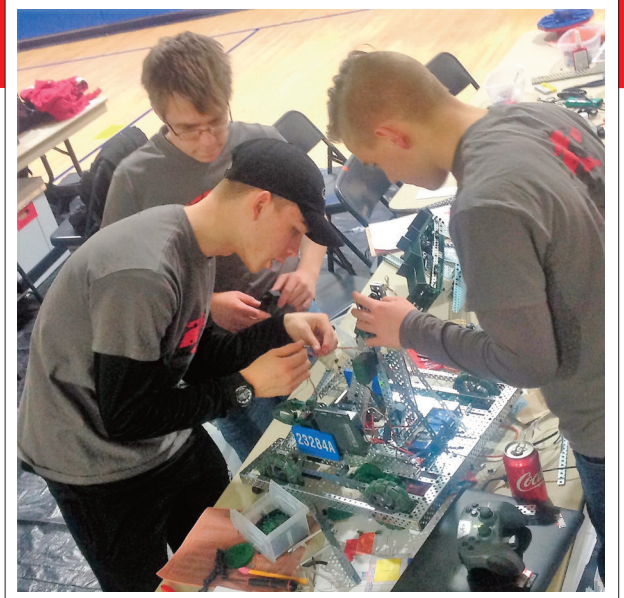
Robotics Competition

On February 16, the Panther Robotics team earned 17th place at the Turning Point Southeastern PA Regional VEX Robotics Competition in Royersford. The second year robotics team, comprised of students **Steven Arentz**, 12th grade, **Daniel Guldik**, 12th grade, **Scott Horning**, 12th grade, **Gaven Ulrich**, 12th grade, and **Austin Witinski**, 11th grade, received a grant from the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation and sponsorship from local business partners Reading Precast, Ashley Furniture Industries, and Cambridge-Lee Industries to attend the tournament.

In the VEX Robotics Competition teams of students are tasked with designing and building a robot to play against other teams in a game-based engineering challenge. Classroom STEM concepts are put

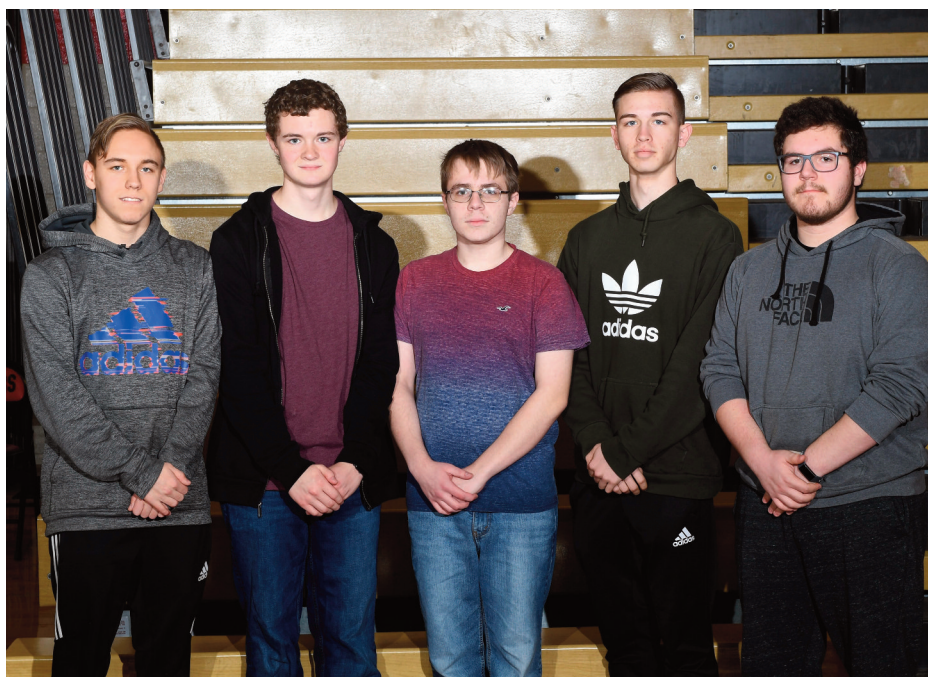
to the test as students learn lifelong skills in teamwork, leadership and communications. Tournaments are held year-round at the regional, state and national levels and culminate at the VEX Robotics World Championship each April. Competitions include standard matches where two alliances of two teams play against each other, robot skills challenges, where one robot plays alone against the clock, and online challenges, which are unique contests using computer-aided design (CAD), animation and essays.

Led by advisor **Mr. Matthew Cullen**, the students designed and programmed a competition robot in the high school's Design and Engineering Tech Lab. The lab is used to teach Introduction to Engineering, Engineering Drawing / Computer-Aided



Design, Advanced Computer Modeling/3D, and Advanced Technical Drawing and Design. The VEX robotics equipment and work station is also used with students enrolled in SV's Introduction to Engineering course. An introduction to mechatronics, system control and robotic engineering is provided, with the opportunity for advanced instruction and independent study in the future. The new Engineering course recently implemented

by department leader **Mr. Gary Auker** provides STEM instruction with project-based activities focusing on 21st century skills. Thank you to the school Board of Directors, administration, staff, students, corporate sponsors and parents for supporting the Panther Robotics and Technology and Engineering Education program at Schuylkill Valley High School.



HIGH SCHOOL



Basketball

The high school boys' basketball team, coached by **Mr. Taylor Grim**, qualified for the District III tournament, finishing the regular season with a 13-9 record.

The high school girls' basketball team, coached by **Mr. Jason Bagenstose**, qualified for the BCIAA play-offs, finishing the regular season with an 11-11 record.

Wrestling

Gary Deyarmin, 9th grade, coached by **Mr. Mike Metzger**, advanced to the District III wrestling tournament.

Bowling

Bryce Romberger, 10th grade, qualified for the District III and Eastern Regional Bowling Championships, and **Bristol Long**, 12th grade, qualified for the Eastern Regional Bowling Championships. **Mrs. Patricia Christman** is the bowling coach.



Cheerleading

The high school cheerleading team, coached by **Mrs. Angela Hohenadel**, competed in the District III Championship, finishing as the alternate for the PIAA Championship. The team won the Co-Ed division at the Ridley competition, Central Bucks West competition and Aston CC Competition, in addition to hosting the Panther Invitational.

Volleyball

The high school girls' volleyball team, coached by **Mr. Carl Lash**, qualified for the District III tournament, finishing the regular season with a 10-6 record.

FALL & WINTER SPORTS

Football

The following student-athletes received league and county recognition for their performance on the gridiron last fall:

Luke Ammarell, 11th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League First Team Defense and Second Team Offense; All-Berks Second Team Defense

Anikin Glassmire, 12th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League Second Team Offense

Alex Gonzalez, 11th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League Receiver of the Year and First Team Offense; All-Berks Second Team Offense

Lisandro Gonzalez, 11th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League Second Team Defense

Zach Heffner, 10th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League Second Team Defense

Luke Innis, 12th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League Second Team Offense

Owen Manwiller, 12th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League Second Team Defense

Zach Myers, 12th grade – Bert Moore Scholarship, Berks Section 2 All-League Second Team Offense

Shane Newell, 12th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League First Team Offense

Eliab Solomon, 11th grade – Berks Section 2 All-League Second Team Defense

Swimming

The Schuylkill Valley girls swimming and diving team was the 2019 PIAA District III 2A state runner-up in the meet, which was the highest team finish in school history. Individual and team accomplishments were as follows:

Bronze Medal–400 free relay team–**Megan Ehrnfeldt**, 9th grade, **Emily Vandersleen**, 12th grade, **Emily Griesemer**, 12th grade, and **Marlee Rickert**, 11th grade

Bronze medal –**Marlee Rickert**, 11th grade, 100 back and 50 free

4th place –200 medley relay team–**Marlee Rickert**, 11th grade, **Katelyn Vandersleen**, 12th grade, **Emily Vandersleen**, 12th grade, and **Katie Eisenhofer**, 9th grade

5th place –500 free–**Megan Ehrnfeldt**, 9th grade

6th place –200 free relay team –**Katie Eisenhofer**, 9th grade, **Emily Griesemer**, 12th grade, **Megan Ehrnfeldt**, 9th grade, and **Emily Vandersleen**, 12th grade

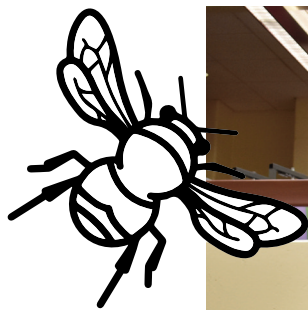
In the District III meet, the high school boys' swim team, also coached by **Mr. Campbell**, finished fifth in team competition, with the following individual accomplishments:

Brock Dalton, 11th grade – Third place, 200 free, and third place, 500 free

Lucas Knopsnyder, 10th grade – Second place, 500 free

MIDDLESCHOOL

Spelling Bee



2019 Schuylkill Valley Middle School Spelling Bee participants.



SVMS Spelling Bee Champion **Chad Gangewere** and runner up **Elizabeth Zaharia**.



The middle school's annual Spelling Bee was held on February 8. After participating in the preliminary bee, twenty-six of approximately 120 students from all four grade levels were selected to participate. There were many challenging words on the list. After eleven rounds, only eighth-graders **Elizabeth Zaharia** and **Chad Gangewere** remained. The next thirty-three rounds were quite exciting and culminated in Chad spelling the word hexameter correctly. This secured his place as the new Schuylkill Valley Middle School Spelling Bee champion. Congratulations to everyone who participated:

Eighth Grade: **Charlotte Baumgard**, **Chad Gangewere**, **Seth Geiger**, **Amanda Hoover**, **Anna Lassandro**, **Michael Orth**, **Keegan Weeks**, **Elizabeth Zaharia**

Seventh Grade: **Maddyx Dissinger**, **Amanda Goho**, **Makaylah Kindoll**, **Tayson Merkel**, **Laura Schlappich**, **Devin Welker**

Sixth Grade: **Calvin Arndt**, **Kaleya LaPaix**, **Madison Miller**, **Justin Weidner**, **Julianna Zaharia**

Fifth Grade: **Isabel Consugar**, **Aiden Detwiler**, **Noah Herman**, **Conner Quesenberry**, **Aaron Raver**, **Abbey Starke**, **Keira Stork**



PA Farm Show

SV siblings **Mikayla**, **Tanner** and **Alexa Davis**, the children of Mike and Angie Davis, Leesport, won awards for their dairy heifers at the 2019 Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg in January.

Mikayla, 12th grade, president of the high school Agriculture Club, participated in the opening cere-



Back Row (left to right):
Seth Geiger, Xavier Martinez,
Alex Fuñez, Elizabeth Zaharia,
Emmitt Mackes
 Front Row (left to right):
Juliana Zaharia, Calvin Arndt,
Julia Yobb, Jack Longenecker

Geography Bee

Congratulations to seventh-grader **Emmitt Mackes**, the winner of this year's SVMS Geography Bee held on January 11. **Juliana Zaharia**, a sixth-grader, came in second place, and third place went to eighth-grader **Xavier Martinez**. An intense championship round came down to the final question, "What is the Norwegian term for a long, narrow sea inlet carved by a glacier?" The answer is a fjord. Special thanks to **Mr. Tod Witman**, AP world history and world cultures teacher, who served as the moderator, and to the SVMS PTO for their generous donation of prizes. The finalists of the grade level geography bees were:

6th graders **Calvin Arndt, Jack Longenecker** and **Juliana Zaharia**

7th graders **Alex Fuñez, Emmitt Mackes** and **Julia Yobb**

8th graders **Seth Geiger, Xavier Martinez** and **Elizabeth Zaharia**.



(left to right): Runner-up **Juliana Zaharia**, **Mr. Tod Witman**, and 2019 Geography Bee winner **Emmitt Mackes**

Emmitt has now taken a qualifying test and is waiting to hear if he is one of the top 100 participants to qualify for the state Geography Bee to be held in April. State champions travel to Washington, D.C. in May to compete in the National Tournament where the top prize is a \$25,000 college scholarship, \$1,000 in cash, and a trip to the Galápagos Islands.

monies as the PA State Grange Youth Ambassador and took first place with her heifers, Skittle and Lady Bird, who was also junior champion. Tanner, 10th grade, took first place with Delite, who was the reserve champion, and second place with Whisper. Alexa, 6th grade, took first place with her heifer, Holli, and was also a reserve junior champion. Several SV high school students also submitted entries in the photography and horticulture contests at the Farm Show. Senior **Molly Wenzel** placed first in the age fourteen to

eighteen painted birdhouse division, and entered color photography in four contests. Senior **Lily Whitmoyer** placed fourth in the color portrait and personality photography division. Seniors **Mikayla Davis** and **Allyson Rea** earned fourth place in the in-season vegetable Market Basket competition. Freshmen **Anna Kate Gwiazdowski, Lily Johns, Molly Kintzer** and **Lila Smaglinski** entered in-season and out-of-season divisions.

MIDDLESCHOOL



(Left to right): **Esira Sheetz**, **Mackenzie Bachman**, **Levi Rosenbush**, **Isabella Burch**, **Chase Homan** and **Kody Albright**

Honoring our Veterans

Last fall, the sixth grade students read a short story called "The Good Deed," and, taking a cue from the text, performed some good deeds of their own by writing letters of appreciation to Berks County veterans. The board of Berks County Patriots turned the activity into a contest and bestowed monetary prizes on the winners. The prize recipients were **Mrs. Christine Wysocki's** team of **Kody Albright** and **Mackenzie Bachman**, and **Mrs. Christina Miller's** team of **Isabella Burch**, **Chase Homan**, **Levi Rosenbush** and **Esira Sheetz**. The students read their letters and were honored at the annual Veterans Appreciation meeting held at the Leesport Auction Banquet Hall on December 13.

5th Grade Gifted Program

In December, students in the 5th grade gifted program researched and selected architectural elements of interest to them, and incorporated architectural elements into their gingerbread structures. Led by **Dr. Deborah Schmeck**, gifted teacher, the students built festive structures featuring a Doric column, an arched doorway, a hip roof, spurs projecting from columns, an awning, a guard stone, a turret, a Morande 80 door, a gable roof, and a series of arches forming an arcade. Students **Isabel Consugar**, **Tyler Davis**, **Josiah Gonzalez**, **Noah Herman**, **Connor Quesenberry**, **Ian Schlappich** and **Kade Wisniewski** participated in the project.



The fifth grade gifted class with their gingerbread castles.

Sharing the Spirit

The Middle School Select Chorus, led by **Mrs. Kim Makosch**, Director of Vocal Music, visited the Berks Leisure Living Center on the morning of December 20 to perform for the residents. They ended the performance with a carol sing-a-long to help spread some holiday cheer. The residents loved seeing and hearing the students and asked the chorus to keep coming back.





Hot Shots Basketball Tournament

On February 28, students in the youth basketball program showed off their skills in the annual Hot Shots Tournament, held this year at the middle school gym. In addition to the skills and lay-up competition, once again a three-point contest was held, with 6th grader **Kowen Gerner** taking the crown for a second time. For the overall championship, the trophy will be engraved with the names of this year's first-place winners in sixth grade, **Taryn Rittenhouse** and **Nick Kiritsis**, and displayed in the middle school trophy case. The results of the competition were:

6th Grade Girls

Taryn Rittenhouse, 1st place
Paige Chase, 2nd place
Adi LeRoy, 3rd place

6th Grade Boys

Nick Kiritsis, 1st place
Kowen Gerner, 2nd place
Dillon Lackner, 3rd place

5th Grade Girls

Elyssa Sellers, 1st place
Katie Kier, 2nd place
Tara Hirschtritt, 3rd place

5th Grade Boys

Tanner Staus, 1st place
Eli Kiritsis, 2nd place
Derek Grim, 3rd place

4th Grade Girls

Hannah Yobb, 1st place
Olivia Steinke, 2nd place
Ella Martin, 3rd place

4th Grade Boys

Alex Aletras, 1st place
Salinger Kehs-Rossi, 2nd place
Zachary Reeser, 3rd place

3rd Grade Girls

Elizabeth Bidding, 1st place
Sara Lassandro, 2nd place
Cameron Chase, 3rd place

3rd Grade Boys

Jaxon Kowalski, 1st place
Grant Vogel, 2nd place
Ethan Ammarell, 3rd place

2nd Grade Boys

Aiden Angstadt, 1st place
Landen Steinke, 2nd place
Jordan Kelley, 3rd place



Tournament champions: Sixth graders, **Taryn Rittenhouse** and **Nick Kiritsis**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Mr. Jeremy Crills, elementary school principal, and **Mrs. Melissa Rhoads**, elementary school assistant principal, are given the ice cream sundae treatment by students who donated to the annual Reader's Win Campaign.

SVES Read-A-Thon

Elementary school students, inspired by the opportunity to help the community, once again read lots of books and collected money for the Literacy Council of Reading-Berks' annual Reader's Win campaign. Students brought in donations of \$7,474 and are hopeful that the amount will place SVES first in the county again. Two classes in the second grade, **Miss Valentine's** and **Mrs. Gwiazdowski's**, had 100% participation. The top individual donors were brother-and-sister team **Chloe Manwiller**, kindergarten, and **Gregory Manwiller**, 4th grade, who each collected \$400 in donations. It is because of every donation that SVES has been able to win first place year after year. To celebrate the success of the drive, students who collected donations were selected randomly to dump ice cream sundae ingredients on the principals at the Panther Pride Assembly in February. What a sweet way to end the campaign!



Read Across





The elementary school held Family Reading Night during Read Across America Week in early March. Families were invited to participate in activities related to the book *"The Cricket In Times Square,"* the One School – One Book selection for this year. In addition, award-winning picture book author and illustrator, Lee Harper, presented a program on his

America

book *"The Emperor's Cool Clothes,"* about emperor penguins. Family Reading Night capped a week of fun, daily activities, where students dressed like their favorite story characters, donned pajamas and read books simultaneously in the school's hallways. Students also brought in donations of books for the children at Safe Berks.



**2019 Panthers-
on-Parade Show:****Xanadu**

Tickets go on sale to the public **Monday, March 11, 2019** for this year's production of Xanadu. Performances will take place on Friday, April 5, and Saturday, April 6, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. at the high school. General admission price is \$11.00; price for senior citizen tickets (62 years of age or older) is \$8.00. All tickets are filled on a first-come/first-served 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 27 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 tgoldbe1@gmail.com.

FRIDAY April 5, 2019 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 6, 2019 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 19533

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.**

ALUMNA IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Sophie Goad, a 2016 Schuylkill Valley graduate, is studying film at DeSales University in Allentown. She and other students are currently working on a film, "Sandman," about the toxicity of refusing to cope with or move on from the trauma in one's life. She shared some of the process and challenges involved in making a film, from a student's perspective.

"To those on the outside, filmmaking is dazzling. What most people don't know is that there is a long process behind making a short film, and unexpected problems lie at every turn.

The first step in making a film is having a story. Nailing down a good story is difficult, and writers can easily have as many as twenty drafts of a script.

The next step is to secure a crew, actors, locations and a budget. Crowdfunding sites like Indiegogo and Kickstarter are great places to start when seeking financial resources. Most contributions will come from friends and family, but the more the campaign is shared, the more people it will reach.

Finding a location that will permit filming is another issue student filmmakers face. It's hard to negotiate filming at a location during off hours when you have little to no money to offer. Local businesses are extremely helpful because they are looking for advertising. Often it takes contacting many places in order to find one willing to work with you.

Finding the right actors can make or break your film. As a student, you need to gain the trust that your project will be at a professional level. Once you get the actors you need for the film, they become key advocates to help gain a wider



audience, as they will share and help promote the film when it comes time to release it to audiences.

At the end of it all, filmmaking is a long, extensive process, but it's extremely rewarding.

It's gratifying to have a concrete final product that's the result of numerous hours of hard work and many sleepless nights."

To stay current on the progress of "Sandman," follow Sophie and her crew on Facebook at Sandman Short Film 2019 <https://www.facebook.com/Sandman-ShortFilm2019/>.



Class of '16 grad **Sophie Goad**



schuylkill valley
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Spring Book Sale April 5 + 6

**Schuylkill Valley
Community Library**

The Schuylkill Valley Community Library will hold a book sale on Friday, April 12, from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m., and on Saturday, April 13, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday is their \$5.00 bag sale and the library provides the bags. Donations of new and gently used books are welcome!



Special Thank You!



Warm thanks to all of the **district's paraprofessionals** who help to nurture our students with their love and patience. We couldn't do it without you!

Thank you to **Dr. Jordan Hottenstein**, DDS, at Central Berks Dental Center in Leesport, for donating his time and services to the children of the Schuylkill Valley School District. Pennsylvania requires dental exams at different grade intervals, and Dr. Hottenstein provides free exams at our three schools for children who do not have a regular dentist. Your generosity is very much appreciated!