

The Southridge Gazette

March Edition 3/22/24



Pictured above is the Southridge swim team at their swim banquet, which was held at OFS Headquarters.

Southridge Swim 2024

By William Dubon, Freshman

As the winter sports season is coming to an end, the Southridge swim team is no exception. Having started their practices back in October, the team has had a long, hard, and successful season. The Southridge swim team consists of 12 swimmers (5 boys, 7 girls), 1 manager, and 2

coaches. When the school corporation shut down the pool at the end of the 21-22 season, the team was left to find a place to swim. This year, for the 23-24 season, the team has turned to the Heritage Hills pool as their place of practice. They have practices alongside the YMCA and Forest Park High School swim teams. In the words of head coach Christian Mottler "It is in no way the ideal set-up but I am just glad that the

team has a place to practice."

Coming into this season, there was a sense of uncertainty as to how the team would perform, but they have exceeded all expectations. The Southridge swim team has performed stellarly at every meet this season, with the girls' team winning first place at the Boonville Invitational on January 6th. Not having a home pool also means that the team had to improvise with other activities. With the help of the

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Jasper swim team, Southridge was able to host senior night at the Jasper High School pool. They decorated the hallway with their own senior banners and individual poster boards. The team performed well at both the boys' and girls' PAC and at Sectionals. The Southridge swim team has overcome all the challenges thrown at them all season. Overall, the Southridge swim team hopes that the pool situation will soon have a solution. The hope is that this will encourage more kids to join the team to increase their numbers. They want to rebuild the historic Southridge swim team.

Sunny the Soon-to-be School Dog

By Jill Keusch, Junior

Let's meet Southridge soon-to-be school dog! Sunny is a 2 1/2 year old Labrador Retriever. She loves to play soccer outside and run around her lake. She completed the K9 University Angels Therapy Dog certification at K9 University in Evansville in early January. She had to do an interview and American Kennel Club tests for her schooling. She went through freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior' courses. She learned multiple obedience and command skills.

When she comes to Southridge, she would be an official greeter in the morning. She would make many friends, put a smile on peoples face, and create a sense of calm. She would lessen anxiety for many students and create a joyful atmosphere.

For students with dog allergies, don't you worry! There are many precautions taken to ensure the health and safety of all students. This includes signing waivers and Sunny only being allowed in limited areas. Students can always appreciate her from afar!

We can't wait to include Sunny to our Southridge community!



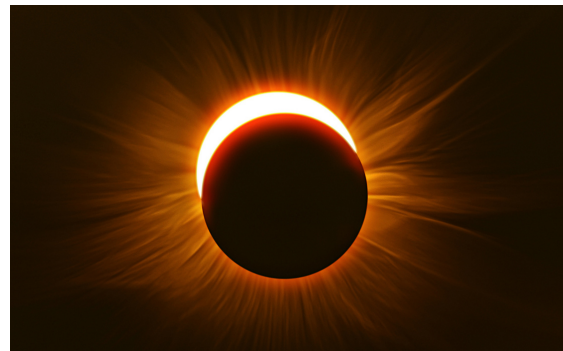
Science Club Prepares for the Solar Eclipse

By Shera Deno, Junior

The Science Club is hosting an "Eclipse Day" on April 6th, 2024, for the upcoming solar eclipse. It will take place at Market Street Park, and a few students who are involved in the science club will be there to explain what will happen during the eclipse on April 8th. They will be set up by Yardgoat with a table and 3 different displays of information.

The information on the displays details what eclipses are, how eclipses affect individuals and animals, and other general information. Between now and next Friday, the science club needs help recruiting volunteers to help set up on April 5th and be there for a 3-4 hour window on April 6th.

The best part about this is that you don't have to be in the science club to help out. You will not have to be there all day, only for 3 or 4 hours to help explain what is going on and also help explain the information on the display boards. The science club hopes to see everyone on April 6!



BPA Members Advance to Nationals!

By Olivia Rasche, Sophomore

On March 10th through the 12th the Southridge Business Professionals of America (BPA) club traveled to Indianapolis to participate in their State competition. Those who had progressed past Regionals were able to compete against people around the state for the opportunity to advance to the national level. Southridge was well-represented and had 37 people compete at the state competition. Those who placed in the top 3 in team events and top 5 in individual events got to continue. 14 got a high

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enough rank to continue to nationals. The scores were as follows:

Economic Research Team - 3rd

Connie Owens
Anna Hochgesang
Ella Thompson
Maddux Marshall

Video Production Team -2nd

Olivia Rasche
Addison Weaver
Stephany Galdamez

Small Business Management Team - 1st

Riley Blessinger
Madilyn Schwartz
Janelle Hill

Intermediate Word Processing

Anna Hochgesang -5th

Basic Office Systems & Procedures

Roselyn Bounds -1st
Kameron Speed - 2nd
Kelsey Wibbeler - 5th (not attending Nationals)

Network Using Cisco

Ashlie Harter - 5th

Region 10 President

Maggie Rasche will be attending Nationals



Women's Appreciation Month Survey

By Marisa Thacker, Freshman

There is so much to look forward to this month—St. Patrick's Day, Easter, and Women's Appreciation Day. With the last example comes a celebration that encompasses all of March: Women's History Month!

In 1980, Jimmy Carter was the first president to proclaim that the week of March 8th would be National Women's History Week. Several other presidents continued this until 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9. This piece of legislation

lengthened the celebratory week to include the whole month!

Women's History Month was created to commemorate all of the contributions women have made to history, culture, and society. Several Southridge students answered a survey asking questions relating to Women's Appreciation Day. Here are a few of those results.

The first question on the survey was this: What important woman do you look up to most (past or present)? Why? Rosa Parks was a popular answer. Marinna and Harriet Tubman were also present in the responses, and several other students chose their mom.

The next question was: Who is the most influential woman in your life? Why? Interestingly, all the respondents chose family members for their answers. Students replied that their moms, grandmas, or sisters influence their lives the most. Everyone gave meaningful explanations for why they chose the way they did. It's clear that the people at Southridge have such strong love for those they look up to, and they're not afraid to show it.

To all the girls out there, have a great Women's History Month! If you have an important woman in your life, make sure to let her know how much you appreciate her. You never know how much it can mean.

Young Women Lead Conference

By Chloe Atchison, Sophomore and Stephany Galdamez, Sophomore

On March 6th, 2024, many of Southridge's girls attended the annual Young Women Lead conference. This year, 75 of the girls here at Southridge attended the conference. After an initial gathering, the girls chose breakout rooms, or smaller conferences. Mrs. Rauscher, who chaperones for this event, has led breakout sessions including Be Your Own Boss, Be Peaceful, Be a Visionary, and Be Fit. This year, Ruth Sherer gave a speech in one of the breakout rooms she said, "I gave a presentation about being a youth leader in your community, how to be one, where in a community you can be one, how to communicate and engage with community stakeholders, and breaking down barriers to education such as searching for scholarships and internships/summer programs." Ruth has attended Young Women Lead for 2 years, and this year was her first year presenting. Addison Weaver attended this year, and her reason for going was "I was told it was an empowering event that many different girls have learned from."

Featured articles

Educators Rising Competition

By William Dubon, Freshman

On Wednesday Feb, 28, students from Southridge's club of Educators Rising club competed at the state level competition, looking for a chance to make it to the national competition. Students competed in Education based competitions in categories ranging from lesson planning to impromptu speech. Students exceeded in all competitions that were held. The competition was held in Indianapolis at the INTECH offices. The club left from Southridge on Tuesday after school and stayed the night in Indianapolis. On March 8th, qualifiers for the National competition were informed that they had secured a spot. The qualifiers are as follows:

Inside Our Schools Presentation - Madilyn Schwartz, Gracie Mullins & Janelle Hill

Creative Lecture - Molly Keusch

Exploring Non-Core Subject Teaching Careers - Richard Guitierrez

Impromptu Speaking - Abigael Byrd

Inside Our Schools Presentation - Kierra Hewitt, Kiernan Sturgill & Addison Bradley

Dual Interactive Bulletin Board - Ava Hall & Mallory Tooley

Inside Our Schools Presentation: Spanish - Adamaris Calderon & Guadalupe Dubon

Individual Teacher Created Materials - Kate Durcholz

All of these students have the opportunity to compete at the National competition in Washington D.C this summer. The 14 individuals have demonstrated their capabilities in their respective areas and are extremely ready for their competitions. They will prepare over the next few weeks to try and be the best in the country at their event.



How to Capture a Leprechaun

By Marisa Thacker, Freshman

Freya Robinson carefully hid herself in the bushes near her front door. On the brick steps she had placed her beaten-up pair of Sketchers tennis shoes. Peering through the leaves, she strained to catch a view of her target. *Freya was going to capture a leprechaun.*

Snap! She spun around in the direction of the noise, her heart skipping a beat. When she saw what it was, she slumped. An orange tabby cat was wandering through the brush towards her. "Melvin!" Freya cried. "I'm doing something important right now!" She turned back to look at her shoes and gasped. They had been completely restored, as though she had just pulled them out of the box. Her ears caught the faint sound of high-pitched giggling.

Leaving her cat behind, Freya jumped up and sprinted into the house. The trail of Lucky Charms marshmallows she had placed leading to her kitchen had disappeared. The leprechaun was falling for her trap! When it climbed up the licorice ladder, tempted by the Lucky Charms and shamrocks, it would lunge for the fake gold coin she had placed in an old shoe box. Then Freya would close up the hole and brag to everyone that she caught a leprechaun! She rounded the corner into her kitchen and—

Freya groaned. "Calli! You're not a leprechaun!" A short, redheaded girl was sprawled on her kitchen tiles, digging through the hole in the shoe box. Freya's friend squinted up at her, an indiscernible emotion in her bright green eyes.

"That's what you think," Calli said. She snapped her fingers and a beam of rainbow light shot through the window. It touched Calli with a flash and the redhead disappeared.

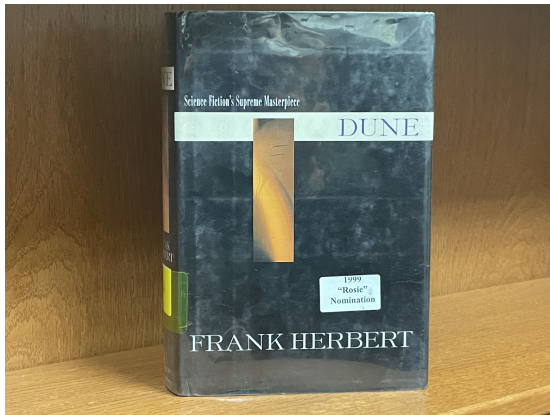
Freya stood, staring, for a while. Finally, she decided to check on Melvin. When she walked through her front door, she caught sight of her shoes. They had returned to their previous form, old and raggedy. Inside one was a note on a green piece of paper. It read, If you tell on me, I'll know. Deciding it wasn't worth questioning, Freya bundled up her shoes and went to search for her cat.

Highlights

Library's Top Book of March

By Lucy Soto, Freshman

This month's most checked-out book is Dune by Frank Herbert. Dune is a science fiction book based on a desert planet called Arrakis. The main character is Paul Atreides, an heir to a noble family. His task is to rule a planet where the only thing of value is a drug that can enhance consciousness and extend life. The name of this so-called drug is Melange. This book tied with Roger Zelazny's book This Immortal in 1966 for the Hugo Award for Best Novel. In the same year, it also won the Nebula Award for Best Novel.



Ireland's Saint Patrick's Day Festivities

By Jill Keusch, Junior

On March 18, 2024, was Ireland Indiana's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade! As usual, there was quite a crowd! Candy is usually thrown off of many parade floats. Many parade floats showed off Ireland's love for their community and the holiday, such as the Mayor(s) of the Day float. This year the honor went to Mike and Carol Schmitt, a couple from Ireland, Indiana. They were accompanied on their float by past Mayor of the Day elects. There are many other activities to do in Ireland around this time. The parade is the event that caps off the other festivities. There is Light up Ireland, where the Mayor of the Day turns on all of the lights in town. A festival goer could also participate in the St. Patty's bake-off, many children's events, and more!

Monthly Horoscope

By Sam Stratman, Sophomore

- **Pisces** - Very big decisions will be coming to you very soon, as well as great news. Look forward to the spring equinox, because you will bloom this spring.
- **Aries** - Brand new phases are going to start beginning in your life, don't be scared to take things slow, that's what life is about. Live your life to the fullest.
- **Taurus** - Take care of yourself this month, things may seem too much that's because they are. Cut yourself some slack, and expect good things to begin happening.
- **Gemini** - What you've been longing for for so long is finally going to come your way. Take your time and allow for these changes to take place.
- **Cancer** - A big adventure is coming your way, whether you are only dreaming about it or you are going on a big trip. You may find yourself wanting to explore, don't be scared to give in, you'll find happiness in whatever you decide to do.
- **Leo** - Change, change, change. It's all going to come together this month for Leo's. You will find the answers you seek for how to start your life anew.
- **Virgo** - March is a month of love. It could be for a new hobby you may find, a new friend, or even a new lover. Let your intuition guide you.
- **Libra** - Don't be scared to show yourself a little self-love this month. Big things are going to come your way and you should do what feels right.
- **Scorpio** - Many new people will be coming into your life for the better. You may feel the urge to create good for the world and don't be scared to. Creativity is in your blood.
- **Sagittarius** - Make sure to stay true to yourself this month. Many things are going to come your way and you have to let your intuition tell you which way to go.
- **Capricorn** - Big changes are going to come to you this month in your writing, speaking, and other projects. If anyone can trust their gut better it has to be Capricorns during March.
- **Aquarius** - Self-love will be a big topic for you this month, it's time to start embracing what makes you unique. Many good things will come out of this.

Special Features



Join The SHS Color Guard!

By Chloe Atchison. Sophomore

Do you like to perform? Come to the color guard workshops on March 19th and 21st and April 4th and 5th to become a part of a select group of performers in the Marching Raider Band. This group spins props, flags, and uses dance to tell a story. The SHS color guard is a group of talented individuals who are pushed to be great by instructor Juana Sandoval. Juana has marched and worked for the world-class color guard the Madison Scouts, a Drum Corps International band based in Wisconsin. One of her students, Richard Gutierrez, went on to perform with the Madison Scouts. Join the SHS Color Guard and push yourself to be your best!



March Birthdays

Freshmen

Laney Bardwell 3/3	Kevin Ramos 3/30
Brody Barrett 3/3	Makenzi Ring 3/30
Dustin Bright 3/31	Xavier Schurz 3/22
Jayden Flores 3/5	Mayte Serrano 3/16
Josue Giron Mejia 3/5	William Sickbert 3/14
Yaikymi Medina Arocha 3/10	Luzmila Soto Gonzalez 3/21
Wyatt Messmer 3/30	Wyatt Spaulding 3/3
Hudson Montgomery 3/11	Parker Steckler 3/23
Gracie Mullins 3/23	Xiamara Vazquez 3/17
Jeffry Owens 3/10	Madalyn Wright 3/25

Sophomores

Edwin Alfaro Garcia 3/9	Bryan Luttrell 3/22
Jefferson Alfaro 3/29	Parker Nichter 3/7
Maya Anderson 3/6	Heith Steckler 3/18
Owen Blessinger 3/3	Canon Walton 3/28
Jonathon Brown 3/18	Ethan McCullagh 3/21
Makenna Hiter 3/27	Carla Naranjo Ortiz De Urbina 3/27

Juniors

Jack Boeglin 3/18	Lilian Russell 3/20
Roberto Linares Mezquita 3/14	Anderson Swyler 3/20
Juan Perez 3/24	Isabella Taylor 3/3
Braden Rasche 3/25	Samuel Vazquez 3/16
Christian Rodriguez 3/27	Ahbryana Wright 3/28

Seniors

Jordan Black 3/8	Tehya Neukam 3/9
Nikolas Cummins 3/27	Penelope Roy 3/21
Evan McClain 3/4	Ava Smith 3/25
	Noah Walton 3/2

Additional Credits

Dad Joke of the Month—Lyndsey Taylor and Annabel Eatherly

Birthdays Graphic—Kaitelyn Baker