



RAIDER PRIDE

A State and National Award-Winning Publication **SEPTEMBER 2023**



'WE ARE SV'

The 2023-24 school year introduced a new initiative at Seneca Valley Senior and Intermediate High Schools, "We are SV."

School administrators, teachers and guidance counselors met with students in the Lead Explore Act Develop (LEAD) group to determine the best ways for promoting a positive school culture which resulted in an identified way of belonging and holding oneself accountable as a member of the larger SV community.

"We are SV," encompasses a set of shared expectations that make the school atmosphere a supportive and productive environment for everyone.

Students that exemplify these norms can be nominated for student of the month. The LEAD committee hopes to make it a district-wide, community-based initiative that can be extended to local businesses, places of employment, sports events and more.

"We are SV," shows that we are all one."

- SV sophomore Elaina Donahue

To learn more about "We are SV," listen to our latest podcast at [Voices, a Podcast from the Seneca Valley School District \(buzzsprout.com\)](#). ■




We are SV

We keep ourselves and our community safe
 We advocate for ourselves and others
 We strive to learn and grow
 We own our actions
 We show respect for all



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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct. 2 School Board Meeting, Work Session, IHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 5 Homecoming Carnival and Parade, 5 p.m. (Parade starts at 7 p.m.)
- Oct. 6 Homecoming Football Game vs. Hempfield at NexTier Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 9 School Board Meeting, Regular Session, IHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 24 End of First Nine Weeks, Grades 7-12
- Oct. 27 Act 80 Day, No School for Students

For more dates, visit: www.svsd.net/WebCalendar

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NEVER FORGET

On Patriot Day, the Seneca Valley Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) honored the memories of the lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001, and of every hero who gave their life since that day to protect our safety and freedom. The annual commemorative event recognized the innocent men, women and children who lost their lives on an airplane, at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, in Somerset County and on the streets of New York.

JROTC Cadets also commended the civil servants, firefighters, police officers and military personnel who dedicated and lost their lives serving the American people in a time of crisis.



Seneca Valley students reflected and honored Patriot Day by connecting lessons and various activities in tribute to 9/11.

At Rowan Elementary School, students participated in a 9/11 memorial flag ceremony and presented "The Pledge of Allegiance." Second grade students in Ms. Angela Cardillo's class practiced oral presentation skills and celebrated American patriotism by reciting passages from the book, "My Favorite Flag," to parents and visitors.

Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) students honored the day with six moments of silence at the times marking key moments of 9/11. The observances reflect the official 9/11 anniversary commemoration ceremony held at the World Trade Center for victims' families.



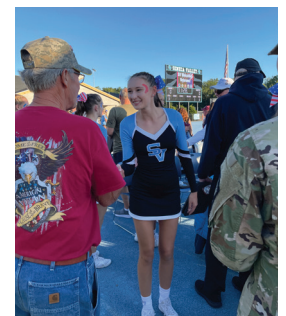
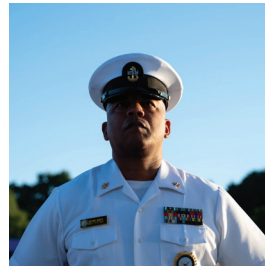
At the SV Academy of Choice (SVAOC) Drop-in Center, students participated in a Patriot Week which included American-themed projects and a Red, White and Blue Community Day at North Boundary Park. ■



SV HONORS VETERANS

Seneca Valley celebrated veterans and active members of the military at the annual Veteran Recognition Event during our home football game on Sept. 15. This representative group includes those who have served in Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Vietnam and Korea, just to name a few. Among this elite group were recipients of numerous honors, including commendation medals, achievement medals, campaign medals, national defense medals and Bronze Star honors.

Today and every day we are grateful for our military service personnel, past and present, and the families who support them. It was our honor to recognize these outstanding individuals for their service and sacrifice. ■

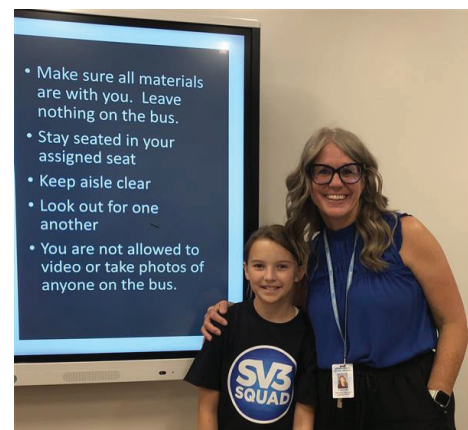


A GOOD DAY, THE SV3 WAY!

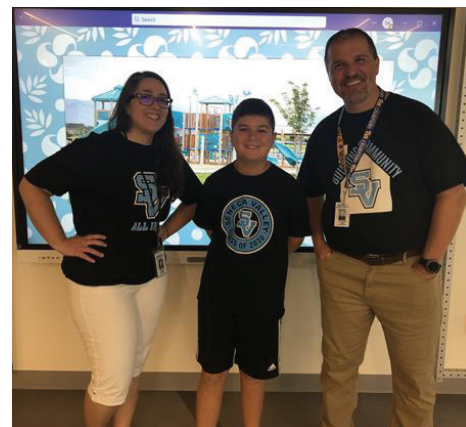
Earlier this month, Ehrman Crest Middle School (ECMS) students participated in schoolwide lessons that promoted being responsible, respectful and ready (also known as the SV3). The lessons were taught by our SV3 squad students, SV3 teachers and ECMS principals to help model what it looks like to be respectful, responsible and ready at ECMS. Discussions focused on safety and behavior expectations in the hallways, restrooms, collaboration spaces, cafeteria and recess, as well as during arrival and dismissal. Students also worked on team-building activities and created "Curiosity Light Bulbs" to



go along with their year-long theme, "Stay Curious." ECMS principals outlined the Principals 200 Club and Crest Cards that will continue throughout the school year, and they look forward to everyone following the SV3 way! ■



- Make sure all materials are with you. Leave nothing on the bus.
- Stay seated in your assigned seat
- Keep aisle clear
- Look out for one another
- You are not allowed to video or take photos of anyone on the bus.



SV WELCOMES NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

At Seneca Valley's School Board Meeting on Monday, Sept. 11, Board Members approved the appointment of Jessica Parker as assistant principal at Rowan Elementary School.

A resident of Butler, Ms. Parker is coming to Seneca Valley from the Slippery Rock Area School District where she has worked for seven years in various educator and administrative roles, including a third grade and learning support teacher, and a principal intern for both the elementary and secondary schools. In addition, Ms. Parker was a graduate assistant in the Dean's Office of Education at Slippery Rock University and held a variety of leadership positions at Butler County Family YMCA Child Care Center.

"We are very fortunate to have Ms. Parker join us as the assistant principal at Rowan Elementary School," said Dr. Sean McCarty, Assistant Superintendent for K-6 Instruction. "Ms. Parker has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills in her previous roles and brings with her a wealth of knowledge, experience and positive insight."

Ms. Parker earned her bachelor's degree in science, early childhood education and her principal certification from Edinboro University. She earned her master's degree in education with a reading

specialist with instructional coaching endorsement and special education birth-grade 8 certification.

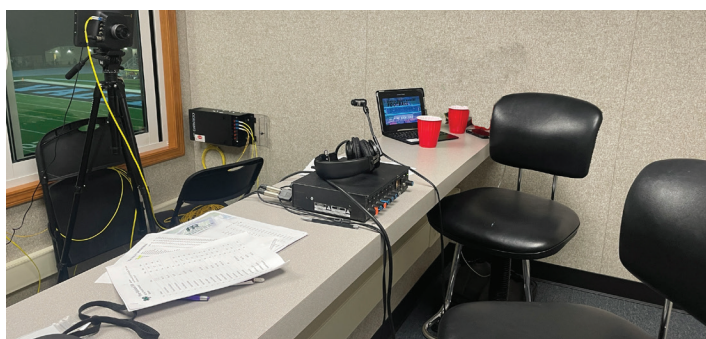
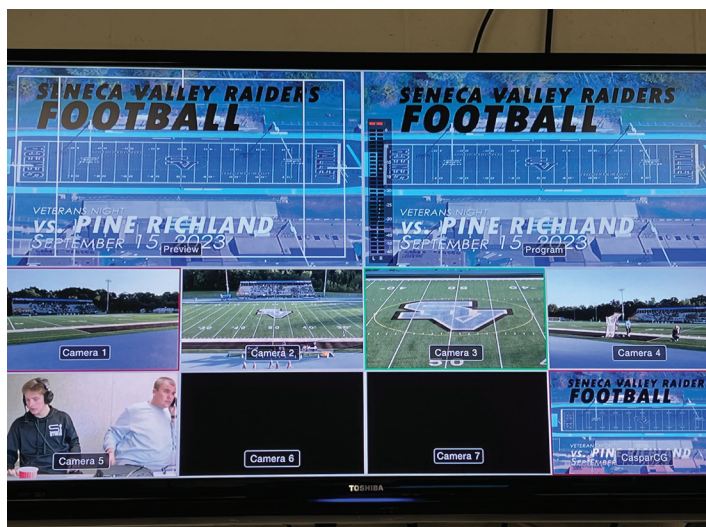
"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Seneca Valley School District in a leadership capacity," said Ms. Parker. "I believe a nurturing and inclusive environment is essential for fostering both academic and personal growth in students, and I'm committed to working with teachers, staff and parents to ensure that school is a place where every student feels valued, supported and empowered to reach their full potential."

Ms. Parker replaces Dr. Jenay Sharp Leach who left the District at the end of the 2022-23 school year. ■



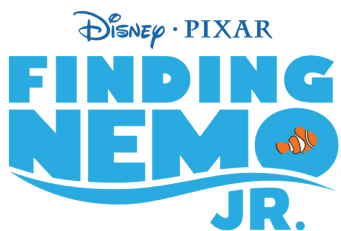
NEW YEAR, NEW CAPABILITIES FOR SVTV

Members and volunteers of SVTV (Seneca Valley Television) officially kicked off their 2023–24 broadcast year with several new and exciting developments. The September 15 Raider Football game kicked off the first high-definition (HD) broadcast at NexTier Stadium. With the help of Mr. Tim Hall, Mr. Evan Hunter and the rest of the Seneca Valley IT department, SVTV now has the much-needed capability of recording and broadcasting in HD with new fiber optic cable runs to the stadium. SVTV volunteers, including our football announcers, experienced their first game from the new, spacious press box, giving them more flexibility for planning, storing equipment and announcing. SVTV began its season with more new recruits than it's had in nearly a decade! They are always looking for more volunteers to help broadcast our 50+ events throughout the year. Viewers can stream all games from NexTier Stadium in crisp HD from their website [Home \(webnode.page\)](#), while broadcasts over Armstrong Cable will remain in standard definition for now. ■



'FINDING NEMO JR.'

Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) is excited to bring the ocean to life on Nov. 10, 11 and 12, with Nemo and friends. Disney's "Finding Nemo Jr." is a 60-minute musical adaptation of the beloved 2003 Pixar movie "Finding Nemo," with new music by award-winning songwriting team Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez. Marlin, an anxious and overprotective clownfish, lives in the



Great Barrier Reef with his son Nemo, who longs to explore the world beyond their anemone home. When Nemo is captured and taken to Sydney, Marlin faces his fears and sets off on an epic adventure across the ocean. With the help of lovable characters like an optimistic fish named Dory, a laid-back sea turtle named Crush and the supportive fish tank crew, Marlin and Nemo both overcome challenges on their journey to find each other and themselves.

For tickets and more information, please visit www.senecavalleytheater.com. ■

'FOOTLOOSE'

Everybody cut loose! "Footloose" tells the story of Ren McCormack, a teenage boy from Chicago. He and his mother move to the small town of Bomont after his father abandons them. Upon arriving, Ren finds himself at odds with most of the town, including the Reverend of Bomont. The Reverend has convinced the town to outlaw dancing, which Ren finds unbelievable. With the help of Ariel, the Reverend's daughter, and Willard, a country hick who becomes his best friend, Ren convinces the Reverend to let the teenagers dance, and in the process, helps the town heal from a tragedy that affected them all.

"Footloose" has something for all age groups! It is a story of forgiveness and renewal. It carries a message of love, respect and healing. Equally on target is the celebration of youthful vitality, which finds its outlet in music and dance. The lively rock soundtrack contains selections by Kenny Loggins, Jim Steinman, Bonnie



Tyler, Deniece Williams, Eric Carmen, Sammy Hagar and others. Come to the show to support students and hear some of your favorites!

Thursday, October 19 at 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 21 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Sunday, October 22 at 2 p.m. ■

Footloose
THE MUSICAL





SCHOOL SPIRIT, STUDENT SUCCESS

At the time of this writing, we have three teams undefeated in section play (boys soccer, girls soccer, and girls volleyball), a history-making performance in girls tennis, and, in this author's opinion, the best halftime show you will see from any marching band. And we are only one month into the start of the 2023-24 school year. The following includes recaps of our fall sports seasons to date. A few (golf and tennis) are nearing the end of their regular seasons, while many have yet to hit the mid-season point. While the success is obvious, the school spirit and support on display for our student-athletes and student-performers is more noticeable. The year has started off with incredible school spirit, and I am convinced the energy surrounding campus is what propels our students and teams towards excellence. In closing, I must give a shout out to the award-winning Raider Marching Band. In my 12 years with the District, the 2023 halftime performance is by far the most entertaining I have witnessed. If you have yet to see the band perform, join us for a home football game and a Michael Jackson show worthy of the price of admission!

- Heather Lewis, Athletic & Activities Director



FALL SPORTS UPDATES

CROSS-COUNTRY – Boys and Girls (Head Coach: Steve Strellick)

Raider cross-country opened their season at the annual Red, White & Blue Invitational on September 9. In the boys varsity race, junior Max Smith finished 12th out of 243 runners, and senior Ethan Barnett finished 30th. As a team, Seneca Valley finished sixth out of 32 teams. In the opening two Section meets, the boys defeated Pine-Richland 24-34 but fell to Butler 29-26. In the girls varsity race at the Red, White & Blue Invitational, senior Samantha Moury finished 36th out of 234 runners, and junior Sydney Heltzell finished 44th.



As a team, the Raiders finished 16th out of 32 teams. In Section meets against Butler and Pine-Richland, the girls team swept results, defeating Butler 27-28, and Pine-Richland 20-41.

FOOTBALL (Head Coach Ron Butschle)

A noticeably young Raider football squad has opened the season with four difficult losses. Following the loss of 28 graduating seniors last year, this year's squad features many starters seeing varsity action for the first time in their careers. The Raiders have a key 6A matchup with Mt. Lebanon, which will go a long way in determining post-season playoff standings.



GOLF – Boys (Head Coach Dean Leventopoulos)

The boys varsity golf team opened their season with a second-place finish at the Sewickley invite. The team is currently 5-6 in match play with two remaining matches and the SV Invitational remaining before the WPIAL individual postseason competition begins.



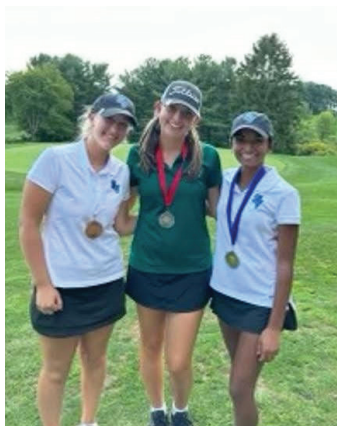
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GOLF – Girls (Head Coach Brian Pesavento)

Under first-year head coach Brian Pesavento, Raider girls varsity golf is currently 10-2 overall and sitting in second place in section play with a 7-2 mark. In addition to their outstanding match-play record, the team recently won their own Climb the Ridge Invitational. Lihini Ranaweera took top honors with a 71, and Madison Sharek finished third overall with a 76 to post the team to a second consecutive Climb the Ridge tournament title. Like their male counterparts, the Raiders have two remaining matches left, and their WPIAL team championship fate rests on those results. They, too, will begin WPIAL individual postseason competition at the end of September.



SOCCER – Boys (Head Coach George Williams)

Once again, Raider boys soccer is off to an undefeated start, sitting at 8-0 and tied for first in section standings. The boys are currently ranked No. 1 in the WPIAL and No. 3 in the state. The United Soccer Coaches Association currently has Seneca Valley ranked 10th nationally. What is becoming a customary start to their season, the Raiders won the annual Intersection Kickoff Tournament and are 6-0 in section play. They have scored 36 goals on the season, with only six against.



SOCCER – Girls (Head Coach Mark Perry)

Raider girls soccer is off to a fantastic start, scoring 39 goals while only giving up three



in their 7-0 start. The girls are tied for first in section play and, despite this impressive start, are currently ranked fourth in the WPIAL. Senior goalkeeper Mia Humphreys posted four shutouts in the first seven games. Senior Ayla Ward and sophomore Ashlee Libby lead a potent front-line attack.

TENNIS (Head Coach Eric Grove)

Raider girls varsity tennis is currently 6-4 overall and 3-2 in section play. At the time of this writing, the Raiders are tied for third place in section play and only the top four teams qualify for the WPIAL team championships. Senior Kylie Staudt is having a fabulous season, having recently qualified for the WPIAL individual championships based on her fourth-place finish at the sectional tournament. Kylie is the first representative from SV in 15 years to compete in the girls WPIAL individual tournament.



VOLLEYBALL (Head Coach Brett Poirier)

After a loss in the Canon-Mac tournament semifinals to start the season, Raider girls varsity volleyball has not lost a match. Currently, the team is undefeated in match play with a 5-0 record, and, in mid-September, the team traveled to Westminster, Maryland, for a tournament where they went 10-0 and brought home the trophy. The Raiders are currently tied for first place in their section and the Western PA Volleyball Coaches Association has them ranked No.2. ■



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT DATES FOR RAIDER ATHLETICS

Special Events

- **October 5, 2023:** Homecoming Carnival and Parade
- **October 6, 2023:** Homecoming Football Game vs Hempfield
- **October 27, 2023:** Annual Pink Game vs North Allegheny

Winter Sport Information

- **October 25, 2023:** Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Winter Sports in Senior High School
 - 30 physicals offered 2:45–5:15 p.m.
- **November 8, 2023:** Final Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Winter Sports in Senior High School
 - 30 physicals offered 2:45–5:15 p.m.
- **November 9, 2023:** **Deadline** for winter sport paperwork; all papers due in the athletic office.
- **November 17, 2023:** First official day of winter sports – mandatory tryouts begin this day.
 - For the tryout schedule, please contact the coach directly. Coaches contact information is located on the athletics website under [Participation Information](#) tab.

REMINDERS for 2023-24:

- **ALL** paperwork for winter sports is due in the athletic office no later than Thursday, November 9, 2023, by 3 p.m. Coaches will not accept paperwork on the first day of tryouts.
- The PIAA mandates the CIPPE Section 6 form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.
- All required paperwork for 2023-24 athletic participation is available on [Parent Portal](#) or Athletics website. Paperwork includes PIAA CIPPE Sections 1, 2, 5, & 6 and Drug Test Consent Form.
- If a student played in a fall sport, the only paperwork needed is PIAA CIPPE Section 7 and, if applicable, PIAA CIPPE Section 8 – these forms can be dated no earlier than Oct. 6, 2023.
- All student-athletes must register in the [Parent Portal](#) under "Sports Registration" before the start of each season.
- Tryouts are mandatory. Student-athletes are expected to attend every tryout session.

PROJECT COMPLETE

The 2023-24 school year is already full of BIG accomplishments for the SV Athletics Department! This fall we celebrate a groundbreaking addition to the district that will take our athletic programs and events to the next level.

The new press box is more than a vantage point for capturing game-changing moments, it will also serve as an operations

center for all events held at NexTier Stadium and will provide media the space to broadcast/televise these events. The facility, equipped with a third-level video platform, will open its doors to SVTV, providing students with hands-on experience in sports broadcasting. ■



LET'S RUN FOR RYAN!

Join us on Sunday, Nov. 5, for the inaugural SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run! Presented by Westinghouse and hosted by the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF), this incredible event serves to spread community awareness of the life and legacy of SFC Ryan Gloyer by highlighting the many amazing attributes this man possessed; to remind students and the entire community of Ryan's ultimate sacrifice for our Country; and even more importantly, preserve his legacy of being inclusive, selfless, dedicated and a true patriot.

We are calling on the entire Seneca Valley School District to be a part of this day: Students, staff, families, alumni, business owners - from babies in strollers to baby boomers!

Register here: [SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run \(runsignup.com\)](https://runsignup.com)

The race will begin at 9 a.m. on the beautiful campus of Seneca's secondary schools. Because of course logistics, it is necessary to shut down Seneca School Road for approximately one hour. We ask participants and guests to arrive no later than 8:30 a.m.

All proceeds from this event will benefit Ryan Gloyer Middle School and the Ryan Gloyer Memorial Scholarship.



Thank you to the many people and businesses who have committed to support this event. A complete list of sponsors can be found here: [Seneca Valley Foundation / Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run \(svsd.net\)](https://svsd.net). Also, special thanks to Regan Ridenour, SV Class of 2023, for designing the race-day shirt which depicts Ryan in his high school track-running days. Register by October 18 to guarantee one of these memorable shirts! ■



PRESENTED BY:



**Inaugural 5K Walk/Run
In Memory of SFC Ryan Gloyer**
November 5, 2023 - 9 a.m.
SV Secondary Campus, Harmony, PA

Register Today!



SV ALL-STAR

For September we are pleased to announce the newest member inducted into the SV All-Star Club, Ms. Carol Jamison, multiple supports paraprofessional at Ehrman Crest Elementary/Middle School.

The SV All-Star Club is an awards program developed by the District to express our gratitude to Seneca Valley classified employees (administrative assistants, paraprofessionals, maintenance, cafeteria), bus drivers and security guards who are often the unsung heroes of our schools. We recognize a new member of this elite all-star club each month.

Ms. Jamison worked as a learning support paraprofessional for many years. Last year, when a full-time position opened in the fourth through sixth grade multiple supports' classroom, she applied for and accepted this new challenge. While she has always worked alongside neurodiverse students, she now helps to support the most neurodiverse and vulnerable population at Ehrman Crest.

"Carol Jamison is a gem; she is beautiful, precious and rare," said Dr. Bridget Miller, Assistant Principal of Ehrman Crest Middle School. "Carol gives 100% and would never consider giving anything less. She is affectionately known by her students as 'Mrs. J,' and she has an inner gentleness that is a rare find. Carol will speak up for



Pictured from L-R: Assistant Principal at Ehrman Crest Elementary School Ms. Tesin Amoscato, Principal at Ehrman Crest Elementary School Ms. Lauri Pendred, Ms. Kathy Whittle, Board President, Ms. Carol Jamison, Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Principal at Ehrman Crest Middle School Dr. Bridget Miller and Principal of Ehrman Crest Middle School Mr. Tim Eiler.

what she believes in, yet she will listen before doing so. She is open to learning new things and will not back down from a challenge."

Dr. Miller shared, "When I think of 'Mrs. J,' this vivid image comes to mind of her standing in the pouring rain during bus dismissal last year when we all got caught in a torrential downpour. I ran an umbrella out to her, and her response was 'No thank

you. The kids won't have an umbrella, so I won't have one either.' She did not do this for praise, recognition, or martyrdom; she did this because this is simply who she is, someone who consistently and authentically models love."

"I am a better person because I work alongside Carol Jamison," Dr. Miller added. "Our students and staff are better people as well." ■

STAFF OF SV

Be sure to check out the latest 'Staff of SV,' a light-hearted feature that was created to share with our followers the more human-interest side of our staff that parents and students don't always get to see. This month features Nii Sowa-Doku, Assistant Athletics Director, and his experiences as a first-generation American. Read more at www.svsd.net/StaffofSV. ■



BECOME A GOLD CARD MEMBER

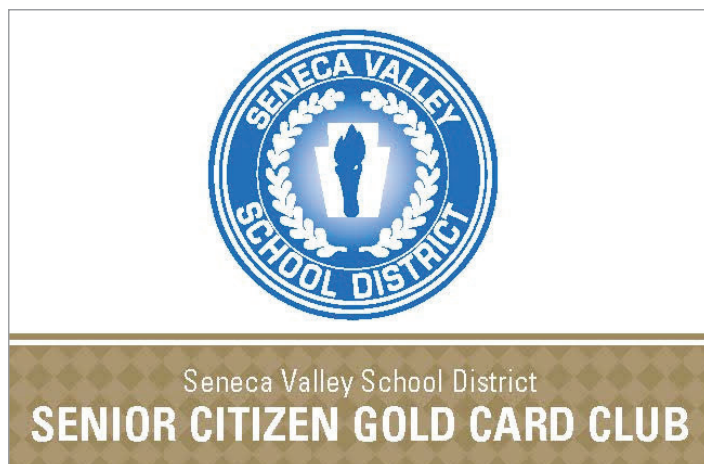
Seneca Valley residents 62 years of age or older are invited to apply to become a member of the Seneca Valley School District Gold Card Club. Membership entitles card holders to attend home athletic events, music, dramatic and other school productions.*

Athletic schedules and District events are listed via the [athletic/activities calendar](#) on the website.

Membership is free and proof of residency is required at the time of application. Acceptable proof of residency includes: a copy of a valid PA driver's license or identification card with a Seneca Valley School District community address, lease, or utility bill (name of the application must match the name on the license/identification). A Gold Card application can be made by mail and must include a copy of proof of residency.

To use a Seneca Valley Gold Card:

- You must carry your card with you and present it to admissions personnel when you wish to use it.
- Remember that use at some fine art performances, including the SV All-School Musical, require reserved seating, so call ahead to check or confirm your reservation.



*Please be aware that many fine arts performances such as band, orchestra and choir concerts offer free admission, but some events such as plays, musical productions or dance reviews may require an admission charge. Reduced-price admissions to these events are available to Gold Card members. Reservations may be required and some performances may have limited free-admission seating for Gold Card members.

To apply for a gold card, please visit [Parents/Community / Gold Card Club \(svsd.net\)](#). ■

'I LED THE PLEDGE'

We are pleased to continue the tradition of inviting elementary students from Seneca Valley's K-4 schools to lead the members of the School Board and public in saying "The Pledge of Allegiance" during school board meetings.

Abby and Hannah Repp, third graders (and twins!) from Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School (CVE) were our "I Led the Pledge" students for the Sept. 11 work session meeting. Abby and Hannah are the daughters of Ms. Jessica Repp and State Police Cpl. Tim Repp of Cranberry Township. Abby would like to be a photographer when she grows up, and Hannah says she wants to be an actress. They both love reading, writing stories and taking art class at school. Both girls are entering their fourth year of girl scouts and are on the Rose E Schneider YMCA Riptide swim team.

For the Sept. 18, regular session meeting, we were joined by Adeeb Razik, a first



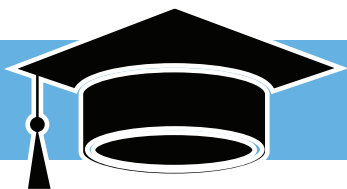
Abby (left) and Hannah Repp with, from L-R, Ms. Kathy Whittle, Board President, and Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent

grader at Ehrman Crest Elementary School (ECE). He is the son of Zowril Razik and Shifa Shiraz of Cranberry Township. Adeeb's favorite subjects in school are science and math. He plays ice hockey and



Adeeb Razik with, from L-R, Ms. Kathy Whittle, Board President, and Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent

dreams one day of being a hockey player like Pittsburgh Penguin Sidney Crosby. He enjoys reading "Fly Guy" books and playing with his little brother. ■



Alex Karika, SV '12, is a pilot for the U.S. Navy and a recent Hall of Fame inductee for her participation in volleyball and basketball. She was recruited to play volleyball at the U.S. Naval Academy. We asked her to catch us up on what she is doing and how Seneca Valley influenced her life and career.

Q: Catch us up. Tell us what you're doing today:

A: I am a naval aviator (pilot). I fly helicopters, specifically the MH-60S (the Navy's version of the Army Blackhawk). I am currently stationed at Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island in San Diego, California, and my squadron is called Helicopter Sea Combat Weapons School Pacific. My current role is a Weapons and Tactics Officer (WTI). I help instruct and evaluate fleet pilots in all MH-60S mission sets and advanced helicopter tactics.

Q: Please share with us some information about your family.

A: My parents now live in Charleston, South Carolina, and my sister lives in Philadelphia. They continue to support me every day, and I am so grateful and thankful for them.

Q: What might (someone) be surprised to know about you?

A: I have an orange kitten named Theodore who is the exact orange cat stereotype. I love him dearly.

Q: How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?

A: Seneca Valley taught me many lessons that have stayed with me throughout my life. I was a varsity athlete my entire time at Seneca Valley, and that contributed to many of the life lessons I learned. A few that stick out to me are time management, discipline, communication and perseverance. Balancing both academics and athletics can be challenging, but finding a healthy way to do both is truly a blessing.

Q: What do you think makes Seneca Valley such a special place to learn and grow?



A: I think Seneca Valley does a great job of providing a wonderful atmosphere for learning and growing. There are so many different opportunities for students to get involved in extracurriculars. And, of course, the school spirit can't be beat.

Q: Who was your favorite teacher/coach/SV staff member?

A: I had too many amazing staff members to just list one. I am very grateful for all my coaches and teachers. They truly helped me in many ways. Whether it was explaining a math problem differently so it made sense to my brain or teaching me a new skill on the court and helping me perfect it, they were always there and willing to put in extra time where needed.

Q: What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley? We'd encourage you to recall a moment or



event that had a particularly strong influence on your life.

A: My favorite memories at Seneca Valley were my home games for both volleyball and basketball. I loved the school spirit that came with playing in your home gym. Not to mention the games made all the practices (even the tough ones!) worth it.

Q: If you had one message for teachers, what would it be?

A: Thank you for everything you do! You make a difference in many lives, and your impact really creates a lasting impression. ■



HOW DO I PROTECT MY YOUNG CHILD FROM CYBERBULLYING?

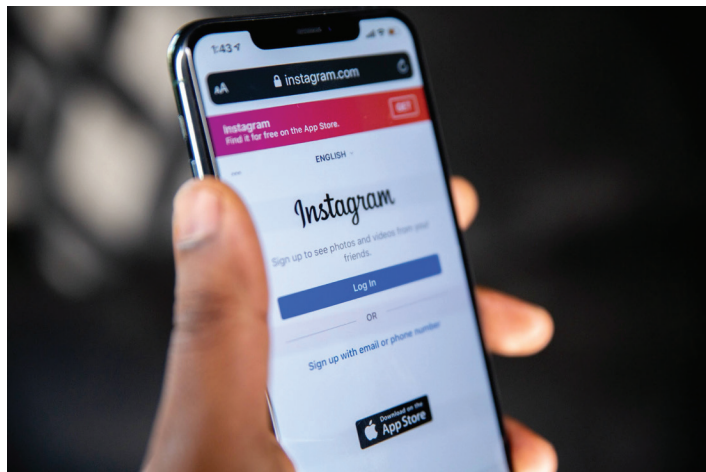
Once young kids can communicate with others on their devices, a range of new social opportunities open up for them online. If your kids are texting their friends or using social features on apps or games, they could be exposed to name-calling, teasing or cyberbullying. And you can help them by explaining the basics of kind, responsible and **safe online behavior**.

Here are some ways to protect your child from cyberbullying:

- Have clear rules about interacting online.
- Talk about which private information should not be shared. This includes full name, date of birth, gender, home address, school name and family members' names.
- Set limits and supervise online activities closely while still supporting your child as they become more independent.
- Choose high-quality, age-appropriate entertainment. At their age, it isn't appropriate to watch anything that models negative behavior without lessons or consequences. Encourage your kids to respect different experiences and identities by watching and playing diverse movies, shows, games and apps.

You can also help them learn how to recognize and respond to cyberbullying:

- Explain to your kids **what cyberbullying is**. It's repeated and unwanted mean or hurtful words or behavior that happens online.
- Practice respectful communication and **boundaries** (like "don't be mean to others"). Also teach them to be kind and compassionate. These skills will come in handy both on- and offline.



- Let them know that supporting a friend who is being bullied can make a big difference.
- If they think they're being bullied, your kids should follow the steps of STOP:
 - **STOP** using the device.
 - **TELL** an adult who you trust what happened.
 - **Get the OK** from an adult before going back on the app or website where the bullying happened.
 - **PAUSE** to think about how you feel. After talking to an adult, would it be helpful to talk to the person who was being mean?

Article provided by **Common Sense Media** ■

Download the new and improved **SV MOBILE APP**



Seneca Valley's updated app is more personalized, more customized and has greater mobile content!



SV Portal
Once you log in, you'll stay logged into your account. Now you're just a tap away from viewing grades, homework, school information and more.

SV Customization
Click on the settings wheel to customize the app on your device.

SV Calendar
Stay informed with access to one or more calendars all in one place. Add personal calendar notes.

www.svsd.net



The Power of Prevention

Insights into youth substance abuse & addiction

Parent and staff event presented by Dr. C. Thomas Brophy

6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Seneca Valley Senior High School Auditorium

Dr. C. Thomas Brophy is the medical director for the Ellen O'Brien Gaiser Center and is one of the region's only physicians board certified in both addiction and emergency medicine. He will present an educational seminar to parents and staff on topics related to addiction, including how addiction affects the developing brain, drug trends and vaping. The program will feature a question-and-answer session.

*This event is free as part of National Substance Abuse Prevention Month; no reservations required.
Act 48 Credits available to SV teachers.*

Information presented may not be suitable for younger audiences. Childcare is available and open to the first 25 who register at communications@svsd.net. Childcare services are provided by SV Foundation student volunteers and are complimentary, however donations to SVF are accepted.



- Cast your vote! Ehrman Crest is a finalist in Pittsburgh's AIA 2023 People Choice Awards, a contest featuring recently designed places in our community. Help Ehrman Crest win in the Large Architecture Category by clicking [here](#).
- Teacher Nominations - WTAE-TV is launching a Teacher of the Month recognition program for the 2023-24 school year. Each month, from September through May, a teacher will be selected from the many deserving submissions that they receive. The selected Teacher of the Month will receive a \$1000 credit to donorschoose.org, a crowd-sourcing page for classroom project/program funding. In addition, Pittsburgh's Action News 4 will feature that teacher and their story (and possibly a surprise school visit) during a news broadcast, as well as social media. Nomination information can be found at [WTAE Teacher of the Month](#).
- [Listen](#) as SV Senior, Jeevan Subramaniam discusses his Graduation Project and the work he's doing with Mission Vision.
- Seneca Valley School District welcomed over 40 new staff members for the 2023-24 school year. Kicking off the day with an energetic welcome from our cheerleaders, the new-to-SV educators attended the annual SV New Teacher Induction Program complete with training sessions, meeting colleagues and preparing for the students to return. Click [here](#) to watch the full video.
- Seneca Valley High School earned [high national and metro-area rankings in 2023-2024 Best High Schools](#), which was just released by U.S. News & World Report. Seneca Valley is ranked 2,706 out of the 17,680 schools who made the national list, and 106 out of the 655 schools who made the state list. We congratulate our students, staff and families for this recognition!
- All students in Pennsylvania public schools, including Seneca Valley, will once again have access to **free breakfast for the 2023-24 school year**, regardless of family income. Encourage your student(s) to stop for a full breakfast or various grab-and-go items. And new for the 2023-24 school year, families who qualify for reduced meals will now be able to receive lunch for free. If you think you qualify, please apply to receive this benefit and return it to the Seneca Valley Administration Office with attention to Faye Nelson. We encourage you to fill out a Free & Reduced-Price School Meals Application as many programs are connected to your child(ren)'s eligibility. Applications can be found at www.svsd.net/FreeandReduced.
- SV Backpack Flyers - Flyers are updated frequently and feature information on student and community activities, including SV's new Fencing Club and SV Cross Country's upcoming Turkey Chase 5K. Visit today at [Backpack Flyers / Backpack Flyers \(svsd.net\)](http://Backpack Flyers / Backpack Flyers (svsd.net)).
- Healthy habits - SV's Health Services Department would like to remind everyone to eat well, sleep well, stay hydrated and wash hands frequently. Additionally, they ask that you please stay home or keep your child home when sick, and for 24 hours after fever is gone without medication or 24 hours without vomiting/diarrhea. Thank you!
- Seneca Valley residents 62 years of age or older are invited to apply to become a member of the Seneca Valley School District Gold Card Club. Membership entitles card holders to attend home athletic events, music, dramatic and other school productions. To apply for a gold card, please visit [Parents/Community / Gold Card Club \(svsd.net\)](#).
- Reality Tour is an accessible substance prevention program that delivers information to get parent and child on the same page.



- [Substance Abuse Prevention for Parents - CANDLE, Inc. \(candleinc.org\)](#)
- [Subscribe to our YouTube Channel!](#)
- [Drive for SV! Sign-up bonuses are now being offered.](#)
- Join the SV Team! [Watch here](#) or visit www.svsd.net/HumanResources to learn more and apply.
- Visit [Niche](#) to view SV rankings ■

FYI

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline is comprised of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. ■



SVSD – Drug Prevention is for *Every* Family



I will be my child's most most **POWERFUL PREVENTION** tool.

Register Now || RealityTour.org



MOST POPULAR PARENT/CHILD PREVENTION PROGRAM.
PARENTS RATE IT AS "PRICELESS"

"One parent emailed me after attending Reality Tour to express gratitude for SVSD support calling it a 'great resource for the fight against substance abuse'.

We believe our partnership with Reality Tour serves as a deterrent in this never-ending battle."

Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent

Reality Tour, the only **parent/child drug prevention program** in Butler County, has educated over 14,000 residents. Parent/Child prevention education is the key to protecting families. It is recommended by that all SVSD Area students (especially those in 6th grade) attend a Reality Tour with a parent or guardian.

Reality Tour is held from 6-8 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 8070 Rowan Road. All registration is online at www.RealityTour.org. The fee is \$6 per person. (Families on free & reduced lunch register at no charge.)

Attend Reality Tour with your CLASS

2023

2024

Sept. 21 - **ECMS:**
Rooms 2097, 2100, 2131

Oct. 19 - **Haine:**
Rooms 302, 307,308

Nov. 16 - **Haine:**
Rooms: 304, 309, 310

Feb. 15 - **Haine:**
Rooms 312, 313, 314, 316

Mar. 21 - **ECMS:**
Rooms 2104, 2125, 2130

Apr. 18 - **ECMS:**
Rooms 2105, 2110, 2111

May 16 - **ECMS:**
Rooms 2115, 2117, 2118

Attend with your class *OR* any date. No homework due day after you attend Reality Tour.
Dates may fill quickly. Register now! Youth age 10-18 must attend with their own parent or guardian.

Parents: DEA issued a national alert on Xylazine, an animal tranquilizer in the illegal drug supply. It is present in our county. Vaping has caused a heightened concern for prevention. In the US students are transported to the ER after taking ill from vaping THC and even fentanyl. Reality Tour puts special emphasis on teen vaping and the associated risks.

"These could have been the most important hours I ever spend with my son." – From a father who attended with his son.

This is not a Seneca Valley sponsored event.





Bundle Up Butler

Friday, October 20, 2023

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Butler City Farmer's Market

209 South Chestnut Street,

Butler, PA 16001

Kid's coats are free and distributed on a first come, first served basis.

We will make every effort to fulfill a child's need.

Bundle Up Butler will only have a limited number of coats for adults.

Adults in need of a coat are encouraged to make a \$5 donation to Bundle Up Butler.

REMOTE AREA MEDICAL



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED; JOIN THE MISSION TODAY!



DENTAL

- Dentists
- Oral Surgeons
- Dental Assistants
- Hygienists



VISION

- Optometrists
- Ophthalmologists
- Opticians
- Vision Techs



MEDICAL

- Physicians
- Physician Assistants
- Nurse Practitioners
- Nurses



General Support

- Interpreters
- Guides
- Data Entry & Much More!



Butler, PA

November 11-12, 2023

Butler Intermediate High

551 Fairgrounds Rd.

Butler, PA 16001

"To prevent pain and alleviate suffering by providing free, quality healthcare to those in need."

- RAM's Mission

FOR MORE INFO: RAMUSA.ORG | 865.579.1530



PIONEER YOUR FUTURE

Open Houses

BC3 @ Cranberry

Oct. 19 | 6 PM - 8 PM

BC3 Main Campus

Oct. 24 | 5 PM - 8 PM

Apply for **FREE** at these events.



RSVP at [BC3.edu/open-house](https://bc3.edu/open-house)



Calling all Leaf Angels

Minimize the difficulties of raking leaves for your neighbors, and volunteer to be a Leaf Angel!

Volunteers will be matched with nearby residents in need of assistance raking and removing leaves from their properties.

Perfect activity for teams, clubs, Scout troops, and families!

www.cranberrytownship.org/leafangels



Application for volunteers opens October 2!