



RAIDER PRIDE

A State and National Award-Winning Publication

MAY 2024



THE FUTURE AHEAD

Blue skies and mild temperatures greeted the thousands of families and friends who attended Seneca Valley’s Commencement Ceremony at NexTier Stadium on Thursday, May 30. Several photos are available on our social media platforms with picture pages planned for next month’s issue of Raider Pride. Congratulations, SV Graduates, we are #SVProud! ■



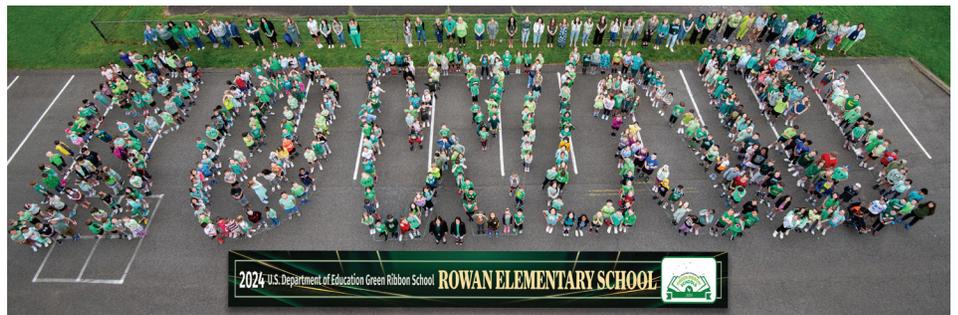
IT’S GOOD TO BE GREEN!

The U.S. Department of Education recently announced the 2024 U.S.



Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools, which includes Rowan Elementary School of the Seneca Valley School District. Rowan is one of only three schools on the list from Pennsylvania, in addition to also being the only Pennsylvania elementary public school and the only educational institution representing the western side of the state.

“Receiving the National Green Ribbon School designation is a significant



milestone for Rowan Elementary School, and they serve as a wonderful example for those who are working toward environmental excellence,” said Dr. Tracy Vitale, Seneca Valley Superintendent. “Through immersive experiences, innovative projects and community

engagement, Rowan is empowering our students to become environmentally conscious citizens. I congratulate them for their hard work and commitment at promoting a healthy, more sustainable future in school and beyond our walls.”

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DATES TO REMEMBER

June 6Last Day for K-11 Students (Early release times will be communicated through your child’s building)

June 7.....Staff In-Service Day, No School for Students

June 14.....Reports of Student Progress

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

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				6	7	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						

IT'S GOOD TO BE GREEN! (cont.)

Across the country, 41 schools, 10 districts, three postsecondary institutions, and one early learning center are being honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and offer effective sustainability education. The honorees were named from a pool of candidates nominated by 24 states.

“This year’s U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools are leading school transformation in states that will help ensure all students in all communities have the opportunity to grow to become strong and healthy learners,” stated U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. “This year’s awardees range from early learning centers to postsecondary institutions. Notably, half are located in under-resourced communities. These awards represent thousands of students, and countless hours of hard work in schools and on college campuses, ensuring equitable access to healthy, climate-resilient learning environments where students are prepared for the sustainability challenges of the present and future.”

Rowan Elementary School takes a comprehensive approach to environmental education, consciousness and sustainability. Established four years ago, the Rowan Green Team has proactively collaborated with the Green Building Alliance, organized professional development, secured grants for garden supplies and enhanced school aesthetics through biophilic efforts. Environmental themes permeate various clubs like Robotics and STEM, enriching educational experiences beyond traditional classrooms, fostering critical thinking amid environmental challenges. Hydroponics and gardening boxes serve as practical labs, utilizing outdoor spaces like the courtyard for biodiversity lessons. Composting initiatives, championed by



educators, serve as educational tools, and student ambassadors promote composting through informative videos. Rowan Elementary also ensures social-emotional learning is integrated into routines and Learn, Explore, Act, Develop (LEAD) lessons, with mental health support services available. Additionally, air quality is addressed through purifiers, fragrance-free policies, and mold monitoring, while infrastructure prioritizes safety and active lifestyles with carefully designed sidewalks and bike routes.

“The staff at Rowan Elementary School are committed to fostering an environmentally sustainable and health-conscious environment by engaging students in recycling, composting and various environmental project-based learning activities,” explained Dr. Tina Wentz, Rowan Elementary School Principal. “I’m incredibly proud of the ongoing teamwork between the staff and students as they work together to cultivate a school culture centered on wellness and environmental responsibility. This award is truly an honor.”

For more information regarding the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools, please visit [U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools](https://www.ed.gov/green-ribbon-schools). ■

SV RECEIVES YOUTH AWARD FOR PARTNERSHIP WITH CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP

Seneca Valley School District received the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) Youth Award, a state-wide community service award recognizing ways in which students give back and better their community. The award was presented to representatives from Seneca Valley and Cranberry Township on April 17, at the PSATS Conference in Hershey, PA.

Cranberry Township nominated the District based on the ongoing, collective efforts that connect the school, students and community. Throughout the year, hundreds of students team up with Cranberry Township to beautify and improve the area through several volunteer projects like Community Grown, Leaf Angels and a Tree Planting Blitz, where students from Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) plant 200 trees to further sustainability.

Additionally, students from Haine Middle School participated in Leaf Angels and Stormwater Stenciling. Students and teachers volunteered their time and raised awareness about the dangers of pollution entering the environment through stormwater inlets.

“Collaboration was truly the cornerstone of these award-winning projects,” said Mr. Mike Manipole, RGMS Health and Physical Education Teacher and Cranberry Board of Supervisors Chairman. “The key takeaway here is the power of unity and teamwork among everyone involved—employees, administrators, teachers, students and the Cranberry Township/SV partnership. This collaborative effort not only made the event a success but also contributed significantly to the planning process.”

The purpose of the PSATS Youth Award is to recognize youth



groups that make valuable and lasting contributions to improve life in Pennsylvania’s townships and encourage greater youth involvement in township government.

“Kylee Eyth from the township was instrumental in the design and execution of the project,” added Mr. Manipole. “It was inspiring to see how everyone came together, each playing their part, to achieve such remarkable results. The kids and their teachers were awesome, and they worked together with township employees from all of our departments as well as administrators from the SV District! The unity and cooperation exemplify the very best of teamwork and community spirit, making it a standout aspect of the award-winning achievement.” ■

HELPING HANDS

This month, 115 students on the Cougar Team at Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) packed 150 lunches for the Light of Life Rescue Mission. Students worked collaboratively in teams to assemble the lunches as part of a 20-year partnership with the Light of Life Mission to provide needed food items. This team of students will wrap up their school year conducting a research unit on the city of Pittsburgh culminating in a trip to watch the Pirates at PNC Park. ■



START YOUR ENGINES

Let the races begin! Haine Middle School (HMS) students recently geared up to build and race their own hydrogen powered cars!

On May 7, Mike Ducker, President and CEO of MHI Hydrogen Infrastructure, joined students at HMS to teach them about hydrogen and hydrogen ecosystems/infrastructure. Nicola Weiss, H2GP Foundation President, also visited to talk about solar, wind, why hydrogen is important and what happens in the reversible fuel cell they used.



The program, known as the "Horizon Hydrogen Grand Prix XPR," or "H2GP XPR" for short, is intended to introduce students to basic science and engineering principles related to sustainability and renewable energy. In this program, students design and build their fuel cell-powered vehicles using recycled materials. They start by sketching their vehicle designs and sourcing lightweight yet sturdy materials, before constructing their prototypes and testing them in a friendly competition to see which design can travel the farthest.

The H2GP Foundation was founded to accelerate the transition to a sustainable energy future by providing educational programs that promote the adoption of renewable energy and hydrogen technologies. Discover more at www.h2gp.org.



ROBOTS ENTER THE RING

When robots meet Sumo Wrestling, our Seneca Valley students are ready for the challenge!



Late last month, SV students from Haine Middle School (HMS) and Ehrman Crest Middle School (ECMS) participated in a Robo Sumo competition that was held at Freedom Middle School. Students built and programmed a robot and used color and motion sensors to push their opponent out of the competition ring, just like Sumo Wrestling. Each of the teams participated in seven rounds of round-robin competition. The students all had to make quick adjustments between rounds, and they truly thought on their feet to improve their robots

and programs. One team from ECMS and one team from HMS advanced to the playoffs. Congratulations to all participants! ■



TO THE FINISH LINE

Seneca Valley pride was well represented throughout Pittsburgh at the Kids Marathon, held Saturday, May 4!

Haine Elementary School (HES) Physical Education teacher Ms. Ashley Salman received funding from the SV Foundation for transportation so students, their families and all interested in racing could attend.

“It was a great culminating event for our students to celebrate wellness and physical activity with their families,” said Ms. Salman. ■



READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Celebrating our future stars! Our recent Kindergarten Signing Day was a blast as we greeted the incoming class with excitement and a special tour. It's not too late to register your child for the 2024-25 school year!

Learn more and register at www.svsd.net/24-25KRegistration. ■



ROARING SUCCESS

Did you know most of Pennsylvania’s salamanders do not have lungs?! That is just one interesting fact shared by students on the Cougar Team at Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS). These young zoologists gave presentations last month on their Biome and Animal computer app research project at the Pittsburgh Zoo’s Wild Earth Day Celebration. The project is a month-long collaboration between science, history, English and reading classes. Students are assigned to a biome and select an animal within that environment to conduct an independent research study. They then created a computer app to present their material. ■



A RESOURCE FOR A RAINY DAY

Haine Middle School “Rain Keepers” poured knowledge like a refreshing rain during their rain barrel education classes on April 24 at the Cranberry Township Municipal Center. Haine Middle School students and Mr. Tim Schutzman, Cranberry Township’s Waterworks Coordinator, along with Mrs. Allison Stebbins and Mr. John Schmidt, gifted support teachers, delivered a brief presentation and installation demonstration to educate residents about water conservation via rain barrel usage. The class concluded with the distribution of a rain barrel to each participating

resident. It was a fitting way to end Earth Day celebrations. To read more about it, please visit [Cranberry Township highlights use of rain barrels via Earth Week event – Cranberry Eagle](#). ■



EVERY VOICE MATTERS

Last month, Ehrman Crest Middle School (ECMS) sixth graders in the Social Handprints Overcoming Unjust Treatment (SHOUT) club gave presentations on the topic, “Every Voice Matters.” The students worked hard to create these presentations for their fifth grade peers to celebrate diversity and highlight our connections with one another. We thank Ms. Anabel Hopkins, SHOUT sponsor and ECMS teacher, and her student team for sharing their voice and supporting belonging in our school community. ■



BE HAPPY IN YOUR OWN SHELL

Thanks to teachers Mrs. Braden and Mrs. Herlihy, the students at Haine Middle School spent the month of April celebrating Autism Acceptance Month. Each week they participated in activities, learning about what makes them unique and what makes others unique by examining our similarities and differences. At the end of the month, a “Be Happy in your Own Shell” display was created and staff wore themed shirts. ■



COMMUNITY BUILDERS

Imagining and inventing real-world change begins with our youth!

Comic Relief US has partnered with the LEGO Group to launch a nationwide “Community Builders Challenge” that asks

students, ages 6 to 12, to work together to reimagine and build “dream communities” that promote empathy and kindness for others. [Take a look at this creative video](#) Ms. Dalashay Williams put together of Ehrman Crest second graders participating

in a grand way! Shoutout to second grade teachers Ms. Beth Allen-Boyle, Miss Camryn Camp, Ms. Amanda Longello and Ms. Dalashay Williams for taking part in this initiative! ■

A BIG 'DILL'

This year marked the first of Ryan Gloyer Middle School's Pickleball Club, and, to celebrate, students enjoyed an end-of-year tournament at Graham Park (shoutout to the Cranberry Township Pickleball Association for hosting)!

Students rocked the court this season, playing Mondays after school. This inaugural year, the club received two grants: paddle donations from Selkirk and USA Pickleball's Youth Program Grant of \$350, as well as two painted courts outside

the school (thanks to Mr. Mike Manipole!). The club, led by RGMS teachers Mr. Mike Conlon and Ms. Brenna Miller, handed out weekly "Big Dill of the Day" awards to standout players, encouraging them to improve their skills and have fun! ■



MELODIES ACROSS GENERATIONS

Earlier this month, second and fourth graders from Ehrman Crest Elementary visited residents at Luther Court in Zelienople. While there, a 100-year-old resident who was recently on the Today Show taught students how to play the kazoo!

"I liked learning the songs and playing the kazoo," said second grader Mickaela Greenawalt. "I liked playing it with all the residents."

Second grader Brayden Hilliard said, "I liked playing the songs on the kazoo. It was fun playing 'Happy Birthday!'"

During the visit, another resident taught the students about animal habitats.

When asked about his visit, second grader Rylan Reyes said, "My animal was a velociraptor and I made soil of Play Doh! I liked it and I want to do it again!" ■



PURPOSE COMMUNITY PROPOSAL

After many months of hard work and dedication, students from Seneca Valley Intermediate High School presented their innovative planning and design proposals for new park spaces to the Cranberry Township Board of Supervisors at their evening meeting on April 25.



Pictured L to R: Sidney Newton, Mia Grant, Kynzie Knirnschild, Enzo Guandolo, Claire Thompson, Alexis Metz and Ms. Meagan Loewy

Several students were elected to be a part of a Human-Centered Design Interest Group as part of the Purpose Program at SV. Instructed by Gifted Support teacher Ms. Meagan Loewy, ninth and tenth graders spent time throughout the year learning and applying human-centered design processes and created plans for two park spaces in Cranberry Township, a skate park and a community garden.

The objective of the project was to design a new skate park prototype to replace the old skate park that was previously behind the Cranberry Township Municipal Center. The students began surveying four community spaces and decided the best fit space was located at North Boundary Park. They also discovered an area of the property that would be ideal for a community gathering place which could include swinging chairs, a sensory pathway, community garden and more.

“When we pitched our proposal to the Board of Supervisors, they seemed genuinely interested in our ideas,” said sophomore Mia Grant. “This project challenged me because we had to collaborate with a group of people with different ideas. Overall, our presentations were thorough, efficient and conveyed our vision. It was also really cool to see the Board Members’ faces light up because we were there as students caring about our community.”

Throughout the school year, the team had guidance and input from Kyle Beidler, Cranberry Township Chief Planning Officer, Dan Santoro, Township Manager, and Dave Blair, Director of Parks and Recreation. All three Cranberry Township representatives visited the class and worked with the groups to teach them more about the professional side of planning, building and using park spaces.

“As a skater myself, I know that Cranberry Township is a community that would greatly benefit from this addition,” said freshman Enzo Guandolo. “We were simply honored, not only to be able to get this project in motion, but to present a place that would greatly impact the community. Our proposal is a shining light that can be worked into creating an accessible place where all can come together to enjoy an athletic, healthy and fun environment.”

SCENARIO SHOWCASE

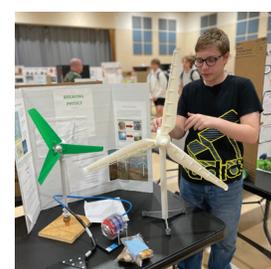
Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) students in the Purpose Program recently took part in their Scenario Showcase, an event where over 150 seventh and eighth grade students present their captivating projects that they have been working on all year long.

Going on for nearly 20 years, the Scenario Showcase celebrates the achievements, creativity and innovative thinking shown by students in the Purpose Program who undertook the challenge of designing and completing an independent project.

Student projects included entrepreneurship ventures, video game development, photography, culinary arts, making a baseball bat, scientific research, learning a new skillset and more. Some students organized events like Giana’s Field of Dream Football Camp while others worked with non-profits, where one student raised over \$500 and received many donations for Animal Friends!

“The Scenario Showcase allows students the opportunity to dive into one of their passions or explore one of their curiosities,” said Mr. Zeke Stroupe, RGMS Gifted Support teacher. “It is amazing to provide them the chance to manage a year-long endeavor where they truly are in charge. Students get their first experiences developing a project and managing setbacks, successes, and the unknown. The amount of learning they undergo spans far beyond their specific area of research into skills that will be used for a lifetime. It is an honor to help guide and mentor them through this amazing process.”

Read more about the scenario showcase here: [Seneca middle schoolers present purposeful projects – Cranberry Eagle](#)



REEL ADVENTURES

After casting alongside the tranquil waters of the Little Connoquenessing Creek that flows throughout Seneca Valley's secondary campus in Jackson Township, students at Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) were hooked as they participated in the school's Fishing Club, with many catching their very first fish.

Seventh graders in the Purpose Program Reagan Ponchek and Danny Kearney aimed to educate their peers on the significance of habitat improvement and cleaning local waterways while fostering a love of fishing. To achieve this, they wrote grants and collaborated with various organizations, making a meaningful impact in their school community through their year-long Scenario Showcase projects in Mr. Zeke Stroupe's class.

Miss Ponchek received a \$750 grant from Trout Unlimited for environmental improvements along the creek where she removed litter and worked to get the trail systems expanded making it easier for students to access the creek. Mr. Kearney received a total of \$2,250 in grants from the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF) through a Hart Mini-Grant and Trout Unlimited. These grants provided funding for stocking the creek with nearly 300 trout and hosting two fishing classes, garnering 25 RGMS student participants. After these classes, the after-school program and fishing clubs have enjoyed the program, bringing the total number of students impacted by the club to well over 100. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission granted the Fishing Club with funding through their R3 Education Grant Program which was used to purchase fishing gear like rods, reels, waders and tackle.

"The goal of the Fishing Club and all fishing activities is to allow kids the opportunity to experience local nature and biodiversity firsthand," said Mr. Zeke Stroupe, RGMS Gifted Support teacher. "I feel that to protect any resource, we must have a personal connection to it. Personal connection equals personal value. This is the only way to help protect and even improve our local environmental resources. Furthermore, fishing, hiking, and enjoying nature are healthy life-long activities. I want kids to fall in love with these opportunities as a great way to unplug from the world and be able to find the peace that can be found outdoors."



Throughout the fishing classes, students learned about different trout species and their food sources, knot tying, casting and more. As soon as the class wrapped up, students put their new skills to the test by walking down to the Little Connoquenessing Creek with their guides in hopes of reeling in a fish. Trout Unlimited even sent a few guides stocked with fly rods and tackle to help teach the kids how to fly fish as well.

"My dream is that more people in the world will help clean our local waterways for the next generation to enjoy, and to accomplish my dream, I decided to get kids in my school involved in outdoor activities by fishing," said Mr. Kearney. "Kids learned to respect the fish and the environment around them and some even got their first ever catches as anglers. They were thrilled by their experience and it made them want to fish more." ■



CATCH OF THE DAY

Students at Haine Middle School engage in a variety of enriching clubs during their Activity and Enrichment period, and, this year, fly fishing was one of the most sought-after activities. Sixth grade teacher Mr. Tim Cammisa enthusiastically introduced a Fly Fishing Club where students delve into the intricacies of fly fishing, exploring skills such as fly tying and the art of casting a fly rod. The highpoint of their learning journey was a field trip to the Conway Sportsmen's Club in Zelenople. Amidst the tranquil surroundings, students had the opportunity to reel in and release an array of fish, from vibrant rainbow trout to spirited bluegill.

This experience was made possible by the generous support of the PPG Foundation through a grant ensuring this immersive learning adventure continues to inspire young anglers year after year. ■



'WIZARD OF OZ'

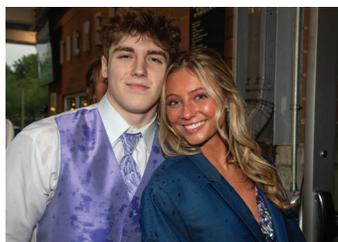
Photo Credit: Bill Sauers Photography

Seneca Valley students followed the yellow brick road as they danced the night away in the Emerald City at SV's prom on Saturday, May 11. Prom-goers enjoyed an enchanted evening at Stage AE decorated with "Wizard of Oz" themed backdrops and décor glistened with shades of green, gold and black.

Earlier this month, seniors chose 20 classmates to represent their prom court. The ladies of the 2024 Prom Court included Jenna Allman, Brynn Aloï, Paige Baker, Addison Barbe, Katie Craig, Atticus Hillebrand, Saniah Hyde, Madi Parrotto, Emerson Peffer and Kaley Testa. The gentlemen of the court included Lucas Boyle, Casey Clawson, Matt Delduca, Mike Delduca, Cenzo DiTullio, Daniel Leech, Jake Manson, Nick Parrotto, Jeevan Subramaniam and Jose Tinoco.

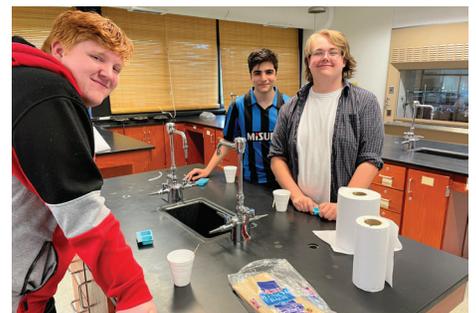
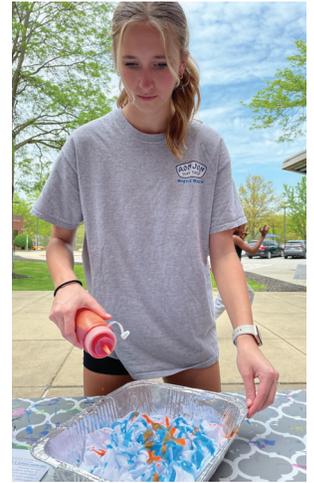
At the event, Atticus Hillebrand was crowned queen and Lucas Boyle king.

Congratulations to Seneca Valley's 2024 Prom Queen and King! ■



CULTURE WEEK

The Seneca Valley Intermediate High School (SVIHS) took part in National Culture Week, April 29 - May 3, as hosted by STOMP Out Bullying. The focus was on making the week meaningful for students as they highlighted kindness and inclusivity. The culminating activity was a “Raider Reset” where students and staff came together for the final period of the day to relax and enjoy each other’s company while taking part in activities like painting, tie-dyeing (thanks CURIO Art Gallery & Studio!) crafts, games, dancing, etc. ■



HOPE WALK

The week of April 29, Seneca Valley secondary students participated in activities of hope, celebration and awareness for mental health and suicide prevention. On Friday, May 3, the SV Hope Squad hosted their second annual Hope Walk as part of a culminating event following the week's special recognitions. Hundreds of students and faculty members attended the Hope Walk and enjoyed a beautiful afternoon walking on the track, playing outdoor games, cooling off with Dilly Bars and meeting local community members.

“We take initiative and action to provide and support our students, and I think that’s an important part of what the Hope Walk is supposed to represent,” said senior Hope Squad member Jose Tinoco. “It was a beautiful day and everyone really enjoyed themselves.”

Seniors Rylee Kratochvil and Atticus Hillebrand added, “Hope Walk is a great way to see everyone from different classes, participate in a variety of activities and see a smile on everyone’s face. This has been a really cool way to meet new people and connect with everyone.”

Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) hosted their own Hope Walk on May 8, complete with a teacher dunk tank encouraging students to “dunk the stigma.”

Hope Week is an initiative designed to celebrate community, educate the public on suicide prevention and reduce the stigma around mental health. The SV Hope Squads did a great job planning a week of school spirit and unity! ■





SV CHOIRS RISE TO NEW HEIGHTS AT THE SMOKY MOUNTAIN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Seneca Valley choir students in grades 8-12 traveled to the Great Smoky Mountains to compete in a music festival at the Gatlinburg Convention Center in Tennessee. Prior to traveling, they learned about this area of the country through investigating and performing many mountain-themed songs such as "The Blue Ridge," "Lift Thine Eyes to the Mountains," and even "Rocky Top."

The students were rewarded with a beautiful day at Dollywood Amusement Park, where former SV choral student Reagan Curry works as a performer. They also visited the Titanic and Alcatraz Museums, shopped at Pigeon Forge Island, walked a trail to a waterfall in the mountains, and enjoyed a dinner show at the Dolly Stampede. They made memories to last a lifetime!

Six Seneca Valley Choirs spent many hours competing and brought home fabulous ratings and trophies! The competition at the Smoky Mountain Music Festival included



schools from 12 different states. SV groups brought back three first-place trophies, three second-place trophies, five Superior ratings (the highest rating given), and one Excellent rating. In addition to the ensemble ratings and rankings, individual awards were also given. SV students had more individual awards than any other school!

Certificates of Excellence were awarded to:

Outstanding Vocal Solo Award: Natalie Palmer, Callum Williams, Connor Benson

Outstanding Solo/Trio: Allison Frankhouser, Ella Gemperlein, Emma Zelesnak

Outstanding Percussion: Autumn Holmes, Lilia Maschmeier

Outstanding Guitar Solo: Graham Logue

Men's Choir - Superior Rating and First Place

Treble Choir - Superior Rating and First Place



Madrigal Choir - Superior Rating and Second Place

9/10 Choral Union - Superior Rating and First Place

Concert Choir - Superior Rating and Second Place

Grade 8 Choir - Excellent Rating and Second Place

SV secondary choirs are under the direction of Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander, Ms. Claire Barker and Ms. Chessa Fernandez-Crum. ■

POETIC COMPOSITIONS

At the Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Spring Chorus Concert held May 9, the Grade 9/10 combined choirs performed an original composition written by sophomore Autumn Holmes. Autumn's composition was written for six-part vocal harmonies and piano, which she played to accompany the choirs that evening. The music was set to a poem by Robert Louis Stevenson entitled "Foreign Lands." Of the piece, Autumn said:

"The poem tells of a child's interpretation of the world around them. The speaker experiences a sense of discovery and whimsical wonder as their eyes ponder on the familiar sights around them. The child's

imagination is captured within this passage as he sees a world of endless possibility and opportunity. This child-like imagination and light-hearted perspective often gets lost as we grow and get more involved in life, especially in times such as the pandemic. My hope is that through this buoyant and bright melody and the amazing blend of the whole choir singing the calmingly heartening yet nimble lyrics of the poem, you, too, can get a glimpse of the light-hearted, whimsical perspective of the world around us."

In addition to singing in the choirs, Autumn is also an accomplished saxophonist in the Seneca Valley Concert Winds and Jazz Ensemble II, and she received an outstanding musician award for her



percussion accompaniment with the Treble Choir at the Smoky Mountain Music Competition in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. ■

SV JAZZ ENSEMBLE RECEIVES TOP RATING AT SRU JAZZ FESTIVAL

Last month, members of the SV Jazz Ensemble I performed at the Slippery Rock University (SRU) Jazz Festival and Adjudication. The ensemble performed for two adjudicators and received written comments, a rating and a personalized clinic following the performance. The SV Jazz Ensemble I received the highest rating, Superior, from both adjudicators. Dr. James Moore remarked, "You sound like a college band – great sound and style!" Headlining this year's festival was guest artist Patrick Bartley. After the adjudication, students



attended instrument-specific masterclasses, then came together for a clinic with the guest artist. The entire event concluded with a SRU Jazz Ensemble concert featuring Patrick Bartley.

Students are led by Mr. Varden Armstrong, secondary instrumental teacher. ■



NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORCHESTRA STUDENTS

Throughout the year, SV orchestra students have had access to four electric string instruments through a generous grant from the SV Foundation. The use of these new instruments inspired an entirely new group of musical leaders within the orchestra program. As a culminating project, four students performed "Beethoven's Five Secrets," and an arrangement of One Republic's popular song, "Secrets," set for an electric string quartet. This performance was not only a success but has led to the creation of a new ensemble, the Seneca Valley Electric String Quartet.

The electric string quartet is entirely student led, with students learning how to set up and configure the technology for the electric instruments, selecting the music for performance, learning music on their own, and disseminating their passion for the electric instruments to the orchestra community. Ms. Miller, secondary orchestra director, expressed, "I personally have been so inspired by my students and the way they have connected with this new performance tool."

Thank you to the Seneca Valley Foundation! In the coming years many more students will be inspired and able to connect more deeply with music through the use of our electric string quartet. ■



SV THESPIANS CLUB BEGINS ANNUAL EARTH DAY SERVICE PROJECT

The Seneca Valley Thesians Club recently decided to start a yearly service project. It was the decision of the club to do something on Earth Day to help in both the community and the environment. The club volunteered their time this year working at the YMCA Camp Kon-o-Kwee, which was especially needed after flooding at the camp. Club members were able to assist with debris collection and trail cleanup along the Connoquenessing Creek. They also helped remove a tree that had fallen into the BB range and clean that area as well.

"I am proud of the students for making a choice to help in the community," Troupe sponsor Amber Hugus stated. "I have been wanting to start a service project with the club for a few years now, and this year I was able to get their support. My own children are long-time attendees at Camp Kon-o-Kwee and the place means a lot to our family. I was very happy to be able to help!" ■



SENECA VALLEY EDUCATOR SELECTED AS GRAMMY QUARTERFINALIST

Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander, Choir Director at Seneca Valley High School, has been selected as a quarterfinalist for the 2025 Grammy Music Educator Award! Out of 2,400 nationwide submissions, only 215 reached the Quarterfinal round.

The Music Educator Award recognizes educators, kindergarten through college, who have made a lasting contribution to the field of music education and who demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in schools.

Co-sponsored by the Grammy Recording Academy and Grammy Museum, the 10 finalists receive cash prizes for their schools, with the first-place recipient recognized during the 2025 Grammy telecast. Congratulations, Ms. Alexander! ■



NO PLOT TWISTS HERE: SV'S SPRING THRILLS AUDIENCES

Students in grades 9-12 presented this year's spring play, "Trap," May 3-4. This year's show was very untraditional, as there were secrets, plot twists, cast members planted in the audience, director participation and more! The cast had a delightful time tricking the audience and were thrilled with the outcome of this production.

"I was very proud of this year's show. The cast added so many creative ideas to an already brilliant script," play director Amber Hugus said. "Having a tiny role in the show myself, I watched from the balcony as the students played their parts and I was overwhelmed with emotion as they fooled the audience with the secret ending! It was especially enjoyable to watch my son in his final performance on an SV stage."



Junior Madeleine Tomo added, "The spring play is probably my favorite part of the school year for so many reasons. It's a smaller cast and we all have formed really close friendships over the past three years. Plus, rehearsals are more laid back which helps to



create a low stress environment. 'Trap,' specifically, was one of my favorite shows because it was a mix of sci-fi, audience participation and, my favorite, an ending plot twist!"

Senior lighting designer Julia Lipscomb said, "I've been a part of the SV Spring Play for four years in all different capacities and I've absolutely loved it. To me, Spring Play means a community of people who love theater and each other. It's such a supportive environment that allows us to put on entertaining plays every year. 'Trap' was so fun to design the lights for and to watch the audience's reaction. No matter how many times I watched it during rehearsal, it never got old!" ■

SV ORCHESTRA AND BAND STUDENTS PERFORM FOR FAMILY FIRST INITIATIVE

Pennsylvania State Representative Stephanie Scialabba hosted the Family First Initiative at the Steamfitters Event Center on May 16. This event, formerly the Senior Expo, provided a “one-stop shop” for valuable information and connections within the community. The expo was based on the initiatives of education, child care, senior care, health care, substance abuse/addiction, veteran care and disability care. SV musicians were invited to participate by providing entertainment throughout the event. It was



an excellent opportunity for students to give back to the community and participate in an event with educational ties. The SV String Quartet, SV Woodwind Ensemble, SV Brass Ensemble and SV Jazz Combo performed from 1 – 5 p.m. ■



MUSICAL MASTERY

SV seniors Paityn Armstrong and Shivani Umesh were awarded the President’s Cup as part of the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) piano festival program. The festival cup system is based on points earned annually through adjudications. In order to earn the President’s Cup, a student must earn 12 years of consecutive superior ratings in piano solo festivals. This achievement is very rare as it not only requires musical excellence, but also long standing dedication and commitment. Paityn and Shivani are both students of Mrs. Linda Maurhoff and are the only two students in the local NFMC festival area to earn this achievement.



NFMC is a national music club that provides opportunities for musical study, performance and appreciation to more than 90,000 senior, student and junior members in 5,200 music-related clubs and organizations nationwide. Members are professional and amateur musicians, vocalists, composers, dancers, performing artists, arts and music educators, music students, generous music patrons and benefactors, and music lovers of all ages. ■

STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

The Seneca Valley Eighth Grade Concert Choir had the honor of performing the National Anthem at the Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game on May 22. This event, held at PNC Park, saw the talented young choir singing with pride and precision before the Pirates faced off against the San Francisco Giants. The choir, under the direction of Ms. Chessa Fernandez-Crum, brought a sense of unity and excitement to the stadium, setting a patriotic tone for the

evening’s game.

The choir’s appearance at such a significant event was a memorable experience for both the singers and the spectators, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended! ■



SV FILM CLASS HOSTS 12TH ANNUAL SV FILM FESTIVAL

On June 2, the College in High School (CHS) Narrative Film class will be hosting the 12th annual SV Film Fest at the Strand Theater in Zelenople. The film fest marks the culmination of months of work learning the basics of single-camera narrative film production, generating original ideas, writing multiple drafts of scripts, engaging in pre-production and design, shooting and editing their finished products. Students mostly worked in four or five-person groups, apart from one student who selected his crew from students outside the classroom. The process of making a professional short film required extensive collaboration, planning and organizing, mastery of difficult equipment, and unparalleled time management—making this project unlike anything else offered at the high school level.

Senior Ben Stanton, director of photography on the film “Everything Around Us,” had this to say about the process: “Making a film is a lot more challenging than you’d think. There are so many things that can go wrong and will go wrong. You have to adapt quickly and work with what you are given. Regardless of the many struggles, at the end of the day it feels amazing to get that great shot or finish the scene.”

The four films from this class — “Trip,” “Pardon the Silence,” “Three Strangers,” and the aforementioned “Everything Around Us” – will premiere along with other short films and fun animated shorts from other classes this year at 7 p.m. on June 2. All are welcome and encouraged to attend at the Strand Theater! Tickets are \$5 at the door. ■



CELEBRATING WITH “SIGNING DAY”

The Seneca Valley Performing Arts department celebrated students who will be pursuing performing arts related fields in college by organizing its annual “Signing Day.” Students and families were invited to participate by having a picture taken to commemorate their decision. The Seneca Valley Performing Arts department includes Band, Choir, Orchestra, Dance, Theater and Video Production students. ■



Paityn Armstrong
Slippery Rock University
Music Education



Delaney Bitzer
Slippery Rock University
BFA Dance/Performance
in Choreography



Speranza Capocci
Westminster College
Music Performance



Ella Gemperlein
Slippery Rock University
Music Education/Vocal
Performance



Miranda Larson
Chatham University
Media Arts: Film & Digital
Technology



Graham Logue
Duquesne University -
Mary Pappert School
of Music
Guitar Performance /
Music Technology



Natalie Palmer
Syracuse University
BFA Musical Theater



Ella Schmitt
University of Pittsburgh -
Bradford
Broadcast Communications



Bridget Scott
Grove City College
Music Education



SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT

On Tuesday, May 14, we had an opportunity to recognize many accomplished students, including six very deserving student-athlete award recipients. The following awards were presented, and honorees recognized.

The Sherman Award – Female MVP awarded to Lihini Ranaweera (Golf):

The Sherman Family presents this award. It goes to a female athlete with the following characteristics: athletic ability 50%, character 30%, and scholarship 20%.



The NexTier Award – Male MVP awarded to Isaiah Clerkey (Diving):

This award is given to a male athlete with the following characteristics: athletic ability 50%, character 30%, and scholarship 20%.



The O’Shea Award awarded to Brandon Kendrew (Track & Field):

This award is given to a student who most ably demonstrated the traits of Perseverance, Courage, and Desire during the current year. He/she need not be a starter, a star, or a letter winner. The student should be the athlete who has overcome the most severe obstacles or the greatest adversity to participate in athletics during the current year. The O’Shea Award is presented by the Knights of Columbus in Zelenople in memory of Doc O’Shea.



The Murray Award – Female awarded to Kylie Staudt (Tennis/Softball):

This award is given to a senior girl who has outstanding athletic and academic standards.



The Murray Award – Male awarded to Creed Erdos (Baseball):

This award is given to a senior boy who has outstanding athletic and academic standards.



Nichel Logistics Female Positive Athlete Award awarded to Kara Pasquale (Volleyball/Softball):

This award is designed to recognize a female student-athlete who exhibits the aspects of positive sporting behavior, exceptional sportsmanship, and genuine leadership. ■



GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL HAS ARRIVED!

The inaugural season for Raider girls flag football began in March and the considerable interest and excitement enabled Seneca Valley to field two squads for the season. For the initial season, 43 girls, including eight seniors, were rostered for the two teams. The teams were led by head coach Chris Eden and assistants Halley Rooney, Cortney Lambert, and Karissa Lambert. Finishing with an overall record of 5-4-1, the Raider Blue squad narrowly missed



the playoffs in their very first season. The returning players have already made up their mind that their goal is to not only make the playoffs, but to win playoffs in 2025. With the energy, skill and teamwork in this program, there is no doubt the goal is reasonable and motivating. We congratulate these athletes on making history in the first season of Raider girls flag football. The future is bright and with the imminent decision by the PIAA to sanction the sport, Seneca Valley is poised for a run at WPIAL and PIAA championships. Congratulations, Raiders – we are so proud of your first season! ■

SPRING SEASON SPORT RECAPS

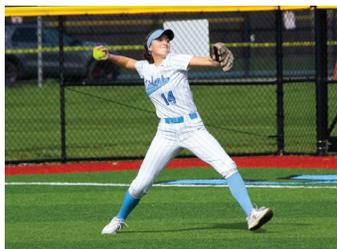
Baseball

At the time of this writing, Raider baseball was currently awaiting their WPIAL opening round playoff contest. The Raiders finished third in the section standings with a section mark of 6-6 and an overall record of 10-9-1 on the season. Seneca Valley enters the WPIAL 6A bracket as the fifth seed and will face off against fourth seed Hempfield. The winner advances to the semi-finals to face the winner of Mt. Lebanon vs Butler. Good luck in postseason play!



Softball

The co-section champions enter the WPIAL championships as the overall No. 2 seed and will face Canon-McMillan in the semifinals. The Raiders completed their regular season with a 19-1 overall record and 15-1 in section play, their only loss coming at the hands of Hempfield. Good luck in postseason play!



Boys Lacrosse

Raider boys lacrosse secured another postseason appearance with a roster comprised of mostly underclass players, except for four graduating seniors. While the opening round playoff result at Peters Township was not what the team had hoped for, we congratulate this young squad for making the postseason and look forward to a very bright future. For our graduating seniors, thank you for all you have given to Raider Athletics; we wish you the best in your future endeavors.



Girls Lacrosse

Raider girls lacrosse finished sixth in their section - once again qualifying for the WPIAL championships - and faced a tough Peters Township squad on the road in the opening round. Despite a four-goal effort from senior captain Lorena Lopez, SV was unable to seize a lead and fell to the Indians, bringing their season to a close. We congratulate this team on yet another postseason appearance and wish all graduating seniors the best in their future endeavors.



Boys Tennis

After missing the WPIAL Team Championships, the boys 2024 tennis squad closed out their season with matches against Chartiers Valley, Peters Township and Riverside. The team celebrated their seniors on May 1, and we certainly wish them all the best following graduation!



Track & Field

Following a dual-meet season where the boys and girls teams both finished with 4-2 records, the Raiders turned their attention to the WPIAL Individual Championships. The following athletes gave medal-winning performances, qualifying some for the PIAA state meet in late May on the campus of Shippensburg University.



Boys

- Kyler Matson - 300 Hurdles (WPIAL 6th place) - *PIAA qualifier*
- Dakari Payne - High Jump (WPIAL 6th place)
- Boys 4 x 100 Relay (WPIAL 7th place) - Karter LeRoy, Eddie Strong, Noah Rieger, and Gavin Skarbek

Girls

- Kathryn Morrison - 100 Hurdles (WPIAL 3rd place) - *PIAA qualifier*
- Girls 4 x 800 Relay (WPIAL 6th place) - Claire Riehl, Sydney Heltzell, Paige D'Amico, and Delaney Mansfield - *PIAA qualifier*
- Jordan Monteleone - High Jump (WPIAL 4th place) - *PIAA qualifier*
- Aubrey Popp - 100 Meters (WPIAL 8th place)
- Addie Weaver - Javelin (WPIAL 7th place)
- Audrey Wolfe - Javelin (WPIAL 6th place)

Boys Volleyball

The Raiders finished fourth in their section with a 6-6 record and an overall mark of 14-6. Seeded fifth in the WPIAL championship bracket, the boys took care of the visiting Moon Tigers in the opening round by a score of 3-1 and next traveled to Norwin to face the fourth seeded Knights. After dropping the first set, SV rattled off three straight wins to take the match 3-1 on the host Knights' home court. Once again, this program finds itself in the WPIAL semifinals and will face the top-seeded Titans of Shaler. A testament to the strength of their section, the boys WPIAL 3A semifinals are comprised of all four teams from Seneca Valley's section. Good luck in the remainder of the playoffs! ■



ATHLETES OF THE MONTH, APRIL 2024

The Female Athlete of the Month for April was girls track and field hurdler Kathryn Morrison. The junior had a breakout season in the 100- and 300-meter hurdle disciplines, placing in all meets she competed in during the last month. Kathryn had a handful of top-three finishes including first place in the 300-meter hurdles at the Butler County Invite and the North Hills, North Allegheny and Butler section meets; first place in the 100-meter hurdles at the North Hills and North Allegheny section meets and at the Pine Richland Invite. Kathryn capped off her stellar month by finishing third place in the 100-meter hurdles at the 2024 Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) Track and Field Championships which qualified her for the state championship meet. Not only was she Seneca Valley's highest finisher at the WPIAL Championships, her time of 15.07 in the 100-meter hurdles moved her to second all-time in the SV Track & Field record books. We recognized Kathryn as the April Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Kathryn!



The Male Athlete of the Month for April was senior boys lacrosse goalkeeper Dylan Kunkelmann. Dylan has been a key contributor in helping the Raiders return to the 2024 WPIAL Boys Lacrosse Playoffs. He has averaged 13.5 saves over the last 10 games which included a gauntlet of top-five WPIAL teams. Dylan's play in the net kept his team in games and was a major reason the Raiders finished sixth place in a difficult section. He also reached a major milestone, tallying his 200th career save. For an impressive month, we recognized Dylan as the April Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Dylan! ■



ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS ANNOUNCED IN SPRING SPORTS



The Big 56 Conference recently announced its spring sport honorees in baseball and softball and the Raiders were well represented. The following Seneca Valley student-athletes were recognized for their excellence on the field.

Softball

1st Team

Bella Gross
Lexie Hames

2nd Team

Anna Kalkowski
Neve Miller
Kara Pasquale

Baseball

1st Team

Luke Anderton
Mike DelDuca
Creed Erdos

2nd Team

Zyler Freedman
Nick Parrotto

Honorable Mention

Kallen Durbin
Aedan Fowler
Ryan Piekutoski

Boys Volleyball All-Section

The WPIAL boys volleyball coaches recently announced their All-Section teams for the 2024 season and the Raiders were well represented.

1st Team

Peter Breski
Jordan Hoover

Third Team

Nick Dunmire
Abheek Nelikil ■

SO UNCOMMON IN SPORT

The Northern Area Athletics Directors Association (NADA) recently honored a small collection of student-athletes who compete in three sports during their senior year. In this era of youth sport, to compete in three sports as a high school senior is a rare and uncommon experience. We recognize our two honorees – Cenzo DiTullio and Katie Craig – for their vast contributions to our Athletics program. Katie will graduate as a three-sport letter winner in volleyball, indoor track and outdoor track & field. Cenzo will graduate as a four-sport letter winner in football, ice hockey, tennis and lacrosse! We recognize Cenzo and Katie for their contributions as a student, an athlete and honorable citizen in our community. ■



COLLEGE COMMITMENTS – CLASS OF 2024

Many Raider student-athletes made their college commitment official with their signing ceremonies recently. We congratulate these seniors in achieving their goals of continuing their athletic and academic careers at the next level. Each of you are tremendous representatives of Raider Athletics and we are very proud of your efforts in the classroom, in competition, and in the community. ■

Name	Sport	College/University	Major
Peter Breski	Volleyball	Misericordia University	Business
Logan Randall	Rifle	Virginia Military Institute (VMI)	International Studies



REMINDERS FOR 2024-25

- All required paperwork for athletic participation in 2024-25 will be available on [Parent Portal](#) and the SV Athletics website starting May 1. **New for 2024-25:** No paperwork may be completed **prior to May 1.**
- ALL fall sports** paperwork is due in the athletic office no later than 3 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 1. Coaches will not accept paperwork on the first day of tryouts.
- Dates for physicals are not yet confirmed. Once dates are set, we will announce. Please note physicals are first come, first served - we do not take reservations in advance. *We encourage families to have their physical completed as soon as possible after May 1. You may visit your PCP or any Urgent Care Clinic for an athletic physical.*
- The PIAA mandates their CIPPE form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.
- All student-athletes must register in the [Parent Portal](#) under "Sports Registration" before tryouts/practice begin. Registration begins May 1.
- Complete information available on the District's Athletics website under "Participation and TRYOUT information" starting May 1.
- Concussion baseline testing only needs completed every other year. Parents may call the Athletics Office at (724) 452-6040, x1752 to confirm the status of their child's baseline concussion test.

Drug Testing and Baseline Concussion Testing Dates – Senior High School

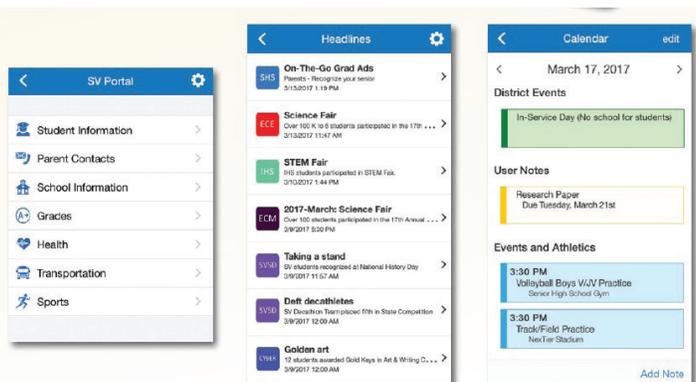
- Tuesday, July 9**, from 3– 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 10**, from 8 a.m. – noon **and** 1 – 3 p.m.
60 physicals from 8 a.m. – noon; 30 physicals from 1-3 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 30**, from 3 – 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 31**, from 8 a.m. – noon **and** 1 – 3 p.m.
60 physicals from 8 a.m. - noon ■

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

RAIDER ROBOTICS RALLIES SUPPORT AT INDUSTRY NIGHT

We are thrilled to share the resounding success of Raider Robotics Industry Night, an event that brought together innovation, education and industry expertise under one roof. The evening showcased the culmination of months of hard work, creativity and dedication from our talented students. From designing and programming autonomous robots to engineering cutting-edge solutions, our students demonstrated their ingenuity and passion for robotics in every project created.

One of the highlights of the evening was witnessing the interaction between our students and industry professionals. Their enthusiasm and commitment to excellence left a lasting impression on our guests, many of whom, like Penna Flame Industries (PFI), expressed a keen interest in collaborating with our program and continuing to support our future endeavors. In fact, PFI has already generously donated \$5,000 toward the purchase of new machinery that will allow even more students to participate in robotics education and build the workforce of tomorrow.

As we continue fostering innovation and providing our students with the resources they need to succeed, we need additional funding for new machinery and equipment. If you are interested in supporting this initiative that empowers the next generation of robotics pioneers, please contact SV Foundation (SVF) Development Director Annie



Mersing, at mersingam@svsd.net. By investing in Raider Robotics, you are not only investing in the future of our students but also in the future of technology and innovation. Together, we can inspire creativity, cultivate talent and drive positive change in our community and beyond!

Thank you to industry experts from Penna Flame Industries, HAAS, Cronimet USA, Armstrong and Jadco for joining us! ■

GIFT OF HOPE GOLF CLASSIC - BE A SPONSOR!

There is still time to register and/or sponsor the upcoming **Gift of Hope Golf Classic** presented by COMDOC which will be held on Aug. 1, at Cranberry Highlands. This event is a vital part of our fundraising efforts, and we would love for you to be a part of this day of fun and socializing, all for a great cause.

Use the QR Code to register your foursome and secure your sponsorship. (Forms can also be mailed in with payment). For additional details, click here: [Seneca Valley Foundation / 2024 Event \(svsd.net\)](https://www.svfd.net). ■



PRESENTED BY: **ComDoc**

AUGUST 1, 2024 | CRANBERRY HIGHLANDS

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS

\$4,000
 2 Complimentary Foursomes & 8 Dinner Passes
 Signage at Registration, Reception, 1 Hole & Pin Flag
 Full-Page Ad in Presentation
 Recognition at Reception

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS

\$3,000
 1 Complimentary Foursome & 4 Dinner Passes
 Signage at Reception, 1 Hole & Pin Flag
 Full-Page Ad in Presentation
 Recognition at Reception

EXTRAORDINARY SPONSORS

PUTTING CONTEST - \$2,000
SKILL PRIZE CONTEST - \$1,500
LUNCH/DINNER/COCKTAIL - \$1,500*
 *Includes 4 dinner passes
HOLE-IN-ONE CONTEST - \$1,000
HOLE SPONSORS - \$400
 All extraordinary sponsors receive ad space in presentation & signage

ADVERTISING SPONSORS

FULL PAGE - \$200
HALF PAGE - \$100
 Electronic Presentation during Dinner & Website

GOLF INFORMATION

Foursomes: \$700
Solo Golfer \$175
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Shotgun Start: 9:30 a.m.
 Lunch provided at turn. Buffet dinner served at approximately 2 p.m.

All proceeds from this exciting event benefit the Seneca Valley Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging excellence & innovation in the **Seneca Valley School District**

VIRTUALLY REGISTER TO PLAY OR SPONSOR



JOIN US!

I will sponsor this event!

- (check option below)
 _Presenting _Gold _Silver
 _Putting _Skills _Hole-in-1 _Hole
 _Lunch _Cocktail _Dinner
 _Full-Page Ad _Half-Page Ad

I will be there to play!

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Email: _____

Golfer 1: _____

Golfer 2: _____

Golfer 3: _____

Golfer 4: _____

Mail payment & this completed form to:
 Seneca Valley Foundation
 124 Seneca School Road
 Harmony, PA 16037
 Questions? Contact Annie Mersing, mersingam@svsd.net

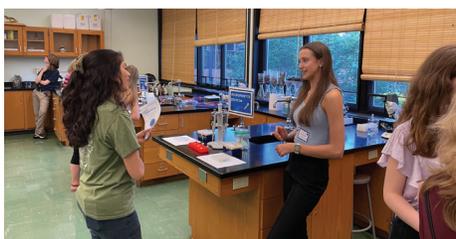


LAB OF LIFE

The Lab of Life Open House, hosted by the SV Center for Biotechnology and the SV Foundation, flourished earlier this month! We proudly welcomed alumni, science experts, college professors, administrators, students and enthusiasts alike to an evening filled with exploration, learning and collaboration to highlight the incredible things happening in our state-of-the-art facility.

Guests embarked on an immersive journey through the lab, experiencing firsthand the cutting-edge technologies and groundbreaking research driving biotechnological innovation here at SV. From precision equipment to well-designed workspaces, the self-guided tours provided a glimpse into the heart of our scientific endeavors, sparking curiosity and inspiration among attendees. Esteemed alumni shared their personal journeys and professional insights, offering valuable perspectives on the value that the SV Center for Biotechnology brings to eager new scientists. The open house buzzed with activity as guests of all ages participated in hands-on experiments and interactive demonstrations with current SV students, a.k.a. Lab Techs. Through meaningful conversations and shared experiences, attendees forged connections, exchanged ideas and laid the groundwork for future collaborations aimed at advancing biotechnological research and education in our region and beyond.

In addition to celebrating achievements and fostering collaboration, the open house provided an opportunity to rally support for future initiatives. Generous contributions will enable us to continue pushing the boundaries of biotechnological innovation, fueling groundbreaking research,



educational programs and infrastructure enhancements. With the support of our community, we are confident in our ability to drive positive change and shape the future of biotechnology for generations to come. We thank Mr. Tom Lavelle, Mr. Brian Carson and Ms. Courtney Williams, as well as all who attended, for your unwavering support and dedication. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for all.

If you are able to help the Lab of Life grow, please contact the SVF Development Director, Annie Mersing, at mersingam@svsd.net. ■

SV SCHOLARSHIPS

The Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF) is excited to facilitate scholarships from local businesses, individuals and foundations for our graduating seniors. As a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, the SVF can be utilized as a vehicle by which these important charitable donations can be made. If you would like additional information about establishing a scholarship, please contact Annie Mersing, Development Director, at mersingam@svsd.net. ■

SAVE THE DATE!

In memory of Sergeant First Class (SFC) Ryan Gloyer, the Seneca Valley Foundation is proud to host the second annual Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run presented by Westinghouse. The mission of this incredible event is to spread community awareness of SFC Gloyer, the namesake of Ryan Gloyer Middle School. Last year, we raised nearly \$35,000!

This year's run/walk will take place on Sunday, Nov. 3, (the anniversary of SFC Gloyer's death) on the beautiful grounds of Seneca Valley's secondary campus. All proceeds will again benefit Ryan Gloyer Middle School. If you or your organization would like to sponsor this event, please email SVFoundation@svsd.net to secure your spot. Runner registration will open on July 4 - stay tuned!

Additional information is available here: <https://www.svsd.net/site/default.aspx?PageID=28330>. ■

Mission

The mission of the SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial 5K Run/Walk is to spread community awareness of the life & legacy of SFC Ryan Gloyer. As the namesake of the Ryan Gloyer Middle School, many people in the community are aware of Ryan's military career & his ultimate sacrifice for our country. This Memorial Run will be an opportunity to share the attitudes & beliefs that make Ryan a role model for everyone in the Seneca Valley School District. Ryan was an elite soldier; but he was also a loving son & brother; a lifelong student; and a forever friend. Throughout his life, Ryan inspired people to become the best they could be. As a teacher, he loved sharing knowledge & encouraging new ways of thinking. He was a leader who motivated others to reach their goals. This Memorial Run will honor Ryan's legacy by highlighting how his positive attitude made a lasting impact on everyone who knew him. Our hope is that students, staff & the community will build their own personal philosophy of inclusivity, confidence, selflessness, perseverance & dedication.

SFC Ryan Gloyer was an athlete from a young age. As a student at Seneca Valley High School, he played varsity soccer & ran track. As a member of the Special Forces, Ryan's dedication to physical fitness was noted & admired by his fellow soldiers. Adam Knauff, a classmate of Ryan's, said he loved to run. Participation in this event welcomes everyone in the community to enjoy one of Ryan's favorite activities. Ryan is remembered by many as someone who pushed his body to be better, stronger & faster; but, he also knew the importance of support & assistance for those who are struggling. That's why this Run is an opportunity for all people, regardless of health or fitness, to get up & get moving. Friends & family members often speak of the encouragement Ryan provided to them at many points in their lives, so we know Ryan would be encouraging everyone to take on the challenge of this 5k to make themselves & their lives better.

Read the full story of Ryan Gloyer here: <https://www.svsd.net/Page/24016>



SFC RYAN GLOYER MEMORIAL RUN



PRESENTED BY:



2nd Annual 5K Walk/Run In Memory of SFC Ryan Gloyer

November 3 - 9 a.m.
SV Secondary Campus, Harmony, PA




SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- T-Shirt Sponsor - \$3,000**
 - Corporate Logo on Back of participant T-Shirts (Limited to (4) Available)
 - Six (6) Complimentary Participant Fees
- Mile Marker Sponsor - \$1,000**
 - Corporate Logo on signage (36x24 inch) at Characteristic Mile-Markers (6 available):
 - Teach & Mentor
 - Honor & Integrity
 - Selfless Service
 - Lead by Example
 - Strive for Excellence
 - Persevere through Adversity
 - Four (4) Complimentary Participant Fees
- Water Station or Finish Line Sponsor - \$1,000**
 - Corporate Logo on signage at applicable space
 - Four (4) Complimentary Participant Fees
- Legacy Sponsors - \$500**
 - Corporate Logo on signage (24x18 inch) along the course with accompanying legacy quote
 - Two (2) Complimentary Participant Fees
- In-Kind Donations Accepted (Water, Food, etc.)**

All Sponsorships include:

- Digital Engagement & Recognition on RunSignUp.com, SVSD/SV Foundation Websites & Social Media Channels
- Opportunity for Promotional Table & Items in Packet
- Verbal Acknowledgement throughout Event

To secure your sponsorship or ask a question, please contact Annie Mersing, SV Foundation Development Director, at mersingam@svsd.net. All proceeds benefit Ryan Gloyer Middle School

REVOLUTIONIZING SPORTS TECH

SV ninth graders Jim Evans and Albert Pimenov joined over 100 other students across western Pennsylvania for the Pittsburgh Penguins Tech Academy powered by CGI. Students were given the chance to acquire knowledge in sports and business technology from top experts in the field – the Pittsburgh Penguins and the global IT and business firm CGI.

Festivities kicked off with a Welcome Event at PPG Paints Arena where attendees met one another and toured the facility. Students were split into groups throughout the Tech Academy where they listened to Pittsburgh Penguins and CGI professionals, rotated through multiple departments and received an immersive in-the-field technology experience. Stations included information on the technology used in Pittsburgh Penguins analytics and research, the control room, mobile ticketing, CRM, sports and exercise science and more.

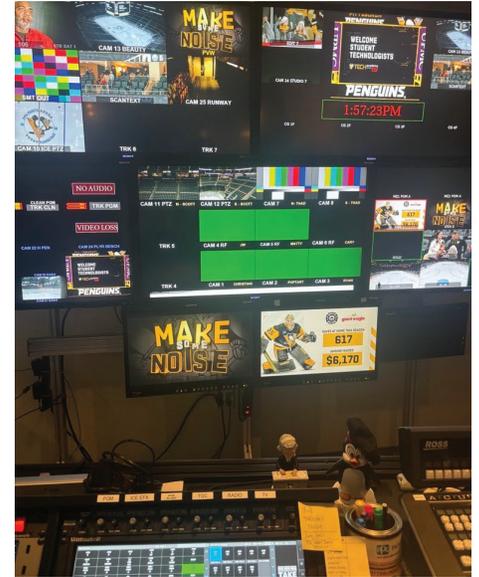
“The experience at Pens Tech was very informative and fun,” said Mr. Pimenov. “I was intrigued by the functions of the rink. I also enjoyed creating the video for our project. It was great to work with my teammates and with a certified instructor who helped us greatly. Overall, the



experience was a 10/10 and I would love to go again.”

After the Tech Academy concluded, students were posed with a list of questions. Each group had one month to collaborate on their proposal with the chance to win prizes for themselves and their school, present their idea to a group of technology professionals at the Pittsburgh Penguins Sports and Technology Conference Powered by CGI and ultimately be named “CGI Pittsburgh Technologists of the Year.”

“My participation in the program inspired me to learn more about the real world,” said Mr. Evans. “The touring experience also sparked my interest in data science whether it is in the sports world or in another field. The most intriguing aspect of the academy was how everything was built on teamwork.



Whether it was working in student groups, the program administrators, or the Penguins organization, everything and everyone was a vital piece to the puzzle.”

Applications were open to all students in grades 9-12 in Pittsburgh’s surrounding counties: Allegheny, Butler, Washington, Beaver, Armstrong and Westmoreland.

To learn more about the Pittsburgh Penguins Tech Academy Powered by CGI, visit [here](#). ■

GIRLS WITH GRIT

A group of 17 seventh and eighth grade young women visited the Heinz History Museum to explore their new Women’s History Exhibit this month. The students recently completed an eight-week “Girls with Grit” group, led by Ms. Gianna Serignese, Ryan Gloyer Middle School Counselor. The club focused on helping young women learn what it means to have grit, resilience and increase their confidence along the way! Great job, girls! ■



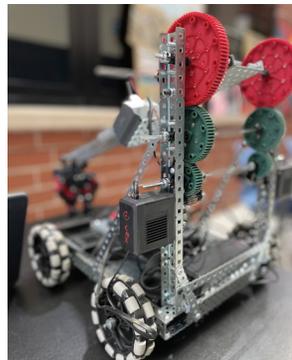
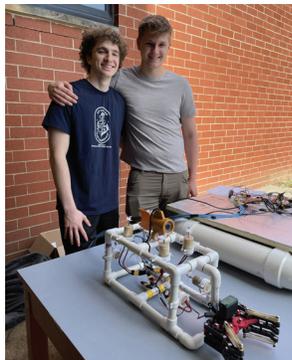
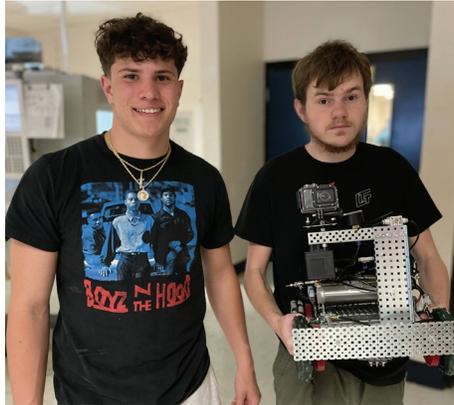
NAVIGATING TERRAINS

Seneca Valley robotics and engineering students were joined by other schools from southwestern Pennsylvania for the annual Sea, Air and Land Challenge, held at the senior high school on May 2. Among them, Seneca Valley's Land Team clinched first place in the Land Challenge.

Hosted by the Penn State Applied Research Laboratory, the Sea, Air and Land Challenge is a STEM initiative in which teams of high school and/or middle school students design and build robotic vehicles which are used to compete in challenges that mimic missions encountered by the military, national security agencies and first responders.

There were 100 students that competed in the Sea, Air and Land Challenge, and the school districts that participated included Seneca Valley, Quaker Valley and Armstrong. The challenges took place in various locations throughout the senior high school. Teams were judged based upon the team's innovation and use of the engineering design process in building a vehicle and its ability to maneuver through a designated unknown course.

"I am extremely proud of Drew, Payton, Ethan and Nick for winning the land portion of the Sea, Air and Land Challenge," said Joe Logsdon, Applied Engineering & Technology Teacher at Seneca Valley Senior High School. "Their dedication, innovation,



and teamwork yielded success allowing them to showcase their abilities and determination. All four of these students had no prior experience with robotics and this was their first time competing in a competitive robotics challenge."

Seneca Valley Land Team Members included seniors, Nick Parrotto, Ethan Barnett, Payton Brown and junior, Drew Spencer. ■



ON TARGET

Two Seneca Valley JROTC cadets, senior Logan Randall and junior Wesley Marks have been invited to attend the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Three-Position Air Rifle (3PAR) National Championship taking place June 21-22, in Port Clinton, Ohio.

The Raider Battalion Marksmanship Team competed in the Regional CMP Championship that took place April 12-13. The team missed qualifying for the national competition by five points, however, Mr. Randall's and Mr. Mark's individual scores qualified them to be

invited to the national competition as individual athletes giving them the opportunity to continue to compete in the third and final round.

The CMP National Championship is the final event in the CMP Three-Position Air Rifle Championships. Qualification for this match comes from the CMP Regional Championships as well as the CMP State matches. The match will consist of two days of 3×20 matches and a final for the top eight competitors on the last day. Congratulations, and good luck, cadets! ■



LET THE (ACADEMIC) GAMES BEGIN

Seneca Valley had 36 students from various grade levels compete against hundreds of other students from across the country in the Academic Games League of America (AGLOA) National Tournament, which took place in Atlanta, Georgia, April 20-22.

There are four divisions in the Academic Games, made up of Elementary (grade 6), Middle (grades 7-8), Junior (grades 9-10) and Senior (grades 11-12). Students then compete in seven types of games: Equations, On-Sets, Linguistik, Theme, Propaganda, Current Events and Presidents.

In the Elementary Division, Brennan Kaye was a second-place individual, Cam Swope, Georgia Bryer and Luke Sloan were fourth-place team members and Brooks Culley and Courtney Weinreich were sixth-place team members in Current Events. In Linguistik, Emily Browne, Cam Swope, Brennan Kaye, Alexander Sbrolla and Brielle Polas were fourth-place team members. In Propaganda, Emily Browne was a fifth-place individual, and Alexander Sbrolla, Brennan Kaye, Cam Swope, Luke Sloan and Emily Browne were sixth-place team members. In Equations, Moorthy Maharajan, Cameron Schuster, Georgia Bryer, Alexander Sbrolla, Emily Browne, Jack Shifflet, Kate Takac and Brennan Kaye were seventh-place team members.

In the Middle Division Breanna Zimmerman and Jovan Kodic were fourth-place team members in Current Events.

Within the Junior Division, Arvand Esni was a second-place individual, Maddox Grupp was a second-place team member and Arvand Esni and Michael Kravec were sixth-place team members in Current Events. Michael Kravec, Eli Lippert and Maddox Grupp were third-place team members in Theme. In Propaganda, Maddox Grupp and Heath Lyon were third-place team members and Maddox Grupp was a seventh-place individual.

In the Senior Division, Megan Holby and Lihini Ranaweera were fourth-place team members and Megan Holby was a ninth-place individual in Theme. In Propaganda, Eric Chen was a third-place individual, Lihini Ranaweera was a sixth-place individual and Lydia Miller was a third-place individual and a first-place team member (National Champion).

Students who competed in the AGLOA National Tournament include Elliot Rumbaugh, Cameron Swope, Emily Browne, Joseph Dostilio, John Roy, Alexander Sbrolla, Katelyn Houk, Jack Shifflet, Luke Sloan, Courtney Weinreich, Brennan Kaye, Cameron Schuster, Brooks Culley, Georgia Bryer, Zachary Zezza, Moorthy Maharajan, Kathryn Takac, Brielle Polas,



Alex Meeder, Jovan Kodic, Breanna Zimmerman, Ella Jacisin, Maya Maharajan, Kyla Biertempfel, Maddox Grupp, Michael Kravec, Rohin Jayaraman, Katie Mack, Lydia Miller, Lihini Ranaweera, Megan Holby, Cora Suereth, Eli Lippert, Arvand Esni, Heath Lyon and Eric Chen.

“We go to Nationals every year,” said Mr. Michael Stebbins, Seneca Valley Senior High School Librarian and junior and high school divisions advisor. “We prepare and the students work hard, but we never know if that will translate into winning medals or trophies. It is a testament to the kids and the effort they put in just to make it to Nationals, and to win an award is a bonus. I’m so proud of all our students who competed, and I’m especially proud of Lydia Miller for being a member (and leading scorer) for the Senior Division Propaganda National Champion team!” ■



NATIONALLY RANKED

The Seneca Valley Academic Decathlon placed seventh in the nation and earned four individual national medals at the United States Academic Decathlon (USAD) National Competition.

Back in March, the SV Academic Decathlon team took first place at the (USAD) State Competition in Harrisburg, which advanced them to represent Pennsylvania for the USAD National Competition held virtually, April 25-27.

In addition to placing seventh in the nation, junior Ophelia Crano won the bronze for Art, senior Ashley Kemp earned the bronze for Essay, and junior Gavin Cress won both a bronze in Speech and a silver in Interview. Special accolades were rewarded to junior Rohin Jayaraman for being the highest-scoring member of the team and to junior Kaia Satory who earned the Most Valuable Team Member Award.

The Seneca Valley Academic Decathlon team members include Ophelia Crano, Shivani Umesh, Roshini Umesh, Rohin Jayaraman, Kaia Satory, Heath Lyon, Zachary DeVault, Ashley Kemp, and Gavin Cress.

“Reflecting on this season, which focused on the theme ‘Technology and Humanity,’ I am incredibly proud of how our students embraced the challenging material and how they represented our community on a national stage. The connections



they made with peers from as far away as Hawaii and Alaska, forming lasting friendships, highlight the spirit and camaraderie fostered by this unique program,” said Seneca Valley Senior High School Teacher and Academic Decathlon coach David Reichard. “Looking ahead, we are excited for the 2024-2025 season, which will be centered around the theme, ‘Our Changing Climate.’ This promises to be another engaging and enlightening experience, and we are eager to start!” ■

STRATEGIES ACROSS THE BOARD

These SV power players are at the top of their game! Recently, 60 students in grades 1-12 were welcomed to the senior high school gymnasium to compete in a chess tournament hosted by the Seneca Valley High School Chess Club. The tournament encouraged players of all ability to have fun and enjoy the game and acted as a fundraiser for the chess club.

“The recent chess tournament showcased not only the creative and strategic minds of SV and area students competing but also the exemplary sportsmanship and conduct of these participants,” said Mr. Edward Senor, SV teacher and chess club advisor. “Competitors, on numerous occasions, were witnessed consoling other players after a tough loss and congratulating each other on well-earned victories. It was just a great bunch of kids and the SV High School Chess Club would like to thank all attendees for their play and conduct!” ■



STANDOUT SV SCHOLAR

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced Seneca Valley's very own Shivani Umesh as a National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winner. Ms. Umesh, a senior, was one of 2,500 Merit Scholar designees who was chosen from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding Finalists in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.



National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winners are the Finalists in each state judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The number of winners named in each state is proportional to the state's percentage of the nation's graduating high school seniors.

This year's National Merit Scholarship Program began in October 2022 when high school juniors took the PSAT/NMSQT, which served

as an initial screen of program entrants. Last fall, the highest-scoring participants in each state, representing less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors, were named Semifinalists on a state-representational basis. More than 16,000 Semifinalists had an opportunity to continue in the competition.

"We would like to congratulate Shivani Umesh on being rewarded with the National Merit scholarship," said Seneca Valley Senior High School Principal, Mr. Bob Ceh. "Her academic journey is a testament to unwavering commitment and dedication to personal growth, culminating in this award. With her remarkable achievements, we have no doubt that she will carve out a distinguished future."

From the Semifinalist group, over 15,000 students met the very high academic standards and other requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. By the conclusion of the 2024 program, more than 6,870 Finalists will have earned the "Merit Scholar" title and received a total of nearly \$26 million in college scholarships. ■

SV STUDENTS ACCEPTED INTO ELITE SUMMER PROGRAMS

Demonstrating their ongoing commitment to academic excellence, several talented Seneca Valley students were recently accepted into elite summer programs.

Junior **Isabella Muthler** will be attending the [Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences](#) at Carnegie Mellon. The Pennsylvania Governor's School is an intensive, five-week summer residential program that emphasizes cooperative learning, hands-on laboratory research and experience working with leading experts and university staff. All students accepted in the program are awarded scholarships, which cover the costs of housing, meals and all instructional materials.

Junior **Eric Chen** will be attending the [UPMC Hillman Cancer Center Academy](#), a hands-on summer program that engages students in cutting-edge cancer research. Through the eight-week program, high school students will work in laboratories directed by dedicated faculty at sites across the University of Pittsburgh campus. Scholars in The Hillman Academy explore complex questions within a particular area of cancer research. The majority of their time is spent working in the lab with their assigned mentors.

The remaining time is spent receiving didactic instruction, touring facilities dedicated to clinical cancer care and research, participating in journal clubs, and attending cameo presentations by accomplished professionals in the field. At the end of the program, each scholar delivers a ten-minute oral presentation and participates in a poster symposium that reflects their findings in the lab.

Junior **Heather Schwartz** will be attending the [Summer Science Program \(SSP\) in Astrophysics](#) at New Mexico State University. Heather was also named a National Cyber Scholar by National Cyber Scholarship Foundation this year. Earlier this month, she was also elected as the Chief Supreme Court Justice for this year's [PA Youth and Government](#) program. Heather's five-week summer program at NMSU SSP is a leading immersive experience for exceptional high school students. Every program features a guest lecture series in which participants hear from and get to meet scientists, mathematicians, engineers and other professionals, including Nobel Laureates. They actively participate in hands-on research projects and learn the value of collaboration and connection, rigor and



challenge, trust and respect and inclusivity and support.

"I'm proud of the initiative these students have shown to continue their enrichment over the summer in some incredibly rigorous programs," said Mr. Dean Walker, Seneca Valley Senior High School Gifted Support Teacher. "Seneca Valley has cultivated a reputation through the successes and accomplishments of our students that have previously attended these highly selective and prestigious programs. We're reached a point now where we're seeing multiple students being accepted to these programs year after year. I'm excited to have a group of students of this caliber continuing to represent Seneca Valley and our tradition of excellence." ■

WORK OF ART

Seneca Valley High School students have their craft down to a fine art. Recently, the Butler Art Center hosted a high school art exhibition that was open to regional school districts. Twelve Seneca Valley students had their art on display and three were presented with awards.

Sophomore Allison Patinski won first place for her painting submission, junior Jo Fernandez-Jenkins won second place for her drawing submission and Phebe Locante won an honorable mention for her hand painted skateboard design.

Additional Seneca Valley artists had work on display including seniors Jillian Weiss, Haley Yost, Hannah Smith, Ray Heeter, Ella Butcher, Carson Ambrass and juniors Emma Hall-Loedding, Alexa Hudak and Miles Bornes.

"I am always so proud of the work that our students create and their dedication and commitment to our SV visual arts classes," said Mr. Jason Woolslare, Seneca Valley Senior High School Art Teacher. ■



DESIGN DISTINCTION

Congratulations to junior Ms. Jo Fernandez-Jenkins for winning second place at the annual Congressional Art Competition! Ms. Fernandez-Jenkins was selected from over 70 entries covering 13 schools across Pennsylvania's 16th Congressional District. Great job, Jo! ■



A PERMANENT FIXTURE

Five Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) students recently had their artwork chosen for inclusion in the school's prestigious and permanent art gallery collection.

The 19th annual Unveiling and Artists' Reception honored eighth graders Mariana Silva, Ana Cantoral, Trishi Jangam, Lillian Eaves and seventh grader Yorlenny Zuniga-Godoy (not pictured). RGMS art teachers Mr. George Williams, Mr. Stan Zimmerman and Ms. Tabitha Karman unveiled the artwork to visitors who celebrated the students' amazing talent on May 16. This permanent art collection began in 2005 and now features 90 works of art!



This year also marked the inaugural RGMS Art Show Opening Reception highlighting additional student art pieces. This event, also held the evening of May 16, welcomed district employees, parents, students and community members. Congratulations to all of our talented middle school artists! ■

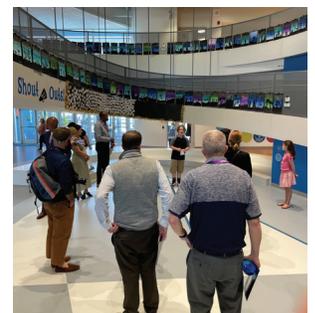
THE POWER OF FILM

Earlier this month, over 90 students from Ms. Michele Russo, Ms. Haley Landolina, and Ms. Samantha Stewart's classes traveled to the Harris Theater in Pittsburgh to view the documentary "999-The Forgotten Girls" and speak with the author and filmmaker, Heather Dune Macadam. The award-winning film reveals the hidden story about young married Jewish girls who were supposed to be sent to work in a shoe factory during the Nazi regime but were instead sent to Auschwitz. The story gives a voice to the handful of survivors who lived over three years in the death camps and highlights the truth to this piece of women's history. ■



FORGING FUTURES

Seneca Valley students and staff welcomed 65 educators from all over the world during a tour of Ehrman Crest Elementary/Middle School (ECE/ECMS) on May 8. As part of "Forge Futures for Youth, Educators & Families: A National Summit on Community-Wide Learning," the group was interested in learning more about our TIME 2022 "Best Invention," and the student-led tours did not disappoint! This national summit is a collaborative effort presented by Remake Learning and AASA in partnership with GELP, League of Innovative Schools, KnowledgeWorks and Allegheny Intermediate Unit. Their goal is to come together to learn about and focus on community-wide learning and learning ecosystems. ■



EMPOWERING LEARNERS ABROAD

Mrs. Carol-Lynn Dubovi, a Seneca Valley Senior High Emotional/Autistic Support Teacher, recently earned her English as a Second Language Certification and traveled to Cabarete, Dominican Republic, to teach English at Centro de Enseñanza Coral, a K-12 school. Using songs, stories, pictures and common life experiences, she helped to improve students' listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. "It



was an amazing opportunity to practice what I learned in the ESL courses, and



I am a better educator because of this experience," said Ms. Dubovi. ■

SV ALL-STAR

For May we are pleased to announce the newest member inducted into the SV All-Star Club, Mr. Chris Hoch, security guard at Haine 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.

“Chris is the Haine Middle School security guard with a heart of gold,” said Dr. Erin Wilcher, Principal of Haine Middle School. “Beyond his duty of ensuring safety, he is the ray of sunshine that greets everyone as they come into our building setting a positive tone for the day ahead. With a friendly wave, he welcomes each student as they enter our building.”

Dr. Wilcher added, “His acts of compassion truly set him apart. This past week, we hosted an English as a Second Language (ESL) family game night on one of the stormy nights. Chris spotted a family with a handicap child getting out of their car and into a wheelchair. Without a second thought, he went outside shielding them with his umbrella and assisted them into the building. With



Pictured from L-R: Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Chris Hoch, Mr. Jeff Widdowson, Board Vice President, Dr. Erin Wilcher, Principal of Haine Middle School and Mr. John Hickman, Acting Assistant Principal of Haine Middle School

Chris, it isn't just about keeping our school safe, but it's about extending a helping hand to those in need, embodying the true spirit of Seneca Valley." ■

'I LED THE PLEDGE'

Elementary students from Seneca Valley's K-4 schools are once again appearing at this year's school board meetings, leading the members of the School Board and public in saying "The Pledge of Allegiance."

Cora Gallie, a fourth grader from Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School (CVE), did a great job leading "The Pledge of Allegiance" at the May 6 work session meeting. During her time at the meeting, Cora expressed her appreciation for the educators at CVE, highlighting her favorite subjects as band and math. Additionally, she shared her passion for gymnastics, playing the flute and drawing.



Cora pictured with, from L-R, Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent, and Mr. Jeff Widdowson, Board Vice President



Lucy pictured with, from L-R, Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent, and Mr. Jeff Widdowson, Board Vice President

WELCOMING FAMILIAR FACES

Seneca Valley School Board Members recently approved the appointment of Dr. Cassandra Doggrell as Seneca Valley School District's Director of Student Services.



Dr. Doggrell is returning to Seneca Valley from the Upper St. Clair School District where she has worked for the past five years in various roles, including Director of Student Support Services and Director of Special Education.

Prior to her role at Upper St.

Clair, Dr. Doggrell called Seneca Valley home for eight years where she proudly served in many positions, including Haine Middle School Principal, (formerly) Evans City and Haine Middle School Assistant Principal, Autism and Emotional Support Teacher at Rowan Elementary School and summer camp teacher for students with autism.

"We are excited to welcome back Dr. Doggrell to Seneca Valley," said Superintendent Dr. Tracy Vitale. "Dr. Doggrell has a wealth of knowledge about student support services and special education, and we feel that she will be a wonderful addition to our team."

Dr. Doggrell's student services experience at Upper St. Clair includes oversight of special education and psychological services, implementation of training sessions for staff members and paraprofessionals, development of special education budget and support of IEP processes and programming. She also supervised all areas of student support services, including special education, psychological services, school counseling, health services, English as a Second Language (ESL) and homebound instruction.

"I am happy to be back and ready to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students," said Dr. Doggrell. "I'm eager to collaborate with our dedicated team of administrators, educators, and support staff to ensure that every student receives the support and resources needed to succeed academically, socially and emotionally. Seneca Valley is a special place where all students are valued, supported and empowered to reach their full potential. I look forward to reconnecting with students and families and forging new partnerships with our community."

Dr. Doggrell earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education/ Early Childhood from Grove City College, received a Master of Educational Administration from Duquesne University and a Master of Special Education from Waynesburg University. She also earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Doggrell will begin her position in early July and replaces Dr. Jeff Roberts, who has decided to return to his roots and serve as a classroom teacher on the Seneca Valley secondary campus.

Seneca Valley School Board Members also recently approved the appointment of Dr. Bridget Miller as the District's new principal of Ehrman Crest Elementary School in Cranberry Township.



Dr. Miller has worked in the Seneca Valley School District for 27 years, most recently as the assistant principal of Ehrman Crest Middle School (formerly Evans City Middle School). She also has previous experience as

both a general education and special education teacher of third and fourth grade students.

"We are very fortunate to have Dr. Miller as the principal at Ehrman Crest Elementary School," said Dr. Sean McCarty, Assistant Superintendent for K-6 Instruction. "Dr. Miller brings with her a wealth of knowledge and has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills throughout her tenure at Seneca Valley. We look forward to seeing her vision, inspiration and continued dedication to the students and families of Ehrman Crest."

Ms. Miller earned her Bachelor of Science in Special Education and Elementary Education from Edinboro University, and her Master of Science in Special Education from Slippery Rock University. Ms. Miller also earned her Post Graduate Principal Certification and doctorate in Leadership and Administration from Point Park University.

"It is an honor and a privilege to step into the role of principal at Ehrman Crest Elementary," said Dr. Miller. "Mrs. Lauri Pendred, Mrs. Tesin Amoscato and the dedicated faculty and staff have crafted a nurturing educational environment. It is my hope to continue the trajectory of their vision and guide everyone further into 21st century learning while also working to build lasting connections and formative relationships."

Dr. Miller replaces Mrs. Lauri Pendred, who is retiring. ■

EMPOWERING TALES

SV teacher chronicles cancer journey in children's book

Seneca Valley teacher Lauren McClain was on a walk not too long ago when she found herself reflecting on the arduous journey she had recently taken with breast cancer.

"I was thinking quite a bit about what I could do next that would give me purpose after everything I went through."

The answer was a children's book, and as an educator (Lauren is an English as a Second Language Teacher at Haine Middle School), she decided to talk more specifically about a little-known process called cold capping.

The name gives you pause, but it is exactly as it sounds. Some patients undergoing chemotherapy treatments may choose a very, very challenging regimen of cold capping where a very tight-fitting cap is filled with ice gels/gel coolants/dry ice and worn before, during and after treatment. The use of this cap preserves hair follicles and often results in the patient losing much less hair during treatment and, ultimately, looking "less sick even when you don't feel that way," explained Ms. McClain.



The book, "Mom's Magical Crown: A Cold Capping Adventure," is a touching narrative that unfolds as a family bravely confronts the challenges of a mom undergoing chemotherapy. Faced with the prospect of losing her hair, Mom embarks on a journey of hope and a touch of "magic" through cold capping to preserve her hair.

This heartfelt story is more than a tale, it's Lauren's guide to initiate meaningful discussions with young children whose families are facing similar circumstances.

"When we decided to sit down and explain to our children what was happening to me, I was really impressed with



the questions they had," Lauren shared.

Her hope is that this book will help others as they make this journey themselves and seek answers for their own children. For Lauren, finding out she had breast cancer just weeks after her 40th birthday was quite a shock. "It took some time to process," she said.

Now that she is in remission, she is dedicated to helping create children's material for those youngest family members who may not understand what's happening; something she found was

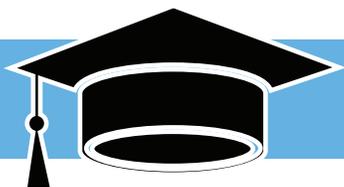
lacking when she was going through her treatments. "Most of the children's books appeared decades old," she said.

Lauren is now in the final stages of her second children's book that covers the difficult topic of radiation, "Brave Rays: A Journey through Radiation," which she expects will be released in June. Others may follow. For now, she's pleased to be working with companies and foundations to make the book available to those purchasing cold caps or utilizing ones in cancer centers.

It's a full circle-moment for Lauren as her simple walk has led to a much larger and extremely meaningful journey.

Lauren's book can be found at most book retailers, including Amazon: [Mom's Magical Crown: A Cold Capping Adventure: McClain, Lauren, Blaauw, Tamar: 9798989922314: Amazon.com: Books](#) ■





Nick Marzock, SV '08, is an accomplished singer-songwriter, producer and composer! His work has appeared in nationally televised commercials, motion pictures and television shows. We asked him to catch us up on what he is doing and how Seneca Valley influenced his life and career.

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

A: Throughout high school and college, I pursued a life in music by writing songs, playing live shows, and recording in the studio. Eight years ago, I moved from the New York City area (where I was for about three years) to Los Angeles, where I live now. During Covid, I self-produced and released a record called "Disengage" that I am very proud of.

It is no secret that being a professional artist is a challenging path. Learning, growing and evolving within this industry have been crucial for me. In addition to continuing my singer-songwriting career, I have had several exciting opportunities lately in music production and composing, particularly for the screen. Most recently, I arranged, recorded and produced a piece for Jennifer Love Hewitt that was featured on her ABC show "9-1-1." Jennifer and I have multiple other collaborations lined up in the next year that we are really looking forward to.

I have also written and produced music for "American Dad," "Family Guy," national commercials, TV themes, podcast themes and numerous films. I am also the music director and lead guitarist for a celebrity cover band called "The Action Figures." We travel and play events nationally, and I have so much fun doing it.

While I continue to enjoy producing other musical artists' and my own projects, I've also been honing my skills as a podcast producer. This year I became the spokesman for an excellent music gear retailer called Full Compass.

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

A: I have an incredible fiancée, Lindsay Mushett, who is an extremely talented



actress/ producer/ stuntwoman, and she is also an incredible partner. That is invaluable, especially when navigating the seas of the entertainment industry.

I was raised by two amazing parents, my mom Cindy and my dad Eric, who could not have been more supportive of my career. They always pushed me to be the best that I could be, and they are truly a blessing.

My sister Erica and her husband Adam have also been loud cheerleaders. They are always in the front row of any show I play in town. Their three beautiful children - Jackson, Addy and Cam - will one day be students at Seneca Valley High School!

I love my family so much, and I'm so proud of them and grateful for how much love I have been given throughout my life. We recently lost my Papa who was the one that lent me his guitar and showed me some chords when I was young. He never missed a show, and we had a very special relationship. I really am the result of so much love that was present and constant in my life—from my immediate family to my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins, and now a fiancée who I can share these moments with.

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

A: While people often assume that I got my degree from the excellent Mary Pappert School of Music, I actually graduated from Duquesne University with a degree in Business Administration for Supply Chain Management, with a focus in Calculus. Though I might not be directly utilizing my degree at a micro level (I've never had to plot the heuristics of a trucking route), I handle my career as a business. It's important to know how to read a contract, build authentic relationships, develop thick skin, etc., to supplement my art, and that mentality has proven valuable. Talent is absolutely the foundation for a career in the arts, but it is just as vital to be dynamic—to keep the art as the focal point and surround it with the tools to build the career.

Anything in entertainment (and so many other fields) relies on some degree of luck, but you can always create opportunities by putting yourself in the best position for your name to be called and making sure that you are entirely prepared when that happens.

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

A: I am very fortunate to have gone to Seneca Valley for a multitude of reasons. First and foremost, my best friends to this day are my teammates from Raider Football.



We bonded over our shared experience of playing together, and those friendships transcend everything that happens in our professional lives. I became very close with my coaches as well, particularly Mr. Jim Lucot and Mr. Ron Butschle. Their passion for making us better people was always intertwined with making us better players. Their coaching helped me develop important character traits like personal responsibility, determination and resilience for overcoming obstacles.

Similarly, the passion many of my teachers had for their classrooms ignited my aptitude for learning and set me up to succeed at Duquesne. Ms. Rebecca Finch made biology hands-on and fun. My various math classes

at SV provided me with a strong foundation for advanced calculus in college (proving especially useful when many other students struggled and had to drop the class). There are too many examples to name, but the enthusiasm of my coaches and teachers probably helped me the most.

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

A: I appreciated Seneca Valley's diverse curriculum, and seeing the courses offered now, I am blown away by the educational paths that can be taken. Game Programming, Artificial Intelligence (AI), World and US History in the 1990's, Psychology, Philosophy, Business Law - there are SO many options.

I appreciate that SV continues to prioritize educational diversity, especially in music and the arts when, nationally, funding for those types of fields is being put on the back burner. I cherished my time in art classes and the teachers' willingness to support our creativity. I think true growth happens when an individual realizes that (a) the Dunning-Kruger effect is real, and there is always way more to learn, and (b) there are always new ways of thinking that likely weren't previously considered. There is no better arena for that growth than the arts, where new techniques and original ideas are waiting to be discovered and



have yet to be written, performed, painted or sculpted.

What I loved about my time at Seneca Valley is that even teachers in the more traditional subject areas understood the value of creative thinking and problem-solving in their classes. That is the best environment for learning and growth, and I think Seneca Valley is doing an excellent job.

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

A: I had so many great teachers at Seneca Valley, and Mr. Jim (although I still call him Coach) Lucot's guidance truly had a lasting impression on me. He was one of my football coaches and history teachers, and he remains a mentor and friend to this day. Coach Lucot is an incredibly engaging teacher, and his commitment to his students and players encouraged me to take my education seriously and succeed throughout high school and college. Thanks to Coach Lucot, I became a better ball player and a much better student, and I developed a love for history that I previously did not have.

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: I know I've spoken a lot about football, but it really was the center of my coming-of-age growth throughout high school. We spent so much time at the field house in the offseason—lifting, studying film and doing workouts outside. Each season had its own journey of adversity and celebration. When I get together with my best friends, we still laugh incredibly hard sharing those stories and reliving our experiences. As my sister Erica likes to say, they are all core memories.

Not football-related, I vividly remember the honor of performing in front of my graduating class at the commencement ceremony. I was asked to sing an original song about the memories that we made called "At the End of the Day," which is a really vulnerable and intimidating thing to do in front of 600+ peers - some I knew well; most I did not. I'm really glad that I did, though, despite my hesitance due to

potential embarrassment. It was a good personal lesson for me – just go for it! Be bold. Do things that might be a little scary. The payoff of overcoming a challenge is always worth it, and over time all those little payoffs stack up to build character.

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

A: My message to teachers and staff is, first, *thank you*. Your job can be like herding cats, especially in an age where everybody has a smartphone attached to them. I hope you feel the appreciation from your community that you deserve.

I don't want to make suggestions because I have never been an educator, but gleaning from my own experiences, it was always very helpful for me to be provided with an environment to be creative. In high school, I was at an age where I probably acted "too cool for school" and resisted assignments that I felt were cheesy. As it turns out, those were often the assignments that had a lasting impact and that I still remember.

Projects that required a performance, hands-on approach, and debates that called for us to think of a subject from an opposing perspective flexed my brain in ways that it was not used to and helped me fully understand the subject matter. In subjects like mathematics requiring more objective answers, learning how to apply what I was learning to the world around me was engaging and made me want to learn more about it. I was fortunate that my teachers taught this way to help me get the most out of my education.

And a message to students—

I highly recommend students get involved in anything that creates a community, whether it's an athletics team, a club or an after-school activity. The experiences you share with your classmates, the relationships that you build and what you learn about yourself will stay with you. Don't be embarrassed to put yourself out there and be bold.

Q: What do you wish other people knew about Seneca Valley?



A: As I have emphasized in a number of these questions, there are so many different opportunities at Seneca Valley to get involved! You can learn production skills at SVTV, play in the band, sing in the chorus, play a sport and take a class on something you know nothing about.

Seneca Valley has so much to offer and provides students of varied interests with so many empowering resources. When I was in high school, I thought I might be heading towards law school to eventually become a politician. Fast-forward to now, I am a professional musician and producer with

a degree in supply chain management. Needless to say, I am lucky to have been presented with so many avenues for learning, and I am glad that I walked a lot of paths that were less traveled or even uncharted.

I hope that current students explore options for their futures, former students are proud to be alumni and future students are excited for this next chapter in their lives! Go Raiders. ■



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

May is mental health awareness month and the SV school district is committed to supporting every student through mental wellness programs and additional support services. Community resources are also available in addition to our school psychologists, school counselors, behavioral specialists, school administrators, and Youth Education Support Services (YESS) teams in each building.

To learn more about the district’s mental wellness resources, visit [Student Services / Mental Wellness \(svsd.net\)](https://svsd.net).

*Note: Confidentiality is held with the utmost integrity when dealing with personal matters.

** If you or someone you know is in need of crisis intervention, please call the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988. ■

CARE TO ASK

This Mental Health Awareness Month, the Mental Health Coalition is challenging you to #CareToAsk.

Loneliness is a global **health threat** and it’s getting worse. **Experts claim** that nearly **1 in 4** adults across the world reported feeling very or fairly lonely. But why?

Much of it can be traced back to lack of connection. When feeling lonely, only **38%** of Americans will reach out to friends or family. And sadly, **more than half** of U.S. adults feel less connected with their closest friends and family than they did five years ago.

To encourage deeper connections that reduce loneliness, The Mental Health Coalition shared conversation-provoking questions to apply every day in May. However, these questions can be helpful at any time! They are challenging everyone to care enough to ask, answer and share these questions — so we all feel less alone. Take a look at a few of the questions below:

1. Who makes you feel happy and what is it about them that’s so special?
2. What emotion is hardest for you to express?
3. What’s something new you’d like to try?
4. What is something that always makes you laugh?
5. What’s one thing you wish people understood about you?
6. What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
7. What are you grateful for today?
8. What’s one small action you do to take care of yourself?
9. What makes you feel safe?
10. Who inspires you the most?
11. What’s one question you wish people asked you more?

Types of Support

These are some examples of what support can look like, whether you are asking for support or providing it to a friend. There are many forms of support, and three of the most common are: **processing** (addressing your emotions without judging them), **constructive distraction** (taking your mind off the issue while engaging in a healthy activity), and **problem solving** (focused effort to find a solution). Consider what’s most needed in the moment and focus on that first.

Type of Support	How to Request it	How to Offer it
Processing	Call or ask a friend to meet up to tell them whatever is on your mind	Call or offer to meet up with your friend so that they can tell you whatever is on their mind
Constructive Distraction	Ask a friend to join you in an activity that fosters your mental wellness	Reach out to ask your friend if they would like to do an activity with you that you know they enjoy
Problem Solving	Ask a friend for to assist in solving a problem or a specific task	Ask your friend if they would like problem solving, or if that wouldn't be helpful right now
Processing + Problem Solving	Take steps to begin individual or group psychotherapy with a mental health clinician	Ask your friend if they want help researching or reaching out to a psychotherapist

Where to begin when offering support:

Start whenever. If you’re worried that you’ve never offered support to this friend before, it’s never too late to start. You can break the ice by saying, “Hey, I know we haven’t talked about these things before, but I wanted to check in with you...”

Make yourself vulnerable. This way you’re setting the tone for vulnerability so that your friend might also feel more comfortable. Start by saying something like, “I’ve struggled in the past, and it was really helpful to talk to a friend. I’m here for you if you need that.”

Embrace the discomfort. Ask yourself why offering support feels difficult, and consider how you can work through that discomfort. Remind yourself that the discomfort will be worth it to support your friend.

Be a connector. If you notice your friend doesn’t seem comfortable, ask if there’s anyone else who they would feel comfortable talking to and if you can help connect them.

When we #CaretoAsk, we all feel less alone.

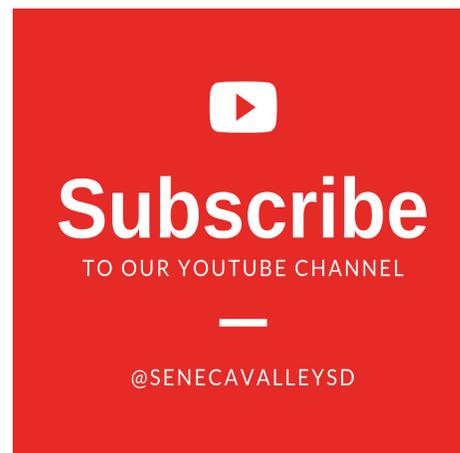
Article provided by [The Mental Health Coalition](https://www.mentalhealthcoalition.org/) ■



- This month, Several students on the Ryan Gloyer Middle School Bobcat Team worked with the Josh Gibson Foundation to raise funds for a headstone honoring a Pittsburgh-born African American Professional Baseball player. [Watch the CBS News segment here.](#)
- The Seneca Valley Academy of Choice (SVAOC) summer camp registration is now open! This program offers a variety of exciting experiences for every interest – from artistic masterpieces to culinary delights, LEGO adventures to sports thrills. Register [today](#) for a summer filled with creativity, fun and confidence-building!
- 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.](#)
- All students in Pennsylvania public schools, including Seneca Valley, 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 events/activities. Learn more at [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! Driver incentives are now being offered.](#)
- Join the SV Team! 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. ■



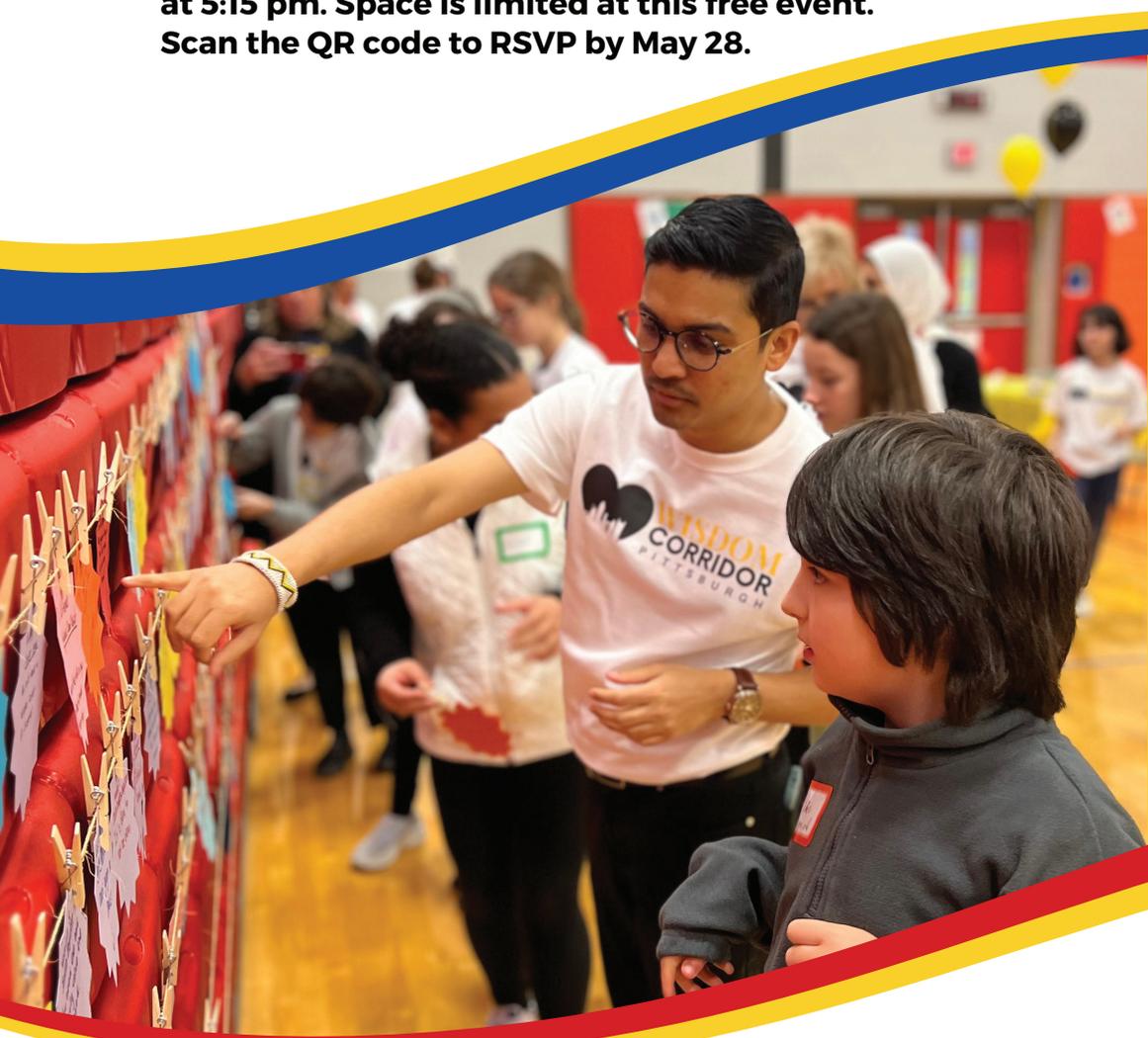
LET'S CELEBRATE!

**JUNE 4 FROM 6-8 PM
HEINZ HISTORY CENTER**

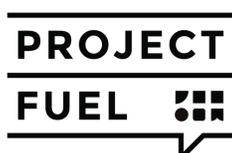


Join us as we celebrate all the schools that have shared their knowledge with the world through their wisdom corridor! Enjoy a free, family friendly evening with activities, food and drinks, and recognition of all of the wisdom corridor feature schools. A brief program will begin at 7:00 pm.

The Heinz History Center opens exclusively for Wisdom Corridor schools at 5:15 pm. Space is limited at this free event. Scan the QR code to RSVP by May 28.



Featuring...
Avonworth
Beaver Area
Carlow Campus
Clairton City
Cornell
Hampton
Highlands
Keystone Oaks
Mt. Lebanon
Northgate
Pine Richland
Seneca Valley
Shaler Area
South Fayette
Quaker Valley



**WISDOM
CORRIDOR
PITTSBURGH**

JOIN THE SENECA VALLEY TEAM!



Applications accepted at www.svsd.net/Employment.



APPLY TODAY!

Teacher applicants needed for
2024-25:

Elementary

Secondary

Special Education

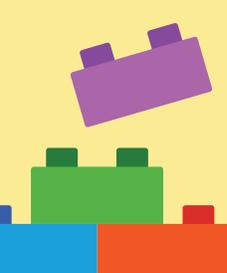
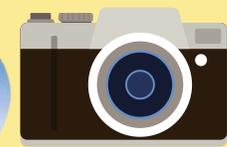


Benefits of working at Seneca Valley:

- Competitive salaries & benefits
- Professional development & faculty mentoring
- Commitment to supporting diverse faculty & staff
- Inclusive community and engaged students
- Commitment to community service
- Exceptional facilities

The Seneca Valley School District is committed to advancing equity and embracing diversity and inclusion in the workplace. EOE.

To learn more and apply, scan
the QR code or visit www.svsd.net/Employment.



Academy of Choice

SUMMER CAMPS

Camp Offerings

June 10-13 week 1

SV Summer Band Camp (HMS)
Band students with at least 1 year of experience | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Haine Middle School

Culinary Arts I
Grades 5-12 | 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Senior High School Kitchen

Pastry Arts Camp
Grades 5-12 | 12:30 pm – 4 p.m.
Intermediate High School Kitchen

Building Up Your Imagination LEGO® 1
Grades 1-2 | 8 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Ehrman Crest Elementary School

Building Up Your Imagination LEGO® 2
Grades 3-4 | 12:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Ehrman Crest Elementary School

Dream It, Build It! 3D Printing and Gaming
Grades 4-8 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Intermediate High School

Sign up for both!

June 17-20 week 2

Sports Camp
Grades 4-8 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Haine Middle School

FIRST Robotics & Programming
Grades 7-12 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Senior High School

SVAOC Dance
Grades 5-12 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
RGMS Dance Studio

The Art of Photography
Grades 7-12 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Intermediate High School

June 24-27 week 3

Camp Confidence
Grades 1-5 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
CVE School

SV Summer Orchestra Camp
Orchestra students in grades 4-8 with at least 1 year of experience
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Ehrman Crest Middle School

July 8-11 week 4

Camp Chill: Session 1
Grades 1-5 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Rowan Elementary School

July 15-18 week 5

Fitness Fun!
Grades 1-6 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Ehrman Crest Elementary School

Art
Grades 5-12 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Intermediate High School

Camp Chill: Session 2
Grades 1-5 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
CVE School

July 22-August 1 week 6

SV Summer Band Camp (ECMS)
Band students with at least 1 year of experience | 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Ehrman Crest Middle School

July 30-August 1 week 7

Kinder Kids
Students entering kindergarten
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Haine Elementary School



Sarah Heinz House Summer Camps 2024



Day Camp - Early Childhood

Ages 3-4; Ages 5-6; Completed 1st Grade-Completed 2nd Grade

Day Camp - School Age

Completed 4th Grade-Completed 6th Grade

Day Camp - Leadership Camp

Completed 7th Grade-Completed 12th Grade



Heinz House Residential Camp

Boys Residential Camps & Girls Residential Camps

Completed 1st Grade-Completed 11th Grade



Specialty Camps STEM

Preschool STEM Exploration: Ages 4-6

Lego Robotics Camp: Completed 4th Grade-Completed 8th Grade

Robotics, Invention & Engineering: Completed 2nd Grade-Completed 5th Grade

Drones, AI & Robotics Camp: Completed 5th Grade-Completed 8th Grade

Specialty Camps ART

Creative Magic Art: Ages 5-9

Comic Book Camp: Completed 4th Grade-Completed 8th Grade

Art Life: Ages 10-14

Specialty Camps DANCE

Mini Stars: Ages 5-9

Rising Stars: Ages 8-13



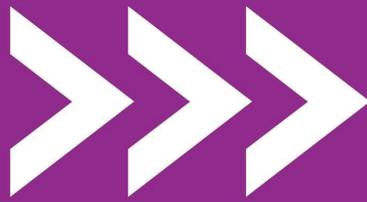
This is not a Seneca Valley sponsored event.

Scan here for more info

www.sarahheinzhouse.org

Questions? Contact:
SHH@sarahheinzhouse.com

412-231-2377



START YOUR ENGINES



**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN**

Saturday, July 13, 2024

Race start: 8:30am

Cranberry Community Park

\$25 Adult • \$15 Child

yourctcc.org/5k



SUMMER STARTS AT THE

WATERPARK!



Opening Day! - Saturday, May 25

Totally Tubular Tuesday Night Swims
Tuesdays, June 11 - August 6, 9-11 PM

Noodle Nights
Fridays, June 14 - August 9, 6-8 PM

Military Appreciation Days
Sundays - May 26, June 30, July 28, August 25

World's Largest Swimming Lesson
Thursday, June 20

Christmas in July - Thursday, July 25

Puppy Plunge - Saturday, September 7

**Rentals available for birthdays, grad parties,
family reunions, & more! - All summer long!**

BUY A MEMBERSHIP & SAVE! VISIT CRANBERRYTOWNSHIP.ORG/WATERPARK



1974

SAVE THE DATE!

Seneca Valley School District

50 Year REUNION

GLEN EDEN BARN
Dufford Road, Evans City
Saturday, July 6
4:30 - 10 p.m. | \$55 per person

**Ticket includes appetizers, dinner, dessert and two drink tickets*

GOLF OUTING and MEET & GREET *Friday, July 5*

Hartmann's Golf Course and Watering Hole, Harmony

Golf Outing: \$43 per person with cart
Meet & Greet: \$28 per person | **11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Meet & Greet includes picnic games, lunch and cash bar

Reservations due by June 15th

Return email with payment directions to: Dawn Jamieson Wagner at ridawag2@sbcglobal.net

The **BIKE RODEO!**

Free Event!

**NO REGISTRATION
REQUIRED**

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024

COMMUNITY PARK

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



• CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP •

POLICE
DEPARTMENT

