



RAIDER PRIDE

A State and National Award-Winning Publication

OCTOBER 2024



STUDENTS INSPIRE AND PROMOTE HOPE

This month, Seneca Valley students united with a powerful purpose: to support their peers and make a meaningful difference through Hope Squad, a peer-to-peer suicide prevention program. The mission of Hope Squad is to reduce youth suicide through education, training and peer intervention.

To kick off the year, Hope Squad members in grades 9-12 gathered for a retreat on a beautiful fall day at Glen Eden Barn. The retreat was filled with team building activities, training sessions and a heartwarming “positive pumpkin” activity where students painted positive phrases on pumpkins that were later displayed at school on Oct. 10 for World Mental Health Day. Students also enjoyed a delicious lunch, generously provided by Back Home BBQ.

“There’s a lot of aspects to Hope Squad, one of them is the value of coming together as an organization to build our sense of community and establish a trusting environment within the group,” said Kiera Kegges, Seneca Valley Senior High School learning support teacher and Hope Squad advisor. “Our retreat provided them the opportunity to get to know each other and plan for the upcoming year. It was an exciting, uplifting, and inspiring day for both the students and advisors!”

Hope Squad members are nominated by their peers as being approachable, empathetic listeners who naturally support students in need of a friend. This vital program trains and mentors Hope Squad members to actively reach out to those



who are struggling, acting as a bridge to connect them with the professional help they may require. Hope Squad student members do not provide counseling or therapy, they instead serve as a connection to the help that is needed.

In its third year at Seneca Valley, nearly 100 students (grades 9-12) have been selected

to be on the Hope Squad for the 2024-25 school year. The program also expanded to include grades 7-8 at Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) in the spring of 2024.

We would like to thank David and Vicky English, owners of Glen Eden Barn and Seneca Valley alumni, for graciously

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WE'RE OPEN!

We're excited to share that the November issue of "Raider Pride" will feature a special section highlighting small businesses owned by Seneca Valley alumni! If you know a Seneca Valley graduate who runs their own business, please encourage them to submit their information to us. We'll feature the business owner's name, SV graduation year, business name, a brief description, business location and website.



The issue will be emailed to over 8,500 recipients on Nov. 26 — just in time for Small Business Saturday, happening just four days later! To register, business owners can fill out the form here (see bottom of form for details and exclusions): [Small Business Owners Form - Seneca Valley School District \(svsd.net\)](#). ■

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov. 2	SAT Testing, SHS, 7:30 a.m.
Nov. 4	School Board Meeting Work Session, SHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.
Nov. 8	Release of Report Cards, Grades 7-12
Nov. 11	In-Service Day, No School for Students
Nov. 18	School Board Meeting Regular Session, SHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.
Nov. 27-Dec. 2	District Holiday, No School
Nov. 29	Report of Student Progress Release, Grades K-6

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

NOVEMBER

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

STUDENTS INSPIRE AND PROMOTE HOPE

Continuing from the previous page

donating their venue for the Hope Squad retreat. They have expressed their strong belief in the importance of Hope Squad for the students, school and the community.

To learn more about Hope Squad, please visit the [website](#). If you're interested in sponsorship opportunities for Hope Squad, please contact Student Services Director, Dr. Cassandra Doggrell, Seneca Valley Senior High School Assistant Principal, Ms. Megan Lizewski or Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Assistant Principal, Ms. Quincy Gildea. ■



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATIONS

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, students throughout the Seneca Valley School District took part in activities that honored the rich heritage, history, and achievements of Hispanic/Latino Americans. These events helped students reflect on the unique voices and journeys that continue to shape our diverse society.

At Ehrman Crest Elementary School (ECE), third graders took part in a research project where they learned more about a Spanish-speaking location or a person of Hispanic heritage. The individuals selected were those who have made a significant impact on the world through their achievements and contributions across various fields including sports, music, art, fashion design, science acting, medicine, culinary arts, ballet and even space exploration. The students created videos and presented their findings which were shared on the school news each Friday throughout the month.

Students in Ms. Sara Coon's Physical Education classes at ECE connected Hispanic culture and physical activity and movement. Students learned how to say "Rock, Paper, Scissors" in Spanish (Piedra, Papel, Tijera) and then played a leveled version that encouraged finding new teammates to play with and incorporated the Spanish language into the class.

At the SV Intermediate High School, students enjoyed lively salsa dancing sessions during their study halls! Led by an instructor from Fred Astaire dance studio, these fun and energetic lessons allowed students and staff to experience a vibrant Latin American tradition firsthand.

¡Celebrando juntos! ■



CELEBRATING SV PRINCIPALS

October is National Principals Month - a month to celebrate our Principals and remember how important their work is in every school. Principals set the academic tone for their schools and work collaboratively with teachers to develop and maintain high curriculum standards and set performance objectives. Through their vision, dedication, and determination, Principals provide the mobilizing force for achieving student success. We encourage you to join us in this celebration by sharing your appreciation with our Principals.

Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School

Principal: Mrs. DeeAnn Graham
Assistant Principal: Dr. Taisia Papariella

Ehrman Crest Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Bridget Miller
Assistant Principal: Ms. Tesin Amoscato

Ehrman Crest Middle School

Principal: Mr. Timothy Eiler

Haine Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Kristen White
Assistant Principal: Mr. Thomas McKelvey
Acting Assistant Principal: Ms. Chelsea Miller

Haine Middle School

Principal: Dr. Erin Wilcher
Assistant Principal: Mr. Jeremy Womer
Acting Assistant Principal: Ms. Chelsea Miller

Rowan Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Tina Francis
Assistant Principal: Ms. Jessica Parker

Ryan Gloyer Middle School

Co-Principal: Dr. Anthony Babusci
Co-Principal: Ms. Trisha Butschle
Acting Assistant Principal: Ms. Skylar Meier

Seneca Valley Intermediate High School

Principal: Mr. Chet Henderson
Assistant Principal: Ms. Quincy Gildea
Assistant Principal: Mr. Dan Guerra

Seneca Valley Senior High School

Principal: Mr. Robert Ceh
Assistant Principal: Ms. Megan Lizewski

Seneca Valley Academy of Choice

Principal: Dr. Denise Manganello



PREPARE AND PREVENT

National Fire Prevention Week was held Oct. 6-12, and Rowan Elementary students had an engaging assembly with the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company (CTVFC). They learned life-saving skills like what to do when a smoke detector beeps and how to "Stop, Drop, Cover, and Roll." A big thank you to CTVFC for being an incredible resource in teaching our students about fire safety!

At Connoquenessing Valley Elementary (CVE), kindergarteners were fired up for a special visit from the Harmony Fire District! Not only did they learn important fire safety tips, but they also got to witness a fun moment when school principal Mrs. DeeAnn Graham climbed the fire truck ladder—much to the amazement of students! Many thanks to our local heroes for an unforgettable day of learning! ■



A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

Haine Middle School teacher pilots outdoor learning program

Seneca Valley is launching an exciting outdoor education pilot program at Haine Elementary/Middle Schools (HES/HMS) where Ken Cahall, HMS sixth grade science teacher, hopes students will discover that the best lessons sometimes happen outdoors.

“Outdoor education is not just science education,” explained Mr. Cahall. “All content areas can benefit from making connections to the outdoors. Beyond the tested content areas, use of the outdoors has shown to be beneficial for students dealing with ADHD and other learning challenges. Additionally, time in the outdoors is beneficial for physical and mental health.”

The initiative calls for creating multiple outdoor learning spaces at Haine, inviting student engagement, curiosity and creativity across all content areas while supporting their social, behavioral, physical and mental well-being. The program is a collaboration between Haine teachers, local organizations, like Jennings Environmental Education Center (a state park in Slippery Rock), and the Haine Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO), with plans for family programming and grant funding. By building connections between school and community, on and offsite activities will provide opportunities for hands-on learning.

“The outdoors is one of the first classrooms for children,” said Mr. Cahall. “This is where they learn to explore, ask questions, take risks, and problem solve. With an increasing disconnect with nature and an increased dependency on technology and screens, children can miss out on many of the soft skill that make successful learners in all content areas.”

Long-term, the vision includes expanding outdoor education district-wide, grades K-6. Additional plans include developing



unique cross-curricular experiences at various District buildings and supporting learning that enhances communication, collaboration and problem-solving skills. The initiative also includes plans for a four-season structure to enable year-round outdoor learning.

According to experts in psychology, outdoor education has numerous benefits for children. It can improve physical and mental health, boost cognitive and social-emotional skills and improve concentration and academic outcomes, as noted recently in [EdSpaces](#).

As Haine Middle School teacher Ken Cahall explains, “It is hard for students to appreciate or want to protect what they don’t understand. The hope is that with a better understanding of the world around them, the children will have a better appreciation and understanding of their place in it and the impact of their decisions. Learning to appreciate nature can also help children better appreciate and accept one another.” ■



EHRMAN CREST GOES 'COAST TO COAST' IN FUNDRAISING!

Pie, slime and a whole lot of FUN! Ehrman Crest Elementary School (ECE) celebrated their schoolwide fundraiser with a Fun Run on Oct. 10, after raising over \$64,000 for field trips, assemblies, author visits and other educational experiences! Leading up to the all-day event, students held kickoff activities and raised donations from all 50 states as well as five countries! The cherry on top (or, you could say, the sweetest slice of pie!) was the opportunity for students to “pie” their teachers to celebrate reaching the 50-state goal. As a result of students’ impressive achievements, ALL Ehrman Crest principals were slimed! ■



GREEN THUMBS AND HELPING HANDS

Our Seneca Valley Community Based Vocational Training (CBVT) students are embracing the autumn season by lending a helping hand at local greenhouses, libraries, fitness centers, restaurants, and more. The CBVT program provides on-the-job training to help students gain skills for employment and their home community.

Great job, everyone, for providing your services and helping out local businesses! ■



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recently announced Seneca Valley seniors Eric Chen and Ophelia Crano as Semifinalists in the 70th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. As a Semifinalist, Mr. Chen and Miss Crano will have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 6,870 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$26 million that will be offered next spring. From over 16,000 Semifinalists, more than 15,000 are expected to advance to the next level of the program where these students will have the opportunity to earn a National Merit Scholarship and, ultimately, the Merit Scholar® title.

In addition, Seneca Valley seniors, Sydney Brower, Gavin Helmsen, Rohin Jayaraman and Patrick Monahan, have also been named a Commended Student in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. Miss Brower, Mr. Helmsen, Mr. Jayaraman and Mr. Monahan were recognized by the NMSC for their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry.

“We congratulate our outstanding National Merit Semifinalists and Commended Students for their outstanding work ethic, dedication and academic achievement that have put them in a position to receive this recognition,” said Seneca Valley Senior High School Principal Mr. Bob Ceh. “This recognition is only the beginning of bright futures for all of these students, and we look



forward to the value they add to our school community and the larger communities that they will enter into.”

Over 1.3 million juniors in more than 21,000 high schools entered the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

For more information on National Merit Scholarship Program, visit www.nationalmerit.org. ■

HONORING HISTORY

Students on the Cougar Team at Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) traveled to the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA, thanks to funding provided by the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF). This educational experience provided students with the opportunity to learn about the diverse group of strangers who showed leadership, heroism, selflessness and service above self on September 11, 2001. These same qualities were demonstrated by their school’s namesake, Ryan Gloyer, and what educators hope to instill in all RGMS students.

Mr. Tom Donati, RGMS History teacher, and Ms. Staci Hughes, RGMS English teacher, collaborated to design an interdisciplinary unit centered on the aftermath of September 11th. The project culminated in students creating PowerPoint presentations to showcase their learning. Following the presentations, a select group of students were chosen to participate in a field trip to the Flight 93 Memorial.



“Every student who attended was captivated by the memorial,” said Ms. Hughes. “They were engaged with the Park Ranger’s storytelling and many commented that they could feel the significance and reality of the events of 9/11 through this trip. It truly impacted them and their understanding.”

“I am very thankful for attending because the trip to the memorial gave me so much more background knowledge on Flight 93,” said seventh grader Micah Eiler. “I am very thankful that Ranger Gregory took the time to teach us about what really happened on that plane and why it is so important.”



Seventh grader Luci Senft shared, “I am thankful for attending the field trip. It had a big impact on my life, and it really helped me to understand the stories on 9/11 and learn about the heroes.” ■



BOP TO THE TOP!

Seneca Valley students present Disney's "High School Musical" with NEW performance dates!

Nov. 7 & 9 @ 7 p.m. & Nov. 9 & 10 @ 2 p.m. in the SV Intermediate High School.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and can be purchased at the door.

With over 100 high school cast and crew members, and 60 fifth grade students, the energy will be palpable for this SVCL/IHS show! "High School Musical" is a family-friendly show that is a favorite among teens, tweens and parents because it is so relatable! With familiar songs and themes, the double casts of SV students involved in this show are eager to entertain! In the musical, Troy, the Basketball star, and Gabriella, the smart, academic student, meet on New Year's Eve on vacation and instantly click. When they meet again at East High School, they accidentally audition for the school musical. The cliques they belong to don't approve of this new friendship and try to separate them.



At the same time, drama queen Sharpay Evans and her brother Ryan, the co-captains of the Drama department, try in every way to prevent Troy and Gabriella from beating them in the callbacks. Can Troy and Gabriella lead their friends to more open-minded thinking?

The biggest message "High School Musical" conveys is to be yourself. Nobody

is confined to one thing, and the song "Stick to the Status Quo" delivers on that. An athlete can also be a singer – an academic student can also be a dancer. Don't let the world define you. You define you! "The cast is working so hard! I hope many families can come out to enjoy the show," said the show's Choreographer, senior student Ayla Alexander. ■

EIGHTH GRADERS MARCH INTO THE FUTURE WITH SV BAND

Our talented eighth grade band students joined the SV Raider Marching Band on Friday, Oct. 4, during the football game against Canon-Mac. The evening kicked off perfectly with a pizza party sponsored by the SV Band Boosters while Band 8 students wore their free, special specialized band T-shirts. The students met with upperclassmen and experienced the excitement and energy of a Friday night performance!

The eighth grade students did a fantastic job as part of the pregame performance on the field with the playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" followed by the Alma Mater alongside the SV "Roaring" Raider Marching Band. They also enjoyed playing stand tunes during the game to support the football team.

Flute player Nora Stewart said, "I enjoyed playing in the stands with the marching band!"

Violet Acosta, a current trumpet player in the marching band,



said "It was amazing having my friends on the field with me!"

"It was so fun to be able to meet everyone in the marching band," said alto saxophonist Breanna Zimmerman. "It made me even more excited to join next year!"

It was a wonderful evening to showcase such great students and to get a glimpse into the future successes of the band program! ■



SV VOICES SHINE

Each year, all choral students in grades 9-12 from Beaver, Butler, Lawrence and Mercer counties are invited to audition to be a part of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 5 Honor Choir. This year, 22 of the 96 chosen for the choir were Seneca Valley students! The three-day festival was held at Westminster College and concluded with a public concert on Saturday, October 28. The students are scored on pitch, intonation, rhythm, interpretation, technique, and tone.

“We are very proud of the individual effort that goes into these auditions,” said choir directors Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander and Ms. Clair Barker. “We are so happy for the personal growth that takes place. Our students won four of the eight first-place chairs and represented themselves and SV very well!”

Congratulations to the following students:

Soprano I

Madeleine Togo - Chair 4 - Grade 12
Shayla Kemp - Chair 6 - Grade 11
Hannah Callender - Chair 12 - Grade 9

Soprano II

Madelyn Tresky - Chair 1 - Grade 11
Madelynn Karns - Chair 5 - Grade 11
Zoe Sciuillo - Chair 6 - Grade 12

Alto I

Addison Grassa - Chair 1 - Grade 12
Annika Batavia - Chair 5 - Grade 12
Aydan Danylo - Chair 9 - Grade 11

Alto II

Ayla Alexander - Chair 1 - Grade 12
Lauren Nowak - Chair 11 - Grade 12

Tenor I

Jacob Maietta - Chair 4 - Grade 11
Layne Vandenburg - Chair 5 - Grade 10
Jacob Harding - Chair 11 - Grade 10

Tenor II

Nathan Capizzi - Chair 3 - Grade 11
Bernardo Casimiro Vilas Boas - Chair 8 - Grade 10
Colin Berger - Chair 12 - Grade 12

Bass I

Isaac Hixon - Chair 2 - Grade 12
Parker Spence - Chair 7 - Grade 12

Bass II

John Rieger - Chair 1 - Grade 11
Adam Byers - Chair 9 - Grade 11
Quintin Hixon - Chair 10 - Grade 9



ONE SHOT WONDER

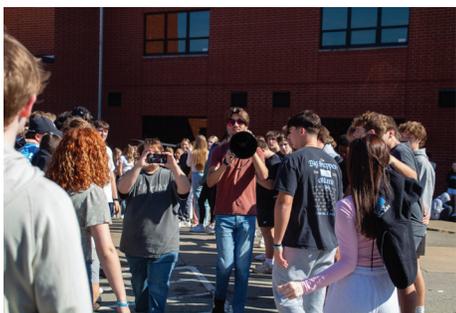
Photos courtesy of SV Communications Dept. and Alissa Wilson Photography

This month, Seneca Valley TV (SVTV) students brought back an incredibly challenging project designed to foster school and community spirit. The “SV 2024 Lip Dub” required the student body to lip-sync and choreograph an elaborate one-shot video that included as many clubs, organizations, groups and individuals as possible. Produced by senior Iliana James for her graduation project, the lip dub project brought together over thirty student directors and nearly sixty featured lip-synchers set against a sea of SV-attired students from all three schools on the secondary campus.

Both Miss James and her mentor, video production teacher and SVTV co-sponsor Dan McKosky, have been planning this project since the summer when they began to brainstorm and walk through possible routes and make lists of potential student directors. Miss James has served as a producer, art director, social media manager, communications specialist, mentor, recruiter, and many other roles throughout this process. With frequent meetings, both virtual and face-to-face, Miss James and Mr. McKosky proposed and gathered ideas from teams of directors, met with administrators to discuss logistics and created countless promotional and organizational materials to communicate



plans to over 2,000 participants. The lip dub path, which stretched from the senior high gym to the NexTier Stadium press box, was divided into nine sections with directors, teams, clubs and classrooms assigned to each section, with the goal of making this a more dynamic, yet manageable experience. With this massive project in the books, producer Iliana James and the students of SVTV hope this early-year burst of school spirit will inspire the secondary campus through the rest of the year. Over a decade ago, our students successfully and creatively executed this task by bringing together diverse groups of students in a fun, high-energy performance that many Seneca Valley alumni still talk about to this day! Great job, SV students! Check out the official 2024 Lip Dub production here: [2024 SV Lip Dub - "We Are SV!"](#) ■





THE APPRECIATION FOR SUSTAINED EXCELLENCE

It has become customary for to witness countless moments of excellence in our academics, arts and athletics. The start of the 2024-25 school year has been no different. Senior cross-country runner Max Smith will be making his third straight appearance at the PIAA State Championships the first weekend in November. At the recent WPIAL 3A championship race, Max concluded his season with a 10th-place finish and a 5K (3.1 mi) time of 16:01.6. As a junior, Max finished in 16:26.3; during his sophomore year his time was 17:21.8, and as a freshman he ran an 18:24.0. The evolution of Max's excellence is in the numbers and the reward for his dedication and commitment is another trip to Hershey! Well done, Max!



Raider girls soccer returned to championship form winning their first section title since 2018 and 12th overall. Head Coach Mark Perry's squad went undefeated in section play with a 7-0-1 mark and finished their regular season with an overall record of 13-2-2, good enough to earn the No. 2 seed in the WPIAL championship bracket. The mark of this year's squad is the selflessness in their play and connectivity as teammates. We congratulate Raider girls soccer on another outstanding season and will watch with excitement as they advance through postseason play.



Beyond the athletic arena, I am blessed to also see the artistic brilliance of our Raider Marching Band. The synchronicity we all take for granted is a result of countless hours of preparation and commitment from devoted performers. Mr. Varden Armstrong and the entire marching band staff foster an uncommon pride in wearing the Raider Marching Band uniform and our students, in return, dedicate their attention, time and efforts to performances worthy of all their accrued accolades. Joining the spirit of #SVRaiderNation is head coach Laura Wise's cheer and dance squads. They begin their journey well ahead of others, spending countless hours in the gym refining stunts, coordinating routines and training their minds and bodies for two long seasons. We value their school pride and are grateful to our cheerleaders and dancers for bleeding the Blue & Black, lifting the spirits of all and wearing the SV with pride.

This is the privilege of my job: witnessing our students discover their true potential and to reach heights not imagined as a young ninth grader. Thank you for the honor of sharing in each of your individual and collective journeys. ■

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH EXCELLENCE

The Female Athlete of the Month for September was senior girls volleyball captain Sadie Reese. A setter and outside hitter, Sadie paced the Raiders to a 6-4 record to start the season along with a first-place tournament victory at the Butler Spike Fest. Over the first month of games and tournaments and 47 sets played, she tallied 21 aces (tied for first on the team), 226 assists (first on the team), 113 digs (second on the team) and 26 kills. Sadie also had outstanding serve and hitting percentages of 89.2% and 47.2%, respectively. We recognized Sadie as the September Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Sadie.



The Male Athlete of the Month for September was boys golfer Marcos Lopez. A junior, Marcos was a pace setter for the Raider boys golf team. He led the team with an average score of 37.7 and also had the lowest individual score in five matches, including a season low of 33. Steller play between him and his teammates ensured the Raiders finished section play in second place, thus securing a spot in the WPIAL 3A Boys Team Championship. Marcos was one of four SV golfers to qualify out of the section individual championships and make it through WPIAL semifinals to compete in the WPIAL 3A Boys Individual Championships at Oakmont where he shot a respectable 82 on the day. For an impressive month, we recognized Marcos as the September Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Marcos! ■



FALL SPORTS UPDATES

The following is a partial recap of our fall sports season. A final recap of those fall sports still in postseason competition will be shared in the November issue of Raider Pride.

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

The boys and girls cross-country teams finished as section runner-up to North Allegheny and their respective seasons culminated at the WPIAL Championships held on Oct. 24, at White Oak Park. The boys team finished fifth overall and the girls came in at No. 13. The Top 5 boys places in the 5K championship race were Max Smith (10th, 16:01.6), Julian Varlotta (35th, 16:40.4), Sawyer Shoup (38th, 16:44.4), Hunter Petersen (50th, 16:59.6) and Ian Wahl (51st, 17:00.2). The future outlook is bright as Varlotta, Petersen and Wahl are all sophomores and will return to anchor a lineup which will return four of its top seven.



In the girls championship race, the Raiders were paced by Sydney Heltzell (45th, 20:14.2), Hannah Jones (57th, 20:34.6), Elyse Cilik (73rd, 20:50.2), Drew Kirchner (79th, 20:57.8) and Siena Varlotta (100th, 21:33.3). Unfortunately, one of our top runners all season, Paige D'Amico, took a fall during the race and was unable to continue. As with the boys team, we look forward to the return of Cilik, Jones, Varlotta and D'Amico to anchor a strong returning core in 2025. Congratulations, Raiders, on another good run!



FOOTBALL – (Head Coach Ron Butschle)

Raider Football has secured their first playoff berth in three seasons and their opponent for the Nov. 8, WPIAL 6A semifinal contest will be the Vikings of Central Catholic. At the time of this writing, the location of the semifinal contest was yet to be determined. A full season recap will be provided in November. Good luck, Raiders!

GOLF – Boys (Head Coach Dean Leventopoulos)

Boys varsity golf had an impressive postseason showing with four individuals qualifying through sectionals and the first round of WPIAL Individual Championships to find themselves standing on the No. 1 tee box of Oakmont on Oct. 1, in the WPIAL Individual finals. All four played exceptional golf on one of the world's most challenging courses. The two-day aggregate saw Brody Pirt narrowly missing the PIAA state championships by two strokes. On the day, Pirt shot a 79 at Oakmont and teammate Anthony Cardosi shot a 78. Rounding out the quartet were Marcos Lopez (82) and Tyler Garvin (84). Not a bad day on the links where the 2025 U.S. Open will be contested! In WPIAL team championships, the Raiders were unable to advance to the finals round, finishing fifth out of seven teams at their semifinal site of Indian Run. Congratulations, boys – many memorable rounds in 2024!

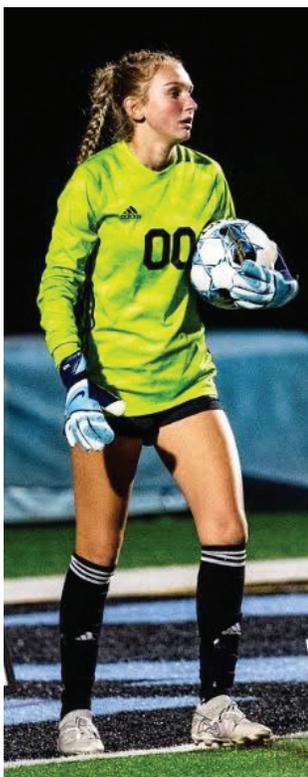
SOCCER – Boys (Head Coach George Williams)

The Raiders finished the regular season with a mark of 13-5 and 6-4 in section play, good enough to earn the No. 7 seed in the WPIAL 4A bracket. Following an impressive 6-0 win over the No. 10 seed Mt. Lebanon in the opening round of playoff action, the team headed to Peters Township on Saturday, Oct. 26 for a quarter-final showdown with the Indians. The Raiders got on the board early when Mark McConahy finished a Tyler Prex cross less than two minutes into the game. Peters tied the game three minutes later and scored the eventual game-winner with 11 minutes to play. Despite playing a great team game of soccer, the result was not in the Raiders' favor, and their season came to an end. We congratulate the team on another outstanding year; we thank our seniors and wish them all the best.



SOCCER – Girls (Head Coach Mark Perry)

As noted earlier, the girls finished the season winning their 12th section title and earning the No. 2 seed in the WPIAL 4A bracket. Their overall record was 13-2-2 and their section mark was 7-0-1. Following a first-round bye, the Raiders hosted seventh-seed Upper St. Clair and came away victorious 1-0 following a magical Karly Majeski goal in the minute 51 of play. At the time of this writing, SV will square off against Canon-Mac on Monday, Oct. 28, with the winner advancing to Highmark Stadium to play for a WPIAL title. A final recap will be provided in November.

**TENNIS (Head Coach Eric Grove)**

For the second consecutive season, Head Coach Eric Grove's girls tennis squad qualified for the WPIAL team championships. The Raiders finished their section play with a 5-3 mark, good enough for third place.

Overall, they were 8-6 and those season results placed them as the No. 13 seed. Unfortunately, the team squared off against a talented fourth seed in Upper St. Clair and their season ended following a 5-0 defeat. We congratulate the squad on their postseason appearance and look forward to continued ascension in WPIAL girls tennis.

VOLLEYBALL (Head Coach Brett Poirier)

It is hard to imagine a section any tougher than WPIAL girls 4A volleyball section II. Despite an overall record of 10-7 and two tournament championships (Butler Spike Fest and Norwin), the girls section mark of 4-6 left them on the outside looking in at WPIAL playoffs. Only the top three teams of each section advance to postseason play and, unfortunately, the Raiders found themselves in the fourth spot. Despite missing postseason play, we congratulate this team on their fortitude to overcome significant injuries and still finish with ten wins and two tournament titles. ■

**REMINDERS FOR WINTER SPORT PARTICIPATION**

- Nov. 6, 2024: Final Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Winter Sports in Senior High School
 - 30 physicals offered 2:45 – 5:15 pm
- Nov. 7, 2024: **Deadline** for winter sport paperwork; all papers due in athletic office.
- Nov. 15, 2024: First official day of winter sports – mandatory tryouts begin this day.
 - For tryout schedule, please contact the coach directly. Coaches contact information is located on the athletics website under [Participation Information](#) tab.

REMINDERS for 2024-25:

- ALL paperwork for winter sports is due in the athletic office no later than **Thursday, Nov. 7, by 3 p.m.** Coaches cannot accept paperwork at the first day of tryouts.
- The PIAA mandates the CIPPE Section 6 form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.
- All required paperwork for 2024-25 athletic participation is available on [Parent Portal](#) or Athletics website. Paperwork includes PIAA CIPPE Sections 1, 2, 5, & 6 and Drug Test Consent Form.

- IF a student played in a fall sport, the only paperwork needed is PIAA CIPPE Section 7 and, if applicable, PIAA CIPPE Section 8 – these forms can be dated no earlier than Oct. 4, 2024.
- All student-athletes must register in the [Parent Portal](#) under “Sports Registration” before the start of each season.
- Tryouts are mandatory. Student-athletes are expected to attend every tryout session. ■

SEE YOU AT THE FINISH LINE!

The 2nd Annual SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run presented by Westinghouse and hosted by the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF) takes place on Sunday, Nov. 3, on SV's secondary campus.

This incredible event serves to spread community awareness of the life and legacy of Sgt. First Class Ryan Gloyer by highlighting the many amazing attributes he possessed; to remind students and the entire community of Ryan's ultimate sacrifice for our Country; and even more importantly, preserve his legacy of being inclusive, selfless, dedicated and an American hero. We are calling on the entire Seneca Valley School District to be a part of this day: Students, staff, families, alumni, businesses – you can walk, run, wheel or cheer your way across the finish line.

Registration is open until race day!

Register here: <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Harmony/RyanGloyerMemorialRun>

Please be aware that because of course logistics, it is necessary to shut down Seneca School Road for approximately 1.5 hours from 8:30 to 11 a.m. We ask participants and guests to arrive no later than 8:30 a.m. Also, the American Legion Post 474 Zelenople will be conducting a 21-gun salute as part of the Opening Ceremony.

All proceeds from this event will benefit Ryan Gloyer Middle School. ■

SFC RYAN GLOYER MEMORIAL RUN

Presented By: **Westinghouse**

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FLEXING OUR 'MUSSELS'

SV Center for Biotechnology Research highlighted at Government conference

Mr. Tom Lavelle, Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Science teacher was a presenter at this year's Government eDNA Working Group conference hosted by the Columbus Zoo. The focus of his presentation was to highlight some of the dynamic student work being conducted in the SV Center for Biotechnology Research. Projects that were discussed ranged from single-species detection studies for hard-to-find animals like hellbender salamanders and queen snakes to metabarcoding studies where genetics is used to determine all fish species in local waterways.

The conference was attended by over a hundred top government conservation geneticists from around the country. Government agencies in attendance included United States Geological Survey (USGS), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, The Smithsonian Institute of Natural History, United States Department of Agriculture and more.



"Being invited to speak to a group comprised of so many top geneticists and field biologists from across the country was a terrific honor," said Mr. Lavelle. "What was even more impressive was the amount of positive feedback and support that these scientists offered to the SV Center for Biotechnology Research. Because of these new professional relationships, the biotechnology laboratory research experiences will become even more streamlined with current practices."

Mr. Lavelle added, "It was fascinating to hear of the numerous research initiatives

being conducted. These projects ranged from sequencing DNA gathered in the deeper regions of the oceans to determine what lives in these hard to access environments to using eDNA to track invasive reptile population movements in Florida as well as invasive fish in the Great Lakes. My time at the conference concluded with a tour of the Columbus Zoo's Freshwater Mussel facility where researchers raise species of these imperiled mollusks so that they can be introduced into favorable ecosystems. The whole experience was outstanding!" ■

WHITE CANE AWARENESS DAY

Students who are visually impaired at Seneca Valley High School engaged in various enrichment activities in recognition of White Cane Awareness Day (Oct. 15). The activities were supervised by Ms. Jessica Sloan, Midwestern Intermediate Unit (MIU) IV Teacher of the Visually Impaired. As part of the observance, junior Ciara Schneider practiced pedestrian crossing in a nearby neighborhood while senior Nick Berger crafted and distributed white chocolate-covered pretzels resembling white canes.

White Cane Awareness Day, celebrated annually on Oct. 15, highlights the accomplishments of individuals who are blind or visually impaired and the significance of the white cane as a vital tool for safety and navigation. ■



LEARNING TO LEAD

At Seneca Valley, elementary students learn helpful skills to build knowledge and help them be successful in their future; to thrive and become leaders! Through the buildings' Learn, Explore, Act and Develop (LEAD) initiatives, students meet to discuss and model topics essential to this initiative. On Oct. 11, Ehrman Crest Elementary students, grades K-4, took part in a LEAD Kickoff Day! They spent the day in community building and problem-solving activities, setting the stage for weekly community meetings. This month's topic was Self-Regulation and November's topic is Resiliency. Students will focus on a new topic each month, gearing up for success as a leader! ■



GREETED WITH SV PRIDE

Seneca Valley students warmly welcomed local Veterans returning from an Honor Flight Pittsburgh trip on Oct. 19. On a Saturday evening, they greeted the Veterans who had visited Washington, D.C., to see memorials honoring their service and sacrifices. This thoughtful student effort was organized by Mr. Jim Lucot, a senior high school AP Government/Honors US History teacher and co-founder of Honor Flight Pittsburgh. "I am extremely proud of the students," he shared. "I continue to receive compliments and thanks for their participation." ■



CRISP DAYS AND DISC PLAYS

Students in our Multiple Supports classes at Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) recently enjoyed a crisp autumn day filled with outdoor activities and beautiful fall foliage! On Oct. 18, students and teachers took a field trip to Moraine State Park to play disc golf, learn new skills, take a hike and make memories with friends. Everyone had a great time! ■



TOGETHER, WE'RE PAINTING A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

Haine's Best Buddies chapter started the year with a burst of creativity by hosting a pumpkin painting event! Teacher-nominated third, fourth and fifth graders teamed up with students from Haine's Multiple Supports classrooms for a fun and heartwarming collaborative experience.

Best Buddies International is a nonprofit organization consisting of volunteers that create opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. At the elementary level, it's about promoting inclusion and friendship among students with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities through group

activities. For more information about the program, visit www.bestbuddies.org.

"We are quite excited that following a very successful first year, our Haine Best Buddies chapter has extended to fifth grade this school year," said Dr. Kathleen Mahon, School Psychologist at Haine Elementary School. "Our size has doubled, and we currently have 82 students participating, which is such an encouraging trend for the Best Buddies mission. We are striving to promote the message with our youngest learners as it is never too early to embed the importance of inclusion and friendship for all students." ■



A variety of Best Buddies activities are scheduled throughout the year. After the fall pumpkin painting event, there will be group activities in winter and spring, along with the 2nd Annual Seneca Valley Best Buddies Walk on May 31 at North Boundary Park. ■



CHEERING LOUD AND PROUD

The Seneca Valley Junior Football and Cheer (SVJFAC) Competition Cheer teams have something big to celebrate. The three teams had a winning season this fall, competing in four competitions across the western Pennsylvania region.

The first and second grade squad took home two first-place finishes. The third and fourth grade squad received three first-place finishes and a grand champion title. Athletes in the fifth and sixth grade squad also took home three first-place wins and received three grand champion titles. Congratulations to all SV cheerleaders!

If you'd like to learn more about the competitive and game day squads, email svcheeritloud@gmail.com for more information. ■



CREATING HOPE THROUGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Rowan Elementary School is excited to announce a special initiative where students have joined together to create "Pink Out" friendship bracelets for cancer warriors.

The idea was recently spearheaded by first-grade teacher Hannah Hamilton, who was part of the original Club Hope at Ellwood City Area School District during high school. After reconnecting with the organization last year, she introduced Club Hope to Rowan, engaging students in projects like making holiday crafts for "Hope Boxes" sent to cancer patients.

"I was determined to grow our participation this year," Ms. Hamilton shared, and she succeeded. Rowan now has 34 new Club Hope members, including teachers, specialists and interventionists. Among them is Rowan fourth-grade teacher Jaden Miller, Ms. Hamilton's cousin and a fellow Club Hope alum from their high school days.

"I have been part of Club Hope since sixth grade, and it has shaped who I am today,"

said Ms. Miller. "Losing (my best friend) to cancer during our senior year was devastating, but it inspires me to continue spreading hope."

The "Pink Out" bracelets were distributed at a Freedom Area High School event, showing Rowan Elementary's support for those battling cancer.

"It's been rewarding to see our students and staff come together for such a meaningful cause," Ms. Hamilton added. "We're excited to continue making a difference through Club Hope." ■



SV ALL-STAR

For October, we are pleased to announce the newest member inducted into the SV All-Star Club, Ms. Peggy Bieber, bus driver for ABC Transit, Inc.

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.

Since joining ABC Transit, Inc. in 2017, Ms. Bieber has consistently gone the extra mile throughout her seven years of service. Whether driving her daily route on bus S12, stepping in as a substitute for activity trips, or supporting athletic and field trips, Ms. Bieber's contributions are always noticed and appreciated.

"Peggy's dedication goes beyond her professional duties," said Mr. John Demkowicz, Director of Transportation, said. "She knows her students by name and greets each one with a warm smile as they board the bus. Her kindness extends to the local dogs at bus stops, who eagerly await their extra treat from Ms. Peggy. Her bus, adorned with autumnal decorations, is a testament to her love for creating a welcoming and cheerful environment."



Pictured from L-R: Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Peggy Bieber, Mr. John Demkowicz, Transportation Director and Mr. Eric DiTullio, Board President

We are incredibly thankful for Ms. Bieber and all that she contributes. Her dedication and kindness shine through in everything she does, and her unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of our students is truly inspiring. ■

'I LED THE PLEDGE'

Seneca Valley students from the District's K-6 schools are appearing at this year's school board meetings, leading the members of the School Board and public in saying "The Pledge of Allegiance." For the Oct. 7 work session, we were proud to have Chase Salka, a second grader from Connoquenessing Valley Elementary, lead the way. Chase loves math, but his real passion is baseball! He plays for the Seneca Valley North Athletic Association in both spring and fall ball, and even made the all-star team this past summer! His dream? You guessed it—he wants to be a professional baseball player!



Chase pictured with, from L-R, Superintendent Dr. Tracy Vitale and School Board President Mr. Eric DiTullio.

Clara Sipp, a third grader from Haine Elementary School, led the "Pledge of Allegiance" at the Oct. 14 school board meeting. Clara is a Girl Scout who loves camping, swimming, boating and creating art. She also takes piano lessons and dreams of becoming a teacher, just like her parents who are both teachers at SV. ■



Clara pictured with, from L-R, Superintendent Dr. Tracy Vitale and School Board President Mr. Eric DiTullio.



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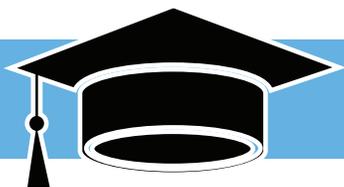
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Andrew Kearney, SV '15, recently returned to Pittsburgh, started a new role as an environmental engineer, and is settling into life with his wife, new home and rescue pup! We asked him to catch us up on what he is doing and how Seneca Valley influenced his life and career.

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

A: After spending five years living in central PA for grad school and work, I'm now back in Pittsburgh. But it has been a pretty hectic year since moving back. My wife and I got married in October 2023 and bought a house in McCandless that same month. Then, we rescued a puppy (Australian Shepherd mix) in January, and he's been crazy since the day we brought him home. Now, we're finally trying to settle into our new life. Last summer, I started my new job as an environmental engineer at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Working for the state has been a very nice change of pace from the grueling hours in the private engineering sector, and I love being able to use my engineering skills to work to protect our natural resources. I work in the Borough of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands, so most of my work revolves around projects that impact streams and rivers (bridges, dams, etc.) and stormwater management facilities for new developments.

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

A: As I mentioned in the previous answer, I married my wife, Maddie, last October. We met at Westminster College in 2018 and have been together ever since. Since we met at Westminster, we decided to get married there at the Wallace Memorial Chapel. I have two younger brothers, Nick (25) and Danny (13). Nick is in vet school at Ohio State. Danny is in eighth grade at Ryan Gloyer Middle School. My parents, Bill and Beth, are still living in Cranberry Township. The best part about returning to Pittsburgh is being close to family again.

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

A: For people who might have known me while I was at Seneca Valley, I'm very similar to the person I was in high school. I still love fishing, the outdoors and math, and in my free time enjoy playing recreational sports, video games and fantasy football. I became more outgoing and social in college, for sure, though. Maybe the most surprising thing would be that I got into weightlifting and put on some muscle. In high school, I was a skinny, long-distance runner who could barely do a pushup. And while I'm not bulky, I bet the fact that I lift at all would surprise some people.

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

A: Because Seneca Valley is such a large district, there are so many opportunities to meet new people, enroll in a variety of classes, and find different sports/clubs/activities that fit your interests. As a



young kid, I was very shy. But, as I went through the school system, I was slowly brought out of my shell by meeting new friends and partaking in things like track and field, basketball, chorus and the Envirothon club. By taking the more advanced math and science classes that were offered to us in high school, I was able to build a strong knowledge base (and carry over some credits) going into college.

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

A: Besides what I mentioned above, I think the teachers and staff really care about their students and enjoy seeing them succeed, both in the classroom and outside of it. I had some truly amazing teachers over the years who did a great job balancing learning with support and time for fun and jokes. The school buildings always felt

like a positive environment that made you feel comfortable.

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

A: This is a tough question as there were SO many... but I'll go way back to first grade with Mrs. Richard. Like I said, I was a very shy kid back then and she was the first one to truly engage with me and begin to pull me out of my shell. She was such a great teacher and excelled at balancing learning and fun. Though it was long ago, I still have many fond and funny memories from moments in her class.

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: It has to be when I gave my chorus announcement in seventh grade. Ms. Keefer selected me to do a reading introducing the song "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town" at our Christmas concert. I was always energetic and expressive in chorus class, so I assume that's why she thought I'd be a good fit for this task. I gave the short speech to the audience and everyone in the fully packed auditorium was suddenly on their feet cheering for at least a minute, which isn't usually what happens after a song intro. It was crazy! After that, it was like everyone (students and teachers) in the school suddenly knew who I was. Tons of people I had never spoken to before were coming up

to me and saying hello. It was very cool. The transition from sixth grade, where the student body is separated into different schools, to everyone together in the same school in seventh grade, can be tough. But, this moment helped me make that transition and meet many new people that would be influential in the rest of my time at Seneca Valley.

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

A: Things have changed a ton since I went to SV with the influx in technology and remote learning. I've seen it firsthand with my little brother Danny. I would say to embrace these changes and don't try to fight them. The entire world is becoming more technology-driven every day (for better or worse), so students should be prepared for this in school before they get thrown into the "real world." Having a foundation on how to utilize technology and work with it will likely be imperative to a successful adult life in the future. As many of us know and have experienced, it is much easier to learn this when you are exposed to it at a young age. I know it's been a very tough transition on the teachers' end, but I think it is necessary and will be well worth it in setting up the students for success in life.

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

A: This is a tough question because I think Seneca Valley has a great reputation already from people outside of the district. People



from around the Pittsburgh area that I meet and find out I went to school there always seem to be impressed, for lack of a better word. Maybe the answer to this question is regarding its size. Everyone sees Seneca Valley as this massive school, which is true. However, the classes are fairly small and quite personal which makes for excellent learning opportunities. So, you get the benefits of a large school, as I've discussed previously, but also have manageable class sizes and a great student-to-teacher ratio. ■

Congratulations to Seneca Valley alumna Chloe Ruffennach on the release of her second book, "Wisteria Drive!"

In a [Cranberry Eagle](#) feature, Ms. Ruffennach credited SV teachers Ms. Natalie Green and Mr. Paolo Tolomeo for inspiring her passion for writing. After selling 150 copies of her first book, we're excited to see "Wisteria Drive" take off and celebrate this accomplishment! ■

Welcome, Alumni!

Seneca Valley is proud of our graduates who have excelled in their careers. Be sure to let us know if you would like to be featured in our Raider Pride e-newsletter. To keep us in the loop, send your graduation year, a summary of your professional life and a brief review of how Seneca Valley helped pave the way, to [Tiffany Hernandez](#), Content Marketing Specialist. ■



SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF IN 2024

The Western Pennsylvania All Hazards Fusion Center (WPAHFC) recently shared a detailed list of known scams targeting individuals, almost daily. According to the Better Business Bureau, the number of scams and volume of money lost by victims are rising worldwide.

We encourage readers to share this information with co-workers, friends, neighbors and family, especially the elderly population. Often, people are targeted and don't know who to turn to. The WPAHFC advises those who think they have an attempted scam against them to pause and contact any family members targeted. Then, contact your local police department to assist and to inform them of the scams in your area. **Do not** give out personal information, bank information or other detailed identifiers. None of these are needed in a true emergency over the phone. Learn more about the latest scams at <https://consumer.ftc.gov/scams>.

1. PA Turnpike Scam

Individual will receive an an unsolicited text, email, or message claiming to be a PA Turnpike Toll Services. The message will state there is an overdue balance, and the account will incur additional charges if not settled.

2. Computer Security Notification Scam

An individual's computer will display a security notification and frozen screen. The notification provides a number to call, where a scammer poses as an Apple/Samsung employee, stating that money needs to be withdrawn from various banks and needs to be deposited into a bitcoin machine. The scammer states that this is a government funded program.

3. Grandparent Scam

- a. Individual receives a call stating their grandchild(ren) is in distress and needs financial assistance.
- b. Someone may also pose as a bail bondsman, judge, law enforcement officer or doctor claiming their grandchild needs financial assistance (bail money, medical help, travel expenses, military leave, etc.), attempting to instill fear and urgency.

4. Health Insurance Scam

Individuals will receive an email or phone call requesting personal information to update records. They may also be billed for fake services.

5. Student Loan Forgiveness Scam

An individual will be contacted and be urged to apply for debt relief but needs to do so quickly. The application will come with expensive fees and will request personal information.



6. Text Scams

A scammer poses as a legitimate business (bank, retailer, delivery company or government agency) and will send a text instructing the individual to follow a link or call to resolve the stated issue.

7. AI Spoofed Call Scam

A scammer will use artificial intelligence (AI) to spoof the voice of a loved one and their number and call the victim. The scammer will state they are in some form of trouble and need help.

8. Online Shopping Scams

Scammers will post phony listings on popularly used third party sites to sell items. They will accept payment, or request payment in a method harder to trace and will never send the merchandise.

9. Kidnapping Scam

Scammers use the tagged location on social media posts to target families with members traveling outside of the U.S. The caller will claim that the individual has been kidnapped or is in danger.

10. Shipping Scam

An individual will receive an unsolicited text, email or message claiming to be from UPS, FedEx, Amazon, or USPS indicating they are holding a package because of a problem with the destination address.

11. Voter Registration Scam

A scammer will attempt to find unregistered voters and claim to help them register. The scammer will use phony links or apps to obtain personal information.

12. Donation Scams

Scammers will pose as campaign volunteers or send email/text messages with links to a phony donation website. ■



- Help SV WIN against hunger in the WPIAL Food & Fund drive challenge! For every \$1 donated, the Food Bank can provide up to three meals for families, children and seniors, so **DONATE TODAY** and make SV the most giving district for the THIRD year in a row!



- Teacher Nominations - WTAE-TV is launching a Teacher of the Month recognition program for the 2024-25 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 2024-25 school year**, regardless of family income. Encourage your student(s) to stop for a full breakfast or various grab-and-go items. If you think you might be eligible for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals, we encourage you to fill out a Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application as many programs are connected to your child[ren]'s eligibility. Please return it to the Seneca Valley Administration Office with attention to Faye Nelson. 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 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. \(candleinc.org\)](https://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. ■

988

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