RAIDER PRIDE

A State and National Award-Winning Publication **SEPTEMBER 2026**

NATIONAL SCHOOL PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSOCIATION
PUBLICATIONS AND DIGITAL MEDIA EXCELLENCE AWARD
2026
HONORABLE MENTION
NEWSLETTER

NEVER FORGET

On Patriot Day and the 25th anniversary of 9/11, Seneca Valley Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) honored the memories of the lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001, and of every hero who gave their life since that day to protect our safety and freedom. The annual commemorative event recognized the innocent men, women and children who lost their lives on an airplane, at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, in Somerset County and on the streets of New York. Watch the full program here. Through ceremonies, lessons and activities, our schools across the district paused to reflect the significance of this day in our nation's history.

As a community and a nation, we honor the lives of the victims of 9/11. JROTC Cadets also commended the civil servants, firefighters, police officers and military personnel who dedicated and lost their lives serving the American people in a time of crisis.

Continued on page 2











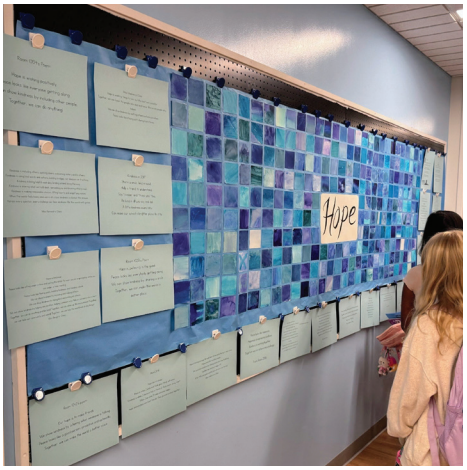






TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Outdoor Learning initiatives at SV 4
Open for Business! 5
Athletics 9
Run for Ryan 13
Alumni Q&A 18

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct. 5 School Board Meeting, Work Session, IHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 8 Homecoming Carnival and Parade, 5 p.m. (Parade starts at 7 p.m.)
- Oct. 9 Homecoming Football Game vs. Mt. Lebanon at NexTier Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 12 School Board Meeting, Regular Session, IHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.

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

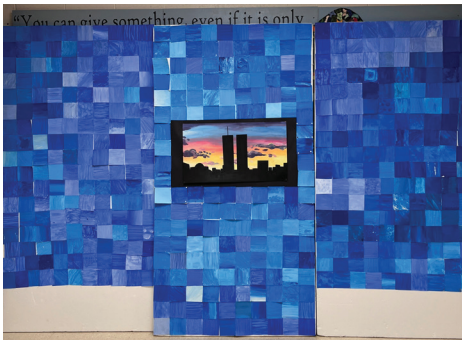
OCTOBER

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

NEVER FORGET

Continued from page 1

















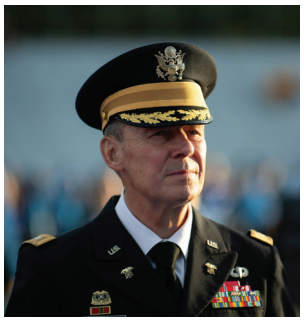




SV PAYS TRIBUTE

Seneca Valley celebrated veterans and active members of the military at the annual Veteran Recognition Event on Sept. 11. This representative group includes those who have served in Korea, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Vietnam and Operation Enduring Freedom, just to name a few. Among this elite group were recipients of numerous honors, including commendation medals, achievement medals, campaign medals, national defense medals and Bronze Star honors. Today and every day we are grateful for our military service personnel, past and present, and the families who support them. It was our honor to recognize these outstanding individuals for their service and sacrifice.



























THE STREAM TEAM

Students from Ryan Gloyer Middle School explored the Little Connoquenessing Creek with their parents on Sunday, Aug. 30, as part of a new outdoor initiative at Seneca Valley designed to reconnect students and families with the benefits of spending time in nature.

The "Stream Exploration" program began with a brief overview of the Little Connoquenessing Creek. Students learned about organisms found in the stream and reviewed snorkeling procedures and safety tips before heading into the water.

Equipped with snorkels and water snooper buckets, students explored the creek and observed a variety of aquatic organisms in their natural habitat.

Led by teachers Mr. KC Cahall and Mr. Zeke Stroupe, one of the primary goals of the new outdoor initiative is to engage families in outdoor experiences so they can continue exploring together beyond the program.






GREEN THUMBS AT WORK

As part of Seneca Valley's outdoor education initiative, some of the district's youngest scientists had the opportunity to explore the diversity of the plants and animals that call Haine's front garden space home.

"Creating opportunities for young learners to explore, question, and connect to the world they live in is crucial to developing successful learning skills," said SV Outdoor Learning Specialist Mr. KC Cahall. "These opportunities provide numerous academic, emotional and social benefits for our students."







THE REMARKABLE MONARCH BUTTERFLY

Did you know that Monarch caterpillars eat only milkweed?! That is just one interesting fact that our third and fourth graders could tell you! This month, third and fourth grade students along with their families explored the Monarch butterfly and learned more about helping these beautiful insects in their natural environment. **Click here to explore ways to help Monarch butterfly populations.** Special thanks to our SV Outdoor Education team and the Haine PTO for hosting this fun event!




FIELD NOTES

In a recent collaborative effort, nearly 250 students took their learning outdoors to log biodiversity on the secondary campus through nature photography and stream sampling activities. Ryan Gloyer Middle School students joined to photograph plant, animal, fungi and fish species which were then logged on the INaturalist app. Some students also helped build seine nets for herding fish and other species. Their contributions will be featured within the upcoming project: Biodiversity on SV Secondary Campus. The goal of the project is for all RGMS students to contribute to this campus ecology study.




OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

This month, SV Raider Roast opened its window for business!

Located in the Senior High School, Raider Roast is operated by SV staff and student workers in the Vocational Readiness class. Students take on roles as cashiers, prep workers and baristas while learning workplace skills, including following food safety guidelines and working as part of a team. This year, student workers are supported by SV Transition Specialist Ms. Liz Wimer and students in the College in High School (CHS) Introduction to Special Education class.

The shop has proven to be a favorite on the secondary campus and students enjoy working together in an inclusive environment.

“Being part of Raider Roast has been one of the most fulfilling experiences for me,” said Ainsley Wheland, a senior CHS Intro to Special Education student. “Getting to help the students learn and grow while learning from them myself is something that I’ll always be grateful for.”

“I enjoy seeing the growth in the students and their confidence blooming! They are always a light in my day,” added senior Jordan Lauer. “It’s extra special for me because I get to work with my brother in the coffee shop!”

Raider Roast student workers, like Jordan’s brother Max, enjoy making new menu items and meeting new friends!





“I work with friends and make drinks for friends,” said Joel Speicher, a Raider Roast employee in the Vocational Readiness class. “I like the boba!”

Gabe Hort, a senior Raider Roast employee, agreed that meeting new people and making drinks for them is his favorite part of the program!

We look forward to another school year of smiles, new friends and fresh brewed beverages!







CONSTITUTION DAY AT SV

In recognition of Constitution Day, classes across the district participated in activities to learn more about our nation's history.

Some elementary classes crafted a "We the People" poster filled with ways to help others and be a good citizen while others watched an interactive broadcast featuring special guest Thomas Jefferson! At Haine Middle School, sixth grade students discussed the principles that shape our government and read the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution in informational booklets graciously provided by Senator Elder Vogel's office.

We're proud to see our students connect history to the communities they are building together every day!



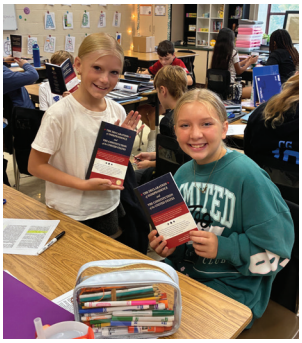




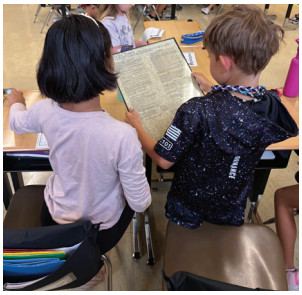


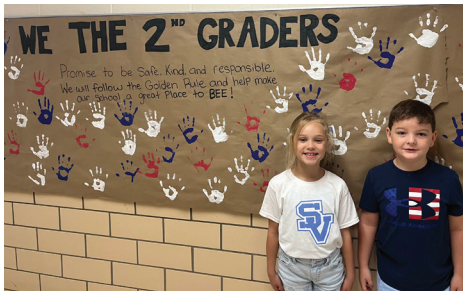




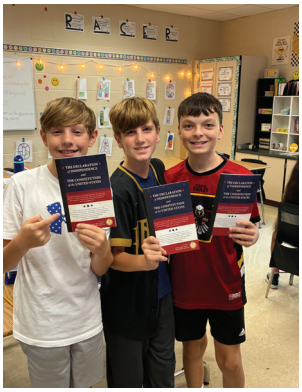
















By Varden Armstrong,
Performing Arts Coordinator

SV CHORUS PREPARES FOR PMEA HONORS

As a new school year takes off and many of us turn our minds slowly back to the routines that herald the start of every new academic year, things look a little different in the SV Choral Department. Every year on the Tuesday after Labor Day, chorus students eagerly anticipate the arrival of two new pieces of music in their choral instructors' inboxes. These songs are not just for any concert. Rather, they form the audition excerpts for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 5 Honors Chorus, a prestigious auditioned ensemble that rehearses and performs in the fall each academic year. Comprising students from dozens of high schools throughout Butler, Lawrence, Beaver and Mercer County, Honors Chorus represents a significant accomplishment for students enrolled in the SV choral program. Students accepted into the choir also have a chance of acceptance into the PMEA All-District Chorus that initiates the pipeline to the PMEA All-State Honors Ensembles.

In September, students who commit to the process will work hard to learn and rehearse all aspects of the two pieces, "There Is an Old Belief" by C. Hubert Parry and "Vorwärts" by Clara Schumann. This includes learning notes, rhythms, dynamics, German pronunciation, and specific vocal techniques and mechanics, among others. The culmination of all of their hard work is a blind audition for a panel of three District 5 judges in the hopes that they will be selected as one of the 96 singers – 12 in each voice part – that represent their school at the PMEA Honors Chorus Festival. This year's festival runs from October 22-24. The first two days are filled with intensive rehearsals under the guidance of a collegiate-level choir director. The final day consists of final preparations and a public concert for family, friends and all lovers of choral music.

Understandably, this process is both exciting, but also stressful for students.

"Honestly, I thoroughly enjoy the challenge that the PMEA audition process presents," senior Liv Moore said of the preparation process. "Even though it's definitely added work, and one of the pieces is in German, which is totally not fun, I am glad that I have the opportunity to improve myself as a musician in this process, which allows me to focus on the key areas of choral excellence."

"Honors chorus gives me the opportunity to fully throw myself into a process that requires a lot of effort, but that I know at the end of the day I will be able to look back



on with pride." added junior Quintin Hixon. "It is a very tangible, concrete preparation with choral and musical standards to aim for. Also, you get a numbered chair (1-12), so there is a small part of me that likes seeing that number on the scoring sheets!"

The auditions for PMEA Honors Chorus will take place October 1, at Westminster College, with results of the audition posted that same day. We look forward to supporting our excellent SV choristers throughout this process and to sharing in their successes at the culminating concert on October 24!

SV STUDENT AND STAFF PARTICIPATE IN STEEL CITY CLARINET DAY

Imagine bringing together over 100 people who all share the same passion…playing the clarinet. On Saturday, August 22, that is exactly what happened at the annual Steel City Clarinet Day (SCCD) which was held this year at Shaler Area Middle School. Dr. Amanda Morrison, Event Director and Professor of Clarinet at Slippery Rock University (SRU), sponsors this event each year which is open to clarinet players of all ages, from middle school through adult professionals. Each year Dr. Morrison brings in guest artists and performers along with local vendors, all in an effort to provide exciting learning opportunities and experiences for clarinet players of all ages.

A highlight of clarinet day is the opportunity to perform in an Advanced Clarinet Choir that is made up of high school and college students as well as adult amateur and professional players. This year, two SV Instrumental students Emma Galle and Madison Brown participated in the advanced clarinet choir.

Seneca Valley Instrumental teacher Sara Snyder was also involved in the Clarinet Day as one of the directors for the Intermediate Clarinet Choir. In addition to conducting the closing concert, Mrs. Snyder participated in a clinic with the younger students on fundamentals of clarinet playing that they could use as they begin the new school year.

This year, one Seneca Valley alumni was part of the SCCD event as well. Paityn Armstrong (SV Class of '24) is a clarinet



major at Slippery Rock University and a member of Dr. Morrison's Studio. Paityn was involved in many aspects of the day, including performing in the final concert with the Advanced Clarinet Choir.

GET READY FOR A YEAR OF CLASSICS WITH SV THEATER!

What a thrilling season lies ahead for the Seneca Valley Theater program! This year, our stages will come alive with stories considered classics in their own unique ways. From a carnivorous plant hungry for world domination, to a magical journey over the rainbow and the timeless rock-and-roll hits of Elvis Presley, the 2026-27 season promises unforgettable performances for audiences of all ages.

Before diving into our upcoming lineup, here is a quick preview of what to look forward to this year:

- Three major musical productions spanning beloved sci-fi comedy, timeless fantasy, and high-energy rock 'n' roll
- Talented student performers and crew members across Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS), Intermediate High School (IHS), and Senior High School (SHS)
- Immersive staging and special effects bringing classic stories to life right in front of your eyes

"Little Shop of Horrors" (Grades 9–12, Fall)

We kick off the season with the wildly popular sci-fi movie musical rendition of "Little Shop of Horrors." The story centers on Seymour, a clumsy and meek florist's assistant who unwittingly raises a talking, man-eating plant—only to learn the tragic ultimate cost of seeking fame and fortune.

Our production will fully immerse you in this darkly comical tale. The Senior High School Auditorium provides the perfect setting, allowing our actors to interact directly with the audience throughout the show!

"Whether you are new to the show or a seasoned veteran, SV's 'Little Shop of Horrors' promises to be a memorable and rollicking theatrical experience," said Mr. Kyle Masson, SV Director. "The students have thrown themselves into the choreography, characterization and vision for the show with enthusiasm and dedication. We look forward to sharing the fruits of their labors with audiences in November!"

Location: SHS Auditorium

Showtimes: November 6 at 7 p.m., November 7 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m., and November 8 at 2 p.m.
Note: While this production has been adapted for a high school stage, it is recommended for audiences PG-13.

"The Wizard of Oz" (RGMS - Grades 7–8, Fall)

Gracing the IHS Auditorium stage, our RGMS students will bring the beloved story of "The Wizard of Oz" to life. Audiences will delight in hearing timeless songs performed by our talented young cast as they follow Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion along the yellow brick road.

We are bringing full theatrical magic to the stage—featuring Glinda the Good Witch, the Wicked Witch of the West and her flying monkeys, and perhaps even a real-life Toto!

Location: IHS Auditorium

Showtimes: November 12 at 7 p.m., November 14 at 7 p.m., November 15 at 2 p.m.
*****NOTE: The time listed for the Nov. 15 performance on the print version of our Activities & Information Calendar is incorrect; the Nov. 15 show will begin at 2 p.m.***

"All Shook Up" (Grades 9–12, Spring)

Our final musical of the school year will have you saying "I Can't Help Falling in Love" with "All Shook Up!" Inspired by Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," this toe-tapping, heartwarming musical weaves the classic hits of Elvis Presley into a hilarious tale of mistaken identities and romance.







Our high school cast will have you dancing in the aisles of the Auditorium with their "Blue Suede Shoes" in this energetic, hilarious show!

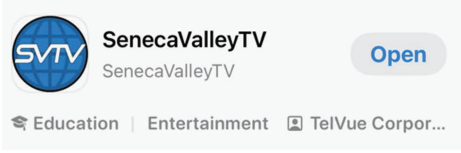
Location: IHS Auditorium

Showtimes: February 25 at 7 p.m., February 26 at 7 p.m., February 27 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m., February 28 at 2 p.m.

Theater is a labor of love and community, and we cannot wait for you to see our students shine in the spotlight across our stages. Mark your calendars now, gather your family and get ready to celebrate a year of classics with Seneca Valley Theater!

DOWNLOAD THE SVTV APP!

Did you know the Seneca Valley TV (SVTV) app is now available in the Apple App store and Google Play?! To watch SVTV live on your device, open the app store and search **SenecaValleyTV**. In addition to the app store, SVTV can be accessed on Roku, Apple TV and Fire TV devices. For additional viewing options and more information, visit Watch SVTV.



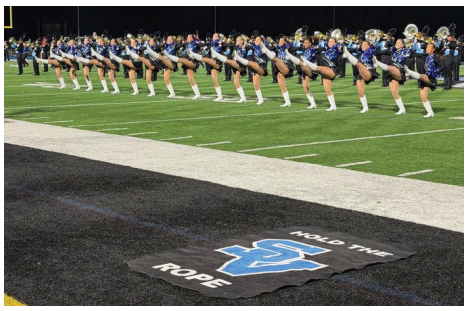
By Heather Lewis,
Seneca Valley Athletics & Activities Director

BEYOND THE COMPETITIVE ARENA

So often in sport, the focus is on results and the most commonly asked question, "Did you win?" However, with any athletic contest, there is much more than the actual result. The purity of interscholastic sports allows us all to enjoy not only competitive excellence, but also the brilliance and intricacy of performing arts, the authentic spirit and athleticism of cheerleading, and the pride of our student body in supporting their peers. This is what scholastic sport is about – athletes playing for the love of their game; marching band performing for the love of music, entertainment and camaraderie; cheer and dance squads exhausting themselves to bring energy and school pride to every event; and communities bound by one shared logo, as in "Wearing the SV."



This month, I would like to recognize and thank our brilliant Raider Marching Band and supremely talented SV Cheer and Dance squads. Your efforts unite our community, fuel #SVRaiderPride and showcase the remarkable talent that makes our District special. None of this happens without the remarkable leadership of Head Cheer Coach Laura Wise and Band Director Varden Armstrong. Thank you, Laura, Varden and your respective staff for your dedication to our students.







CONGRATULATIONS, RAULI!

Each year, the NFL and Hispanic Heritage Foundation celebrate Hispanic and Latino excellence throughout NFL communities. For the 2026 season, the NFL and Hispanic Heritage Foundation are honoring outstanding Latino youth and high school football players through their Latino Youth Honors program.

Congratulations to our very own Raulimar (Rauli) Ramirez-Perez, a current senior and member of the Pennsylvania Football News (PFN) Girls Flag Football 2026 All-Academic Team, who has been chosen as the high school flag football player to represent the Pittsburgh Steelers! Rauli was recognized on Sunday, September 27 at the Steelers vs. Cincinnati Bengals home game. Rauli "Wears the SV" proudly and with distinction and we celebrate this incredible honor with her.

Ryan Gloyer Middle School teacher Mr. Chris Eden nominated Rauli and, in his words, "Rauli has become a tremendous role model for younger Hispanic female students who may have never imagined that football was a sport or an opportunity available to them. If you're looking for someone who truly inspires others through her actions, leadership and character, I can't recommend Raulimar Ramirez-Perez highly enough!"



FALL SPORTS UPDATES

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

Head Coach Steve Strelick enters his 14th season at the helm of our boys and girls cross-country teams. The section title will be determined on Tuesday, October 6, when all schools race together at North Park. Until then, both the boys and girls teams are competing in exhibition style dual meets and invitationals. Results to date include:

At the HOKA Night XC Showcase, varsity boys finished 23rd with Hunter Pedersen leading the Raiders in 80th place out of 422 runners with a time of 17:04.80; varsity girls finished 32nd with Paige D'Amico coming in at 20:51.27, good for 96th overall out of 394 competitors.

At the 24th Annual Red, White & Blue Classic, results include:

- Varsity boys finished third overall in the 3A 5000-meter run with Ian Wahl (17:08.41) pacing the squad.
- Varsity girls finished 26th with Paige D'Amico again leading our pack at 20:47.10.
- Boys JV finished fourth overall in part due to Ian Maloney's third-place finish at 18:48.91 and Jackson Anglum close behind in fifth place at 19:03.41.
- Annelise Dykstra finished in third place (25:00.70) leading our girls JV team to a fifth place finish.







- In the ninth grade race, boys freshmen runners picked up the top spot, with all five scoring runners finishing in the top 23. Ben Northrop's eighth place (19:26.91) was the top finish for SV
- The girls freshmen class finished seventh overall and Sally McLean paced the team at 21:49.10.

At the time of this writing, upcoming events include the Youthtowne Clash, PIAA Foundation Race, Grove City Invitational and section exhibition races.

FOOTBALL (Head Coach Don Barclay)

Head Coach Don Barclay enters his second season leading the Raider Football program and currently has the team sitting at 2-1. Following an off-season of hard work, this year's squad entered the season with familiarity and a high level of confidence in themselves, their coaches and their systems. While many on the outside predicted 2026 to be another building year,





this team has quietly displayed discipline, consistency and tenacity. They have outscored their first two opponents by an average margin of 34.5-10 relying on the strength of the pack and not any single individual. A small, but talented, senior class is providing the requisite leadership and has set the standard for Raider Football in 2026. Jamen Alwine has taken the reins at quarterback and relies on classmates Josiah Edwards and Maximo Robinson in the backfield. Jacobe Sutherland anchors the offensive line while Matt D'Appolonia, and Julian Hunt lead a relentless defensive unit. Jake Donesec, a surprising addition by way of a PIAA ruling allowing private school students to compete on their hometown team, has infused high energy and fearless play on both sides of the ball. With conference play upcoming, this team is poised to make their mark in WPIAL 6A football.

GOLF – Boys (Head Coach Dean Leventopoulos)

At the time of this writing, Coach Leventopoulos, in his eighth season leading our boys golf program, has our team contending for the WPIAL team championships with key section matches remaining against Central Valley and Butler. The Raiders are currently 8-2, good enough for second place in section play, and are battling for one of two section spots to advance to the team championships. Individual sectional and WPIAL championships are yet to come, and results will be shared in October. Good luck, boys!



GOLF – Girls (Head Coach Brian Pesavento)

Head Coach Brian Pesavento, in his fourth season, and Raider Girls Golf currently sit in fourth place in their section with a 6-5 record and one remaining section match vs. North Allegheny. Overall, the Raiders are 6-6 with upcoming sectional individual



championships – the qualifying event for WPIAL individual championships. Final results will be shared in October. Good luck, girls, in upcoming sectional and WPIAL individual play.

ICE HOCKEY (Head Coach Tyler Mesisca)

Tyler Mesisca, entering his third season as head coach, has the returning two-time PIHL champions in full competition mode following their annual preseason St. Margaret's tournament. The Raiders participated in the annual preseason PIHL Charities Tournament, outscoring their first four opponents, 28-2, to advance to the championship game. Unfortunately, the Raiders came up against a stingy Rams defense and fell to Pine-Richland 2-1. The team now turns their attention to the start of the regular season and their quest for three straight Penguins Cup and PIHL championships.

SOCCER – Boys (Head Coach George Williams)

There is no denying the 2026 version of Raider boys soccer is talented and experienced. The challenge for Head Coach George Williams, in his 32nd season, is molding this talent into a connected, selfless unit willing to face adversity head on and not back down. As of this writing, the Raiders are 4-1 overall (1-1 in section play) and have outscored their opponents 19-3 – evidence of their talent and chemistry. As is customary with Raider boys soccer, this team is deep and affords Coach Williams the luxury of resting players without noticing a drop in play on the field. Senior forwards Ben Baronner and Jacob Prex provide plenty of goals while Fynn O'Donnell and Luke West anchor a stubborn defense in front of Kyle DeMaster. Plenty of games remain and we look forward to another potential run at a WPIAL title.



SOCCER – Girls (Head Coach Mark Perry)



Entering his 11th season as head SV Girls Soccer coach, Mark Perry was faced with replacing five graduated seniors whose impact resulted in an appearance in the 2025 WPIAL championship game. If the start of the season is any indication, Coach Perry and his staff have found some answers. As of this writing, Raider girls soccer is 5-1-2 overall and 2-1-0 in section play. The team has scored 22 goals while allowing only five against in eight games. Senior All-Big 56 goalkeeper Sydney Postler returns to anchor a defense that allows less than one goal per game while classmates Anna Iaquinta and Izzy Yuhouse provide plenty of goal production. This year's squad may be thin on experience, but they are full of athleticism and depth – two key assets Coach Perry will utilize to return to F.N.B Stadium (formerly Highmark) for the WPIAL championships.

SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL (Head Coach Ken Chrin)

Raider Slow Pitch Softball is at the start of their season, winning two of the first four games played. They are fourth in the WPISL standings with a +21-run differential. Seniors Wynn Level and Emily Birsa will be reliable anchors for this year's squad. The regular season ends in late October with championships to be held Halloween weekend.



TENNIS (Head Coach Andrea Morrisard)

Second-year head coach Andrea Morrisard fields a young team with only one senior, Alivia Metz, on the roster. The team has had its share of bright moments along with the challenges of court inexperience. The record currently stands at 4-6 overall and 2-4 in section play. At the time of this writing, remaining section contests include matches with North Allegheny and Montour, along with non-section matches against North Catholic, West Allegheny and Quaker Valley. As the season comes to a close, the girls are working extremely hard to finish on a high note and an overall winning record. Final season results will be shared in the October "Raider Pride."



VOLLEYBALL (Head Coach Brett Poirier)

Head coach Brett Poirier enters his eighth season leading the Raider Girls Volleyball program and once again he has the team off to a great start. The Raiders are currently 6-1, capturing the Franklin Regional Varsity Tournament over Labor Day weekend. An experienced and talented senior class of Payton Fisher, Sheridan Gallagher, Gabi Hatock, Mackenzie Kohler, Cami Mueller and Delaney Myers will provide a calming presence in the face of adversity and high energy in those moments when urgency and intensity begin to fade. We look forward to an exciting, fast-paced brand of volleyball this season as these girls work hard in pursuit of a championship banner.



RAIDER ATHLETICS PARTNERS

The Seneca Valley Athletics Department is proud to partner with many community organizations and families whose support goes a long way in helping provide a quality athletic experience for our student-athletes. Listed below are our current Raider Athletics Partners – we thank you for your support!

NexTier Bank
"We're more than just a bank – we provide personal and business banking solutions that support our communities and help you reach your dreams."
www.nextierbank.com

Myers Law Group
"Official Law Firm Partner of Raider Athletics."
www.jpmyerslaw.com

Allegheny Health Network
"Official Sports Medicine Partner of Raider Athletics."
www.ahn.org

Field Turf, USA
"A world leader in artificial turf and field surface for Raider Athletics."
www.fieldturf.com

Hawkins Financial Services
"We strive to exceed our clients' long-term goals."
www.hawkins-fs.com

Heritage Seubert Financial Baseball Field
"We help families, businesses and institutions grow, preserve and transfer wealth."
www.heritageseubert.com

Cranberry Psychological Center
Cranberry Psychological Center
"Don't play games with your family's emotional health.
www.cranberrypsychcenter.com

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT DATES FOR RAIDER ATHLETICS

Special Events

- Oct. 8: Homecoming Carnival & Parade, 5 p.m., Secondary Campus
- Oct. 9: Homecoming Game vs. Mt. Lebanon, 7 p.m., NexTier Stadium
- Oct. 23: Senior Night and Annual Pink Game vs. Norwin, 7 p.m., NexTier Stadium

Winter Sport Information

- Oct. 21: Drug & Concussion Testing for Winter Sports in Senior High School
  - NO physicals offered
- Nov. 4: Final Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Winter Sports in Senior High School
  - 30 physicals offered starting at 2:45 p.m.
- Nov. 5: **Deadline** for winter sport paperwork; all papers are due in athletic office.
- Nov. 20: 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 2026-27:

- ALL paperwork for winter sports is due in the athletic office no later than **Thursday, Nov. 5, by 3 p.m.** Coaches will not accept paperwork on the first day of tryouts.
- The PIAA mandates the CIPPE Section 6 form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.
- All required paperwork for 2026-27 athletic participation is available on the 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. 9.
- All student-athletes must register in the Parent Portal under "Sports Registration" before the start of each season.
- Complete information available on the District's Athletics website: Participation Paperwork
- 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.
- Tryouts are mandatory. Student-athletes are expected to attend every tryout session.

RUN FOR RYAN!

Join us Sunday, Nov. 1 for the fourth annual SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run! Presented by Westinghouse and hosted by the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF), this incredible event serves to spread community awareness of the life and legacy of Sergeant First Class (SFC) Ryan Gloyer by highlighting the many amazing attributes he possessed; to remind students and the community of Ryan's ultimate sacrifice for our Country; and, most importantly, preserve his legacy of being inclusive, selfless and dedicated.

We are calling the entire Seneca Valley to be part of this day. Students, staff, families, alumni, business owners - all are welcome! To register, visit SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run.

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

This year, we again welcome the Community Commissary! An inviting space for sponsors, vendors and non-profits to share information about their products. Check out our sponsorship opportunities and, if you'd like to support, please contact Laura Goossen at laurajwatson@gmail.com.

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

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

T-Shirt Sponsor - $3,000
- ❖ Corporate logo on back of participant T-Shirts
- ❖ Six (6) Complimentary Participant Fees

Mile Marker Sponsor - $1,000
- ❖ Corporate logo on signage (36x24 inch)
- ❖ Honoring noble characteristics of Ryan (Teach & Mentor; Honor & Integrity; Selfless Service; Lead by Example; Strive for Excellence; Persevere through Adversity)
- ❖ Four (4) Complimentary Participant Fees

Legacy Sponsor - $500
- ❖ Two (2) Complimentary Participant Fees

Patriot Sponsor - $250
- ❖ Soldier memorialization on the digital Wall of Fame at RGMS on race day (found inside the RGMS lobby)

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 a sponsorship, checks can be sent to:
Seneca Valley Foundation
124 Seneca School Road
Harmony, PA 16037
Attn: Julia Benson
All proceeds benefit Ryan Gloyer Middle School



Be a part of the
Community Commissary

The Community Commissary is designed to be a space to connect with sponsors, local businesses and non-profit organizations. Reserve a table today!

Race Sponsors & Non-Profits = Complimentary

For-Profit businesses = $100

Contact space coordinator, Laura Goossen at laurajwatson@gmail for additional information.



Commissary members immersed in the commissary space.

SFC RYAN GLOYER MEMORIAL RUN



PRESENTED BY: Westinghouse

4th Annual 5K Run/Walk
Sunday, November 1, 2026 @ 9:00 AM
SV Secondary Campus

Honoring the life & legacy of fallen Green Beret & SV Class of 2000 Alumnus, Sgt. First Class Ryan A. Gloyer

DUCKS ON THE DASH

Earlier this month, the Seneca Valley Foundation partnered with B&T Building Services to bring back our Ducks on the Dash safe-driving campaign! Volunteers distributed SV-branded ducks to student vehicles as a fun reminder to stay focused, avoid distractions, and make safe choices behind the wheel.

A big thank you to B&T Building Services and our staff volunteers for helping us spread this important message—one duck at a time!

Ducks don't drive distracted. Neither should you!















'I LED THE PLEDGE'

We are pleased to continue the tradition of inviting elementary students from Seneca Valley's K-6 schools to lead the members of the School Board and public in saying "The Pledge of Allegiance" during school board meetings.

For the Sept. 14 regular session meeting, we were joined by Hannah Martinez, a second grader at Rowan Elementary School.

Hannah loves all things music and singing and wants to be a music teacher when she grows up. When asked about her favorite song, she proudly answered "Try Everything" by Shakira. Fittingly, Hannah enjoys trying new things, including starting classes in the gifted program this year. When she's not singing, she can be found playing soccer, taking skating lessons, dancing or swimming!



Hannah pictured with, from L-R: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tracy Vitale and School Board President Mr. Eric DiTullio

HEART IN THE GAME

Congratulations to Ehrman Crest third grader Penny for assisting with the coin toss at the Sept. 12, Pitt vs. University of Central Florida (UCF) game!

Pitt Football regularly partners with UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh to welcome a junior captain to the field for pregame ceremonies. In November 2025, Penny underwent open-heart surgery and is not letting anything hold her back!

Ahead of her big day as a junior captain, Penny spent time with the entire Pitt Football organization on Sept. 10. She also recently shared her heart journey on the WDVE Children's Hospital Radiothon to support other pediatric patients facing similar journeys. Great job, Penny!

Photos courtesy of Pitt Athletics







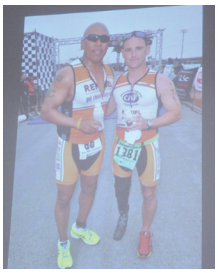


THE POWER OF PERSEVERENCE

Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) kicked off their Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) with two-time Paralympian and U.S. Marine veteran Eric McElvenny.







Mr. McElvenny presented in two sessions to seventh and eighth grade students to discuss resiliency in the face of obstacles. While serving in Afghanistan, Mr. McElvenny was injured and lost his right leg. Determined to push forward, he went on to complete nine Ironman distance triathlons and represent Team USA in the 2021 and 2024 Paralympics. He discovered that the adversities he faced and the strategies he employed to cross the finish line can be applied to the obstacles we all encounter in life. His journey from the hospital bed to the paralympic finish lines inspired students to persevere in the face of their own challenges.

Special shoutout to RGMS eighth grader Stella Cicchiani for joining Mr. McElvenny on stage during his presentation.

PBIS is a framework designed to make schools more effective places. By implementing evidence-based practices, schools can support their students' academic, social, emotional and behavioral success, engage with families and use data to guide decisions that strengthen school culture.



SV SENIORS EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recently announced Seneca Valley Seniors Mac Wilson, Albert Pimenov and Benny James as Commended Students in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program.

They have been recognized by the NMSC for their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry.

"We are incredibly proud of Mac, Albert and Benny and the dedication they have shown to their academics," said Seneca Valley Senior High School Principal Bob Ceh. "Being named a Commended Student is a tremendous accomplishment and a reflection of the hard work and commitment they have demonstrated throughout their high school careers."

Over 1.2 million juniors in about 20,000 high schools entered the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2025 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants.



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

EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE TEACHING

Congratulations to former Seneca Valley Basketball Coach Haine Middle School teacher Mr. KC Cahall has been selected as a 2026 Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association (PSTA) Award Winner, receiving the Donald Keys Excellence in Science Middle School Teaching Award.

The award recognizes Mr. Cahall's outstanding contributions to science education and his dedication to students, colleagues and the broader science education community.

"KC brings a tremendous amount of passion and enthusiasm to science education, particularly through his commitment to outdoor learning," said Dr. Marie Palano. "He consistently goes above and beyond to create meaningful, hands-on experiences that encourage students to explore, ask questions and connect what they are learning to nature. His dedication to helping students explore the world around them brings learning to life."





PSTA honors educators who demonstrate a commitment to strengthening science education across Pennsylvania and inspiring the next generation of scientists, innovators and critical thinkers.

Mr. Cahall will receive the award during the PSTA Awards Luncheon at the organization's 75th Anniversary Conference in October.

ERADICATE HATE GLOBAL SUMMIT

Seneca Valley students, teachers and administrators recently attended the Eradicate Hate Global Summit in Pittsburgh, the world's most comprehensive anti-hate conference. On Sept. 14, students joined peers from 40 schools across southwestern Pennsylvania to share ideas, discuss strategies for building safe school communities and connect with other districts.

Seneca Valley staff joined other school leaders and experts from around the globe who are dedicated to eradicating all forms of hate-fueled violence. The summit sparked meaningful conversations on ways to reduce hate-fueled violence in schools and provided resources to enhance those efforts.





¡ESTAMOS CONTRATANDO!

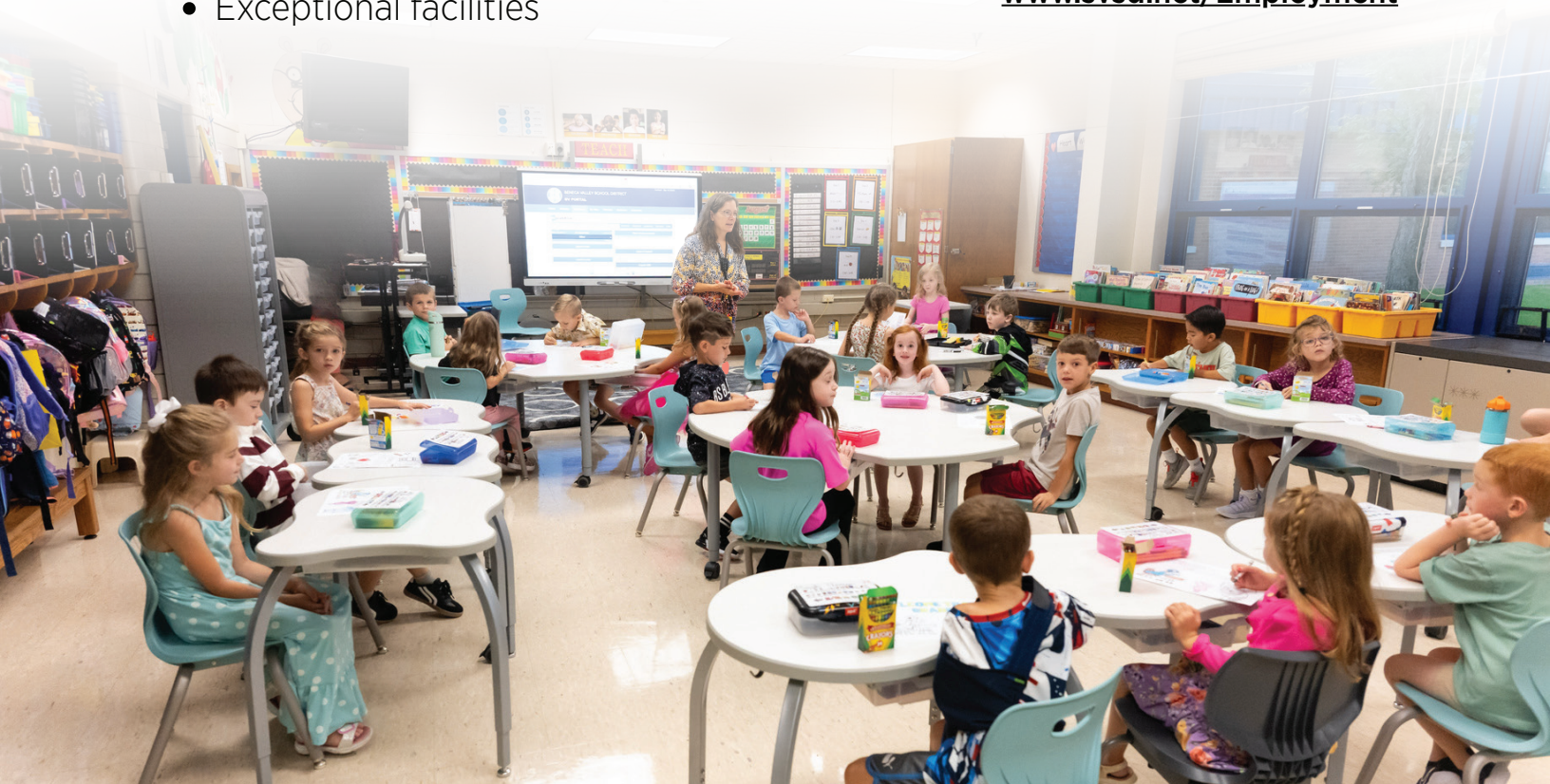
SPANISH TEACHER NEEDED!

Seneca Valley is seeking a full-time permanent Spanish teacher position for the 2026-2027 school year at Haine Elementary School.

Benefits of working at Seneca Valley:

- Competitive salaries & benefits
- Professional development & mentoring
- Commitment to supporting a diverse team
- Inclusive community and engaged students
- Emphasis on community service
- Exceptional facilities

Scan the QR code or visit
www.svsd.net/Employment



Matthew Vogt, SV '09, is a dentist and a 2025 SV Hall of Fame inductee for his contributions to the Seneca Valley boys golf program. An accomplished amateur golf player, Mr. Vogt returned to Pittsburgh to play in the 2025 U.S. Open at Oakmont Country Club. 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.

A: I live in Indianapolis with my amazing wife Hilary and our two kiddos. I miss western Pennsylvania dearly and try to get back multiple times a year, but we really enjoy Indianapolis as a home base. It was such an honor to play in the 2025 U.S. Open at Oakmont last summer and be inducted into the Seneca Valley Hall of Fame. The reception from the city of Pittsburgh and everyone at Seneca Valley is something I will always cherish. In 2026, it's been more of the same for me, balancing family, career and pursuits in golf as best as I can!

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

A: I was a baseball player and actually didn't start playing tournament golf until ninth grade.

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

A: Seneca Valley provided opportunities to develop at all levels of education from Kindergarten to 12th grade. The combination of academics and athletics, along with the special people along the way who truly cared, helped me become the person I am today.

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

A: I think what makes Seneca Valley special is the wonderful people and the fact that there are so many opportunities to learn and grow. The College in High School (CHS) and Advanced Placement (AP) class programs were an awesome way to get nearly a full semester of college credits before graduating high school. The school size provides wonderful opportunities through athletics. All high schoolers love to complain about school, but then you get to a point where you look back and see that you had things pretty good.

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

A: My varsity golf coach Steve Mayes and the varsity basketball staff at the time — Vic Gianotta, Jim Pyle, Rob Lombardo, Joe Venasco — shaped me in ways I couldn't be more grateful for. They taught all of us the meaning of hard work and sacrifice and were a support system during a time in high school when, quite frankly, life was a little scary and difficult. I now coach some high schoolers myself at a golf fitness facility in Indianapolis because of them. They were the best.

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: A few memories stick out from SV. The first is when our basketball team won the school's first-ever section championship in 2008-2009, made a run in the WPIAL playoffs and then won the school's first-ever state playoff game at the buzzer in front of a packed house. I still get goosebumps thinking about those moments and how excited the entire SV community was that season.

The second is being tied for the lead in the PIAA Individual Golf Championship my senior year with one hole to go and ultimately coming up short. It was crushing, especially at the time as a 17-year-old kid, but it's one of those things you can look back on and learn from for your entire life.

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

A: My message for teachers and staff would be to continue to do what you do. I couldn't imagine being in your shoes, but for every student or parent who may make life difficult, there are probably ten who appreciate and respect you and who are ultimately shaped by your influence. They may not all tell you that, but what you do truly makes a difference.

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

A: My wish is that every student who is currently at SV hears this message: Savor these years and don't wish them away. Before you know it, high school will be over, and you'll never get those times or those memories back again. Life is not a dress rehearsal, so make it count!

FIVE TIPS AFTER META'S $17B TEEN SAFETY SETTLEMENT

What the settlement means for your kids, and what parents still have to do themselves

Late last month, Meta agreed to pay up to $17 billion to settle a lawsuit from dozens of states accusing it of designing Instagram and Facebook to be addictive to kids and violating child privacy law. Over the next four to six months, changes will start to be made like default two-hour daily limits, overnight blocks, and restricted notifications during school hours. These are among the terms of that settlement.

It's meaningful progress, even if it came far too late, with kids being the ultimate cost in this exchange. But we'll be watching to see if independent oversight confirms that Meta really follows through, and whether these protections become the standard across all large social media platforms.

While we wait and watch:

1. Check, don't assume. New defaults don't always apply retroactively, so look at your kid's account rather than trust the headline.
2. Treat the defaults as a starting point. You can still set tighter limits based on what works for your kid.
3. Ask about Meta AI. If your kid used Meta AI or an AI character, find out what they use it for.
4. Keep your own rules in place. Your ground rules shouldn't move every time Meta's does.
5. Watch what happens next. The pending rollout and independent oversight will tell us much more about what to expect than a press release.

Bonus: Some changes will still require parents to opt in. If you want your kid's feed to show posts from people they follow, in the order they were posted, instead of recommendations chosen by Meta's algorithm, you'll need to change that setting once it's available.

Tip worth sharing:

One new change that Meta plans to make is an overnight block from midnight to 6 a.m. for teens.

Over half of teens get less than 7 of their recommended 8-10 hours of sleep.

Research shows just having a screen in the bedroom negatively affects the quality and quantity of sleep. Despite this, 82% of teens currently sleep with phones in their room.

To learn the importance of screen-free sleep and gain tools for keeping tech out of bedrooms altogether during sleep time, check out Home | Screen-Free Sleep Campaign.

Article provided by *Common Sense Media*



ENHANCEMENTS MADE TO ATTENDANCE PORTAL

Regular school attendance plays an important role in a child's success. Being in school each day gives students the opportunity to engage with their teachers and classmates, stay on track with instruction and fully participate in the school experience.

Seneca Valley has enhanced its attendance portal and streamlined proactive communication with families to support consistent student attendance. Parents and guardians must submit an excuse for a student's absence through the Parent Portal within 10 days of the absence to be designated as excused. Submitting excuses promptly helps ensure that our attendance records are accurate and allows the District to communicate attendance information with families more efficiently.

- Teacher Nominations - WTAE-TV launched their Teacher of the Month recognition program for the 2026-27 school year. Each month, from September through May, a teacher will be selected from the many deserving submissions that they receive. The selected teacher will receive a $1,000 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 on social media. Nomination information can be found at WTAE Teacher of the Month 2026 - 2027.

- All students in Pennsylvania public schools, including Seneca Valley, will once again have access to free breakfast for the 2026-27 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.

- For the 2026 tax year, the IRS offers several key tax credits and benefits for families with children, most notably the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Parents can learn more at irs.gov/parents.

- 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)

- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel!

- Drive for SV! Driver incentives are now being offered.

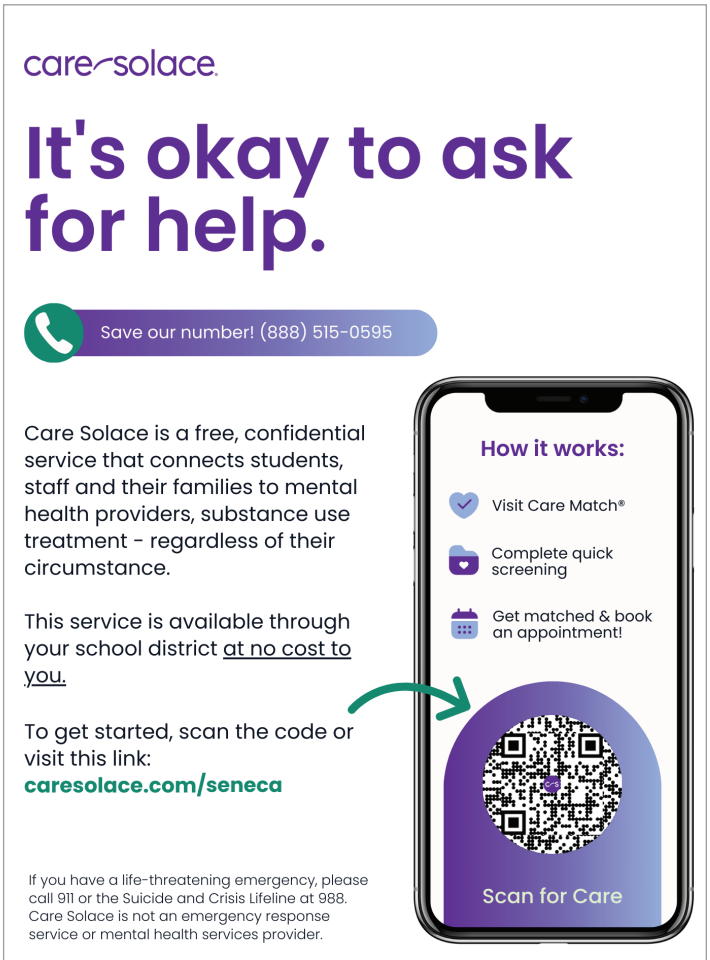
- Join the SV Team! Visit www.svsd.net/HumanResources to learn more and apply.

- Visit Niche to view SV rankings.



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
SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE



Roblox Safety & Online Predators

This presentation helps parents and community members better understand the online environments children are using today, with a focus on Roblox and other social platforms.

Attendees will learn how these platforms work, why they appeal to kids, and how online predators attempt to exploit in-game chat, friend systems, and external apps.

The session will cover common grooming tactics, warning signs that a child may be interacting with someone unsafe online, and real-world examples of how predators move conversations from games to other platforms for violence, sextortion, and more.

Wednesday, October 21st 2026

Haine Elementary / Middle School

1516 Haine School Road, Cranberry Township, PA 16066

Event Starts at 6:00 PM

Doors Open at 5:30 PM

Center for Community Resources
Connecting People to Services



BUNDLE UP BUTLER

BUTLER CITY FARMERS' MARKET

209 South Chestnut Street
Butler, PA 16001

Friday, October 9th, 2026

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

No registration required.

Kids' coats are free and distributed on a first come, first served basis. We will make every effort to fulfill a child's needs.

Bundle Up Butler will have a limited number of coats for adults. Adults in need of a coat are encouraged to make a $5 donation to Bundle Up Butler.

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP

FREE EVENT!



The GREAT PUMPKIN Festival

Presented by CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION & giant eagle

Pick-your-own Pumpkin Patch & Decoration Station ★ Photobooth
Self-guided Storywalk ★ Games & Crafts ★ Refreshments
Interactive Sponsor Tables ★ Sensory Room ★ Costumes Encouraged!
★ Movie on the Lawn at 7PM: The Addams Family (2019) ★

Supporting Sponsors
ARMSTRONG®
Pediatric Dentistry Asleep

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

5:30-7:30 PM ★ CRANBERRY TWP MUNICIPAL CENTER

Event designed for ages 1-8, all ages welcome! Rain or shine. Activities & pumpkins available while supplies last.

MISSION OF MERCY
PITTSBURGH

FREE DENTAL AND HEARING CLINIC

With onsite referral to UPMC Vision Institute's Community Vision Day sister event





FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16-17, 2026

David L. Lawrence Convention Center • 1000 Fort Duquesne Blvd • Pittsburgh, PA 15222

X-rays
Cleanings
Fillings
Select root canals
Limited extractions
NO BRIDGES
NO CROWNS
NO FULL DENTURES

Hearing evaluations
Free hearing aids
Hearing aid fittings
Hearing aid troubleshooting & repair
Hearing protection

NO ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS · NO INSURANCE NEEDED · AGES 2 +

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 AM | CLINIC BEGINS AT 7:00 AM

WALK IN ONLY · NO APPOINTMENTS

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED · DOORS CLOSE WHEN CAPACITY REACHED

VISIT WWW.MOMPGH.ORG OR SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE