

THE CHALKBOARD

A REPORT FROM THE WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOLS

2010/2011 School Year

April 2011

<http://www.wattsburg.org>

Seneca High School Presents...

Seneca High School is proud to present this year's musical *Bye Bye Birdie* straight from its Broadway revival. With its high energy rock 'n' roll feel and the classic numbers "Kids" and "Put on a Happy Face," this musical comedy is sure to entertain.

The show takes place in the 1950s, an era marked by poodle skirts and Elvis-like pop stars. The story line centers on struggling talent agent, Albert Peterson (played by Kyle Strickenberger) and his client, Conrad Birdie (Adam Rossi). Albert faces a dilemma when Conrad is drafted into the army. In one last attempt to cash in, Peterson, with the help of his secretary and frustrated long-time love, Rose Alvarez (Olivia Duryea), creates a plan for Conrad to plant one last kiss on a lucky fan on the Ed Sullivan Show. Enter the MacAfee family, a jealous boyfriend, an overbearing mother, and a room full



Friday, April 1 @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 2 @ 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.



*Top row from left: Robin Rastatter, Kiersten McGowan, Shawn McCleary, Jared Lorraine, Tyler Belden, Marissa Eliason, Megan Hall
Second Row from left: Keegan Sonney, Anissa Eliason
Third Row from left: Antonia Tibor, Ashley Kowle, Paul LeVan, Stephanie Waldo, Emily Rossi
Bottom Row from left: Emily Rzepka, Cody Martinez, Gina Ghamo*

of Shriners, and you get a hilarious satire filled with upbeat, colorful chorus numbers.

Anissa Eliason, cast member and student intern, declares, "This has been a fun show to be a part of, one where we learn a new game or acting technique every day. I am grateful that we have a program like this at Seneca. It has been a memorable experience... I will carry it with me for many years to come."

What outsiders may not know is that students do the bulk of the production work. Student stage manager Aimee Duda calls the shots during performances bringing together crew members on lights, sound, and several other key elements. Student director Adam Rossi is known for warming up the cast with improv games to ensure the highest amount of energy on stage. But this year, the cast and crew are intertwined. You'll see cast members moving sets and crew members in front of the curtain (and under a table)!

This production marks the directorial debut of Mr. Steven O'Donnell, who is also continuing his role as stage manager. He is stepping in after an extremely successful run by Mrs. Sharon

Continued On Page 2

BYE BYE BIRDIE...

Continued From Page 1

Gdaniec. "Taking over the musical after Mrs. Gdaniec is not an easy task," says Mr. O'Donnell. "There is an expectation of excellence here that can be intimidating." This year also brings some interesting challenges with such a young cast. "I knew it was going to make for a stressful transition, but the students have made up for their lack of experience with their passion and enthusiasm for the project." Mr. O'Donnell is thankful for the help from school board member, Mr. John Rzepka, on set construction and community member, Mrs. Bonnie Bilski, as vocal director.

So "put on a happy face" and bring the "kids" out for an evening of entertainment that will have the whole family swinging their hips.

Performances are April 1st at 7:00 p.m. and April 2nd at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at the high school office by calling 814-824-3400 ext. 4507. Price of admission is \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students.



Conrad Birdie (Adam Rossi), Albert Peterson (Kyle Strickenberger) and Rose Alvarez (Olivia Duryea)



HATS OFF TO MATT BROZEWICZ!



Matt Brozewicz (left) and Andy Berchtold

Congratulations to Matt Brozewicz, son of Lynne and Joe Brozewicz of Greene Township. Matt recently broke Seneca High School's all-time scoring record for Boys' Varsity Basketball on February 4th against North East. The previous record of 1,434 points was held by Andy Berchtold in 1998. Matt currently has over 1500 points which he has accomplished in three years.

SAVE THE DATE...



If you attended Wattsburg High School or Seneca High School in the 1970s, please join us for a benefit reunion. It will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2011, at Coleman Hall. The benefit reunion will start at 7:00 p.m. and will cost \$5.00 per person at the door. Please bring your own beverage and snacks.

More information will follow in the next Chalkboard. If you are interested in planning or helping out with this event, please contact Joni (Biletnikoff) Gross at 825-5729 or Peggy (Spaeder) Fenno at 825-7573.



SHS Bobcat Bullet:

On May 4-10, 2011, the Seneca High School Marching Band will be traveling to perform at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The band will perform in a parade in the Magic Kingdom and will also visit Epcot Center, Animal Kingdom and Hollywood Studios. The band students and staff are excited to have this opportunity.



MEDAL OF HONOR STUDY ALIVE AND WELL IN WATTSBURG

During the 2010-2011 school year, a team of dedicated educators has been hard at work bringing history alive for our students through the Medal of Honor program. This program was begun in the district in 2007 with two objectives. The first objective is to raise awareness of the sacrifices our military men and women have made for the freedoms we enjoy today, while the second objective is to teach our children about the values represented by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation. These values are sacrifice, integrity, patriotism, courage, commitment, and citizenship. The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed on an individual serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. It is generally presented to the recipient by the President of the United States.



Mr. Robert Hart and his Medal of Honor Class

Mrs. Christine Long and Mr. Don Pearce are our MOH Committee members at the Elementary Center, and both have received enthusiastic responses from the children participating in their lessons. Mrs. Long's class learned about recipient Robert Howard and discussed how courage is displayed by our local police officers, firefighters, doctors and those in other helping professions. Mr. Belden, father of Noah Belden, spoke with the class about his experiences in the Army and brought memorabilia for the students to view.



*Mrs. Brenda Gregory
Middle School Medal of Honor Representative*



*Mrs. Christine Long and Mr. Donald Pearce
with the Medal of Honor Kiosk*

Mr. Pearce hosted local veteran Brant Bujalski who shared his experiences in Afghanistan and explained his friendship with recent MOH recipient Salvatore Giunta to the 4th grade class. Soon the class will be participating in a lesson about 14 year old drummer boy, Orion P. Howe, who received the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions during the Civil War.



*Mr. Robert Hart and Sergeant Ray Oshop
with Medal of Honor Lesson Plan Kit*

Mrs. Brenda Gregory, our middle school representative, has employed many of the lessons from the Medal of Honor Lesson Plan Kit which Wattsburg teachers worked to develop along with teachers from Erie City. One of Mrs. Gregory's most successful lessons was entitled "Overcoming All Odds." This lesson was centered on having persistence and perseverance in our lives. " We studied recipient Captain Joseph J. Foss and how he demonstrated perseverance in his life," explained Mrs. Gregory, "and then we discussed how we as a class could demonstrate perseverance in our own lives as well."

Sergeant Raymond Oshop joined the MOH Committee at the beginning of this school year and finds that many of the Medal of Honor lessons taught complement the curriculum used for his AF-JROTC students. Sergeant Oshop has also used many of the lessons from the MOH Lesson Plan Kit with success, and received great student responses when asking students to write about the values portrayed by the MOH recipients.

Continued on Page 4

MEDAL OF HONOR

Continued From Page 3

Mrs. Sadaly, Superintendent, also presented a lesson on recipient Thomas Norris to the AF-JROTC class prior to students videoconferencing with Mr. Norris. "The videoconferencing opportunities really make history come alive for the students," stated Mrs. Sadaly. "After studying a recipient's story, students are able to converse with these individuals and pose relevant questions that they have developed. The students are highly engaged and find the experience to be very powerful."

The senior member of the MOH Committee is Mr. Rob Hart who has shown extraordinary commitment to growing the Medal of Honor program in our schools. Rob was instrumental in writing and editing lesson plans for the Medal of Honor Kit and designed a course entitled Medals and Media that is now co-taught with teachers from Strong Vincent High School. The two classes manage to meet in person twice during the shared class, and work together through videoconferencing using our PolyCom units.

According to Mr. Hart, "There is nothing more important than all of us learning from our past. To do that you have to make personal connections to truly internalize our history. The Medal of Honor program continues long after the classroom lessons are completed. Students are going home and connecting to family members that have served within our communities in some capacity. This intergenerational conversation about service and community could be the agent to inspire our students to reach out and make a difference in their corner of the world."

Selected high school students have had the opportunity to videoconference with both Thomas Norris and Michael Thornton this year, and we are anticipating a third videoconference involving our middle school students in the spring. Students also have access to interactive kiosks to further familiarize themselves with the recipients and their stories.

"We feel very fortunate to have such a strong K-12 Medal of Honor Committee in the Wattsburg Area School District, and we hope to sustain our efforts to continue teaching students about the significance of the Medal of Honor for years to come," said Mrs. Sadaly.

WAMS Bobcat Bullet:

"WAMS will be hosting a 'Spring Social' on the evening of May 10th. This school-wide event will include the following:

- our Spring Book Fair for our library
- a Science fair for grades 6-8
- an art show of student work

There will also be presentations regarding bullying by Elaine Surma from the Attorney General's office. Look for more details in our upcoming Parent Newsletters. Refreshments will be provided by the WAMSAG PTO.



Students in the Air Force Jr. ROTC Class working on a Medal of Honor lesson

CONGRATULATIONS, JEREMIAH GIBBONS!

Wattsburg Area School District congratulates Jeremiah Gibbons! Jeremiah represented Seneca at the PMEA Region II Choir in Blairsville, PA. He will also be participating in the MENC All-Eastern Choir in Baltimore, MD. on March 31 and April 1, 2, & 3, 2011. Best of luck, Jeremiah!

MRS. NOLAN RECEIVES GOLDEN APPLE AWARD



Robert Lambing and Mrs. Nolan

Congratulations to Mrs. Susan Nolan for being the recipient of Edinboro University/WJET TV Golden Apple Award for the week of February 28th. Her continued dedication and support of her students and the school district, exemplify the qualities that make Mrs. Nolan a truly special teacher.

Mrs. Nolan was nominated for the Golden Apple Award by Senior, Robert Lambing. The award presentation was aired on WJET-TV on March 23, 2011.

WASD WELCOMES NEW FACES!



*Mrs. Chrystal Roberts
Housekeeper*



*Mrs. Penny Lorei
Dining Room Aide*



*Mr. Barry Duryea
Housekeeper*

Wattsburg Area School District would like to welcome Mrs. Penny Lorei, Mrs. Chrystal Roberts, and Mr. Barry Duryea!

Penny joins the Wattsburg Area School District as a Dining Room Aide. She lives in Greene Township with her husband, Norman Jr. (Butch), of 14 years and their four children. She began as a substitute in 2009 and has recently been employed full time. "I really like the people I've been working with here," states Mrs. Lorei. In her spare time, Penny enjoys baking, reading and spending time with her family.

Chrystal Roberts is a lifelong resident of Wattsburg. She is married to Steve Roberts, they have one son and three granddaughters. Chrystal was a member of the last class to have graduated from Wattsburg Area High School. Her hobbies include cooking and gardening.

Mr. Barry Duryea is the latest addition to housekeeping staff. Mr. Duryea is also a lifelong resident, married to Jen Duryea, the Transportation Secretary. Barry is a graduate of Seneca High School. In his spare time, he enjoys the outdoors, spending time with family, and sports.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS HONOR BOARD MEMBERS



*Wattsburg Area Middle School Student Leaders
Front Row: (L-R): Marissa Mountford, Hope Allgeier
Back Row: (L-R): Haylee Wright, Katie Miaczynski, Gabrielle O'Connor, Sam LaRoche, Nik Bitters, Jake Afton, Carli Hoffman, Emily Nichols*



Jacob Afton, Katie Miaczynski & Mrs. Linda Lorei

January was Board Appreciation month and students from the WAMS Student Leaders group decided to write "Letters of Appreciation" to our Board Members. WAMS 8th grade students Jacob Afton and Katie Miaczynski attended the Board Meeting on January 17, 2011 and read the letters aloud. Mrs. Magnusen, WAMS Art Teacher, also donated student-made ribbons for each Board member to thank them for all that they do for our students, staff, and administrators. We appreciate their time volunteered and all of their efforts to make our school a better place!

WAMS SPORTS DAY FUN!

On February 17, the students at WAMS participated in the 26th annual sports day. Students had an opportunity to go skiing, snowboarding, tubing, cross country skiing, bowling, roller skating, ice skating, and swimming. A great time was had by all that attended and we look forward to the event next school year.



Amanda Werner, 7th grade, and Alexis Quest, 7th grade, take a break while roller skating at Evan's Skateland West.



5th Grader Matt Orsini getting ready to throw a strike!



Starr Sherred, 5th grade, Billy Kuhn 5th grade, and Nicole Law, 6th grade, try to stay warm after swimming at Penn State Behrend.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR HUGE SUCCESS!



Left to Right: Brandi Davis, Hope Allgeier, Rachel Sallach, Matt Licata, Dylan Johnston



Left to right: Gabrielle O'Connor, Maggie Pearce, Hope Allgeier, Jenna Tech, and Brandi Davis

The annual Christmas Craft Fair and Chinese Auction were conducted by our WAMS 6th grade team during the month of December. This year, the efforts cleared a record-breaking total of \$962 from our Craft Fair and Chinese Auction that was donated to local families and charities. Thank you to everyone who participated and assisted in this great 'Pay It Forward' event and helped make someone's holiday season brighter!



FUEL UP TO PLAY 60 - ON THE MOVE!

The Fuel Up to Play 60 kids have been extremely busy during the long, cold winter months. The kickoff event was a great success as the entire student body and parents participated. The students succeeded in meeting the challenges at the kickoff level and were rewarded with a surprise visit from Charlie Batch, Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback and founder of The Batch Foundation. Mr. Batch spent the afternoon of February 14th with the students at the Elementary Center. The students were able to interact with Mr. Batch by asking him questions. Some of the questions that were asked were “Do you feel bad that you did not win the Super Bowl?” “How exciting was it to play in the new Texas stadium?” and “What do you do when it isn’t football season?” Mr. Batch admitted that he and his team were extremely sad that they did not win the Super Bowl, but they played a very good team and congratulated the Green Bay Packers on their win and future success. He said, “The Texas Stadium was awesome to play in. It was very large and the jumbo tron, which is the overhead television screen, is bigger than two football fields. It was totaling overwhelming. After football season, we get about 8 weeks off to relax and then we are back at conditioning and working out until we start training at our facility.” Mr. Batch and the students participated in a fun-filled assembly that provided the exercise to “Fuel Up to Play 60” using the mechanics of football as their theme.

Hats off to Mr. Ron Gibbons and Miss Bethany Lawrence for pulling together a phenomenal and well organized school wide assembly with less than 24 hours’ notice!

Students have now moved on to the next level of challenges. They have organized a Walking Club which meets every morning and after school on Wednesdays. The club, which is facilitated by Mr. Gibbons and Miss Lawrence, is made up of nearly 190 students, faculty, staff, and community members. Their goal is to walk 2,600 miles which is the distance to the Oakland Raider football stadium. Miss Lawrence had this to say, “We’ve done it for 2 weeks now and have walked about 1,200 miles thus far! We are so excited to get students moving and

Continued On Page 9



*WAEAC receives Fuel Up to Play 60 Grant
Left to Right: Mrs. Janet Mullaney, Child Nutrition Director, Miss Bethany Lawrence, WAEAC Physical Ed. Teacher, Sharon Piano, National Dairy Council, Mrs. Audrey Coletta, WAEAC Principal, Mrs. Hillary Barboni, WAEAC Asst. Principal, Mrs. Nancy Sadaly, Superintendent*



The 20 4th grade members of the Fuel Up to Play 60 Club.



Charlie Batch interacting with students



Charlie Batch, Michael Deutsch and Drew Brown

HORNBY SCHOOL MUSEUM RECEIVES GRANT



Manager of Harborceek Walmart and Mrs. Ruby Kimball, Treasurer of Hornby School Restoration Society.

The Hornby School Museum in Greenfield Township has been expanding its offering of a typical day in a one room school as it was in 1875. In August of 2010, Wal-Mart Corporation donated \$500 for the expansion of the living history program at Hornby. The directors purchased new slates for every desk, materials for Spencerian Penmanship practice including pens and ink for each student, costumes circa 1875 for students to wear during their visit and bins for their storage, and two 8' tables to be used for outdoor activities such as making butter and jam.

A new, 2-day long program has been developed for the Girl Scouts of Western PA. This day camp will be held June 16-17, 2011. Girls will spend the first day reliving a typical day at a one room school. The second day will be spent exploring the daily life of a girl in 1875: chores, food preparation, toys, clothing, etc. Civil War Day will be celebrated on Sunday, June 19. This is an encampment of costumed Civil War re-enactors who demonstrate musket and cannon firings, Civil War era food and music. Several speakers will give first person narratives about life at that time, including soldiers, slaves, merchants, witnesses to the battle of Gettysburg, chaplains and more.

Hornby School is open to the public every Sunday from June thru October. It is available for school field trips beginning in April. A curriculum is free to teachers to help plan the educational experience. Please contact Linda Prather at 725-5680 for more information.



Mr. Keith Miller, SHS Principal, Mrs. Ruby Kimball, Treasurer of Hornby School Restoration Society, Mrs. Linda Lorei, WAMS Principal, & Mr. Chris Paris, WAMS Asst. Principal.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2011/2012

The Wattsburg Area School District's Kindergarten Registration and Screening Days will be held at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center, 10780 Wattsburg Road, Erie, PA 16509 on Wednesday, April 27, through Friday, April 29, 2011.

Children must be 5 years old prior to September 1, 2011 to register. Registration survey forms are available at the elementary center and must be returned by March 31. Please call 824-3400 ext. 4566 for more information.

WAEC Bobcat Bullet: MOVIE NIGHT!

Looking for an evening out with the family? The WAEC PTO hosts monthly movie nights in the Elementary Auditorium. Supervised students and their families are invited to attend. Look for the upcoming information to be sent home. There is no charge to attend the movie.



CLUBS! CLUBS! CLUBS!

Along with the new Walking Club, some fourth grade students are also participating in The Animal Scouts Club that meets every other Tuesday. Students in this club are working to raise money and pet supplies for local shelters in a variety of creative ways such as a towel drive, making pet toys and hosting a pet wash. Their supervisor, Mrs. Julie McGaughey, said, "The kids are very excited about the club! Currently we are collecting towels and blankets to donate to the A.N.N.A. Shelter and to Broken Arrow Pet Sanctuary. Recently, they had a great time making dog biscuits and next they will be writing letters to the editor of the Erie Times in favor of adopting animals from local shelters."

Other students are busy building away with Mr. Don Pearce and Mr. Ebbie Shores at Lego Club! This club is open to third and fourth grade students and runs after school for five consecutive Mondays. The club is not a competitive league but rather an opportunity for students to have some fun challenging themselves through following directions, using problem solving skills, and creative thinking.

FUEL UP TO PLAY 60

Continued from Page 7

grooving before school each day. Exercise not only helps our bodies physically, but it can also prepare our brains for learning throughout the school day. Students are walking an extra mile and a half each day. Volunteers are always needed to help track steps and weekly mileage." Please contact Miss Lawrence at 824-3400 ext. 6650 for details.

So...the Fuel Up to Play 60 students would like to you to come join them as they continue to conquer the challenges of this level and fuel up to play!



Cast of a dinosaur footprint

DINOSAUR TRACKS AT WAEC

The Wattsburg Area Elementary Center has a cast of a dinosaur footprint on display in the case outside of the library. This fossil is on loan to the school from David and Julie Morgan. Their children, William and Jessica, attend WAEC and are in kindergarten and second grade. Last year, the family traveled throughout the New England states and went to Dinosaur State Park, which is in the Rocky Hill region in the River Valley south of Hartford, Connecticut. The dinosaurs roamed the region some 200 million years ago and left their footprints in the mud and sediment. Naturally, over a period of time, the footprints became fossils. The footprints were discovered in 1966 during an excavation for new construction. Please come and view the fossil. Since the fossil has been on display, numerous dinosaur books have been checked out from the library.

Thank you to the Morgan family for making this artifact available to our students.



ART ROOM NEWS

On Saturday, April 2, 2011, Wattsburg Elementary Center will hold the annual Family Fun Day and Art Show. The art show is located in the cafeteria which is transformed into a Student Artwork Gallery. Each child has a piece of artwork on display. The art show takes weeks to prepare for and a lot of hard work and dedication is put forth by the students. The students are beginning their art show projects and will continue to work on them throughout the month of March.

Any person interested in helping with the set-up of this wonderful event would be greatly appreciated. As mentioned before, this event takes weeks and numerous hours of preparation. Those that would like to volunteer will find a sign up sheet with dates and times located on the front display case near the office and outside of the art room. The more help we have the more grand the art show will be!

Should you have questions or if you would like more information, please call Mrs. Rachel Berlin at 824-3400, ext. 6626, email her at Rachel.Berlin@wattsburg.org or visit her at the Elementary Center.

2011 Bus Rodeo Safety Competition April 30, 2011

Wattsburg Area School District

Event begins at 8:45 a.m.

Public welcome!

Concession Stand will be open!

WANTED! Substitute Bus Drivers

\$14.40 per hour

Please contact the

Bus Garage

at 814-825-7996

for more information

THE CHALKBOARD

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ATTENTION PARENTS & GUARDIANS For Attendance in ALL GRADES in 2011/2012, children need the following vaccinations:

- 4 doses of tetanus* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of diphtheria* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 3 doses of polio
- 2 doses of measles**
- 2 doses of mumps**
- 1 dose of rubella (German measles)**
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or history of disease

*Usually given as DTP or DTaP or DT or Td

** Usually given as MMR

Children Attending 7th Grade in 2011/2012 need the following:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) (if 5 years has elapsed since last tetanus immunization)
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

These requirements allow for medical reasons and religious beliefs.

If your child is exempt from immunizations, he/she may be removed from school during an outbreak.

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA. CODE CH. 23 (School Immunization)

For more information, contact your health care provider or 1-877 PA HEALTH.