



Positive Behavior Encouraged

By Michael Fishler

Recently, Nazareth Area High School has implemented a new program to help promote a healthy school environment. This program's acronym is SWPBS and it stands for School Wide Positive Behavior Support. Specifically, the Nazareth School District has developed the RAD program, which is an acronym for Respect, Accountability, and Decision Making. Over the next few months, students will be watching short videos that address acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

Ms. Gerhard, a teacher at Nazareth Area High School who is on the SWPBS Committee, said, "The main purpose of implementing a school wide positive behavior program is to teach expected behaviors and respectful and positive communication skills."

The students will identify these behaviors and discuss them with their class. The Nazareth Administrative team feels that with the help of this program, Nazareth Area High School will be more enjoyable.

History Club Trip

By Michelle Potter

On Friday November 15, Nazareth High School's History Club took a trip to Philadelphia. The trip included many stops throughout the city including Betsy Ross's house and Independence Hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776. The day consisted of a guided tour of the historic part of the city where students were able to see where Benjamin Franklin is buried, some historic and modern art, and even the Liberty Bell.

Students ate at the Reading Terminal Market which has various foods from around the globe and a delicious dessert selection, which students seemed to have enjoyed. The day came to a close with a run up the famous stairs where the classic movie "Rocky" was filmed. Many students said they had a great time and would love to do it again.

Sophomore Natalie Sasso was glad she went on the trip. She said, "Being able to have the experience to visit such historical sights reminds me of our roots and even though our country is constantly going through change, we are reminded everyday of our history and what the extraordinary men and women sacrificed for us to live in freedom."

The history club is currently working on planning new events, and while the fall trip went well, members are even more excited for the spring trip, which is still to be decided.

National Honor Society

By Sonal Arora

On November 14, at 7:00 pm in Nazareth Area High School auditorium, the National Honor Society (NHS) proudly inducted 48 new members and five officers. The National Honor Society, advised by Mr. Tafel, is a service club consisting of about 96 students, 48 juniors and 48 seniors. The club does a variety of fundraisers and activities, such as breast cancer walks, blood drives, and the memorable "Breakfast with Santa." These activities help the people of Nazareth with acts of kindness.

On the day of the induction ceremony, new inductees walked down the aisle of the auditorium with ignited candles in their hands, to represent the symbol of NHS: light. After the new members walked on stage, Logan Houptley, the new NHS president, presented a welcome speech. Additional speeches followed from Superintendent Dr. Riker, Principal Mr. Davis, and Athletics and Activities Director Mr. Silimperi.

Next, Mr. Tafel installed the officers, and they pledged to do their best in their respective jobs. Each of the officers lit a candle after their pledge. Next, several officers gave speeches, this time talking about lifelong skills and characteristics.

It was then time for the induction of new members. As Mr. Tafel said each member's name, the student was congratulated by Mr. Davis and NHS Officers. The student was then handed a certificate and a pin engraved with the words "National Honor Society" and a flaming torch.

Most people think that NHS consists of simply smart students with a report card of all "A's." But it's much more than that, said Mr. Tafel.

"We look at their achievements and their characteristics. We see if they have leadership qualities, used some of their time to volunteer, and are well-rounded in school," he said. "It's much more than just academics."

Even though juniors need a 93% GPA, and seniors need a 95% GPA, it isn't the only requirement for members. Each and every member must have participated in a variety of clubs in school and have volunteered some of their time helping others, despite their busy schedules. They must promise, as per the NHS member pledge, to "maintain their high scholastic standing, to hold a fundamental and worthy and untarnished character, to endeavor intelligently, and courageously to be a leader, and to give of myself freely in service to others."



Nazareth Shops for Holiday Deals on Black Friday

By Tara Rodriguez

Black Friday is a major retail holiday that is the day after Thanksgiving. The term "Black Friday" came from the switch in profit for stores. Before Thanksgiving they were considered financially "in the red," meaning they lost money, and after Thanksgiving they were "in the black," a gain in profit. Nearly 135 million shoppers go out on Black Friday.

Black Friday is a day that is used to get major savings on items. In the past, there have been injuries because of how rough people can get. This year, many stores started "Black Friday" sales before Thanksgiving. This caused lots of controversy because it made the actual Black Friday less special.

This year's Black Friday had mixed reviews from the Nazareth High School community.

"I got an awesome Pink Floyd poster in Washington D.C.," said Junior Austin Hooper.

Not everyone had such good luck, though.

"PacSun didn't have any good deals," said Junior Summer Eckhart.

Some people find Black Friday to be too chaotic to participate in anymore because of the violence that is commonly occurring.

"It's kind of an age thing. I've gotten to the point where I don't even bother," said Ms. Zansitsis's mother who substitute teaches at the high school frequently.

Similarly, the retail world has started another special day, Cyber Monday. Taking place on the Monday after Thanksgiving, Cyber Monday is a special retail holiday for those who don't like crowds or those who are just shopping savvy. No matter the reason, Cyber Monday is the busiest online shopping day of the year.

Despite mixed reviews, Black Friday shopping is rising in popularity. Hopefully in years to come the deals keep getting better.

SADD

Promotes Healthy Living

By Tara Rodriguez and Gabby Sullivan

The last week in October was Nazareth Area High School's Students Against Destructive Decisions, SADD, Club's Red Ribbon Week. For those who don't know what Red Ribbon Week is, it is a week where the club promotes drug awareness and living a drug free life.

From October 28- November 1, the club encouraged the whole school to participate in a different theme each day of the week to raise school- wide awareness. Monday was Twin Day, Tuesday was Superhero Day, Wednesday was Green for Greene day, Thursday was Red Day, and Friday was Workout Day. Each day, students throughout the High School dressed up and showed their support for living drug free. One of the days, Green for Greene day, was to show support for missing teacher, Matt Greene, and his family. In addition, SADD Club members also went around the school parking lot and placed red ribbons on each car and alsodecorated the tennis courts to help promote drug awareness and also decorated the tennis courts.

The SADD Club also hosted and participated in the Lehigh Valley Healthy Living Expo, which was held in the Nazareth Area High School North Campus Gym. It was an assemblance of students throughout the Lehigh Valley to promote a healthy lifestyle by displaying nutritious food choices as well as fitness inspiration. SADD Club members from over several school districts came together to participate and created a positive atmosphere for students.

SADD Club has been very active in the Nazareth community as well as throughout the Lehigh Valley. It will continue to spread awareness and involve Nazareth in its efforts to create a safe and healthy environment.

Football Season

Ends in Playoff Loss

By Michael Weiss

The Nazareth football season came to a close on November 15 when the Blue Eagles lost to Delaware Valley 28-35 in the Eastern Conference Final. The Blue Eagles finished the season with a record of 5-5 in regular season.

Nazareth started their season with two wins against Pleasant Valley and Northampton, then lost the next two against Liberty and Whitehall. The season then became a pattern of wins followed by losses until the final two games of the regular season when the team lost to Emmaus and Easton.

By finishing with a 5-5 record, Nazareth qualified for the Eastern Conference Playoffs. The team won against Pocono Mountain East in the first round before the loss against Delaware Valley.

Based on this season's performance, the Nazareth Blue Eagles look forward to improving for next year.





Field Hockey

Season in Review

By Paige Henderson

The Nazareth Area High School Varsity Field Hockey team fought their way to the District IX Semifinals to play in a nail-biting game against Emmaus High School. Unfortunately, they lost 1 to 0, holding Emmaus to their only goal with 10 minutes remaining in the game. It was a well fought season for these Nazareth ladies, leading the team to a successful overall season record of 13-7-1. The team had a regular season record of 11-6-1 and a conference record of 9-4-1.

The Varsity team was filled with talent and was led by senior captains Abby Wasson, Catherine Buczek, and Megan Gangewere. At the fall awards ceremony goalie Megan Gangewere was awarded both outstanding and scholar senior for her exceptional performance on and off the field. She had an 86% save percentage with 8 shutouts.

Sophomores Ally Stitzer and Lauren Resh led the team in goals and assists this season. Stitzer had 9 goals and 6 assists and Resh had 10 goals and 4 assists.

Junior Michaela McDonough said, "It was a fun season. I think everyone is really going to miss the seniors." She added that next year the team's goal will be to "avenge our loss to Emmaus with a win and a district victory."

Junior Varsity Field Hockey had a great season as well. Their overall record was 9-4-3 and their conference record was 6-4-2. Each player is a prospect for the Varsity team next season. Overall, field hockey was a huge success this year and the coaches and upcoming players are already anticipating a great season next year.



Fellowship of Christian Students Spreads Holiday Cheer

By Mary Frasier

The Fellowship of Christian Students (FCS) Club sponsored the Operation Christmas Child project this year to send presents overseas to underprivileged children. Operation Christmas Child, or OCC, serves children in over 130 countries who have been affected by natural disasters and other tragedies.

Mrs. Bruch, FCS advisor, commented, "We, the Fellowship of Christian Students Club, feel so blessed to take part in this collection each year, and we are overjoyed to send even just one more gift than we sent last year."

This project was school wide and required students to do their part in helping the impoverished children overseas. In order for the children to receive these gifts, the high school students first donated items appropriate for a boy or a girl up to the age of 14. Some examples were personal hygiene items and toys. National Collection Week was November 18th to the 25th. There was a competition between all the homerooms to see who could bring in the most donations. The prize for the winner was a cookie party. The first place winner was Mrs. Bruch's homeroom with a total of 99 items donated. In second and third places were Ms. Carroll's homeroom with 51 items and Mr. Angstadt's homeroom with 42 items.

On November 20, 2013, the FCS and Interact clubs had a packing party in the high school's cafeteria in which they packed the donations into shoeboxes and wrapped them in Christmas wrapping paper. Both the Fellowship of Christian Students Club and the Interact Club helped to pack and wrap 95 shoeboxes, a donation amount so large that more wrapping paper had to be purchased during the party. After that, they were shipped off to a child overseas.

FCS thanks students and staff for their donations this year and hopes everyone had a happy and healthy holiday season.



District Chorus Concert

By Madeline Shuler and Katelyn Seip

District Chorus auditions took place Monday October 21 at Parkland Area High School, and six students from Nazareth Area High School participated in the District Chorus Concert on Saturday January 11 at Daniel Boone High School. Nazareth Seniors Alyssa Higham, Julia Hawley, McKenzie Doyle, Erica Biechy, Junior Mikaela Esposito, and Freshman Jack Doyle were the selected performers.

District Chorus is a way for singers to excel in their musical experience, and it is an opportunity for singers to show their ability to judges, one of whom was Mrs. Rocchi, chorus teacher at Nazareth High School. If the students advance from this audition, they move on to Regionals, and if they pass this stage, they move on to State Chorus.

The audition process is very difficult. The song that the students perform for judges has to be perfect. Every aspect of a piece of music applies from excellent diction to performing dynamics. These students practiced from the beginning of the school year up until the night of the audition and are to be congratulated for their achievement.



Nightingales

Submitted by Mrs. Rocchi

The Nazareth Area High School women's vocal group, the Nightingales, was selected to sing in the 2013 American Choral Directors Association Fall Conference. The choir traveled to Millersville University on Saturday, October 26 to present a concert for an audience of choral directors from around the region. This was an honor that was the first of its kind at Nazareth Area High School.

The audition process began last spring as the group of women prepared an audition CD which contained three selections that the choir sang at the spring concert. This CD was submitted to a panel of judges comprised of choral professors from around the state. Thirteen choirs auditioned and six were selected, the Nazareth Nightingales being one of those selected.

The women were very busy preparing their repertoire for this special performance. The Nightingales presented six selections ranging from a traditional Zulu Dowry song to selections inspired by a prayer written in 1545.

Founded in 1959, the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) is a nonprofit music-education organization whose central purpose is to promote excellence in choral music through performance, composition, publication, research, and teaching. In addition, ACDA strives through arts advocacy to elevate choral music's position in American society.

Marching Band Ends Season on a High Note

By Collin Flood

The Nazareth Blue Eagle Marching Band capped off another season of success on Saturday, November 9 with a third place finish at US Bands Nationals at MetLife Stadium. Although the marching band's goal was and always has been first place, they still had a very successful season. Their show, "Tales of Love: Triumph, Tragedy, and Trickery," earned them US Band's State Group IV Champions, US Band's Yamaha Cup Group IV Champions, and US Band's Northern States Group IV Champions.

The band's journey toward these accolades began the first weekend in March and took the young musicians across the Northeast. Competitions were held at a variety of locations from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland to MetLife Stadium. The marching band has also been a proud supporter of the Nazareth Football Team performing either pre-game or halftime and playing pep songs in the stands.

This year the marching band tested their skills when they entered a Bands of America (BOA) competition at Towson University in Towson, Maryland. This was the first time in Nazareth history that they competed in a BOA event. BOA is a circuit that is dominated by bands much larger than Nazareth. Nazareth was assigned an 8:00 a.m. performance time. The Band members were assigned a 2:45 a.m. report time on Saturday, October 26. The band members held to their principles of discipline and arrived on time to perform a terrific show in Towson promptly at 8:00 a.m. The competition, including bands from Georgia and North Carolina that have 250 members, proved too tough for Nazareth's one-hundred member Blue Eagle Marching Band. However, the band's dedication to each other, their school, and the Nazareth community holds them above any other high school marching band in the area, state, and perhaps even country.

The Director, Brad Boandl, remarked that the 2013 Blue Eagle Marching Band he is one he "will always remember." The marching band showed another season of dedication to excellence and continues the tradition of the exceptional Nazareth Blue Eagle Marching Band.

Soundfest

By Justin Wintle

On Saturday, October 12, Nazareth Area High School hosted the thirty first annual Nazareth Blue Eagle Soundfest in Andrew S. Leh Stadium. The entire festival is presented by the Easton Express Times newspaper and is sponsored completely by The Blue Eagle Marching Band Parents. The festival featured 28 total bands from the group 2, group 3, and group 4 open, and group 5 levels in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The bands played all day from noon until 10:00pm, and it truly was a treat for anyone who loves to hear good music. Awards were given out to schools at the end such as Best Overall Music, Best Effect, Best Visual, Best Percussion, and Best Color guard. To cap the day off, Indiana University of Pennsylvania made a special exhibition performance, which was a perfect ending to the entire festival.

Alto saxophone player Greg Wintle said, "It was a great day and a fun experience. It was also cool to see other bands that you've never seen before and what kind of styles they can bring to the table."

The thirty first annual Soundfest was a great success again as it has been in the past and likely will be in the future.

Cross Country

By Paul Collins

"We Last Longer than the Others." This was the motto of this year's Nazareth Cross Country Team, and it suited them well. With some new faces joining the old faces in the senior class, this was one of the most fun teams for the seniors.

The girls team had a great season in many ways. Despite a 5-6 record, long-time coach Ken Rolek said it was the best girls' team he has ever coached. He said he enjoyed going to practice and talking to them everyday and that cross country practice was the best part of his day each and every day. The girls finished 12th at the district meet, but they still remained very close as a team. The team consisted of a young core. Just two returning seniors, Jamie Purcell and Marissa Santiago helped to lead the team along with junior Nicole Boylan. The team was led in running all season by freshmen sensation Mikala Leszcynski.

The Nazareth Boys Cross Country team has had enormous success over the past few seasons including numerous championships, and coming into the season, Coach Rolek thought that this was one of his most talented teams behind Seniors Paul Collins and Michael Kopach. Unfortunately, plagued by the injury bug all season, the team faltered and fell to a disappointing 5-6 in a season that they were expected to be competing for a bid to the State Championships. With 3 of the top 5 runners injured, Collins and Kopach continued to fight, but there just wasn't enough depth to finish the season the way they expected. After the disappointing finish, Coach Rolek said that although the finish was not what he wanted, he was extremely happy with the how the team acted. He said that the difference in this team compared to past teams was that everyone was friends and truly cared about each other.

Both the girls and boys had a fun season and do not regret anything that happened. Although they did not have the running finish they had expected, they grew as a team and many friendships were strengthened or even just begun. The team may not have been the last standing this year, but the friendships that were born and strengthened will "Last Longer than the Others."



Thanksgiving

PAST & PRESENT

By Anneliese Warnke

Thanksgiving is a day celebrated by almost everyone in the United States. It is a national holiday created to help us give thanks for the things we have that others may not.

Back in 1621, before America was even a country, colonists in Plymouth, Massachusetts and Native Americans of the Wampanoag tribe shared an autumn harvest feast together. It was one of the only peaceful encounters between colonists and Native Americans in America's early history. For over two centuries, harvest festivals like this were celebrated in November by individual colonies and states, and the celebration became known as Thanksgiving.

In 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln declared the festival known as Thanksgiving a national holiday, and it has been celebrated annually on alternating days in November ever since.

Today, Thanksgiving is an opportunity for families who may not see each other often to come together and celebrate what they're thankful for. Of course, there's also the bounty of food.

"I think my favorite part of Thanksgiving is lying around my grandparents' house and eating all the food," said senior Gabby Werkheiser.

This runs true for most people. Thanksgiving has become a day to indulge for most Americans. Turkey is naturally the most important part for many households, as well as stuffing and cranberry sauce. Traditional fall food is an important part of the celebration.

The Nazareth High School community hopes everyone had a safe holiday season, and hopes that students aren't still stuck at the kids' table.

Theater Troupe's Production "School House Rock Live Jr."

By Marissa Dibilio and Lily Dearworth

On November 23 and 24, the Nazareth Area High School Theatre Troupe performed the fall show "School House Rock." It was also performed for two elementary schools and NAIS November 25, 26, and 27. The show is about a teacher who is a little nervous to teach his class, and the TV show he is watching comes to life in his head and helps him learn what he will be teaching his students. Throughout the show many songs were featured that adults attending the show might have known from the ABC Saturday Morning Cartoons. Two of the more popular songs in the show included "Just a Bill" and "Conjunction Junction." The show was a sprightly production teaching young kids some lessons while entertaining them and their families.

The show was directed by three student directors, and the cast was made up of a variety of students from the high school. For Senior JoAnna Ayala, it was her first experience directing a show. She said she really enjoyed being in charge and directing the show because she has a personal connection to it. JoAnna grew up watching the shows because her dad always showed them to her, and every now and again on a rainy day she watches them.

JoAnna described the show as being "entertaining, catchy, and very family-friendly." She said, "As cliché as it sounds, the show is suitable for everyone."

This year's children's show was an enjoyable, fun, and uplifting experience. Currently, Theater Troupe is busy preparing for their spring musical, Disney's "Beauty and the Beast."



Girls Varsity Volleyball

By Justin Wintle

The Nazareth Girls Varsity Volleyball team recently finished their 2013 season with a 10-7 overall record and a 9-5 record in Lehigh Valley Conference play. Led by Juniors Emily Kohler and Brooke Faust, the team enjoyed an overall successful year.

The team was able to clinch a seventh seed in the District XI playoffs but was defeated by second seeded Southern Lehigh to cap off their season. Although they did not win in districts, the ability of the team to make it that far was a huge achievement, and they surpassed the expectations of many people.

Earlier in the season, the girls participated in a tournament at Farleigh Dickinson University that featured schools from Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and Washington, D.C., which allowed them to build before district playoffs and get a good sense of what competition is like outside of Pennsylvania.

Under first-year coach Mandy Rodrigues, the team really had to work hard to overcome the challenges of having a new coach to look up to for leadership and teambuilding. Also, despite another challenge of being a young team, the girls have all been playing together for a very long time for various club teams located all across the Lehigh Valley. Their overall ability to work together and pull through in moments they were down was huge, and all their work and chemistry really showed on the court.