

PA FBLA PENN PAL



Raul Patel — State President



During my career in FBLA, I have experienced the opportunity of a lifetime. It has been the most rewarding exposure and opportunity for interaction this high school student could have ever imagined. I owe my heartfelt thanks to many people for this opportunity.

harmony and unity with which these accomplishments are consistently attained. I feel privileged to be a member of this organization and to represent it as I have throughout my career.

career. Our advisers are the backbone of this organization. Every hard-working adviser in this state should be applauded—without our advisers, there would be no PA FBLA.

First and foremost, I want to thank YOU, the members, for electing me as your state president and supporting all our plans of work and our initiatives so unconditionally.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors, and Mrs. Scott, our State Adviser, for working so closely with the officers and me these past two years.

When I first joined FBLA as a freshman, I was clueless as to what the organization was really all about. It didn't take me long to catch on and get more than just interested in FBLA. Reflecting back on the past four years, I am astonished at how much I've learned, how much has been accomplished, and how far we've come. PA FBLA continues to set records in membership, awards, and fundraising. In addition to these records, something needs to be mentioned about the dignity of our direction and the

I want to thank my advisers, Mr. Hummel and Ms. Ryland, for spending countless hours working with me on everything from campaigning and speaking to organizing and transporting me so that I could fulfill my duties more effectively. Through their support they have become my mentors in life, and they have been my advocates from day one of my FBLA

Finally, I want to thank all of the state officers with whom I have worked over the past two years. Brett, Josh, Nick, Jeff, Brandon, Kayla, Aaron, Eric, Megan, Paul, Matt, Levi, Laura, Brandon, and Kaiting—thank you all for being such great friends and dedicating yourselves to such a worthwhile organization.



Megan Laskowski — State Secretary

Paul Sweeney said, "You know you've read a good book when you turn the last page and feel a little as if you have lost a friend."

Like books and movies, *all good things must come to an end*. I am not sure who said that, but I am finding those words to be applicable to many situations. I am finishing high school, my activities, and my last year at dance class. Inevitably I knew that all of these good things would sooner or later come to a conclusion. While sad, the time is really bittersweet. Finishing one thing means beginning another.

For me, there hasn't been an April in the past four years without an SLC in it. I have always had the opportunity to compete or learn and to meet really great people. Fond memories and valuable lessons have come from my time at Seven Springs. My experience has better prepared me for what is next. To all members and advisers in FBLA, I commend you for being a part of this tremendous organization. There are few opportunities for students to better themselves outside of ordinary academics and some extracurricular activities. FBLA is not ordinary. It's extraordinary. I know that my involvement in FBLA has shaped me into the confident leader capable of succeeding in America today.



Paul Blascovich — State Treasurer

As another year passes, it is time once again for the Pennsylvania FBLA State Leadership Conference. Since this annual event is the cornerstone of our great organization it tends to be the most anticipated part of each school year. For me, it is a bittersweet thought – my last time at the SLC. For two short days, I will have one last opportunity to spend time with the dozens of friends that I have met from schools across the state. As excited as I am to see all of you, I know that it will not be long before my part in FBLA is finished.

My time as an FBLA officer has had an immeasurable impact on the person that

I have become. The self-confidence and leadership skills that I have attained will forever be a part of me. The lessons that I have learned and relationships that I have made are priceless. I can only hope that others have gotten as much from the experience.

In closing, I would like to thank each of you for your help this year. Whether you realize it or not, each local member and adviser contributes to our success as a whole. On a personal level, I cannot express enough the importance of every interaction that I have had with students and advisers. From simple greetings and e-mails to detailed letters, each connection pushed me along

and encouraged me to work even harder for my goals.

PA FBLA, thank you. I cannot wait to see all of you again in April. Good luck with your events and projects, and may you always succeed in that which you do.



Levi Cromer State Parliamentarian



Goodbyes are hard to say. There is no way to express the true feelings in words. However, we must try our best. This year has gone by quickly. Looking back, there was so little time, and yet so much was accomplished. Without the help of the many individuals whom I have met and worked with, I don't know if anything could have been done. I feel that trying to achieve anything without help from members is like a one-man sports team. Without a full crew, almost nothing is possible. To all the people that I have worked with over the past year, I bid you adieu.



Eric Stephenson — First Vice President



It will soon be the beginning of the end. As the 2004-2005 high school senior class ends, the 2005-2006 freshman class begins—this time with more freedom, responsibility, and excitement. People say the college years will be the height of our lives, and I truly hope they are. I know we are prepared to be the future; we have sat through all the speeches and workshops instructing us how to act like an adult and perform in the real world. As I look back, I look forward; I know where I came from and I know where I am going at the same time. It is now that we get to reap the rewards of the last four years of preparation. As I leave FBLA, I smile with confidence and self respect because I know this club has taught me what I need to know to succeed.

One thing I have noticed throughout my FBLA career is the difference from going to conferences for three days, or a week like nationals, and coming home and returning to the routine at school and work. I like

being a part of our huge organization and being around similar people who want to make it to the top; they want to work hard to accomplish their goals; and they know how to have fun doing it. When I get back to school it is like the atmosphere is completely turned around with immaturity, childish behavior, and students who do not want to take that extra step to accomplish something extraordinary. We have been educated and we know that we can never give up, never give in, and when the upper hand is ours, we have the ability to handle the win with dignity.

There are a few people who have set the example for me and others I know, and that is PA FBLA's Board of Directors and Executive Committee members. I am amazed about how passionate they are about this organization. If you want to know what hard work, professionalism, and persistence looks like in a physical form, all you have to do is watch them work. They are the ones that make every conference and workshop FBLA members have experienced so wonderful. If you do come across them, you owe them your respect and gratitude in acquaintance. With just a glance at any of them, I can smile with that same confidence and self respect because they have all taught me; they have all given me those great life long memories; and they are the ones I will never forget. Thank you for everything FBLA, and I will see you at the top.

Laura Barrett — EDVP



Thank you PA FBLA for giving me the opportunity to enrich my future with your business experiences. I have grown as a leader, a speaker, and a future business person. I thank you for allowing me to serve as the Eastern District Vice President. My office has allowed me to become great friends with people all over Pennsylvania.

When I first stepped to the podium at Seven Springs last April, I was filled with fear, hope, and determination. After being inducted as a state officer at the Closing Session of the State Leadership Conference, I started to discover what it takes to become a great

leader. Now, moving on with my FBLA experience, the past year has been a wonderful training.

I would like to thank all of you for giving me such a wonderful opportunity. I especially would like to thank Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Skiles, Mr. Boncal, Ms. Hopple and Mr. Liechty, who have helped me become who I am today.

From Denver to Buffalo to numerous places throughout Pennsylvania, my FBLA office has helped to developed me into a better speaker, leader, and has instilled pose and courtesy into my daily lifestyle.

To the seniors, I hope that your FBLA experience has prepared you to for the future. To the underclassmen, we luckily have more time to develop our skills during our fun and exciting journey. Thank you Pennsylvania FBLA for my unforgettable FBLA experiences.



Kaiting Chen — WDVP

This year in FBLA is, sadly, nearing its end, and as a state officer, this also means the end of my term. During this past year, I can honestly say

that I have had a wonderful time and have enjoyed an experience that will remain with me for the rest of my life. This unique opportunity has affected me deeply and changed me for the better. It has impressed upon me the importance of such qualities as responsibility, leadership, and rhetoric, while sharpening them all the more. This year has truly been a remarkable experience.

As I had given my speech at last year's State Leadership Conference, I had known that what if I were to be elected, my year

would be unforgettable. On the last day of the conference, the newly-elected officers attended an orientation that affirmed my belief that there would be much to gain from the upcoming year. The meeting was conducted in a very professional manner with a very solemn and serious atmosphere, but the expediency of our business awed me the most. As I found out later, there would be times to laugh and have fun.

Denver, that is where all of the memories gather. That single week may well be the best experience of my life. Friendships struck, bonds made. And even still, all the often, my reminisces end up in Denver. The events that took place there, what I had seen and realized, have engraved upon me their message forever.

And on this time carousel of my FBLA career, I find myself, now. The year is almost up, and I have little else to say but thanks to the people of PA FBLA who have made this year a reality, to my parents and teachers who have helped me through the valleys and ridges, and to my friends and everyone else who have raised me to the peaks. Thanks to you all.

What knowledge I have gained this year through FBLA will help throughout my life. While this may be the end of my FBLA state officer term, I know that I will be active in my local chapter and perhaps in college with Phi Beta Lambda. In the meantime, I'll cherish the present.



Brandon Null — CDVP



Nearly a year and a half ago, I attended the National Fall Leadership Conference in Baltimore, MD, as a sophomore. It was at this very conference that a flame was ignited in my soul. On the way home from the NFLC, I said to my adviser, "I want to run for state office." Of course, at the time I said that, I didn't actually think it was feasible. My passion for FBLA has been growing stronger and stronger since the first day I was introduced to the organization.

In April of last year, you, the members, went out on a limb and entrusted me to lead the way for Pennsylvania FBLA. You had faith that I would get the job done and work towards another successful year for PA FBLA. Your constant faith in me has given me the strength to become a better person, not only in my education in business, but also in my life as a maturing young adult.

The moment our State Adviser, Mrs. Scott, announced the results of the state officer elections, my life had changed forever. For years, I have diligently tried to become involved in something, anything, but it never felt right. This office was the first time I had ever been elected to a position. In the past I have always lost to another opponent. At that moment, I was the happiest man alive; things couldn't have gotten any better...if I only knew then how much better it was going to get.

Over the past year, I was given the opportunity to do things I would never have ever dreamed of as a teenager. I have traveled to astounding cities like Denver and Buffalo, met thousands of other extraordinary members, heard several remarkable speakers, attended tons of meaningful workshops and conferences, and most importantly, for the first time, I felt the exhilaration of success.

As I reflect on the year gone by, one thing that stands out the most is the phenomenal friendships that I have made along my journey. You are the cream of the crop, the best of the best, and each one of you has an invaluable heart and mind. You have set high standards for yourselves and made them over and over again. You have reached goals that I would have never even dreamt possible.

I am proud of all the members of Pennsylvania FBLA for their commitment to such an organization as FBLA. Your dedication to any cause is an equation for success. As the other officers and I set out to create our state goals and plans of work for this year, we decided upon a remarkable theme: "Crossing the Finish Line...Hand in Hand." We have done it; the day is finally here. It's the last lap; we are turning the last turn. Together, hand in hand, we are preparing to cross the finish line.



Hershey High School

During the past few weeks the Hershey High School FBLA has been very busy. We are presently organizing our largest fundraiser, Roses for Seniors. The roses will be delivered with messages to the graduating seniors on their last day of classes. This event takes place the morning of the Senior Prom day. We also gathered our Big 33 community service hours for the club which tallied over 1,600 hours.



In the month of February the club sold data matches for Valentine's Day. All of the profits from this fundraiser were donated to the World Missions for the Tsunami Victim Relief Fund.

"We hope that our other members will be inspired by his achievement and push to be better FBLA members."

Chambersburg Area High School

This is Chambersburg's third year as an FBLA chapter and since our start we have grown to a 22 member chapter. This year we are doing a couple different things to raise money for the Special Olympics. As we did last year we are selling Wolfgang candy but this year we are trying a new tactic. We have decorated

coffee cans and have distributed them to local business in the area. We hope that in doing this we will be able to hit our goal that we increased greatly since last year. This year one third of our competitors qualified to go to states in their events. We also made another breakthrough in our chapter when we had our

first member become a regional officer. We hope that our other members will be inspired by his achievement and push to be better FBLA members.

Peabody High School

Future Business Leaders at Peabody High School is using special fundraisers to support Special Olympics. We are holding a \$3 raffle for the adults on April 1st. We are doing "Buck a Bunny" which enables someone to pay a dollar to have their name displayed on a piece of paper with a bunny on it. The paper will be placed in the hall-

way of the school. There is a jug for a loose change collection in the office. Students also have a chance to build their community service hours by participating in an after school activity; they will gather the money from their



sponsors to support Special Olympics. Our members sponsored by Mrs. Kirk are Kevin Branson, Kameron Branson, Tarahha Kemp, and Roberta Scarbrough.

Great Valley High School

The Great Valley Future Business Leaders of America, Region 9, Malvern PA and the Desmond Partnership Classes discussed many different ideas as to how to participate in the Great Valley High School's Tsunami Relief Drive. After reviewing the several creative ideas suggested by students, it was decided that we would purchase 1,000 Tsunami Wrist Bands and sell them for \$2 each. The wrist bands arrived on February first. Members of the class, several who are FBLA members, and additional FBLA'ers signed up to sell a minimum of 10 wrist bands each. To no one's surprise, the entire order of 1,000 wrist bands was in circulation within one and one half school days.

Upon completion of this charity project, we will be making a donation of \$1,300.00 toward our school's Tsunami Relief Fund donation to the American Red Cross.

Our Student Government is also hosting a Community Spaghetti Dinner on February 24, 2005 in an effort to raise monies for the Tsunami Relief Project. Tickets will be \$10 each (families of 4 or more will be charged \$30 flat fee.) Our members will be preparing the desert for the dinner at the Desmond Hotel. FBLA members are also volunteering their time for set-up, serving and cleaning up after the dinner.



"Members sprang into action bringing in materials such as paper towels, bleach, pine-sol, and other various items."

Chestnut Ridge High School

The Chestnut Ridge chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America asked members for donations for the local Humane Society. The chapter saw an advertisement in the local newspaper from the Humane Society asking for donations of any kind. Members sprang into action bringing in materials such as

paper towels, bleach, pine-sol, and other various items.

On Saturday, February 19, 2005, representatives from the chapter will be delivering the items collected. They will also be volunteering their day at the Humane Society in honor of Community Service Day.



Marian Catholic High School

Marian Catholic High School's FBLA Chapter has had one busy year. It all began in September with a Mass of Induction. In November, our organization held a M&M raffle, to help raise money towards our state project. In January, twenty-five members attended Region 21's Leadership Conference at Stroudsburg High School. Out of our twenty-five attendees, six members advanced to the state conference. These

members are currently working hard, in order to make Marian High School proud at the SLC. Currently, FBLA is holding its' annual Penny War. This is a fundraiser in which all of Marian competes against each other, for a pizza party, and ultimately having the pride to be able to say that they won Marian's Penny War. The war is off to a great start, and continues for another week. To round out the year, Marian's FBLA will be having all of its members sell "Subway Hoagies," to help defray the upcoming year's costs. Finally, new officer elections will round out a action-packed, fun-filled year for all the members of Marian Catholic High School's FBLA.



Pine Grove Area High School



On January 21, 60 of our members participated at the RLC at Bloomsburg University. Pine Grove's own Megan Collins was elected to be the 2005-06 Region 23 President and Kara Marie Spittler was elected Region 23 Secretary. Twenty-eight of our members qualified for the State Leadership Conference.

During our winter sports pep rally, our President, Jenna Fehr, introduced all regional winners, their events, and how they placed. Getting recognition in front of the entire student body is a great opportunity to show how important FBLA is and how well our school does at the regional level.

Pine Grove Area FBLA is ready for spring. We had several delays and early dismissals lately. Our main priority is getting ready for state competition.

Charity is in the air! We have several members raising funds for Relay for Life, Cystic Fibrosis, and Multiple Sclerosis. Our chapter is also hoping to continue to help in our State Charity Project of the Special Olympics. We have been asked to help with a local Special Olympics event this spring.

Now with the state competition approaching, we have begun to organize fundraisers to pay for the conference. Our adviser, Mrs. Hughes, doesn't know if she is coming or going with all

the candy in her room. Each member needs to raise a portion of the trips costs to attend the SLC.

Best of luck to all competitors at the SLC!



Clearfield Area High School

The next few months will prove to be quite busy and productive for the members of the Clearfield Area High School Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America. The week of March 14-19 will be packed with activities "stemming" from the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days with members delivering orders for daffodils all over the community and selling daffodils at the doors of local businesses to help raise money in hopes of finding better treatments or even a cure for the disease. Several members are also gearing up to participate in the annual Bowl-for-Kids Sake Big Brothers/Big Sisters charity held on April 3.



Each participating member has been asked to collect a minimum of \$50 in donations with some members hoping to exceed this amount. Participants will then meet and compete for prizes at the local bowling alley. May 7, members of Clearfield FBLA will gather at a local park to assist with the annual Bicycle Rodeo, which is a program that is free to the public and designed to teach children and their parents about bicycle safety awareness.

All in all, it looks like these busy Future Business Leaders have their work cut out for them!



Stroudsburg High School



Though the winter months may drag on bleak and boringly, Stroudsburg High School's chapter of Future Business Leaders of America couldn't be more energetic. This year has

brought us a newfound energy and excitement for the rest of our chapter's activities. With numerous fundraisers running at once, we have already exceeded our goal for contributing to PA Special Olympics.

After hosting the Region 21 Leadership Conference in Janu-

ary, our members have focused on fund-raising. Looking for a fresh idea, we decided to sell Ozark Delight Lollipops during our school lunches. We were amazed with the results. From mint chocolate chip to fuzzy peach, the students at our school couldn't get enough of these sugary delights!

Along with the lollipop sales, we sponsored another coin-drop at WalMart. Our members braved the cold winter nights to stand outside of WalMart for hours collecting money for PA Special Olympics. Although bad weather forced us to shut down our operation, we still benefited in the end.

In addition to lollipops and coin-drops, we are selling custom made pins with our school's logo on them. The pins are being made by a popular jewelry company called Liztech. Although the proceeds made from the pins will come in after the deadline for state fundraising money, we plan to use it to get a head start for next year.

Last but not least, our 9th grade members have been successfully running a new school store at our Junior High School. This has given them valuable experience in sales and marketing. Shown in the picture below are Phillip Prince, Jessica Fischetti and Sarah Effross.

"FBLA is the perfect club for those students who have great interests in business and leadership."

Muncy High School

Three years ago there was no program to bring the students interested in business together. Once our current advisor, Mrs. Heather Zimmerman, came into the school district, she brought with her the amazing organization. Now at Muncy High School there is a program to bring those interested in business together. FBLA is the perfect club for those students who have great interest in business and leadership.

This is the second year that Muncy High School has had FBLA. In two years the club has more than doubled in size. The list of accomplishments has grown to a truly wonderful length. A few of the activities that FBLA has done at Muncy was a Bowl-A-Thon and Carna-

tion sales to support the Special Olympics. At the beginning of the year the members decided they wanted to take a trip in the spring and decided on Philadelphia. The purpose of the trip is to learn more about business and leadership but to also give their selves a reward for the hard work. In order to pay for this trip the club did fundraisers like Dunkin Donuts, Kidz First sales, and selling ice cream at the annual Indian Fest.

The first year that the club was in existence at Muncy there were less than ten students involved. The next year that more than doubled. FBLA at Muncy has become a known organization and established itself among the better-known clubs. Without the willpower of the students

and the advisor this would not have been possible. The FBLA goals have become important to the club members, and those taking business classes have understood the importance in real life situations. At this year's regional competition five members placed and two are moving onto the state competition. FBLA has brought together those students at Muncy High School who have had an interest in business but have not had anywhere to turn previously. Now that FBLA has come to Muncy, the club has proven itself to be one that will remain for years at Muncy.

Pleasant Valley High School

The end of the state project campaign for the Special Olympics was nearing quick for Pleasant Valley FBLA, but they had one more fundraiser to tackle; "Kiss the Goat." Yes, adviser, Melissa Ruschak was sitting in the FBLA office one day contemplating one last push to \$7,000, and she came up with Kiss the Goat, since one of teachers at PV has two pet goats, it seemed a perfect fit! The goat to be chosen was a lovely female named Delilah.

The idea of the fundraiser was to have students vote for the teacher they wanted to see Kiss the Goat on Valentine's Day on the in-house tv station. Students would pay 50 cents for one vote, or get a bargain of 3 for \$1. FBLA officers and members publicized heavily by sending

out personal flyers and getting on the local tv and radio stations. A lot of people seemed to be intrigued by the idea of a



teacher kissing a goat. Some teachers even admitted to their deathly fear of animals, and had to be taken off the ballot.

Votes were cast during 2nd period and during all lunches the week before Valentine's Day. The band seemed to be after their director, Mr. DeVivo, and he was elected to kiss the goat. The fundraiser only raised \$200 for the cause, but it was a lot of fun, a lot of people put effort into the project, and the media was fascinated by such an idea.

New Oxford High School

The Region VI Leadership Conference of 2005 was held at Central Penn College in Summerdale, Pennsylvania. The conference was hosted by Littlestown FBLA on February 7, 2005. New Oxford attended the conference with 18 members and 2 advisors. Upon arrival at the conference, FBLA members were directed to register and were able to help themselves to some refreshments. Around 9:30, the business meeting began. After the call to order, New Oxford's own FBLA Vice President, Andrew Knight, led the FBLA pledge. Following the pledge were a few important orders of business such as: introduction of local presidents, roll call, secretary's report, FBLA emblem ceremony, campaign speeches for Secretary and President, caucus voting and then the adjournment. At approximately 10:00 testing began in designated rooms. Around 11:00 the tests were finished and the members were given about two hours of lunch and social time that was much needed after brain wracking and hand cramping work.



South Side High School

In honor of National FBLA-PBL week, on February 17th, 2005; South Side High School contributed to the celebration by wearing the FBLA colors of blue and gold to school. The day was a success as many students came to school prepared for the celebration.



Central Columbia High School

Our chapter, Central Columbia High School, has been and continues to be active with the community in various ways. We also try to encourage our members to be productive and to participate in community service.

Each week, members participate in helping Special Olympic athletes learn to play basketball at the Bloomsburg Memorial School to help Special Olympics athletes. It only takes an hour and is a very rewarding experience. Every few weeks, the athletes have a competition and then change sports. So far, our chapter has helped with floor hockey and basketball. The members have created unique friendships with the athletes who are always appreciative of

our volunteer work. We will also be helping with a spaghetti dinner for the athletes.

Every April, our chapter sets up a stand at the Bloomsburg Renaissance. Our activities include face painting and selling baked goods. The baked goods are made by our members, and everyone contributes some of the supplies needed to have a successful fund raising stand. For example: one person may bring paints, while another brings newspapers and paper towels. We then use the money in our chapter treasury to fund various activities throughout the year.

To conclude our year, we will take a trip to New York City in

April to see Phantom of the Opera on Broadway. We have arranged a behind the scenes tour, in which actors will discuss different aspects of their job. We will enjoy dinner at Hard Rock Café before returning home. The most active members of our chapter are invited on the trip. Points are earned based on the members' participation in FBLA activities, so the more dedicated members get rewarded for their achievements.



CCHS FBLA members wore their local chapter shirts to celebrate National FBLA week in February.

Cedar Crest High School

FBLA Week was a huge success for the chapter at Cedar Crest High School in Lebanon. In appreciation of all hard work its members put into the chapter, and to increase recognition of the club throughout the school, the chapter purchased t-shirts for each member. It was an awesome sight to see all 59 members with their FBLA t-shirts on celebrating FBLA week! To increase teacher understanding of the organization, a 10-question quiz was developed and given out to all faculty. Using both the state and national websites, 11 teachers got a perfect score, with one lucky teacher winning a \$25 gift certificate to a local restaurant purchased by the club. The faculty was also treated to a sheet cake thanking them for their support of Cedar Crest FBLA activities. Not wanting to ignore the stu-

dent body, the chapter developed 5 FBLA-related questions, asking one each day. All correct entries were put into a drawing for another \$25 gift certificate.

This spring the chapter gears up for two major community service projects held over the course of three days. On April 24th, members will collect pledges and participate in a 5-mile walk to support the March of Dimes and its WalkAmerica program. Members also plan to carry cans, asking for donations of loose change from friends, family, and teachers. In addition to carrying cans, the chapter will sell paper sneakers for \$1 each. On April 25th and 26th, the chapter hosts its second Red Cross blood drive this school year. The blood drive committee has hard at work choosing a

drive theme ("Driven to Donate"), seeking donations from local businesses, recruiting donors, and updating their volunteer training with the Red Cross.

"It was an awesome sight to see all 59 members with their FBLA t-shirts on celebrating FBLA week!"



Cocalico High School

Cocalico Future Business Leaders of America has worked with Special Olympians in various projects both in school and around Lancaster County. This year is especially important since the PA FBLA state project is PA Special Olympics. Fundraising and many community service activities with Special Olympics have been the focus of the Cocalico Chapter.

The first endeavor was prior to Thanksgiving vacation when both chapter members and Special Olympians sold a variety of pies and breads for the holiday. Not only did we sell the items—we prepared and baked them together. Life Skills classes also assisted by organizing the orders and delivering the items after production. It was a successful endeavor; in addition, we all had fun getting to know each other better and developing a working relationship. We donated over \$300 profit to the PA Special Olympics.

Our second activity was a social activity that was planned for Special Olympians throughout Lancaster County. It was held Sunday, December 12, 2004 in the Cocalico High School Cafeteria. Twenty-five members and eighteen Special Olympians and their families played games, sang songs, listened to CDs, and socialized from 1 to 5 p.m. Chapter members prepared treats for the attendees and, of course, there was a visit from Santa Claus. Everyone in attendance made new friends and enjoyed the interaction.

Our next activity will take place for Friday, March 18, 2005. This will again be a game night for past, present, and future Special Olympians. It will be held from 6-9 at the Adamstown YMCA. Members will help organize games and activities for the Olympians. Food will be provided for attendees and their parents.

Finally, our chapter and the Olympians are currently working on an annual homemade candy sale for Easter—peanut butter and coconut cream eggs. Cocalico Special Olympians, their classmates, and members of the Cocalico FBLA Chapter will be making, selling, and distributing orders. We will also work together to sell the eggs every day during lunch in the cafeteria. We have already sold more than 3,500 eggs. We estimate profits to exceed the \$700 we made last year. Again, lasting friendships will be made during this collaboration.

Sayre High School

Sayre school district's FBLA hosted a very successful activity night on Thursday, from 6 - 10 pm. It was open to all students of Sayre Jr./Sr. High School and their guests. Price of admission was \$5 per student, all of which was donated to Special Olympics, which is this year's chosen charity for Pennsylvania's FBLA. As a result, \$390 was collected and given to the well-known organization. For the cost of admission, students participated in a variety of events throughout the school. The swimming pool was open to all students and was life-guarded by volunteers from the FBLA club. Also, rooms were designated for video game tournaments and card games. A movie was shown in the library for those who just wanted to relax. The gymnasium was avail-

able as well, and the students played several games of volleyball, basketball, and European handball. In between activities, pizza and soda were served in the cafeteria. FBLA would like to thank all those who participated; it was a great night for a great cause.

On the Sayre FBLA agenda this month is to donate time to the local public television station and their current fund-raising effort. Sayre students can also be found studying for their upcoming state competitions. Good luck to all students that are participating in the State Leadership Conference. Make us Redskin Proud!!



Interboro High School

This year has been another successful one for the Interboro chapter of FBLA. The members were able to really come together and get the job done in all aspects of the year, and it is still not over. This year at the Regional Leadership Conference our members really showed how much our hard work and dedication pays off. After all of the events took place, we finished with 22 students going on to the state competition, along with 11 first place winners. Also, this year was a great showing by our members, and we were able to have 54 students attend the RLC, which was our best ever. The final achievement of the conference was our own Chrissy Pullin being elected the regional secretary.

Other than the competitive aspect of FBLA, our chapter at Interboro has really made a difference outside the competitions. This year we were able to raise money to donate to the Special Olympics with our candy-grams in the beginning of the year, and now we are conducting a Faculty Mock Rock in hopes of raising even more money for the cause. Also on the agenda within the next months is a bowling party for all members, and a trip to Dorney Park. For all the work, dedication, and support put in by everyone this year, this is just a little reward for their effort. All in all, Interboro's FBLA has really achieved a lot this year, and hopefully it will continue on through the future.



Shippensburg High School



With the final few months of school remaining, Shippensburg FBLA is still going strong.

Recently, they held their final fundraiser to raise money for the state project. On Friday, February 11, the chapter sold red, white, and pink carnations for Valentine's Day. They will be conducting their final flower sale in May for Mother's Day.

Two Shippensburg FBLA members, along with their advisers, are preparing for the 2005 State Leadership Conference. Jamie Oberholzer, Shippensburg FBLA chapter president and 2004-05 Region 26 secretary, and Danae Forney, Shippensburg FBLA chapter secretary, are eager to attend the 2005 FBLA State Leadership Conference. Jamie will be competing in the Accounting I competition, while Danae will attend the conference as a voting delegate. To help defray the costs of attending states, Jamie and Danae sent letters to local businesses asking for support. As a result of this effort, both Jamie's and Danae's trip is fully paid thanks to the support of local businesses.

In order to boost membership, the chapter is planning a major recruitment campaign, beginning this May. Chapter officers will travel to the middle school to recruit eighth graders for next year. Also, they are planning to continue FBLA activities during the summer. They are planning a picnic inviting students who have a strong interest in joining the chapter in 2005-06. They will be holding an informational meeting in late May for interested high school students. Posters and displays of FBLA memorabilia will be displayed throughout the school for the last month.

The year won't end for Shippensburg FBLA members in June. They will continue to promote their chapter throughout the summer months.

Marion Center



Making efforts to meet the pledged amount toward Special Olympics, the Marion Center Chapter hosted a St. Patrick's Day special activities day for the students in the W. A. McCreery Middle School. With the purchase of a \$3 ticket, students in grades 5-8 could

attend an after-school dance from 3 until 5 pm on Thursday, March 17. During the same two hours, students could elect to watch a movie and swim in the district pool for an extra \$0.50 charge per activity. FBLA members sold donated baked goods, chips, and drinks; and a local pizza shop donated 10 large pizzas. All monies collected were donated to the state project. Chairpersons for the event were senior Samantha Cribbs and sophomores Tiffany Armstrong and Micah Misko. One other fundraiser for Special

Olympics was a kiss-the-pig contest "featuring" two senior high social studies teachers. Senior Krystle Gallo was the chairperson for that fundraiser and the student body witnessed the pig kissing on closed circuit television at the end of the day on Thursday, March 10.

At the end of March, 30 members of the chapter, accompanied by advisers, Mrs. Barbara Treese and Ms. Denise Henry, and high school assistant principal, Mr. Robert Edwards, and his wife, Carla, traveled to New York City with Junior Tours. The group toured the Federal Reserve Building, Nasdaq Market Site, the Empire State Building, Macy's Department Store, Rockefeller Center, St. Patrick's Cathedral, NBC Studios, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island during the three-day experience.

On April 19, the chapter sponsored a blood drive for the American Red Cross. Held in

the high school gym, the drive involved faculty, staff, students, and members of the community toward a donation quota of 80 units. Another drive is scheduled for the fall.

The final activity of the school year is assisting at the annual Rayne Elementary School Fun Day. Some FBLA members serve as escorts for groups of students who make their way around the school yard to participate in a variety of field events. Other members work the events, do face painting, and help supervise in-door activities.

"All it takes is a few strokes of a paintbrush and the time of a few students to bring cheer to a dingy, uninteresting hallway that students travel every day."

Boyertown High School

Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, black; how can a few colors and the creativity of just a few students bring spirit to the entire school? All it takes is a few strokes of a paintbrush and the time of a few students to bring cheer a dingy, uninteresting hallway students travel each day. Several Boyertown art students along with the FBLA members have taken it upon themselves to create a giant mural in Boyertown Area Senior High School's "Spirit" hallway. This spirit hallway mural fea-

tures bears, the Boyertown High School mascot, participating in various business-related poses. For example, one bear is posed working on a computer. The intention of the mural is to raise the school spirit for another cause other than the sports program. This mural shows positive reinforcement of careers for future Boyertown graduates.



The "Business Bear" mural is a work in process that was initiated at the end of the 2003-04 school year and the painting began in 2004-05 school year.

Even in its partially completed state, the mural brings spirit to Boyertown High School by bringing vivid colors and a positive scene.

A little bit more from Boyertown High School

Wrapping gifts at Christmastime is always lots of fun. Christmas paper, bows, and holiday cheer all contribute to the fun in gift wrapping over the holiday season. The local Boyertown FBLA chapter participated in gift wrapping this holiday season. The proceeds from this holiday activity benefits Helping Hands, Inc., an organization devoted to providing services for mentally-challenged children. The project took place the first two weeks in December.



is my favorite FBLA activity that we participate in. It is a great way to get involved with the community and its loads of fun!”

Boyertown FBLA is already excited to participate in this event next holiday season.



The FBLA chairperson for this activity was Marissa Dennis, who did a fantastic job organizing and coordinating this event. When asked, why does FBLA participate in this event, Erica Robinson, a 12th-grade FBLA member stated, “Gift wrapping

Carl Sandburg Middle School

The Carl Sandburg FBLA and their fellow classmates as part of Region 12 came together and spent many afternoons after school brainstorming unique ways to raise money for Special Olympics.

The FBLA Chapter of Carl Sandburg came up with many ideas including one that was a benefit to the Albert Schweitzer Elementary School connected to Carl Sandburg. Carl Sandburg decided to choose a Halloween Pumpkin Night as their main project for Fall. They chose dif-



ferent areas that students would chaperone throughout the two and a half hour event. On October 29, 2004 from 6-8:30 p.m. all students of the Albert Schweitzer Elementary School were invited to attend Pizza Pumpkin Night. Many stations were set up for fun crafts and games that all the children really enjoyed. We had nail painting, face painting, pumpkin decorating, fun games which offered Halloween themed prizes, and even a Haunted Hallway. Our Haunted Hallway took a lot of hard work. Prior to the event we bought things like glow in the dark footprints, fake blood and we even were fortunate to get most of our supplies made or already owned by members of FBLA. We cut black paper for the walls and used tarps to sepa-

rate the hallway in half so there would be scary twists and turns. One of our FBLA members even had a coffin made which we later filled with old sheets and an FBLA member jumped out and scared the children that passed by. Other students were also placed through the hallway to provide scary feelings to the little ones. Admission was three dollars for fun, games, prizes, food and drinks. Proceeds were donated to Special Olympics. It was a huge turnout and will be another big hit next year.



Bermudian Springs High School

It was a sweep across the board at the Region 6 Leadership Conference on Monday, February 7, 2005. All four members who attended the conference at Central Pennsylvania College took home an award. Kristi Blust took fourth in Business Law. Tristan Myers and Laura Moore took third place in Mr. Future Business Leader and International Business respectively. Jordyn Myers finished second in FBLA Principles and Procedures. In addition, Tristan Myers was the top winner for Who's Who in FBLA. Bermudian Springs took home third place for its Outstanding Chapter Criteria. Now, these winners are preparing for the State Leadership Conference in Seven Springs.

In addition, the Bermudian Springs Chapter has been busy with an Easter project. The club is working in conjunction with the Varsity Club to fill Easter baskets for a needy family in our district. Members bring in canned goods, Easter candy, and other goodies to be used for the project. The basket will be given to the elementary school to be delivered to the family.



Finally, Bermudian's chapter has continued to operate an Otis Spunkmeyer cookie and muffin sale on Wednesday mornings in the cafeteria. Members volunteer to bake and package cookies on Tuesday. Also, members are responsible for selling in the cafeteria on Wednesday. The cookie and muffin sale serves as a major source of income for the club throughout the year.



Tristan Myers and Laura Moore work the Otis Spunkmeyer sale in the cafeteria.

A little bit more from Chestnut Ridge

The Chestnut Ridge Future Business Leaders of America are known throughout the county for their Christmas, Easter, and Mother's Day flower arrangements, but this year a new project was developed.

three carnations tipped in blue, and a yellow bow. The athletic department purchased over 50 corsages from CR FBLA. Proceeds benefited PA Special Olympics.

Each year the Chestnut Ridge High School honors its senior athletes in their respected sports and their parents. At the beginning of "senior night" game, the student is recognized and his/her mother is presented with a corsage. The Chestnut Ridge FBLA members created corsages displaying the school colors, blue and gold. The corsages consisted of baby's breath, baker's fern,



Thoughts to ponder...Parliamentary Procedure

Levi Cromer, State Parliamentarian

Robert's Rules of Order

What is parliamentary procedure? Parliamentary procedure is a process designed to help meetings run smoothly. Many people use parliamentary procedure without realizing it. The concept of parliamentary procedure consists of several fundamental rules. These concepts include letting only one person speak at a time, letting only one idea be discussed at a time, and protecting the rights of the majority, the minority, and absentees.

If a group of friends discuss what they want to do after school, they might use several of these rules. They will all listen to whatever the current speaker is saying, and they won't start to discuss something else until the first problem is decided.

Some other parliamentary procedure rules commonly used include an order of business. Many local chapters that hold meetings have an order of business that they follow. An order of business is nothing other than a set schedule that is commonly followed. It does not have to be fancy. If the president asks everyone to be quiet and then tells them what the chapters will be doing soon, that is the order of business.

The biggest misconception of parliamentary procedure is what meetings really are. A meeting is a single, official gathering of members. A meeting does not have to be a large, formal gathering of all the members where they sit and listen to the president. If your chapter hosts a pizza party and some members show up, then that could be a meeting.

FBLA/PBL "Go To College Scholarship Drive"

FBLA/PBL is proud to introduce to all students the "Go To College Scholarship Drive." It was introduced during each NFLC and is now available to our membership through www.fbla-pbl.org on the right side of the FBLA/PBL home page.

This is a groundbreaking opportunity for FBLA/PBL to build scholarships for its membership on a national level and at the same time allow each student to build their own scholarship account. Additional benefits such as grade-sensitive email newsletters, career search profiles, the most extensive scholarship data base in the country, college selection/virtual tour assistance, aptitude testing for academics and athletics, and much more are available through membership in the *National Student & Parent Association*.

Enrollment for FBLA/PBL concludes in March. Be sure to download the link so that you may obtain sponsors for membership. The more sponsorships FBLA/PBL receives, the more scholarships FBLA/PBL can provide to their members. The sooner your sponsorship application is received, the sooner you can begin to build your own "cash for college."

