

PA FBLA

PENN PAL



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Stroudsburg Salutes Local Military Families

For this year's Community Service Project, Stroudsburg FBLA decided to team up with Operation: Military Kids to make Hero Packs. Hero Packs are backpacks that contain three elements: support, communication and appreciation. This project provided a concrete way for the FBLA chapter to hand deliver a salute to military children for their strength and sacrifice while their parents are deployed. In addition, the Hero Packs build awareness and strengthen the community's support for geographically dispersed military families.

Seniors Pooja Mahadev, Cheyenne McLaughlin, and Zahra Vahanvati spearheaded this project, "Stroudsburg's Salute." The seniors decided to expand "Stroudsburg's Salute" to include the entire Stroudsburg Area School District. Increasing the pool of students involved helped to expand the potential of the chapter project.

After the chapter collected items from all nine Stroudsburg schools, they held a Packing Day. On November 17, over 40 Stroudsburg FBLA members created multiple assembly lines and helped fill 200 backpacks. Each backpack contained 4 pencils, 3 pens, a notebook, a journal, a worry doll, a stack of 20 envelopes, stamps, non-perishable candy, a stuffed animal, a book, and a toy. The success of the project was a direct reflection of the active involvement and enthusiasm of Stroudsburg FBLA.



Pine Grove Area Sponsors "Teen Challenge"

On Friday, February 4, Teen Challenge presented Stay Sharp for Pine Grove Area students, grades 5-12. Between video clips about stories from peers, dangers and consequences of drug and alcohol abuse, and how to make healthy choices, students

from Teen Challenge gave their testimonies. One of these students graduated from our school several years before, so

the students were very attentive to his inspiring words.

Our students had the opportunity to listen to a rap that was both entertaining and enlightening!



Chestnut Ridge Reaching Out

The Chestnut Ridge Chapter of FBLA has been reaching out to some of the young at heart this year by visiting a local nursing home twice a month. This project was organized by two local officers who thought it would be a great idea to bridge the gap between generations and add some fun to the lives of some of the more mature members of the community. Marlee Clevenger, local historian and Darcie Shaffer, local secretary are the two

officers who took the initiative to create this connection with Carroll's rest home this year. The chapter has already visited the rest home twice and plans to continue regular visits. Marlee Clevenger said, "All of the members have been having a great time doing crafts and just talking to the residents. It's amazing to see how the residents enjoy seeing the young faces." So far the results have been very positive and the chapter hopes that this can be an activity that they can



schedule for years to come. "Everybody including students and residents leave with a smile at the end of the evening and so do I," said chapter adviser Melissa McDonald.

Written by: Darcie Shaffer

Everett Helps at Food Bank



The Everett Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America held their annual hat day to benefit the Everett Food Bank on Friday, December 10, 2010. Students were encouraged to bring in two cans of food or donate \$2.00 to wear their hats all day in school.

Pictured are President, Kelsey Kimmell and Treasurer, Kristen Shafer with some of the food that was collected. One hundred dollars in cash was also collected.



Selinsgrove

This has been an exciting year at Selinsgrove. We lost some members to graduation but replaced everyone with a new member. Every year gets better with increased interest and opportunities in FBLA.

We had 28 participants go to the Region 23 RLC at Bloomsburg University in December. Thirteen will be going on to the SLC in Hershey on April 2-4.

Students are busy with their community service project: a blood drive on Feb. 3, 2011, here at Selinsgrove H.S. This event is the effort and collaboration of the FFA and

FBLA and was very successful last year. We hope to have another blood drive early in May. Based on the number of eligible students and the number of students who give blood, the Red Cross will award scholarships. What a great incentive!

We are planning for funded challenges next year and are planning some summer meetings or events to get the fundraising going early.

Jacqlene Adams, Selinsgrove FBLA Reporter

Sayre Donates to Penn York Habitat for Humanity

The Sayre High School Future Business Leaders of America recently presented a check to our local Penn York Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$2,015. The money raised came from the Haunted House they held in October. This was a community service project for the group and was the second haunted house they have done to raise money for them over the past two years. Habitat for

Humanity builds homes for low-income families and will be greatly benefited by this in our area as we have our own little circle of Habitat Houses in South Waverly. Michael Viselli from Penn York Habitat for Humanity recently gave a presentation to Sayre FBLA members. The presentation included history of the organization, what young people

can do to help, and the benefits to the community. Mr. Viselli's visit was organized by Sarah Hurley, Sarah Skerpon, Lorenzo Servedio, Andrea Webster, Lea Scopelliti, Hannah Robinson, and Terah Glose. Sayre FBLA looks to continue helping Habitat for Humanity by hosting the Haunted House again this October and providing labor for the building of the new home.



Sayre FBLA Raised: \$2,015



Habitat for Humanity®

Bellefonte FBLA Takes a Pledge

From December 6th through December 10th Jar Wars were held at the high school. This was an event organized by FBLA. To give a brief explanation, jars were placed in each homeroom throughout the building. The goal was to collect as much spare change as possible during the week. Each morning, members of FBLA collected and counted the money raised. At the end of the week the top homerooms were rewarded with either a pizza party or a breakfast party. Jar Wars, however, was about much more than just winning a pizza party.

Jar Wars was for the PAFBLA State Project in which schools from across the state are raising money for a specific charity or cause. This year the proceeds go to Teen Challenge which is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of teenagers and adults alike who are addicted to drugs, alcohol, or are suffering from emotional distress. The name may be deceiving, but the organization is not for only teens; it also helps youth and adults combat their addictions. It is a very reputable organization, as evidenced by its 86% success rate among those who complete the program.

In October, the Bellefonte FBLA chapter pledged \$350 toward this State Project. By the end of Jar Wars, we were able to raise a total of \$599.87 with the help of FBLA members, teachers, and students. Also, t-shirts purchased to benefit the organization earlier in the year and gift baskets auctioned off at our Regional Leadership Conference (RLC) and at our State Leadership Workshop (SLW) contributed to our final total. Overall, our chapter's original goal was surpassed by about \$150. FBLA would like to extend a sincere thank you to all who participated, helped organize the event, or are simply dedicated to, and are willing to help, improve the lives of others. For more information about Teen Challenge, visit their website: <http://teenchallengeusa.com/>.

This article was composed by Andrew Wolfe and Ian Button, both of whom are current members of the Bellefonte FBLA chapter. Andrew is the club's vice president and Ian is the club's treasurer.



Sayre FBLA Helps American Cancer Society

Members of Sayre Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), spent a day before Christmas giving back to the community. Students spent six hours wrapping gifts for customers at the Arnot Mall to raise donations for the American Cancer Society. Packages of all sizes are brought in to be wrapped by volunteers during the month of December. Based on the size of the package determines the suggested donation. During the six hour shift, students wrapped everything from small jewelry boxes to end tables. Students learned several valuable lessons about customer service as well as community service all while having a good time and spreading holiday cheer.



Chestnut Ridge Goes to the Middle School

This year the Chestnut Ridge local FBLA chapter has been taking the time to go over to the Chestnut Ridge Middle School to teach two fifth grade classrooms about business basics. Each week they construct a lesson plan for the students about some basics they must know in order to start their own business. These lessons include topics about loans, proper locations for certain businesses, resources they will need to start, employees, production of goods, and marketing.

During the first two weeks, the students learned about location and loans. They explained to them the importance of selecting a location for their business. For example, the best place to sell surf boards would be in Hawaii, not Alaska. The students were then taught about loans. The Chestnut Ridge FBLA members taught a lesson on how to receive a loan and then how to pay it off. The next week, the students were informed about proper interviewing techniques and what important characteristics to look for when hiring employees. Each student interviewed three other classmates and was able to "hire" one classmate that showed the best interviewing skills and characteristics based on what the FBLA members taught them.

Just recently, the FBLA chapter created a lesson on production of goods and how to market a

product. To show the significance of assembly lines and to better the students' understanding, each student had two minutes to create as many paper airplanes as they could. The most produced by one student was thirteen. Then the classroom students were separated into several groups. Each student in the group was assigned a distinct part in making the paper airplane. Once again the students had two minutes to make as many airplanes as possible in their groups. The amount produced was much larger than when the students made them individually. Both classrooms really seemed to enjoy this lesson and both grasped the concept of an assembly line.

Currently, the fifth graders are working on a marketing project. The FBLA members pointed out how important and influential advertising really is. Did you know that the average person will spend nine years watching television in their lifetime and will see over two million commercials? The students were introduced to other marketing techniques as well. Such as jingles, slogans, billboards, magazine ads and many more.

During the next visit to the middle school, the students will be presenting their marketing project to their

peers and the students will then decide on what product they will want to buy based on their marketing.

Both the fifth grade students and their teachers are enjoying the time spent with the Chestnut Ridge FBLA members. The teachers have commented on how much the students are learning and how much fun they are having. In the end, Chestnut Ridge FBLA hopes that the students take away valuable understanding of how a business works and will become a successful business leader in the future.

Written by: Bethany Barefoot



Central Columbia

After the first months of school, everyone thought that Central Columbia FBLA madness would cool down with the wintry months. Yet, our Community Service Directors worked diligently in organizing many community service events. FBLA members quickly rushed into the “holiday spirit,” as they found themselves volunteering at food cupboards, the Ronald McDonald House, and buying presents for children with the local police department.

This year the Central Columbia FBLA chapter was fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the South Centre police department to buy gifts for needy children. The police department needed FBLA’s help on actually selecting gifts. On December 13, 2010, several FBLA members accompanied the policemen to Wal-Mart and the Columbia Mall. One member said, “Shopping has always been my favorite activity, but shopping for gifts that would be given to poor children made the whole experience extra special.” The members meticulously shopped to find the exact toy that each child had written on their wish list. After having bought stuffed animals, video games, dolls, and clothes, the FBLA members wrapped all of the new presents. Our chapter is proud to have been given the opportunity to make fifteen children very happy during the holiday season.

Another successful community service event that has been both fun and memorable for our members is



making dinner at the Ronald McDonald House. The first time our chapter volunteered to make dinner for the Ronald McDonald House guests was in December. After having a great time hosting a Mexican food night, our members really wanted to have another chance to host a dinner. Luckily, the guests had enjoyed our tacos, burritos, and other Mexican food, so we were invited back on January 13, 2011. This time we hosted an Italian food night. The kitchen was very busy as everyone was involved in making many pasta dishes, Italian appetizers, and Italian desserts. Being able to help the community while having fun is an extraordinary experience, so Central Columbia FBLA is looking forward to organizing more community service activities!

Waynesboro FBLA

During the first two weeks of December, our Waynesboro, PA chapter sold school spirited coffee as one of our 2010-2011 year fundraisers. The coffee came in a customizable colored package that reflected our organization. We chose red since it is one our FBLA colors and since the Christmas season was coming up and the coffee would be a great gift. This fundraiser was a profitable way to get people to get in the holiday season spirit, and to spread awareness about our FBLA chapter. The money that we made, a total of \$800, went towards our state project, which is Teen Project. The organization helps troubled teens to get over addiction to drugs and other life problems. We also got points towards outstanding chapter from this fundraiser. We encourage other chapters to use this as a fundraiser, especially new chapters, so that they can have their community grow aware of the new organization chapter, and so their families and friends can give a great gift for upcoming holidays and events.



Altoona Area FBLA Chapter



This year, Altoona Area High School has been breaking barriers within the school and community. This past fall, as our chapter focused its attention on increasing membership and generating enthusiasm for our local chapter, we succeeded in increasing membership from 39 members during the 2009-10 school year to 52 members for the 2010-11 school year. Of those members, 39 plan to compete and attend this year's Regional Leadership Conference, which will be held at

the Holiday Inn in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on January 6, 2011.

In addition, at the Region 5 Leadership Workshop that took place on November 17, 2010, two of our members were sworn in as regional officers. Amarah Bidoli is the Region 5 Secretary, and Emily Leberfinger is now the Region 5 President for the 2010-2011 school year. Eight students were also able to attend the State Leadership Workshop held in State College on October

24-25, 2010, where they had the opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship, finances, and many other areas of business.

Our local chapter now looks forward to a project to raise money for the State Project Teen Challenge as our members hope to succeed in their competitive events. We wish the best of luck to all Pennsylvania State FBLA members who are competing in the upcoming events.

Hazleton Fundraising Efforts

For many years Hazleton Area FBLA has had quite a few members compete at the National Leadership Conference. This past year we had nine competitors at the 2010 NLC in Nashville, TN. Our strongest point in competition is usually Emerging Business Issues. Jessica Minzola, Alexandra Petsuck, and Nicole Spevak competed in EBI placing first in the nation. We also had a student, Hayley Price, place sixth in Marketing. In the past, our chapter helped fund nationals through a variety of fundraisers such as car washes, fundraiser concerts, and business sponsorships. New this past year was a flapjack fundraiser held at Applebee's restaurant in Hazleton. At the flapjack fundraiser, the competitors, incoming officers, and outgoing officers served a full flapjack breakfast including three pancakes, two sausage links, and a drink of your choice. Applebee's was generous enough to aid us in this fundraiser; they provided us with their kitchen and a

seating area. This fundraiser was very successful and we plan on doing it again to help support our hopeful competitors to compete at the 2011 National Leadership Conference.



Use Your Noodle @ Western Wayne

Members of the Western Wayne High School Future Business Leaders of America chapter (FBLA) are busy preparing for their upcoming regional conference in which competition will take place in more than 45 different events. What better time to conduct a “Use Your Noodle” food drive in conjunction with WNEP TV’s Feed-a-Friend campaign. Each student was asked to donate two boxes of pasta to the Wayne County Food Pantry.



Pictured are a few of the students who participated: Kneeling: Katie Lescinski and Kristen Lopatofsky. Standing: Keith Mattern, Samantha Dougherty, Elizabeth Curtis, Nick Van Leuven, Sara Coons and Kaelyn Jacques.

Teen Challenge @ FBLA SLW



“Every 16 minutes someone loses their life to suicide. Every 17 minutes someone is left to make sense of it”

–American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

Suicide is a pressing issue in our community. It is something everyone knows about, but nobody talks about. In order to bring this issue to light, the Bellefonte FBLA community service team has launched a series of events in order to increase awareness and understanding for those who are gone and those who are suffering with their loss. This began with the “Bellefonte FBLA Fall 5k For Suicide Prevention” on Saturday, November 13, 2010. The turnout was relatively small, but we still managed to raise \$400 for the AFSP.

The 5k that Saturday kicked off a school wide suicide awareness week, featuring suicide videos, daily statistics, and a dedication board. We also had a guest speaker come into our FBLA class to talk about dealing with loss, looking for signs of depression, and finding assistance when you or a loved one is suffering from suicidal thoughts.

On Wednesday, January 5, 2011, we were given the opportunity to present the \$400 check to the board of directors of the Out of the Darkness awareness group in State College.

In the future, we are looking to organize a team for the “Out of the Darkness” walk in April. Along with this, we are looking to implement another awareness week to go along with the walk in State College. This week would feature the slogan “Lock Out Depression” and the specific events are to be revealed at a future date.

