

# Bear FACTS



SPRING 2012

MAHANOY AREA HIGH SCHOOL

\$.25

## MARCH 8, 2012



Aboard the plane are Mahanoy Area School District Superintendent Joie Green, Pilot David Truskowsky and Mr. John Berta. Mr. Berta took the aerial photos and physical education teacher, Darren Kline, provided the shot of the plane from on the ground.

Students in grades 9-12 who would like to contribute to the next issue of Bear Facts, should sign up in Ms. Scic's room any day during remediation or at 2:30. Topics are available or choose one of your own.

# Mahanoy Area Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coalition News

*Ski Club*  
By: Corbin White

Mrs. Orsulak introduced our new student representative, Shana Noon at the February meeting. Shana is in the 11th grade and will be working on activities with the SADD group and assisting with some of the student activities in the Coalition.

**Big Bowl Vote:** The Mahanoy Area School District and the Pottsville School District conducted the Big Bowl Vote. The day after the Super Bowl, (MA conducted on Tues due to Act 80 day) youth were given a short survey regarding advertisements during the Super Bowl. Mrs. Rowland reported that 42 states participated as well as over 40,000 students. The Super Bowl was watched by 111.3 million viewers and 18% of those are under 21. In the Nationwide Results the Budlight commercial came in 4th place. At Mahanoy Area out of 270 students polled, 34 remembered seeing the Budlight commercial. However, this year the 3 most popular commercials both Nationwide and at MA were the M & M's commercial, the Doritos Dog and Doritos Baby Commercials.

*\*Prom 2012\** By: Gabby Lorady

Prom this year is at Capriotti's, it will be held on May 11, 2012. The senior class takes a vote on where the prom should be held and what the prom color scheme is. This year the color scheme is black and gold. Ms. Pollack is the senior class advisor. Prom is a very exciting part of high school. Many students look forward to the prom. Prom is the one of the biggest events of senior year. Most girls wear long dresses instead of short dresses, and most guys wear tuxes. Sometimes the seniors bring juniors, sophomores, or freshmen as their prom dates. Prom is a great way to end your senior year.

Ski club students, both skiing and snowboarding, are showing a lot of improvement and are learning new tricks and skill. One example is Eddie Bumbulsky, a junior at Mahanoy Area. I saw Eddie doing front flips at Freedom Park, a freestyle course at Big Boulder Ski Resort. This year has been the first season he could do a flip. He says a lot of his experience came from ski club. When asked what helped him work his way up to flips his reply was simple, "Ski Club has given me many opportunities to get better. I've gotten so much better since I joined and a lot of the chances I get to go to Big Boulder are with the ski club" said Eddie. At 14, Eddie could only do simple tricks such as wide railing grinds and half turn spins. He's now 17 and can do full spins and flips. The ski club is an important activity for many students and should be here to stay.

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*National Inhalants  
& Poisons  
Awareness Week*

*March 18 -  
March 24, 2012.*

**The next meeting of the Mahanoy Area Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coalition will be on Monday, March 12, 2012 at 2:30 pm in the High School LGI Room**

## A Trip To Italy

By: Cody Stetson

In March, 2012 the Art club students will be able to take a trip to Italy to visit its many landmarks. Italy is in Europe, which is a long way from the United States. Talk about a trip! The lead art teacher is Ms. Scicchitano, who will be planning such a trip. A trip to long distance areas will need careful planning. This trip should no doubt be successful.

The first areas that will be explored are Venice and Florence, which is the tour's main highlight. The Grand Canal will be toured first, followed by the Duomo, and then the Ponte Vecchio. The Ponte Vecchio is the only bridge in Italy to survive through World War II. These are quite the sites to see. This is only the first part of their trip; there will be many more sites to see.

The students will soon visit Vatican City, St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel, the Colosseum and more in Rome. In addition, students will be stopping at the Trevi Fountain and the Pantheon. The Pantheon is one of the best preserved ancient buildings in the city. Students will be learning about the Romans and their culture as well. They'll learn about how rich the Romans were 2000 years ago. They will also learn about Pompeii, one of the richest archeological sites in the world.

You could imagine the cost of this trip being very expensive. Well think again, the price is actually much less than someone traveling to Italy without a tour group. As soon as the students join the tour company, they will be offered chances to fundraise. Fundraising is a very easy task, involving selling a certain item.

This trip is a once in a lifetime opportunity for any person. Many people dream of going to foreign lands. These students are lucky their school has such a good way of handling the situation. With great tour guides, careful planning, and a good amount of fundraising, this trip is possible!

## KICK BUTTS DAY

WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 21ST, 2012

7TH ANNUAL KICK BUTTS DAY  
DRESS DOWN FOR ANDREW

\$1

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT  
THE ANDREW NEIDLINGER  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP  
AWARD

IF YOU SMOKE, QUIT. IF  
NOT, DON'T START.  
DO IT FOR YOURSELF. DO IT  
FOR ANDREW. DO IT FOR LIFE.

PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRI-  
BUTION TO EITHER NURSE  
LORETTA OR  
MRS MERCHLINSKY'S OFFICE  
OR TO THE ENVELOPE IN  
ANY OF THE  
3 OFFICES



## Envirothon

By: Daryl Andreas

The Envirothon will take place on April 13th at The Schuylkill County Fair Grounds and Mahanoy Area will be taking two teams with five in each. Each student will study 1 of the 5 topics. These topics include Wildlife, forestry, a Current Issue, Aquatics, and Soils. One team includes Jacqui Pitts, Noel Bernadyn, Marcus Schmerfeld, Darryl Andreas, and Harit Palta. The second team includes Nick Scicchitano, Andrea White, Jon Palubinsky, Mike Handy, and John Brill. The two alternates are Vinnie Bloss and Alex Mecuri.

In each area you take a test. Each person is an "expert" in one subject. They are the main person to do this area. Every Wednesday we have a group study session, we learn a little about each area. The schools participating in the event are Blue Mountain, Pine Grove, Minersville, WV, and TV. There is a current issue every year and it changes. This year the current issue is Point and Non Point Pollution. After we do all the areas we go to the main center and watch a presentation. After that the awards are presented to the schools that do the best in all the areas overall.

## Basketball Season 2012 Wrap Up

By: Rebecca Herring

This year's Lady Bears finished off the season winning four of their last five games. Overall, their record was 8 and 14. Their league record was 3 and 10. This year's captains were Seniors Emily Davidson and Taylor Finneran. This year's varsity team included four freshman, two sophomores, three juniors, and two seniors.

Some questions we asked head coach, Tim Tobin, were

1. "What were your expectations at the beginning of the season?"

To win all of our games.

2. "Were you happy with how the season turned out?"

Wins and losses, no, but with the progress we made, yes.

3. "What improvements do you think the team made from the beginning to the end of the season?"

To become basketball smart and make basketball plays.



4. "How much improvement do you think the team made from the beginning to the end of the season?"

Pretty well, still need to make improvement.

5. "Do you enjoy coaching the team?"

Absolutely.

We interviewed one of the senior captains, Emily, about her thoughts on this season. Some questions we asked were:

1. "Did you enjoy your senior year on the court?"

Yes I did.

2. "Did you enjoy playing with your sister this year?"

Yes, it was alright.

3. "Do you wish you could have done more on the varsity level?"

Yeah, I wish I didn't break my nose, though.

4. "Do you have any advice for the incoming Seniors?"

Leave it all on the court.

# 2012 Yearbooks

## on Sale

**\$76.00**

**quantities are limited**

**see Ms. Scic in the high school art room  
during remediation or at 2:30**

# Briefs

Hershey Park tickets are on sale now. The price until March 30th is \$35.00. After March 30 it will raise to \$39.00. Permission slips are available in the office. If you have any questions please see Mrs. Brylewski.

The Envirothon Study Group will be held on Wednesday's during remediation.

Any boys that are planning on attending the prom, please see the bulletin board by the high school office for a discount offer from Metallo's Formalwear. If you need a flyer to take home they are on the counter in the office.

The Schuylkill County Municipal Authority is offering a \$500 scholarship to ANY SENIOR that expresses a concern about water quality and water issues. See Mrs. Stone if you are interested in this scholarship. Essays are due by April 27th.

Literary Society: meeting for all members will be on Monday, March 12th at 7:40 in the library. We will be discussing our St. Patrick's fundraiser and a possible field trip.

The band boosters are now selling Butter Braids. There are order forms in all 3 building faculty rooms or you can order directly from me. I will be taking orders until March 20th. They cost \$12.00, checks can be made to "Bear Band Boosters". Delivery will be April 2nd.

McCann School has programs in Allied Health, Technology, Criminal Justice, Business, and the Trades. Seniors and juniors interested in finding out more about meeting with a representative from McCann should speak with the guidance counselor.

The SHINE program in our elementary school is seeking volunteers to help Monday through Thursday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Students interested should stop in the guidance office from 7:30 to 8 a.m. or after 2:30 p.m.

## PENNIES FOR PATIENTS



TOTAL COLLECTED - \$2260.43

Top Classrooms in each school:

Elementary

- 1. Amershek - 174.46
- 2. Williams - 99.81
- 3. Jarrard - 84.16

Middle

- 1. Cavenas - 203.37
- 2. G. Dudash - 203.37
- 3. Leshko/Anthony - 159.50

High School

- 1. Fegley - 39.22
- 2. Scheeler - 28.18
- 3. Cray - 20.69

Thanks to all who helped with this worthy cause, especially...

- Janet Hower who took all donations to Coin Star
- Mrs. Merch, Tyler Cavenas and Greg Merchlinsky for collecting in the high school

WAY TO GO...just another way our schools work together for a great cause!!!!

**Blood Drive is  
scheduled for  
April 2nd from  
9am to 2pm**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
YEARBOOKS  
are still ON SALE**  
COST is \$25.00.  
Students may pay for the yearbook in installments. Payment in full is due no later than March 16, 2012.  
Students can see Mrs. Cavenas or Miss Scheeler for an order form.

exp 6/1/2012

**50% OFF!**

**On all Library  
FINES!**

\*DOES NOT APPLY TO MATERIAL REPLACEMENT\*

## Boys Basketball Wrap-Up

By: Jason Richmond

This year's boys' basketball team had an outstanding year. They finished with an overall record of 18-4 and a Conference record of 7-1. This season had its ups and downs. They won the Schuylkill League Championship after beating Weatherly.

One of the many highlights this year came when

The Golden Bears defeated the Blue Devils in a thrilling 3OT game, winning 72-68. At the beginning of the season the Bears were in the Panther Valley Tip-Off Tournament and won it. They defeated Panther Valley in the first round and beat Jim Thorpe in the Championship. The boys went on a 9 game winning streak beat Pius X, Shenandoah, Marian, Notre Dame, Weatherly, Northwestern Lehigh, and Nativity. The first loss of the season came to Mount Carmel by a score of 42-27. The JV went 19-1 on the season with the only loss coming to Salisbury. They lost to Pine Grove in the first round of League Play-offs by 40-31. They held the number one seed heading into Districts.



Special thanks to Codie Bradbury for her work on creating a Read Across America banner for the elementary school assembly.

-Mrs. Wells

## School Calendar 2012-2013 School Year

August 20 and 21, 2012	Monday and Tuesday, Inservice Days – Teachers Only
August 22 and 23, 2012	Wednesday and Thursday, Inservice Days – Teachers Only
August 27, 2012	Monday, First Day of School
September 3, 2012	Monday, Labor Day – Schools Closed
September 4, 2012	Tuesday, Schools Reopen
October 8, 2012	Monday, Inservice Day – Teachers Only –
October 9, 2012	Tuesday, Schools Reopen
November 22, 23 and 26, 2012	Thursday, Friday, Monday – Schools Closed – Thanksgiving Recess
November 27, 2012	Tuesday, Schools Reopen
December 24, 2012 through January 1, 2013	Christmas Holidays – Schools Closed
January 2, 2013	Wednesday, Schools Reopen
January 15, 2013	90th Day of School
January 21, 2013	Monday, Inservice Day – Teachers Only
January 22, 2013	Tuesday, Schools Reopen
February 18, 2013	Monday, Presidents Day – Schools Closed
February 19, 2013	Tuesday, Schools Reopen
March 29, 2013	Good Friday – Schools Closed
March 28, 2013, April 2 and 3, 2013	Easter Recess/ Snow Make-Up Days
April 4, 2013	Thursday, Schools Reopen
May 27, 2013	Monday, Memorial Day – Schools Closed
May 28, 2013	Tuesday, Schools Reopen
May 31, 2013	Friday, Last Day of School for Students
June 3, 2013	Monday, Inservice Day – Teachers Only –
June 4, 2013	Tuesday, Inservice Day – New/First Year Teachers Only

**Elementary Yearbooks!  
\$15.00!**

See Mrs. Zawada or  
Mrs. Amershek in the  
elementary school

# Chorus News

By: Noel Kaufman

Mrs. Alison Kline is in charge of 5th through 12th grade music class and she is also in charge of the choir. Mrs. Kline first started getting involved in music at the age of 4 when she began to like to play the piano. She wanted to take over the choir because she likes music and she likes to sing. She said that the school choir concert is



good, but it's tough getting practice time. The spring concert is being held May 8th and will be held in the Mahanoy Area auditorium. She teaches two different groups for the choir, 5th-8th and 9th-12th. The 9th-12th grade groups are; Carla Abrachinsky, Joshua

Baker, Brenna Bennett, Monica Cameron, Tyler Cavenas, Sierra Cooke, Tyler Davies, Ashley Docherty, Miranda Evitts, Billy Fazio, Josh Hanrahan, Gabby Irvin, Jessie Knapp, Kellie Linkchorst, Kristy McCarthy, Greg Merchlinsky, Shana Noon, Krista O'Boyle, Kendall Peel, Kylee Roberts, Christina Scheeler, Jacob Shaup, Logan Strollis, Anne Swokel, Sierra Treichler, Tamara Tunstall, Christian Ulincy, Amber Wanger, Krystal Walinchus, Abby Weikrykas, Jessica Wesch, Taryn Williams, Eric Williamson, Michael Wirtz, Rachel Wolfe, Cheyenne Coleman, Kelly Vezo, Nilka Marcano, Austin Forte, Josh Shaup, Alecia Huggins, Christy Evancho, and Kelsey Macieunas.



Mrs. Kline, Josh Hanrahan, Tyler Cavenas and Greg Merchlinsky at County Choir

# The Dress Code

By Kenny Boyle

Most of us can all agree that the school dress code is definitely an issue within our school. My school mates and I both agree that if there were fewer restrictions on the colors we could wear, there would be less dress code violations and students would feel like they have more freedom in school. Although classmates disagree with the colors, we do think shorts should be banned in the winter time. We also think the measurements for how long your shirts and pants should be is a good idea. If these issues are resolved, my classmates and I agree that there would be less dress code violations and students would feel like they have more freedom within our school.

# SOFTBALL

By: Kelly Walinchus



The Mahanoy Area girls' softball team is looking to have a good year. Coach Kline and Coach Berta are both returning this year. There are \_\_\_ returning players, which include Emily Davidson, Ashley Hulihan, Jessica Rago, Adriane Shuck, Jessica Wesh, Taylor Finneran, Shaina Leshko, and Amanda Kramer. There also several new player s which include Erin Davidson, Ashley Docherty, Bryianna Pearson, Kelly Walinchus, Jamie Rago, Nicole Wilner, and Brianna Jarmen. There are 4 girls graduating this year. Those girls' include Taylor Finneran, Emily Davidson, Jessica Rago, Adriane Shuck, and Taylor Finneran. Although practices started early, official season starts March 2nd. The girls' play their first game on March 24th. The game is against Jim Thrope and is away. The girls are willing to put forth all they have to make it to the top. They have a total of 20 games. Eleven of those games are home, and nine of them are away.

The following students attended a Young Women's Futures Symposium at Lebanon Valley College on March 6, 2012: Macey Brown, Christy Evancho, Ashley Hulihan, Brooke Kufrovich, Jennifer Jackowiak, Shaina Leshko, Kelsey Macieunas, Erin Noon, Kylee Roberts.

## March is Music In Our Schools Month

1. What was the first song to be performed in outer space?
2. What band was the first to sell One Million records?
3. What famous music festival cost \$24 for a ticket at the gate
4. What is the stage name of Pop musician Gordon Matthew Sumner?
5. Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison and which other musician were all 27 years old when they died?
6. Which beetle was rumoured to have died and replaced by a double?
7. In 1957 which Rock and Roll Star was only filmed from the waist up because it was considered that his hip swinging was too suggestive?
8. How many songs from the beatles "Sgt peppers lonely hearts club band" were released as singles?
9. What 70's British Rock Singer changed his name from Frederick Bulsara?
10. What 15 year old Rock-I-con-to-be was grounded for the whole summer after sneaking out to her first concert to see David Bowie?
11. What studio did the beatles use to record 191 songs?
12. Which Led Zepellin song went down badly with the audience at its first performance in 1971?
13. What famous guitar player was thrown out of school for holding the hand of a white girl in class?
14. What classical composer wrote the majority of his music when he was deaf?
15. Who wrote the famous piano song 'Fur Elise'?
16. What classical composer had a piano designed with special smaller keys, as his hands were so small?
17. What composer once wrote a piece that takes 18 hours to perform?
18. Which composer is considered "Master of the Fugues"?
19. Which composer learnt to play piano before he could read?
20. What City opera house does the "Phantom of the Opera" prowl?
21. What country's national orchestra is bigger than its army?
22. What instrument was once known as a SACK-BUT?
23. What instrument was formally on the coins of Ireland?

## Wrestling Wrap

Up By: Nick Scicchitano

This year's wrestling season was a pretty emotional one at that. With vast differences between the highs and lows of the season, it was easy to get caught up in the disappointment of the team record, and not want to wrestle for individual pride. Although the team record was a disappointing three and seven, some wrestlers had outstanding years individually.



"Seniors Jordan "Rhino" Renfrow, Gage Cara,

Frank Scicchitano, Dylan Cruz, and Jake Moran, will be greatly missed" said varsity coach Mark Lawrence when asked his thoughts on losing almost half of the varsity squad. "Those guys are all amazing, so funny and fun to be around, we're all like a family".

When asked who the most surprising wrestler of the season was, he responded "definitely woz [Robert Wozniak]. He may not have had the best record, but the kid is like a bull, and he wrestled great all year long.

Also in the interview, Coach Lawrence said that he was very disappointed that he could not enjoy the Penn State – Iowa match, which he missed for a re-scheduled team tournament.

No wrestlers placed at the District XI tournament this year, but with returning sophomores, and a large group of promising freshman still in the mix for next season, it is hopeful to be a promising one.

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24. Translated from the german, this member of the percussion section means "bell play"
  25. What is the minimum number of musicians a band must have in order to be considered a "Big Band"
  26. What musical instrument's sales escalated from 228,000 in 1950 to 2.3 million in 1971

(see answers on last page)