

Shiocton Schools  
"Where Excellence is Expected."



SHIOCTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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# <sup>*The*</sup> **Link**

School District of Shiocton  
Newsletter Connecting Home, School, and Community

December, 2011

*SPICE presents*

## **Cookies and Milk with Santa**

Saturday, December 10  
9:30 a.m.-noon

There will be fun activities  
and face tattoos.  
Bring your camera  
and list for Santa.



## **Winter Concert**

Monday, December 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the high school gym  
featuring all bands and choirs  
(Fundraiser chili dinner 4:00-6:30 p.m.)

## **K5 Christmas Program**

Tuesday, December 20, at 1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria

## **Grades 1-3 Holiday Program**

Thursday, December 22, at 12:45 p.m. in the elementary gym

## **Grades 4-5 Holiday Program**

Thursday, December 22, at 2:00 p.m. in the elementary gym

## **Chiefs Play for State Football Championship**

The Chiefs battled Fond du Lac St. Mary's Springs for the WIAA Division 6 State Football Championship on November 17 at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison. Although they ended up on the short end of a 24-0 score, they can take great pride in their 12-2 season. The Chiefs ended the regular season as co-champions of the CWC-8 Conference. Their playoff run began with a 55-7 victory over Rosholt, and continued with wins over Algoma (29-6), Coleman (13-8), and Eau Claire Regis (28-0). Congratulations to the team and coaches on a super season!

*Photo by Yearbook*



**WE  OUR CHIEFS!**

## School District of Shiocton

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CHRIS VANDERHEYDEN  
Superintendent

KELLY ZEINERT  
High School Principal

KIM M. GRIESBACH  
Elementary/Middle School Principal

DENISE GUEX  
Business Manager

### School Board

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*Vice-President:* Bradley Ritchie  
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*Clerk:* David Gomm  
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*Member:* Ray Gomm  
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*Member:* Melissa Van Dyke  
Town of Bovina

*Member:* Gregory Schoettler  
Town of Bovina

*All residents of the school district are welcome to attend board meetings, to keep informed on school issues or to voice any concerns they may have.*

*The Link* is published monthly, from September through June. If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please send your name and address to *The Link*, N5650 Broad Street, PO Box 68, Shiocton, WI 54170. Submit any letters to the editor or articles for publication to the same address, or via e-mail to:

thelink@shiocton.k12.wi.us

*Editors:*

Shelley Podell, Sue Hill,  
Kurt Wismer

*Student Editor:*

Cody Leitermann

## Veterans Day Program

Thanks to all involved in making our Veterans Day program a success. It was nice to see the gym full of people taking a small part of their day to honor our veterans. Great breakfast, too!

## Town Hall Meeting

The Town Hall Meeting on November 2 was attended by about 20 people from the staff and the community. The topics discussed at this meeting were the 2011-12 tax levy update, the SILA Charter School, and "What Our Schools Do For Us." The tax levy will be up about 2.4% this year from last year, although our overall budget is down. The charter school, SILA, is off to a good start. We also discussed the many services our schools provide for students and their families. These expectations have increased what schools do, yet our schedules have remained stagnant over the years. We referred to a book by Jamie Vollmer, *Schools Cannot Do It Alone*, as we discussed the necessary changes facing our schools. We also delved into the topic of fading support by the public for public schools. Very interesting discussion, to be continued at the next Town Hall Meeting, which is tentatively planned for early February. Thanks to all who attended!

## From Dr. Alan Zimmerman—Have an Attitude of Gratitude

"Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.

If you did, what would there be to look forward to?  
Be thankful when you don't know something,  
for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times.

During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations,  
because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge,  
because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes.

They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary,  
because it means you've made a difference.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things.  
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who  
are also thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.  
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles,  
and they can become your blessings."

Happy Holidays!

Chris L. VanderHeyden

## Teddy Bear Toss

by Alexa Pahlow

Once again this year SWAT (Students With Alternative Thinking) will be holding their Teddy Bear Toss at the boys varsity basketball game on Friday, December 9, during half-time. (We play the Bonduel Bears!)

Please bring your new stuffed animal to toss out on the basketball court at half-time. All stuffed animals collected will be given to the Student Council for their annual Food and Toy Drive. Help make a child's Christmas — donate a stuffed animal!!



## Come and Read with the Book Club

The Community Book Club will meet on

Tuesday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Studio 54 in Shiocton. The book to be discussed is *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. In this story, four ghosts transform Ebenezer Scrooge from a hard-hearted Victorian businessman into a charitable person who learns how to keep the spirit of Christmas.

The book selected for January is *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese, which has been on the bestseller list for about 80 weeks. It is a story of love and betrayal, medicine and ordinary miracles, and two brothers whose fates are forever intertwined. This book will be discussed on January 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Studio 54. Anyone who likes to read is welcome to come for either or both of the meetings.

## Famous Fresh Homemade Pizzas

Made by the Shiocton Softball Team

12" double cheese, sausage, or pepperoni . . . \$8  
12" works . . . . . \$10

Sale dates: December 19-January 14

Delivery date: January 21

Contact any softball player or Cheryl at 986-3445.



## You Are Invited to . . . A SILA Student Presentation Evening



When: Thursday, December 1  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Where: SILA Classrooms (enter at the back of the school by the choir room) N5650 Broad Street

What: See the projects the SILA students have been working on throughout first quarter.

Some of the projects include:

- A dynamic SILA Light Show in partnership with FVTC
- DNR Project building wildlife information stations
- Native American History Project illustrating Wisconsin tribes
- Periodic Table Presentation utilizing culinary arts to increase your understanding
- Foreign Exchange Contribution — Meet and greet our students from Europe and Asia and hear presentations about their countries
- Project Foundry — A web-based learning system
- Online classes — Such as Odyssey Science and ALEKS Math

RSVP: [kzeinert@shiocton.k12.wi.us](mailto:kzeinert@shiocton.k12.wi.us) or call (920) 986-3351 ext. 751 (so we can determine how many cookies to make).

### Our Mission

Shiocton International Leadership Academy (SILA) empowers students in grades 6-11 to become confident, caring, and engaged citizens of the world.

## Food and Toy Drive Still Needs Your Help

by Elizabeth Schneider, Student Council Advisor

Classes are still competing to see who can collect the most items for this year's Food and Toy Drive. The winning classes in elementary, middle, and high school will be rewarded with a special treat provided by Student Council.



Different products are being featured each week, but all items, including monetary donations, are always welcome and appreciated. Items featured in December are:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| December 5-9   | Baby products/paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, napkins)<br>*Please have monetary donations in by this time as we need time to shop for items.<br>Thank you! |
| December 12-16 | Any food or toys  |
| December 20-22 | Delivery to families. Families will be notified of time and date.   |

We would like to thank everyone who contributes to this wonderful event! Each year we're able to accommodate more and more families thanks to this generous community!



## Second-Year Lego Team Qualifies for State Competition!

by Steve Parker

Congratulations to our 2011 Lego League team, the Shiocton Lego Bolts. They had a successful regional competition on November 5. Out of 30 teams, the Bolts finished in the top six for their robot performance and in the top eight overall. The judges commented on how well they performed their research project skit about Peanut Butter Safety. The top eight teams from the Appleton Regional compete at the State Competition in Mukwonago on December 11. We are very proud of them!

Lego League is an academic competition that combines teamwork, science research, computer programming, and mechanical engineering in a fun, but challenging, format. If you are interested in finding out more about the program and what is involved from a student, parent, or coach perspective, please contact Steve Parker at [stevejodiparker@yahoo.com](mailto:stevejodiparker@yahoo.com) or 757-8871 or district administrator Chris VanderHeyden.

## School Counselors vs. Mental Health Counselors: What's the Difference?

We both share the hope of being able to help people. We all work to help people with their personal and interpersonal needs. However, we work in very different settings, with different expectations of how we do our work.

Elementary school counselors provide individual, small-group, and classroom lessons and services to students. Counselors observe children during classroom and play activities and confer with their teachers and parents to evaluate the children's strengths, problems, or special needs. Elementary school counselors do less vocational and academic counseling than high school counselors do.

High school counselors advise students regarding college majors, admission requirements, entrance exams, financial aid, trade or technical schools, and apprenticeship programs. They help students develop job search skills, such as resumé writing and interviewing techniques. These counselors emphasize preventive and developmental counseling to enhance students' personal, social, and academic growth and to provide students with the life skills needed to deal with problems before they worsen.

Counselors interact with students individually, in small groups, or as an entire class. They consult and collaborate with parents, teachers, school administrators, school psychologists, medical professionals, and social workers to develop and implement strategies to help students succeed. They make the proper referrals when a student's mental health issue is beyond the scope of their level of training.

Mental health counselors work with individuals, families, and groups to address and treat mental and emotional disorders and to promote mental health. They are trained in a variety of therapeutic techniques used to address issues such as depression, anxiety, addiction and substance abuse, suicidal impulses, stress, trauma, low self-esteem, and grief. They also help with job and career concerns, educational decisions, mental and emotional health issues, and relationship problems.



Source: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos067.htm>

## Happy Holidays from SPICE

by Debby Stellmacher, SPICE Chair,  
[dstellma@shiocton.k12.wi.us](mailto:dstellma@shiocton.k12.wi.us)

The holidays are such an exciting time of year, and they are approaching fast! We are so lucky that Santa will be visiting us in the cafeteria again this



year! Make sure to mark your calendars, because the annual **Cookies and Milk with Santa** is on Saturday, December 10. This is

such a fun event that you won't want to miss it. We will have cookie decorating and other fun activities planned while you wait to see Santa. Be sure to bring your camera for that treasured picture of your little one(s) visiting Santa. This event is FREE.

SPICE tries its best to thank all of our volunteers throughout the year, but I just want to extend an extra **thank-you** to all the parents, teachers, and community members

who support our organization. We have a dedicated group of volunteers attending most of our meetings, but we also have a larger group of volunteers who help out with our many events through the year. Without your help and support, there would be no SPICE.

The **Fall Book Fair** was held in conjunction with the Holiday Fair again this fall. This is a good way to allow people to attend both events. Watch for the dates of the Spring Book Fair.

Our **next meeting** is scheduled for December 14 at 6:15 p.m. at the River Rail. We would love to see some new faces at our meetings. Being a part of an organization like SPICE can be a rewarding experience when you see the difference you can make in your school and its students. It is also a great way to meet other parents and teachers. New members bring a different perspective and fresh ideas to our group and help to carry on our efforts into the future. Please feel free to join us. Have a wonderful and safe holiday season!

Thanks!



# Gifted and Talented

Suzanne Chang (grades 4-12) 986-3351 ext. 795 or schang@shiocton.k12.wi.us  
Nicole Hess (grades K-3) 986-3351 ext. 717 or nhess@shiocton.k12.wi.us

## Fox Valley Junior Math League

The first meet will be held Monday, December 5, in Kimberly. We will have teams in 5th, 6th, and 8th grade competing. Junior Math League is a competition that challenges students to work as a team and independently solve various math problems. Shiocton's teams compete against other schools in the Fox Valley area. Information will be sent home with *interested* students regarding upcoming math meets.

## Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl (grades 5, 6, 7, and 8)



Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl was a successful Gifted and Talented event at Shiocton. We had four great teams this year. The teams were very strong at collaborating and making final decisions as a unanimous group. While the teams did not make it to the top, it was a great and rewarding experience to prepare them for the spring quiz bowl — America Answers. *Congratulations to all of our participants this year!*

## Fourth Grade Mystery Box

The fourth grade students are in the process of researching answers to questions they had about the village of Shiocton in preparation for clue development for the 2011-12 Mystery Box. The students would also love to hear from the community about Shiocton and its history not found in books or on the Internet. If you or someone that you know would be willing to come and share knowledge of Shiocton, please contact Mrs. Chang at (920) 986-3351 ext. 795.



## S-P-E-L-L-I-N-G B-E-E



This year's school-wide Spelling Bee for students in grades 3-8 will be held on January 20 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The winners of the classroom bees (held right before or after winter break) will compete to earn the school title and advance to the regional level held early in February. Encourage your children to BEE their best and practice their spelling words!

## Battle of the Books

Starting in December, our "Super Readers" will have approximately 80 more days to read all 20 books. Many of our students have committed themselves to be part of this year's Battle of the Books (see group participant list below). Since the middle of September, the students have been challenged to read 20 books by mid-February. The 4th and 5th grade Battle of the Books participants have been meeting every week to discuss the books they have read. Once school resumes in January, we will continue to meet and complete practice questions in preparation for the battle. Mrs. Hess has also decided to take the challenge and read all 20 books.



These cold weather days and nights are perfect for snuggling up and reading a good book. Challenge yourself to read the books so you and your child can discuss the books' contents. You can also help your child prepare for the online test by quizzing them on the title and author of each book. Please keep encouraging your child to read the books on the list and fill out a journal entry on each completed book. Enjoy reading with your child and stay warm!

### 4th/5th Grade

Nikki Harvath

Cassidey Trimberger  
Lukas Berard

Tanner Baeten

### 6th/7th Grade

Tina Ubl  
Jordan Ott  
Jacob Bolssen  
Stephanie Olmsted

## Mathematical Talent Search (grades 9-12)

UW-Madison is conducting a mathematical talent search. The university is challenging students to solve five sets of five problems each month until February. These problems are unusual, challenging, and enjoyable. The top mathematical talent will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$6,000 per year for four years. Even if you missed the problem sets for October and November, students still interested in competing should contact Mrs. Chang. A copy of the problem sets will be sent home with your child. Good luck to all of our math wizards!





## Principal's Report

As you move through this holiday season, my hope for you is that you find time to enjoy the little things in life that make the holidays special. May you focus on things that truly matter: friends and family.

The Student Council is again sponsoring their annual Food and Toy Drive. They have been collecting nonperishable food items, toys, and money for several weeks, and the support they have received thus far from the community has been outstanding. During the month of November, staff members helped out as well. Staff members have been able to pay \$1 a day to wear jeans to work. This has helped Student Council raise an extra \$400. We are hoping that these extra efforts will allow everyone to have a happy holiday season. and Michelle Ritchie are co-chairs of the Food and Toy Drive and have done an excellent job of organizing the various projects. I am sure that the families who receive the food and toys appreciate the support and help during this holiday season.

The Winter Band and Choir Concert will be held on December 5 at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Anderson directs the middle and high school choirs and Mr. Yenor directs the middle and high school bands. The students have been working hard on the musical selections and I look forward to hearing them perform.

On December 7 our early release time will focus on literacy. Literacy continues to be a big push in our district at all grade levels. Learning to read is a sign of literacy and a gateway to education. It involves mastery of a rich variety of skills and is not accomplished quickly or easily. As a result, reading instruction is a large part of the educational curriculum. The Shiocton Literacy Committee (consisting of Wendy Hartman, Amanda Tetzlaff, Michelle Sixel, Johanna Funk, Laurie McNichols, Kim Griesbach, and me) has come up with a variety of resources and techniques that our teachers can use in their classrooms to promote literacy. These techniques are taught at our in-services throughout the year. If you would like to learn more about the various literacy activities happening throughout the school district, please check out our school website.

The winter athletic seasons are getting underway and are off to good starts. If you have time, come out and take in a boys or girls basketball game or a wrestling match. The dance team also performs at many events so you get an extra bang for your buck. It is a great way to spend an evening and show your support for our athletes.

During this busy time of year, take time and enjoy the season and all it has to bring.

Happy holidays,  
Kelly Zeinert, Principal

## Counselor's Corner

*by Rhonda Uelmen*

This is another reminder that college applications should be turned in as soon as possible. Many schools start to fill up around this time. This is also the time that college scholarship deadlines are coming due. Please check on your college website to confirm when those applications are due.

Speaking of scholarships, winter break is a great time to get started and complete some of our local scholarship applications.

**Juniors**, remember to make your junior meeting with me and invite your parent. I encourage your parents to attend for another set of ears.

Have a great holiday season and don't forget to visit colleges when you can!

## Shiocton's 2011-12 DAR Representative



Adam Zahradka has been selected as Shiocton's 2011-12 DAR Representative. DAR stands for Daughters of the American Revolution, and the recipient is selected by the Shiocton High School

staff. A DAR representative must possess four qualities of a good citizen: dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. Adam has proven that he does possess those qualities and will represent Shiocton Schools well. Congratulations, Adam!

## Shiocton Chiefs Fall Sports Awards Volleyball

Shiocton finished the season with an overall record of 19-12 and a conference record of 5-6. The Chiefs placed 4th in the CWC-8 conference.

MVP and First Team All CWC-8: Nicole Ritchie

MVP and Honorable Mention All CWC-8: McKenzie Marcks

MIP and Honorable Mention All CWC-8: Alyssa Polanco

Coaches Award: Mandy Verbsky

Coaches Award: Haley Ehrle

Congratulations to the Shiocton Chiefs Volleyball team on a successful season!



The 2012 Shiocton High School Yearbook will include all the events and activities of the 2011-12 school year including the **2011 State Football Championship Game!**

**Order yours today! \$45**

Contact Roberta Ligocki at (920) 986-3351 ext. 706 or stop in the high school office.

## What's Cooking in Family and Consumer Education

*by Julie Gomm*

The World of Foods and Teens Taking Action classes took a day from the regular routine to bake items for the Families in Need Fundraising Bake Sale at the Shiocton Holiday Fair. Rita Olson donated apples so we made apple cakes and apple pies. Since fall is the time for pumpkins, we cooked sugar pumpkins and then turned them into pumpkin pies, pumpkin bars, and pumpkin bread. Many students have carved pumpkins but didn't know how you went about cooking with real pumpkins. It made it more enjoyable when they knew they were giving back to the community.

The sewing class has been working on making Log Cabin Quilt projects. Many students are making a quilt for themselves and a few are going to be gifts. As they complete their projects, they are moving on to a skill that always seems to be needed—mending. The students learn that it takes a bit of problem solving to figure out how to fix that hole in their favorite shirt or favorite pair of jeans. There never seems to be a shortage of items that need a little repair.





## Two Paths: The Pros and Cons

by Dan Erickson and Anthony Abel

Mathematics is known as a difficult subject. There are different methods used to learn this subject. SILA students have three options, Odyssey Math, ALEKS Math, and participating in courses taught in the high school. Anthony and Dan are SILA students experimenting with these options. Anthony is taking his math class with Mr. Hanson in the high school. Dan is taking an equivalent math class on ALEKS Math. There are pros and cons to each method.

Anthony believes taking math in the high school is more helpful because he is able to work with other students. If a student is stuck on a problem, others can help him solve it. He also has the benefit of asking the teacher questions while attending class. Anthony

claims it is easier to work out of the textbook because some answers are provided in the back of the book. Students can get the answer and do a reverse calculation to figure out how to get the answer.

There are negatives in this system as well. For instance, the course is paced by the instructor. If Anthony does not understand the subject and no help is available, he cannot take extra time to attend to his needs. The class itself is only fifty minutes long each day. Another pitfall to traditional instruction is that if a scholar completely understands a topic and feels it is superfluous to study the lesson, then he should be able to test out of it. Currently, this is not an option in the traditional classroom.

When Dan was deciding to take his math class online, he listed all the pros and cons. For Dan the pros outweighed the cons. By taking classes online, Dan has the ability to work at his own pace. This gives him the opportunity to work longer on lessons that he does not understand as well. It also requires him to master the lesson before he is able to move on. He has access to advisors, as well as going into the traditional high school to ask the math teachers for help. Dan was also able to take a pretest to test out of lessons that he already knew. Dan feels that taking his math class online works better.

There are several ways to learn math. Anthony and Dan are comfortable with their decisions. They have determined, even though they are using different methods, they are both able to be successful and prepared.

## Students in SILA Writing Books

by Lucas Moeller and Alaina Maronn

The fact is, for many, writing a book is a scary endeavor. SILA students believe that people don't realize how easy it truly is. Two students in SILA are currently working on books that they hope to get published. Depending on the genre of book the student chooses to write, writing can be a lengthy process. Some choose writing as a career but it can also be an easy hobby for some.

Whether writing as a pastime or professionally, it is at a prescribed time each day. This is difficult for some writers who find it easier to write when they get ideas or feel inspiration versus pushing themselves to schedule writing time.

In a time when many young people think of writing as a chore, something that must be done as homework; the truth is, if you choose a topic that you are actually interested in, it can be fulfilling and more of a retreat from the pressures of everyday life. Those choosing to write a fictional book, can create new lives for the characters, that can solve problems that may make the author feel powerless to in reality.

Writing a book is a manageable and achievable goal. It can give an individual's life meaning and an escape from the real world. Through writing, authors can create their own time frames, deadlines, characters, and plots. All in all, writing is a creative and enjoyable shield that can enhance the writer's quality of life.

## Project of the Month: 100 Strangers

by Kali Krull, Julia Soma, Alexandria Wolff,  
and Natalie Guyette

Over the next five months, Alexandria Wolff will be getting personal with 100 different people she's never met. What started out as a mere point of interest has now developed into a full blown project. This project reaches into learning targets such as social studies, dealing with interactions among individuals, and Inquiry and Research, touching on documenting and organizing.

Upon finding a stranger, Alexandria will take a photograph with this person and inquire more information from them. She plans on asking spontaneous questions. After the encounter, Alexandria will journal about the experience and develop the photograph. Once all 100 journal entries and photographs are compiled, she plans on creating a memory book or photo album.

When questioned as to how she will go about finding these strangers Alexandria retorts, "I don't plan on going out of my way to meet these people; I will just happen upon them in my daily routine. Say I'm going grocery shopping and I find someone that looks interesting; I will approach them. I don't plan on going to the grocery store just to find someone to take a picture with." Alexandria's classmates look forward to seeing the end result of project 100 Strangers at the project showcase, to be held at the end of the school year.

## SILA Students at Risk of Writing Irrelevant Articles

by Andrew Louis

Students in the new Shiocton International Leadership Academy have recently started a writing program taught by Mrs. Louis, one of the SILA advisors. This program teaches the students how to write academic papers and use correct grammar in all their writing. As a part of this class, students are writing articles pertaining to SILA. These articles are being written by small groups of students with topics ranging from the differences between SILA and conventional school to the new foreign language program being taken by SILA students. The articles are to be anywhere from two to four paragraphs long and in the correct format with no grammatical errors.

However, in this writer's opinion, there is not a tremendous amount of new stories coming out of SILA at this time. This may force some students to write about irrelevant topics that are of little interest. This could lead to a drop in the quality of the articles being produced by the students. This writer believes the solution to this problem is obvious. The students should volunteer to write articles that they believe need to be written each month, and those who don't have a topic can wait for one to pique their interest. This solution would lead to an increase in the quality of the articles, and more interesting topics for everyone.

Student opinions are an important aspect of the SILA educational model. This writer is happy to report that his concerns were taken under advisement and a new approach to the creation of the SILA pages is being considered and discussed by the student body.

### International Education Week

by Patrick Brouillard, Marcos Mazzo, and Jorge Garcia

During International Student Week, which takes place every November, AYUSA students need to do a presentation about their countries. They must explain the culture, geography, and a bit about the history of their respective countries. The purpose of this "International Week" is to promote cultural exchange by sharing with American communities information about all of the countries that are involved in the AYUSA Exchange Program. Exchange students can present to schools, religious centers, or other community organizations.

All participating foreign exchange students are eligible to win a trip to an American city such as Honolulu, New York City, or Boston. The students are really working hard to create their presentations. They hope that all the community members enjoy watching them. SILA students will be giving their presentations on December 1 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the SILA classrooms. This is the school's first student presentation night.



### World Languages are Alive and Well in SILA

by Cheyenne Ver Voort

In high school it is common to walk in on a World Language class and see many students paying rapt attention to their instructor. Who wouldn't be hanging on every word? Learning an entirely new language is amazingly fun but can also be considered very difficult. Shiocton students are offered Spanish courses ranging from levels I-V taught by two excellent Spanish teachers. French I and II are also presented as KSCADE classes.

SILA students have the option to enroll in an online foreign language program. *Powerspeak* offers SILA students the choices of taking a variety of courses. Included are Spanish I, II, III, and AP; French I, II, III, and AP; German I and II; Chinese I and II; and Latin I and II. Each of these classes is taught by a certified teacher that students have online contact with, and the classes all satisfy the standards required for college acceptance.

Currently there are twelve SILA high school-aged students enrolled in the *Powerspeak* program. Jorge Mena Garcia, a foreign exchange student from Cancun, Mexico, has taken it upon himself to learn the very difficult language of Chinese. Andrew Hoersch will be starting Spanish I, while Patrick Brouillard and Andrew Louis will be taking Spanish II. Even farther along are Tony Abel and Allie Wolff, who will both be participating in AP Spanish. Our students embarking on the Latin path are Courtney Hooyman, Jon Jandourek, and Veronica Brick. Tony Abel will also be taking German I, while Marcos Mazzo and Cheyenne Ver Voort are enrolled in French I.

*Powerspeak* allows students to see their current grades and progress, as well as rewarding them by giving them "money" to spend on their personalized avatar. Students are able to print off vocabulary and grammar references to use for studying and reviewing purposes, and also have the ability to stay in constant contact with their advisor. They also have the ability to listen to the language being spoken aloud and record themselves repeating the word or phrase. The students are then instructed to compare their pronunciation to the instructor's. This gives students extremely valuable feedback in regards to how they are progressing in the actual speaking of the language they've chosen. Though the program has just begun this week, there's yet to be a negative comment.

## Overcoming Challenges

by Rachael Berard, Hannah Stedjee, Kyra Baeten,  
and Emma Wagner

On November 8, all SILA computers were unlocked from the previously blocked sites, such as YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter. SILA students have been granted unprecedented access to the web. To manage this, students had a school meeting where consequences were discussed. Students determined that when they go onto inappropriate sites without permission, they should have their computer taken away until they complete a five-page research paper on the topic of their choice. Access was granted because students needed greater freedom to complete projects. For example, if a student is doing a project about a band, they can access Twitter for additional information. The procedure that students must follow involves asking their advisors for permission. The advisors are very strict about allowing students to access these types of sites because of bandwidth considerations.

In the beginning, there were a few students who struggled with staying off tempting sites. Not wanting to risk SILA's reputation or write a five-page paper, they quickly changed their ways. To date there have been no problems where students have lost their computer and been assigned to write the research paper. We asked students their opinion on this situation. Andrew Hoersch said, "It's nice to be able to access sites without going through all the trouble of being blocked." Veronica Brick said, "I'm hardly on the computer besides *Odyssey* and *Project Foundry*, the things expected of me." Some students disagree with the punishment and believe we should be able to have even more freedom. Luke Moeller said, "It's been ridiculous because we should be able to access most of these sites for tools and references." Whatever a student's individual opinion may be, they are following the guidelines that the student body, advisors, and administration have created.



**He Said  
She Said**



Dear He Said She Said,

I have a big problem; I haven't talked to my girlfriend in a week or so because I have been really busy. It gets worse because she keeps posting stuff on Facebook about being mad at me. If I call her now she'll think I just called her because I saw the posts!!!! Help! What do I do????

BadBoyfriend

Dear BadBoyfriend,

The first thing that you should do is text her. Say that you're really sorry and tell her that you've been busy. Don't call her because she will probably yell at you. She may or may not forgive you. If she doesn't forgive you and she just goes ballistic, take it like a man and get over it. I know that sounds pretty harsh but life goes on. There are plenty of fish in the sea.

Always Caring,  
She Said

Dear BadBoyfriend,

I think you should call her and say that you're sorry. I'm sure she'll forgive you. If she doesn't, she obviously isn't the girl for you. Keep looking, you'll find someone. By the way, if you really care shouldn't you want to make time for her?

Always Awesome,  
He Said

Remember, what he said isn't always what she said. If you have any other questions or problems, please send an e-mail to [alouis@shiocton.k12.wi.us](mailto:alouis@shiocton.k12.wi.us)

## SILA 21st Century Schooling

by Anna Knoke, Josue Gonzales, Tyler Baeten, Logan Peters, and Patrick Brouillard

The Shiocton International Leadership Academy was granted \$355,550 by Wisconsin Department of Education to create SILA. The process of SILA began in September of 2009. A large part of the grant has been used to purchase the latest technology. The tables are equipped with flat screen televisions compatible with the laptops, to make it possible for everyone to work collaboratively. With the grant money, SILA was also able to purchase three interactive white boards, four iPads, four iMacs, the computer program for the iMacs, and a music studio. SILA students learn from a program called *The Learning Odyssey* where curriculum is aligned with the newest learning standards for the country.

Another way the learning at SILA is unique is that it is a project-based learning school. If any of the students of SILA would like to learn about World War II, they could do research instead of the normal "Class, open your books." Then the students must create a proposal on *Project Foundry* about all of the parts their project will consist of. Research, and papers based on the research, and presentations of learning are expected of all SILA students. Students have to be self-directed and must be responsible and independent learners to get their work completed. The advisors of SILA teach all of its students to be responsible. Creativity and collaboration are also stressed. Students know that development of these 21st century skills will open the doors to a bright future.

## School Board Meeting Summaries

### November 7, 2011

**Attendance:** **Board members** — Raymond Gomm, Mary Hoffman, Bradley Ritchie, Gregory Schoettler, Melissa Van Dyke, Allen Warner. **Others** — Chris VanderHeyden; Kim Griesbach; Denise Guex; Keith Skenandore; Anne Louis; Clay and Johanna Funk; Steve Parker, along with the student Lego League team representatives; and Beth Bloedorn.

Presentations:

- Anne Louis – SILA update.
- Report and demonstration on Lego League Team competition.
- Data Retreat summary report presented by Mrs. Griesbach along with Clay and Johanna Funk.

The board voted to:

- Approve a two-year contract revision for district technology director as presented.

In other discussion:

- Town Hall Meeting follow-up discussion.

Administration reports:

- Mrs. Griesbach: End of the first quarter, WKCE testing update, Holiday Fair, and Book Fair.
- Mrs. Zeinert: A written report was submitted which included the Jeans for Charity event, Veterans Day program, SILA parent/student survey results, and the winter band/choir concert.
- Mrs. Guex: Equalization aid information.
- Mr. VanderHeyden: Correspondence, introduction of new reporter, Teacher Evaluation Design Team update, and committee updates.

### November 21, 2011

**Attendance:** **Board members** — David Gomm, Raymond Gomm, Mary Hoffman, Bradley Ritchie, Gregory Schoettler, Melissa Van Dyke, Allen Warner. **Others** — Chris VanderHeyden, Kim Griesbach, fifth grade teachers, fifth grade students and parents, and Beth Bloedorn.

Presentation: Fifth grade students reported on their attendance at Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya.

Delegation: Carol Van Straten commented that she was opposed to the cancellation of school due to the state football game. She stated that the purpose of school is to educate and that perhaps a better solution would have been to excuse the high school only.

The board voted to:

- Approve the 66:0301 Shared Services Summer School Contract for 2012.

In other discussion:

- School board election timeline.
- Ray Gomm asked for feedback on the CESA renovation project. Members requested more information regarding the cost impacts before commenting on the merits of the project.

Board report: Ray Gomm reported on CESA #6.

Administration reports:

- Mrs. Griesbach: WKCE testing, early release on November 23, Bucket Fillers assembly on November 30, Access testing window, and winter concert on December 5.
- Mr. VanderHeyden: State football follow-up and committee update.

Closed session: To discuss personal LTD staff issue and superintendent evaluation.

### NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION School District of Shiocton April 3, 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election is to be held in the School District of Shiocton on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, and that two positions on the School Board are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents. The term of office for a school board member is three (3) years. Terms of office will begin on Monday, April 23, 2012. The present incumbents are as follows:

Ray Gomm  
Mary Hoffman

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a *Campaign Registration Statement* and a *Declaration of Candidacy* must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, January 3, 2012**, with the School District Clerk in the School District Office in Shiocton at N5650 Broad Street, Shiocton, WI 54170.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if a primary election is necessary, the primary election will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

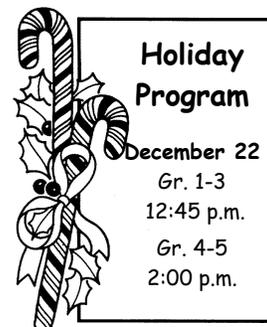
David Gomm, Clerk  
Board of Education  
School District of Shiocton

## December Calendar of Events

1	Thu	SILA Student Presentation Evening in the SILA classrooms (see page 3) — 6:00-8:00 pm
2	Fri	JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at Gibraltar — 5:30/7:00 pm
3	Sat	HS Wrestling at Oconto — 10:00 am
5	Mon	Elementary/Middle School Penny Race begins (to benefit the Food and Toy Drive) Market Day pick-up in the cafeteria — 3:00-4:15 pm Shiocton Christmas Chili Dinner in the cafeteria — 4:00-6:30 pm <b>School Board meeting in the LMC — 6:30 pm</b> Winter Concert in the HS gym featuring all bands and choirs — 7:00 pm
6	Tue	Youth Wrestling pre-season clinic in the cafeteria — 3:10-4:45 pm MS Boys Basketball at Wittenberg-Birnamwood — 4:00 pm HS Wrestling at Fox Valley Lutheran — 7:00 pm JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at home with Suring — 6:00/7:30 pm
7	Wed	<b>Early release for staff development — 12:10 pm dismissal</b> Parent Connection Information Group meeting in the pupil services office — 4:00 pm
8	Thu	MS Boys Basketball at home with Bonduel — 4:00 pm HS Wrestling at home with Almond-Bancroft and Tri-County — 7:00 pm
9	Fri	Freshman/JV/Varsity Boys Basketball at home with Bonduel — 6:00/7:30 pm Teddy Bear Toss sponsored by Student Council — half-time of the varsity game
10	Sat	HS Wrestling at Brillion Invitational — 8:30 am SPICE presents Cookies and Milk with Santa in the cafeteria— 9:30 am-12:00 pm
12	Mon	<b>The Link</b> — Deadline for submitting articles for the January issue
13	Tue	Youth Wrestling pre-season clinic in the cafeteria — 3:10-4:45 pm MS Boys Basketball at Marion — 4:00 pm Freshman/JV/Varsity Boys Basketball at Iola-Scandinavia — 6:00/7:30 pm JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at home with Iola-Scandinavia — 6:00/7:30 pm Community Book Club meeting at Studio 54 — 6:30 pm
14	Wed	SPICE meeting and holiday gathering at the River Rail — 6:15 pm
15	Thu	MS band and choir field trip to Rennes Retirement Community in Appleton — 10:30 am-2:00 pm MS Boys Basketball at home with Black Creek — 4:00 pm K4 Holiday Activity Night in the cafeteria — 5:00-7:00 pm JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at Wittenberg-Birnamwood — 6:00/7:30 pm
16	Fri	Last day for donations to the Food and Toy Drive Freshman/JV/Varsity Boys Basketball at home with Wittenberg-Birnamwood — 6:00/7:30 pm
17	Sat	HS Wrestling at Beaver Dam — 9:30 am
19	Mon	Hunter Safety class begins in the cafeteria (see page 22) — 6:00 pm <b>School Board meeting in the LMC — 6:30 pm</b> HS Wrestling at Rosholt — 7:00 pm
19-1/14		Softball Team Pizza Sale (see page 3)
20	Tue	K5 Christmas Program ( <i>What Happened to Santa's Tree?</i> ) in the cafeteria — 1:30 pm Youth Wrestling pre-season clinic in the cafeteria — 3:10-4:45 pm JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at home with Southern Door — 6:00/7:30 pm
22	Thu	Grades 1-3 Holiday Program in the elementary gym — 12:45 pm Grades 4-5 Holiday Program in the elementary gym — 2:00 pm JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at home with St. Mary Central — 6:00/7:30 pm
23	Fri	Bucket Fillers assembly in the elementary gym — 2:20 pm Market Day orders due in the elementary or high school office
26-1/1		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> — Winter break
29	Thu	JV/Varsity Boys Basketball at Gresham Community Tournament — TBD JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at Marion — 6:00/7:30 pm
30	Fri	JV/Varsity Boys Basketball at Gresham Community Tournament — TBD JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at home with Sturgeon Bay — 1:00/3:00 pm



**Cookies and Milk with Santa  
December 10**



**Coming Up in January**

- 2 School resumes  
Hunter Safety class
- 3 Deadline for School Board candidate filing  
HS Wrestling at home  
JV/Varsity Boys Basketball at Suring  
Youth Wrestling begins
- 5 Market Day pick-up
- 6 JV/Varsity Girls Basketball at home
- 10 MS Girls Basketball at home
- 18 End of the first semester — 12:10 pm dismissal

**Shiocton Counselors Present First Parent Connection Information Group featuring "Social Networks"**

Wednesday, December 7

4:00 p.m. in the Pupil Services Office

Come and network with other parents and ask them what works for them or share ideas that work for you. This could be a great time to build a support system for our community. Please call one of the counselors and reserve a spot: Rhonda Uelmen at 986-3351 ext. 762 or Angela Hammill at ext. 711.



Breakfast served daily with a variety of cold cereal, milk, 100% juice, toast, and fruit.  
Cold sandwiches available each day as an alternative entrée for lunch.  
Fresh fruit and vegetables are offered daily. Whole grain white bread and buns are offered.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
* Menu subject to change			1 Grab-n-Go salad or BBQ on a bun, tri taters, baked beans, string cheese, pears, milk	2 Grab-n-Go salad or homemade chicken noodle soup, uncrustable PB&J sandwich, carrots, fresh apples, milk
5 Grab-n-Go salad or pizzaroni, green beans, Mandarin oranges, bread, milk	6 Grab-n-Go salad or nachos with meat and cheese, sour cream, carrots, pineapple, milk	7 Chicken patty on a bun, French fries, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, milk	8 Mini corn dogs, seasoned rice, lettuce salad, fruit cocktail, milk	9 Grab-n-Go salad or chicken fajitas with shredded cheese, sour cream, mixed vegetables, peaches, milk
12 Pizza, lettuce salad with dressings, pears, milk	13 Brunch for lunch: cheese omelet, hash browns, pancakes, fresh fruit, orange juice, milk	14 Grab-n-Go salad or soft shell tacos with meat, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, sour cream, whole kernel corn, pineapple, milk	15 Chicken nuggets, French fries, green beans, Mandarin oranges, milk	16 Grab-n-Go salad or tomato soup, grilled cheese sandwich, peas, strawberry cup, milk
19 Grab-n-Go salad or chicken and gravy over mashed potatoes, carrots, cranberry sauce, bread, milk	20 Grab-n-Go salad or cheeseburger on a bun, French fries, green beans, sliced oranges, milk	21 Spaghetti with meat sauce, lettuce salad, pears, garlic bread, milk	22 Ham, turkey, cheese sub, Sun Chips, applesauce cup, fresh vegetables, Christmas cookie, milk	23 Mozzarella pizza dippers, marinara sauce, mixed vegetables, peaches, milk

Lunch prices: Elementary — \$1.85 per day, \$9.25 per week, \$31.45 for December  
Middle/High School — \$2.15 per day, \$10.75 per week, \$36.55 for December

Parents/Guardians — Please remember, money is needed in the lunch account before purchases are made. If your account has a negative \$20 balance, please send money or a cold lunch. Your child may not be allowed to eat hot lunch. No a la carte purchases will be allowed.



## Veterans Day 2011



photos by Keith Skenandore  
Advertiser Community News

## Elementary/Middle School News



I hope you and your family were able to enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving! May you continue to count your many blessings each and every day.

I am happy to report that the elementary and middle school students have completed all of the **WKCE testing** for the 2011-12 school year. I thank the students for doing their personal best each and every day. We should receive the results sometime in late winter. When we do, we will pass the information on to you.



Thanks to everyone who was able to join us for the **Veterans Day Program** in November. Students in grades 1-12 participated in the program to honor veterans, past and present. The band and choir students did a wonderful job! Great job to everyone involved!

### Food and Toy Drive

As you know, the Student Council Food and Toy Drive is going on right now. High School Student Council members coordinate this drive each year to help needy families within our community. Please help us in our final weeks of the drive! Any new or gently used items, as well as canned goods, will be greatly appreciated. As you donate, please keep in mind that we need items for children of all ages (from infants to ages 17-18). Shiocton is filled with incredible community members who come through year after year. Thank you so very much, in advance, for your thoughtfulness and your generosity!

### Cold Weather Reminders

It's that time of year again! Please make sure your child has the proper winter gear to wear to school (hat/ear muffs, mittens, boots, snow pants). The children do go outside for recess unless the temperature is below zero. Middle school students also go outside during their lunch/recreation time. Please help monitor that your child is dressing appropriately for winter. Thank you! ☺



During this season, may we all take time to count our blessings, appreciate all of the special people in our lives, and help those who are less fortunate. Have a safe, healthy, and joyous season.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Kim Griesbach ☺  
Elementary/Middle School Principal

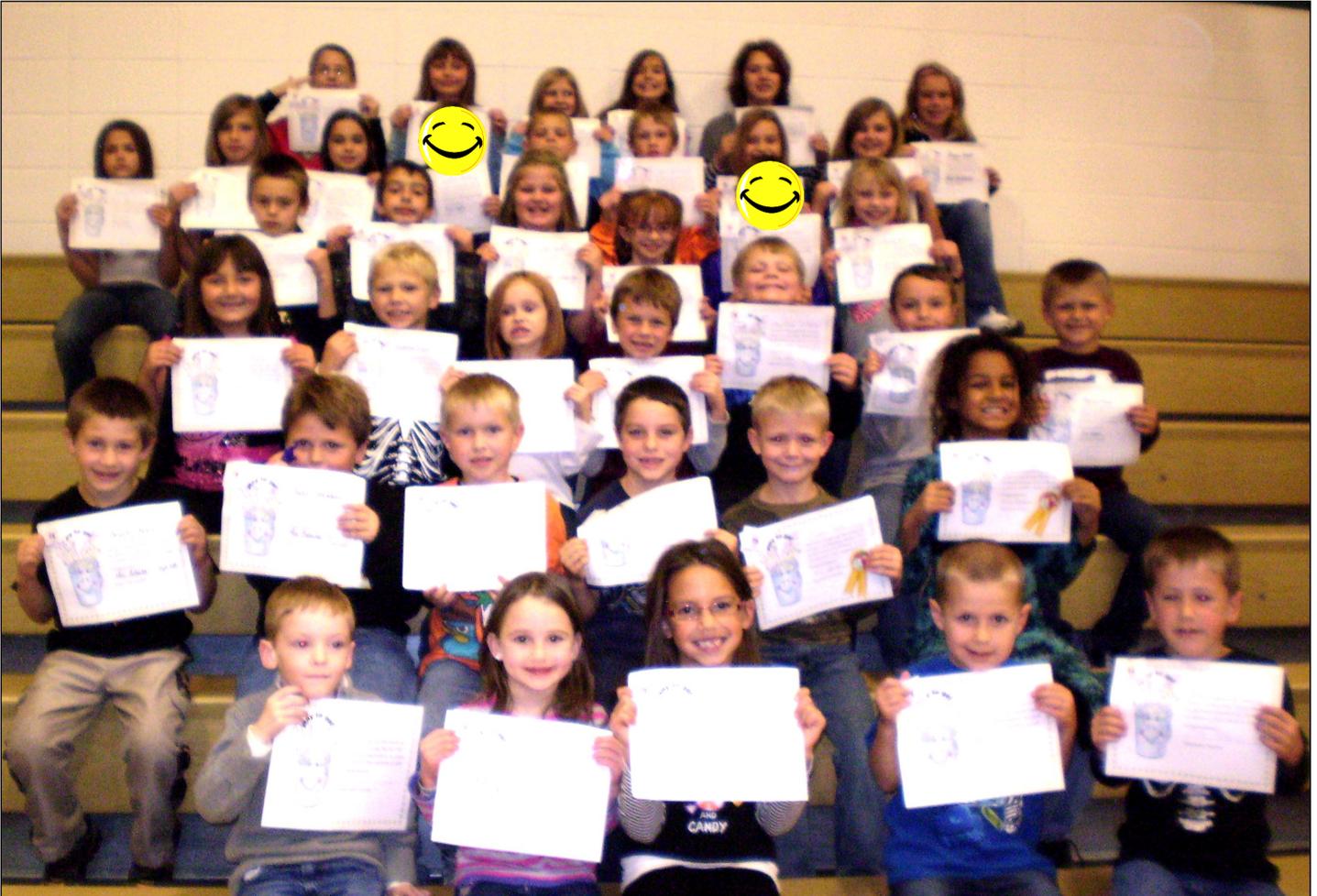


### December Events and Activities

- Monday, Dec. 5 Winter Music Concert – 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 7 **12:10 p.m. early release**
- Saturday, Dec. 10 Cookies and Milk with Santa – 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 12 Midquarter for second quarter
- Thursday, Dec. 15 MS band/choir to Rennes Retirement Community in Appleton to carol
- Tuesday, Dec. 20 Kindergarten Program – 1:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 22 Elementary Holiday Program in the elementary gym
  - Grades 1-3 at 12:45 p.m.
  - Grades 4-5 at 2:00 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 23 Bucket Fillers assembly – 2:20 p.m.

# October Bucket Fillers

Have you filled a bucket today? That's a question we have all been busy asking one another. The bucket filling notion is that everyone carries an invisible bucket and it is our job as students and staff to fill them up every day through kind words or actions. Classmates nominate each other when their buckets have been filled. These "Bucket Fillers" were chosen from the classroom "bucket" in October.



Front row (*left to right*) — Ben Bronold, Alexis Widmann, Autumn Taylor, Logan Leeman, Ty Marcks

Second row — Bryce Poppy, Owen Streblow, Logan Arneson, Logan Ebben, Dylan Herb, Kahlila Barnes

Third row — Yenna Anaya, Andrew Lecker, Julia Bronold, Ron Diemel, Matthew Klitzke, Sam Volkman, Parker Moder

Fourth row — Cameron Conratt, Logan Osheim, Carly Herb, Trista Rose, Sydney Sausen

Fifth row — Jordyn Bauman, Skylor Bruns, Jadyne Manske, Deven Bedor, Chase Van Camp, Cassidey Trimberger, Nikki Harvath

Back row — Cole Burmeister, Caitlyn Pingel, Lindsey Diemel, Maddie Otto, Paige Stein, Paige Scott

Not pictured: Hailey Theobald

## Fall Fun in Early Childhood

The early childhood class began the month of November by jumping into autumn. Students learned about the fall season and discussed the changes they saw outside. They had fun painting with corncobs and broom corn (thank you, Brianna), stringing a fall necklace, and counting acorns. They also worked diligently on pulling corn kernels from the cob to play with in our sensory table. The students experimented with fall colors on a coffee filter and predicted what would happen. They also worked on their math skills by counting “fallen” thumbprint leaves and made fabulous fall leaves using melted crayons.



In addition to leaves, owls were flying around everywhere in the classroom. Students learned the word nocturnal and what an owl eats. Students practiced size seriating by assembling an owl and sensory integration skills by finger-painting an owl.

We hope you were able to check out our fall display.

At the end of November, we focused on turkeys. The students made a special turkey bucket for their families for the Thanksgiving table. They got their hands dirty making a handprint turkey. Their favorite activity was making pumpkin pie – yummy! Cooking is an excellent hands-on way to learn pre-mathematical concepts like big, little, empty, and full. Cooking also involves measuring, following directions, and estimating.

We look forward to December with themes which include stars, trees, and reindeer. We also plan to run as fast as we can to catch the gingerbread man. From our classroom to your house ~ HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

### Catch Them in the Cradle

Belated birthday wishes go out to newborn Evelyne Darlene, born on 8/29/11. Congratulations, Adam and Amber! Evelyne will receive literacy gifts on this and her next three birthdays. This project is funded by a grant from former Green Bay Packer Mark Tauscher's Trifecta Foundation, which encourages literacy throughout Wisconsin.

Please continue to keep us informed if you or anyone you know in the Shiocton School District welcomes a new baby into their family. Give us a call at (920) 986-3351 ext. 780, contact Ms. Jorgensen through e-mail at [mjorgensen@shiocton.k12.wi.us](mailto:mjorgensen@shiocton.k12.wi.us), or stop in her office. We need only the child's name, birth date, and address. We'll send that child all sorts of literacy goodies! Thank you.



## Thanksgiving Feast in K4

The four-year-old kindergartners have been learning about the first Thanksgiving. We made many projects to decorate our classroom, such as beautiful turkeys and Indian corn. We also made teepees to be used as centerpieces for our Thanksgiving feast, and the children made their own costumes



to wear at our feast. The girls dressed up as Pilgrims and the boys dressed up as Native Americans, and we shared a feast together in our classroom.



The children are looking forward to the most exciting time of the year, Christmas. We will have fun preparing for the big holiday!

## K5 Has a Busy Month in Store

Our K5 angels will be hanging out in the hall, so make a point to check out our bulletin board. Along with our holiday projects we will continue to work on the themes Family Ties and Animal Families.

The kindergartners will be getting ready and working hard for their Christmas program *What Happened to Santa's Tree?* The children will learn many songs with actions and speaking parts, and will show off their amazing talents on Tuesday, December 20, at 1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.



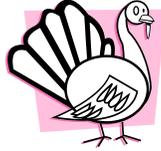
We will continue to review letters and letter sounds we have covered and will be introducing the letters *Ii* and *Ll*. We have started blending the letter sounds together to create and read words using the letters we have already learned: *Mm, Ss, Rr, Tt, Pp, Cc, Aa, Nn, Dd, Gg, and Ff*. Have your children practice making words by blending the letter sounds together. At school the children will be using the sight words we have learned plus our new words this month — *it, are, for, me, is, and here* — to build sentences. Please continue to study the sight word cards with your child. We have worked on blending letter sounds together (*-am, -at, and -ap*), and we will continue with these and add *-it* and *-ig* this month. We are also working on developing the children's writing skills. Encourage them to sound out words and write the sounds that they hear. They may surprise you!

In math this month we will continue working on numbers 0 to 10. We will be introducing geometry and fractions. The children will learn to identify, sort, and classify solid figures and plane shapes. We will also be talking about symmetrical shapes and lines of symmetry. The children will be introduced to Touch Counting as we begin working on addition skills.

It will be a very exciting and busy month. Happy holidays!

## First Graders Prepare for the Gingerbread Man

Wow! November has come and gone already. We were so busy in first grade that the month flew by. We had many discussions on the meaning of Thanksgiving and the first Thanksgiving. We also created projects centered around the Thanksgiving theme. Mrs. Streblov's Family Fun turkeys turned out great. Thank you to all the families who helped the first graders create a unique, one-of-a-kind turkey. They were adorable!



Mrs. Bellin's and Mrs. Behnke's students have been busy learning about animals in science class. They can tell you all about living things, non-living things, and what living things need to survive. They can also talk your ear off about mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish, and insects. The students always enjoy learning about animals. They take great pride in their learning. These students were able to display their knowledge by creating an animal, its shelter, and food. The projects are awesome. Thank you for helping your child out with this project.

This brings us to December. We have lots of fun and exciting activities planned for this month. One favorite will surely be our gingerbread man unit. Besides reading several versions of this old tale, we will be using gingerbread men to learn about other states as well. We will send out a gingerbread man to a friend or relative in a different state in the hope of hearing back from them. We are excited to see who we will hear from and what we can learn from them. No gingerbread unit would be complete without the actual making and baking of gingerbread men cookies! Even though we tell the cooks not to peek at the cookies when they're baking, they always forget, and a few gingerbread men run away. We'll have to be extra careful this year. ☺



Our first graders are busy in music class preparing for their Holiday Program with Mrs. Stellmacher. We hope you will be able to join us on December 22 at 12:45 p.m. in the elementary gym to hear our students present their holiday musical gifts.

As we enter the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, sometimes the routines of homework get set aside. Remember that the more your first grader reads, the better reader he/she will become. Please try to keep your nightly routine of reading and practicing spelling intact. Thank you for continuing to be an active participant in your child's education.

## Elementary Holiday Program

Thursday, December 22  
Grades 1, 2, and 3 at 12:45 p.m.  
Grades 4 and 5 at 2:00 p.m.



### So Much to Do in Grade 2!

December brings the anticipation of snowy weather and holiday celebrations! To occupy the second graders until the BIG event, we plan to keep them very busy by continuing to work on D.L.R., reading skills, Rocket Math, bucket filling, and so much more.

The students are progressing in their abilities to find common mistakes in writing in order to make sentences grammatically correct in conversation and writing. We continue to work on our reading skills by making connections and predicting. Creating connections and making predictions help build comprehension, so that we can take away all of the great parts of a story. There is so much more to a book than the words on the page! Ask your second grader to share how these skills are practiced weekly in their classrooms. You will be surprised to hear how often he/she can make a connection from a book to his/her own life, to another book, or to any other happenings in the world!

Our second graders are continuing to be fantastic Bucket Fillers! We are also working on building character skills. Good characters are honest, responsible, trustworthy, cooperative, respectful, and so much more. We make sure to recognize when a citizen of our class has made appropriate choices. We have also had some practice in identifying those situations when a self-correction in behavior is needed. We discuss what we can do next time in order to be safe, responsible, and respectful! ☺



Many second graders are beginning to soar through subtraction Rocket Math skills. Their confidence has built them up and they are eager for the quick 1-minute check each day. It is exciting to hear the "buzz" through second grade about which letter each student is working on. The more practice the students put into memorizing their math facts, the quicker they will blast off!

Lastly, with the end of November, we can officially say good-bye to unseasonably warm temperatures. Please make sure that your child is dressed for the weather conditions on a daily basis. Wisconsin weather can be so unpredictable, so the best plan is to be prepared each school day by sending all necessary items for cold weather as soon as they are needed.

Each day please provide your child with a warm coat and a cozy hat, and when the snow arrives – a few pairs of gloves, boots, and snow pants. Thanks for all of the help, guidance, and support that you provide to your child! Happy holidays from grade 2!



## Market Day Pie Sale Supports Spanish Club



Thank you to the elementary staff, students, and parents for their participation in selling over 170 pies and desserts. Kindergartner Phoebe Pierce, who sold 32 pies, was the outstanding pie seller. She will receive a \$50 Best Buy gift card. In second place was Diego Leon (grade 2), with 21 pies/desserts. He receives a \$25 Best Buy gift card.

Mrs. Otto's second grade classroom will receive an apple pie and ice cream party. Her students sold a grand total of 41 pies. Congratulations to Mrs. Otto's class. Mrs. Scott's kindergarten class sold 38 pies, and Mrs. Romenesko's 4-year-old kindergarten class came in third with 29 pies sold.

The Spanish Club earned \$580 in profit from this fantastic dessert fundraiser. This will help towards funding their 2012 trip to Honduras.

## Third Grade — Working on Time and Money

As November came and went, so did the Veterans Day assembly and the announcing of our military report winners. Each third grader researched and wrote a report about one of the four branches of the military. One student was chosen from each classroom to read his/her report to the audience at the assembly. Congratulations to Macy Raeck, Logan Heindl, and Trenton Kurczek. A special "salute" to you three for a job well done.



We've finished our unit on 3- and 4-digit addition and subtraction. Now as December begins, the students will continue to study money, time, and calendar in math. We have been practicing how to count money (up to \$10.00), making equivalent sets of money using different coins, and making change. We are asking that you review these concepts with your third grader periodically throughout the year, so they are not forgotten.

As we continue into the month of December, the "ALL-school" Food and Toy Drive will move forward, and this is a great chance for school and community to come together and help families in need.

Once we get to our time unit, we will focus on how to tell the time to the nearest minute and discover different ways to say the same time. This concept can easily be reinforced at home also. Before school, after school, at the supper table, or at bedtime, have your child tell you what time it is. Then ask how you could say that time differently. For example, 7:40 could be seven-forty, forty minutes after seven, or twenty minutes till eight — a great concept to keep active in your child's mind. This is a skill they will use forever.

Our busy month of December will entail our Holiday Program. This will take place in the elementary gym on Thursday, December 22, at 12:45 p.m. Hope to see you there! Also, just a reminder that winter break begins after classes on Friday, December 23, and school resumes on Monday, January 2.

## Fall Book Fair a Huge Success!

by Steve Parker

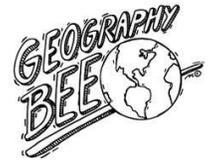
The Fall Book Fair was a huge success this year. Over \$700 worth of books were donated to students, classrooms, and the school library. A big thank-you to all the students who made space posters for decorating our hallways. Great job! Thanks also to all the staff and parents who worked together to make this a successful event. Thank you for all your support. Here's to making Shiocton Schools great!



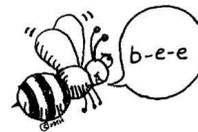
## "Bee" Prepared in Grade 4

We are so proud of our fourth graders! They tackled the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam with positive attitudes and great thinking. Now with that behind us we can breathe a sigh of relief and start enjoying the winter weather. Remember, boots, hats, gloves/mittens, and snow pants are what all of the "cool" warm kids in Wisconsin wear for recess.

Fourth grade is the first year for students to participate in the Geography Bee that is held in January. Fourth grade teachers will be looking for their geography buffs throughout December. It is a good idea for students interested in geography to start studying their maps, globes, and geography facts at home. The teachers will be choosing their contestants based on geography work done at school and at home and on classroom observations.



We will also be participating in the school Spelling Bee in January, and it is not too early for spelling-minded students to start preparing themselves for that. Students are chosen for the Spelling Bee in the same way they are chosen for the Geography Bee. The teachers also run classroom spelling bees to help them decide who will go to the school-wide competition.



By the time everyone reads this, we will have celebrated our Grandparents Day. We wrote our grandparents' biographies, played a fun guessing game with items from our grandparents' childhood, and most of all had fun with our favorite people!

## Fifth Grade: Learning and Fun at Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya

Happy holidays! We are beginning December already! Where have the first three months gone? Fifth grade has been very busy, as you know. This month's article will fill you in on the details of our annual trip to Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya.



The fifth graders left on October 12 and arrived at camp on a beautiful day. After unpacking our gear and having a tour and orientation to camp, we ate lunch and began a busy three days. Our students learned about tracking animals (CSI Tracking), fishing (Primitive Fishing), team building (Initiatives), animal survival in the wild (Predator/Prey), the history of canoeing and how to canoe (Canoeing class), and tree identification (Roots to Leaves). Some of these classes were different from previous years and, as teachers, it was great to experience and learn something new with the students. Below and on the next page you will find some of the creative ways the students expressed themselves through poetry. These poems were written in Mrs. McNichols' language class as a summary of our camp experiences. Our 2011 Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya experiences were super. Even with a rainy Thursday afternoon, the students braved it all, learned many new skills, and made new friends.

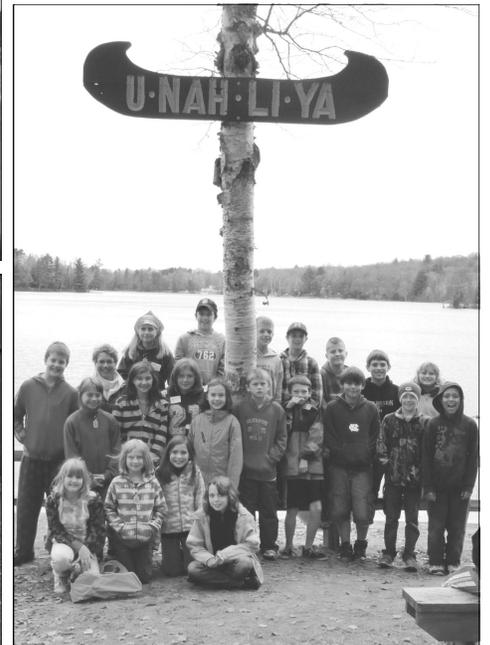
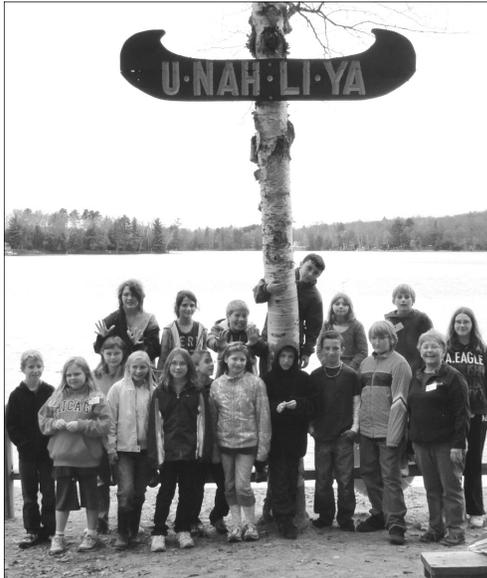
Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya is fun.  
It is a place to learn and to run.  
There are many things to do  
Like fish and canoe  
And you wish your classes were never done.  
*by Leigha Young*

At camp I saw a Red Pine  
And I thought that bark's fine  
There were a couple of vines  
That could be made into lines  
And now my favorite trees are pines.  
*by Brady Sargent Volkman*

I found the gizmo in my hood.  
The dinner bell rang.  
Do I have to kiss the moose?  
What else might they have me do?  
Lunch has ended.  
He tells me to dance.  
Disco!  
*by Lukas Berard*

Canoeing  
All cabins are cozy  
Motivating  
Predator Prey

Under the stars walk  
Never forget it  
Activities outside  
Happiness you can't deny  
Learn how to fish with a stick  
I got gizmoed  
YMCA  
All year long  
*by Lindsey Diemel*



## Rope Bridge

Rocks back and forth  
Over water  
People crowd to cross  
Exciting

Balance  
Rope burn  
Intelligent  
Don't fall  
Go slow  
Encouragement

*by Faith Moser*

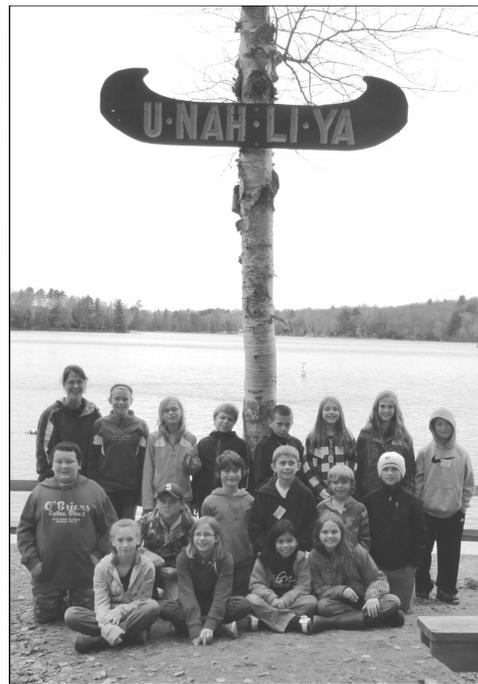


## The Canoe

Canoe  
Long, wet  
Rowing, swishing, swerving  
So much hard work  
Kayak

*by Samantha Scott*

I Quinten  
Love to canoe  
In Blue Gill Pond  
In the rain, it's really fun  
I love to canoe at Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya  
*by Quinten Eichinger*



## Grade 5 news *(continued)*

In social studies the fifth graders have been studying different European explorers. Each student became an expert on an explorer, researched their life and discoveries, and presented to the class. Many interesting facts were “discovered.” Did you know the famous Henry Hudson was mutinied by his crew? He was left for dead on a small boat by his crew members retaliating against his cruel treatment towards them. Or that during his trip around the world, Ferdinand Magellan’s crew had to eat rats and leather riggings to survive? The students gained an understanding of the explorers’ “discovery” of the

Americas, and the horrific outcome this discovery had on the Native Americans living there. Next we will be focusing on the attempt of English people to settle along the east coast of this new land (13 English colonies).

The students are looking forward to the holidays ahead. With that comes the first band concert for the fifth grade band. That concert will be held on Monday, December 5, in the high school gym at 7:00 p.m. It is an exciting and nerve-racking time for them. Good luck!

We are into the second quarter. Report cards were sent home. New goals are established and previous



goals are re-evaluated. Students and their parents/guardians are working on ways to continue the success achieved or trying to find ways to make adjustments so that success can be reached. Please keep the lines of communication open with the school. We are working hard to help all the students reach their potential, but we can't do it without you. Check your child's agenda every day. Make sure your child is reading a book at their level and journaling about it. Are they practicing their math skills, D.O.L., and spelling? Is there something you do with your child at home that may benefit him/her/others in school? We would like to know. Let's continue to find ways to help all students be the best that they can be.

## 8th Grade Business Class Cashing In

by Kurt Wismer



In a matter of nine weeks, six enterprising 8th graders in Mr. Wismer's business class started and ran an entire business. The students had the opportunity to work with Mr. Doro's 8th grade technology education class in creating the product. The product (as pictured) is a made-to-order custom, engraved Plexiglas pencil and paper holder. The holder sold for \$5 to \$7 depending on the options ordered. In the course of the class, the students covered accounting, marketing and sales, management,



and production. They created a complete business plan encompassing all aspects of the business. The students worked side by side with Mr. Doro's students in the technology education department to help in manufacturing all the products. In all, the students sold 53 units and had total sales of \$357. The profits were used to cover production costs and for an end-of-class pizza party in celebration of a successful business and the students' hard work.

The current 8th grade business class will be working with Mrs. Gomm's family and consumer education class in creating and selling both apple pie muffins and banana chocolate chip muffins. Look for the results of this business in a future *Link* article.

## 8th Grade Counselor News

by Rhonda Uelmen

The 8th grade was busy with WKCE testing during the month of November. They are now done testing until 10th grade. I am very proud of how well they all worked.

The 8th graders are also required to perform a job shadow, which is due the last week of school. Parents and students will set this up, but if there are challenges with that, please feel free to contact me at school. I have many resources that would be helpful. Ideally I would like parents to help their children find the job area, but have the student make contact. Educators are finding that our students are lacking the ability to communicate effectively because of texting and the Internet. Each student has a syllabus with the job shadow requirements. Please take pictures if the place of employment will allow it.

Finally, please continue to have conversations with your children about respect. Even though you don't agree with someone, you do not have the right to hurt someone physically or verbally because they do not believe the same thing. Accept differences, especially if it does not have anything to do with you.

## MS Student Council Has Holiday Spirit

by Rhonda Uelmen

The Middle School Student Council just wrapped up their first dance week. The theme for this week was "Remember Our Veterans." The students decided to shine a light on those veterans close to them and put up stars for veterans near and dear.

On November 30 the MS Student Council rang bells for the Salvation Army at the Northland Mall. Thank you to all who came out and saw us.

On December 5 our annual Penny Race will begin to benefit the High School Student Council's Food and Toy Drive. Please bring in all of your pennies to see which class will have the most. It will run for half of December, and the class with the most pennies will receive a pizza party. One party will be awarded in the elementary school and one in the middle school.

Keep listening for our December class dress-up day in the announcements. Good luck and happy holidays!



## Hunter Safety Class Begins in December

by Greg Fischer

The first class of Hunter Safety will be on December 19 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Cost is \$10 and **you do not need to pre-register**. Students will be given all materials needed for the class on the first night. They will be required to do all the bookwork, reviews, and tests on the Internet as assigned each week. A demonstration will be given on the first night on how to log on to the Internet and complete the book work. **A PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST ATTEND THE FIRST NIGHT WITH THE STUDENT.** Of course, parents are encouraged to attend all classes with their child, and adult students are also welcome to sign up for the class.



The second class will be held on January 2 at 6:00 p.m. The reason for starting on December 19 is so the students can get most of the Internet work done over the Christmas break. The remaining classes will be held January 9 and 16. The field test day will probably be January 21. More details on the field test will be discussed. The written test will be on January 23. We realize there will be scheduling conflicts with these class times, and we are open to suggestions and will try to accommodate any conflicts. We will discuss these options at the first class.

After the written test is done for Hunter Safety on January 23, we will start a two-week Bowhunter Safety course for those students who wish to take it. Bowhunter Safety is not required in Wisconsin, but many western states require Bowhunter Safety certification. Only the students who took part in the Shiocton Hunter Safety course can take our Bowhunter Safety course.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Greg Fischer at (920) 810-8204. You may also contact Mike Young at (920) 986-3614.

Again, it is mandatory that a parent or guardian attend the first class, and they are strongly encouraged to attend all classes.

### *News from the Nurse — Take Time to Get a Flu Vaccine*

*The best way to protect against influenza is to get a flu vaccine every flu season.*

*Rebecca Ecker, RN*

#### **Why get vaccinated against influenza (flu)?**

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory disease that can lead to serious complications, hospitalization, or even death. Anyone can get the flu, and vaccination is the single best way to protect against influenza. Even healthy children and adults can get very sick from the flu and spread it to family and friends. There are two reasons for getting a yearly flu vaccine.

- 1) The first reason is that, because flu viruses are constantly changing, flu vaccines may be updated from one season to the next to protect against the most recent and most commonly circulating viruses.
- 2) The second reason that annual vaccination is recommended is that a person's immune protection from vaccination declines over time and annual vaccination is needed for optimal protection.

#### **Who should get a flu vaccine?**

Everyone is at risk for seasonal influenza. Health experts now recommend that everyone six months of age

and older get vaccinated against influenza. While everyone should get a flu vaccine each flu season, it's especially important that the following groups get vaccinated, either because they are at high risk of having serious flu-related complications or because they live with or care for people at high risk for developing flu-related complications:

- Pregnant women
- Children younger than five, but especially children younger than two years old
- People 50 years of age and older
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including health care workers, household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu, and household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children less than six months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated)

*(continued on next page)*

**Reminder to Parents:** Children six months through eight years of age who did not receive at least one dose of the 2010-11 vaccine, or for whom it is not certain whether the 2010-11 vaccine was received, should receive two doses of the 2011-12 seasonal vaccine.

### Who should NOT get a flu vaccine?

- Influenza vaccine is not approved for use in children younger than six months so they should not be vaccinated, but their caregivers should be vaccinated instead.
- People who are sick with fever should wait until their symptoms pass to get vaccinated.
- Some people should not be vaccinated before talking to their doctor. This includes:
  - ◊ People who have a severe allergy to chicken eggs.
  - ◊ People who have had a severe reaction to an influenza vaccination in the past.
  - ◊ People who developed Guillian-Barré syndrome (GBS) within six weeks of getting an influenza vaccine previously.

### When to get vaccinated.

Get vaccinated as soon as vaccine becomes available in your community. Vaccination before December is best, since this timing ensures that protective antibodies are in place before flu activity is typically at its highest. However, flu season can last as late as May, so getting vaccinated later in the flu season could still provide protective benefit. About two weeks after vaccination, antibodies that provide protection against the influenza viruses in the vaccine develop in the body.

Flu vaccines are offered in many doctors' offices and clinics. Even if you don't have a regular doctor or nurse, you can get a flu vaccine at other places like your local health department, a pharmacy, an urgent care clinic, and possibly your school, college health center, or workplace.

### What kinds of flu vaccines are available?

There are two types of flu vaccine available.

- 1) The "flu shot" — an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle, usually in the arm. The flu shot is approved for use in people older than six months, including healthy people and people with chronic medical conditions. There are three different flu shots available:



- A regular flu shot approved for people ages six months and older
- A high-dose flu shot approved for people 65 and older
- An intradermal flu shot approved for people 18 to 64 years of age

- 2) The nasal-spray flu vaccine — a vaccine made with live, weakened flu viruses that is given as a nasal spray (sometimes called LAIV for "Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine"). The viruses in the nasal spray vaccine do not cause the flu. LAIV is approved for use in healthy people two through 49 years of age who are not pregnant.

### What are the benefits of getting the flu vaccine?

- Protection for yourself
- Protection for newborns and infants who are too young to get vaccinated
- Protection for people at high risk for complications from flu

Flu seasons are unpredictable and can be severe. Over a period of 30 years, between 1976 and 2007, estimates of flu-related deaths in the United States range from a low of 3,000 people to a high of about 49,000 people. Each year, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from the flu, including an average of 20,000 children younger than five years of age.

### What are the side effects of the flu vaccine?

Flu shots are safe and cannot give you the flu because they are made from killed or very weakened virus, but there may be some mild side effects from the two different types of vaccines (shot and nasal-spray). The most common side effects from the flu shot are soreness, redness, or tenderness or swelling where the shot is given. Side effects from the nasal-spray vaccine include runny nose, cough, or nasal congestion.

### Everyone, 6 months of age and older, is recommended to get vaccinated against the flu.

A flu vaccine reduces your risk of illness, hospitalization, or even death and can prevent you from spreading the virus to your loved ones. Protect your family from flu — get vaccinated. For more information about the seriousness of influenza and the benefits of influenza vaccination, talk to your doctor or nurse, visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), or call CDC at 1 (800) CDC-INFO.

*Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

# THE UPBEAT!

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR SHIOCTON MUSIC



## MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS CHILI DINNER

You are cordially invited to the *Shiocton Christmas Chili Party*, a fundraiser dinner for the Shiocton music department. Come and join us as we serve chili and buns, refreshments, and dessert on **Monday, December 5**. Dinner will be served from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. with our annual Winter Concert to follow at 7:00 p.m. Santa may even make a surprise visit again!

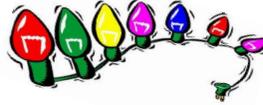
Parents of music students were asked last month to help donate chili, desserts, or volunteer for the event. Chili and baked goods will need to be dropped off at school by 2:00 p.m. that day. Any questions, please contact us. We will feature sounds of the season during dinner and at our concert that evening. We hope you will join us as we celebrate the holiday season together. Let us entertain you for the night!

### Chili Dinner

Ages 12 and up \$5

Ages 4 to 11 \$3

Under 4 Free!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND AND CHOIR CAROL FOR THE ELDERLY

The middle school band and choir (grades 6 through 8) will travel to Rennes Retirement Community in Appleton on **Thursday, December 15**, from approximately 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Students will be excused from classes but will be expected to make up any work missed during the trip. We will stop for lunch before our performance. There is no cost for the trip other than the cost of lunch at McDonalds. A signed permission slip will be required of all students attending the trip. Please be on the lookout for information coming home early this month. If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mrs. Anderson or Mr. Yenor.

CHRIS ANDERSON  
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facebook.com ("Shiocton Choir Shiocton")

BRADD YENOR  
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**SHIOCTON MUSIC**

Students will not be prepared for work in an economy that demands higher-order skills if their schools focus exclusively on the basics. Research is showing that connecting the arts to learning across the curriculum is a strategy that helps close the achievement gap and makes schools happier places by moving beyond a crippling focus on basics and discipline.

—The Washington Post, January 2005

Arts-integrated education demonstrates its strongest impact on social skills in the areas of collaboration with others, social compliance, courtesy, tolerance, conflict resolution, and attention to moral development.

—Critical Links: Learning in the Arts and Student Academic and Social Development

DECEMBER 2011

### SHIOCTON CHRISTMAS CHILI DINNER

Monday, December 5  
4:00-6:30 p.m.  
ANYBODY AND EVERYBODY!

### WINTER CONCERT

Monday, December 5  
7:00 p.m.  
5-12 BAND, 6-12 CHOIR

### MIDDLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROL TRIP

Thursday, December 15  
Appleton  
10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.  
6-8 BAND, 6-8 CHOIR

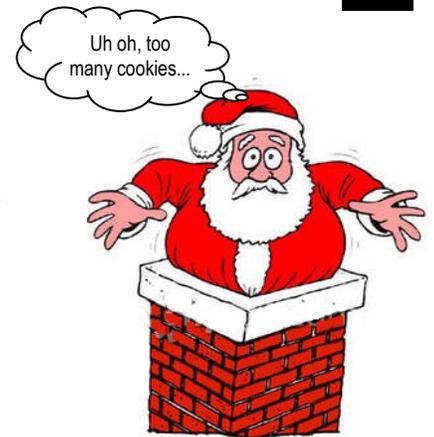
### CHRISTMAS PEP BAND

Friday, December 16  
7-12 BAND

### PEP BAND

Friday, January 6

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

DID YOU KNOW...