

Newsletter

ABOUT YOUR SCHOOLS

Vol. 35 Number 4

May 2010

YOU are invited to the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new K-4 school -

Owatin Creek Elementary School
Sat., June 5 at 11 a.m.
Rt. 562 (across from St. Catharine's)

At their April 20 meeting, the board chose this name from over 120 names that were submitted. Many of the names suggested were related to nature and the environment. Ultimately the name chosen - Owatin Creek - refers to the small stream that runs through a portion of the new school's property. Thanks to everyone for their creative and thoughtful suggestions.

A Surprise Extended Visit for GAPP Students

For more than 20 years, students from Exeter Township Senior High School have participated in the German American Partnership Program (GAPP) with a school in Moosburg, Bavaria. This tradition is highly valued on both sides of the Atlantic. Most participants agree that it is a unique experience to spend three weeks in a foreign country – not as a tourist, but as a member of a family.

Of course, the students explore important historic and cultural sites during their stay. The Americans see Munich, go hiking in the Alps and visit Neuschwanstein Castle. When the Germans visit, they travel to impressive cities like Washington D.C., Philadelphia, and New York City. But even more important is the experience of daily life with the host families and at school. The students take part in their

partners' classes and also give presentations on different aspects of German culture. Therefore, not only individual families benefit, but rather the entire Exeter community.

This year, the involvement was bigger than ever because the Germans suddenly found themselves in a most unfortunate situation. On April 15, after a wonderful three-week stay and a tearful good-bye to their American "brothers" and "sisters," the students of Moosburg's *Karl-Ritter-v-Frisch-Gymnasium* left Exeter for the airport. Upon their arrival they were confronted with the terrible news that all flights into Europe had been canceled due to a volcanic ash cloud. The 18 students and their two chaperones were shocked when the airline informed them their flight was postponed for an unforesee-

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NHS Inducts Fifty-Five Students

Congratulations to the students who were inducted into the Claude W. Dundore Chapter of the National Honor Society on April 18. This chapter is named in honor of Mr. Dundore who was a long-time teacher and administrator in the district. The academic requirement for NHS is a 95% weighted cumulative GPA. For juniors being considered for induction, the basis is their 9th and 10th grade performance. For seniors, the basis is their 9th, 10th, and 11th grade performance. English teachers Ann Rockowicz and Marijo Smith serve as the co-advisors of the group.

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Excavation Work Begins for Owatin Creek School



Earth moving equipment began work at the site along Rt. 562 in March. This photo was taken from Schaffer's Road looking east along Rt. 562. St. Catharine's Church can be seen in the upper left corner.

NHS Induction

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The eight seniors inducted this April were: Michael Gorel, Caitlin Hinsey, Kaitlyn McDonald, Andrew Newstein, Amanda Price, Olivia Rossetti, Annie Wegman, and Christian Ziemba. The 47 juniors were: Michele Abramson, Joseph Ambrosi, Katy Ascanio, Timothy Austin, Joshua Barnett, Linsay Bittinger, Alyssa Blood, Nathan Born, Erin Brady, Alyssa Carpenter, Kyle Cuddeback, Dana Cullen, Dustin Daniels, Victoria Daise, John Fundyga III, Sarah Fuller, Lauren Genova, Joseph Gery, Mitchell Gettis, Zachary Greth, Jordan Hampton, Brooke Harley, Mary Hennessey, Daniel Hiltbeitel, Morgan Hissick, Danielle Hollenbach, Christian Howard, Maximilian Kennedy, Elizabeth McDevitt, Benjamin Menet, Chase Mengle, David Miller, Amanda Moore, John Newcome, Alyssa Newmoyer, Chelsea Overley, Darby Reedy, Brandon Rohrbach, Nicholas Rothbard, Joseph Samolewicz, Alison Schwartz, Gina Sciliano, Daniel Teti, Michael Wang, Lauren Weber, Lauren Williams, and Robert Zalitchi.

The following seniors were inducted in April of 2009 as juniors: Ryan Bannon, Meredith Bassler, Emily Broadbent, Kelly Burkhart, Andrew Carpenter, Jessica Deornellas, Rachael Lutz, Joseph Einsig, Breanna Elison, Kelli Farrell, Deanna Felder, Andrew Green, Rachael Hart, Zeba Hussaini, Justin Janezic, Allison Keim, Allison LaRock, Randi Lesagonicz, Kyle Lessig, Brian Luckenbill, Colleen Mackey, Joseph Marks, Jr., Carolyn Moy, Alexandre Muret, Ross Newcome, Anastasia Nicoloudakis, William Okoniewski, L. Gerald Palacios, Carlie Schaeffer, Kyle Schaeffer, Sara Scheirer, Victoria Scheirer, Michelle Serino, Joshua Sherman, Corinne Staub, Emily Sutton, Keaton Vermeer, Nicholas Vettese, Hannah Wallner, Brad Wierkrykas, Mike Winslow, and Stephanie Zimmer.

Helping Hearts for Harmony Foundation

Do you have an instrument collecting dust in a closet and are not sure what to do with it at house cleaning time? The Helping Hearts for Harmony Foundation is for you! It's a new foundation created by James & Wendy Seidel and a board of directors to assist families who have children who would love to participate in the Exeter instrumental programs, but have fallen upon difficult economic times. We have received a generous donation of reconditioned instruments from an anonymous donor to start the foundation and help those students in the Exeter Schools.

The program simply works like this. If you have a band or string instrument to donate, make an appointment with Ms. Potlunas at the senior high school to drop off the instrument and fill out a simple form. Ms. Potlunas will have Zeswitz Music evaluate the value of the instrument. You will be issued a letter of value which will make the donation tax deductible. Zeswitz will recondition the instrument putting it in playing condition and service the instrument for normal maintenance during its lifetime with no cost to the district or individual. If you would like to make a cash donation, checks can be made to the Exeter Community Education Foundation, Helping Hearts for Harmony.

Exeter Township has a long-standing tradition of supporting and promoting music education in our community. In the early 1950's music was born in the Exeter School District with the hiring of Mr. John Kamm who was a one-man wonder in his early days at Exeter. He built a highly respected band and choral program. He turned the reigns over to Jim Seidel in 1978 to carry out the vision of having a well-balanced successful music education program. With Mr. Kamm's vision in mind, Exeter has one of the largest music programs in the state - making music accessible to all children. This is just one more effort to continue the excellence of this program and bring the joy of music to another child.

The advisory board of the Foundation consists of: James Seidel, music educator; Rick Dietrich from Zeswitz Music; Marc Bellettiere, Exeter School District Administrator; Joseph Staub, Exeter School Board Member; Kathy Rau, President of the Exeter Music Association; and Michquelena Potlunas, Exeter music teacher.

One Man's Junk Is Another Man's Treasure



M.L. Lausch hosted David Gerbstadt as their artist in residence this year. He worked with the students to create individual sculptures, masks, and puppets from discarded objects. The students are also in the process of constructing a large sculpture that will be displayed in the lobby. Funds to host Mr. Gerbstadt were raised by holding a flea market, taking on the whole green theme with the idea that "one man's junk is another man's treasure." MLL art teacher Amy Parsons coordinated the program. Standing (left to right) Rose Kershner, Grace Sturz, Mrs. Parsons, Chase Sturz, Lily Mendez, and Jackie Richards.

Summer School Options for Enrichment and Support

Dr. Warren Mata, Assistant Superintendent

Once again, our school district is pleased to offer a wide variety of summer programs for our students. We will be offering both enrichment classes and support classes this summer.

A number of fun enrichment classes for students from kindergarten through 12th grade are currently being developed. Some course titles include: Beginning Guitar, Summer Moviemaking, Summer Book Club, World Languages, Arts and Crafts, and many more. These classes vary in duration and are scheduled between July 6 and July 30. Most classes will be held at the Lausch Elementary School. Brochures with more details will be sent home with students in early May. Additionally, brochures will be available at the Administration Building, the school offices and on our district website...www.exeter.k12.pa.us.

Support programs designed to strengthen the academic skill/knowledge of our students have also been developed.

- The Kindergarten through 2nd Grade Program is a highly specialized program connected with our Response to Intervention initiative at the K-4 schools. This program will be held at Lausch Elementary from July 6-July 30 and the program contact is Dr. Joseph Schlaffer.
- The 7th and 8th Grade Program will be held at the Junior High School from June 22-July 17. The program contact is the JHS Guidance Office.
- The 9th through 12th Grade Program will be held at the Senior High School from June 22 -July 30. The program contact is the SHS Guidance Office.

There is a nominal charge for all summer school offerings. Transportation is also available to and from the Kindergarten through 2nd Grade Support Program for a nominal cost.

Check This Good News

✓ Once again the Literacy Council of Reading-Berks offers “heartfelt thanks” to Exeter’s schools – Jacksonwald, Lausch, Lorane and Reiffon for their participation in the “Readers Win” Campaign. Exeter was the number one district in Berks County in total dollars raised. Even more impressively in this difficult economic climate, each of the four schools improved upon last year’s total, thereby earning for their libraries a contribution of \$333.00 from the Literacy Council. On an individual school basis, Jacksonwald was number one in Berks in both dollars raised and dollars raised per student, and the other three schools all finished in the top eight in both categories. At a time when it has become increasingly difficult to raise money from both public and private sources, the generosity of Exeter’s families should make our entire community proud.

✓ Numerous SHS students won awards in the Berks County Intermediate Unit’s 2010 Secondary Art Show. The pieces were on display at the GoggleWorks in April. Kaitlyn McNeil won the BCIU’s Permanent

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Interactive Whiteboards Make Their Way Into Exeter Classrooms

Exeter teachers and students are discovering a new way to teach and learn in district classrooms. This is happening through an exciting teaching device called an interactive whiteboard. Last year through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education sponsored “Classrooms for the Future” program, 24 math and science teachers at the high school received interactive white boards for their classrooms. Seeing the value of these boards and the impact on instruction, the district and the Exeter Community Education Foundation (ECEF) have also begun purchasing more boards for classrooms throughout the district.

What is an Interactive Whiteboard?

An interactive whiteboard, or IWB, is a large presentation screen that basically replaces the traditional white board or blackboard. It is attached to a computer and through the use of a digital projector, displays all computer information on the board. By using a special pen (or with some boards just your finger) and special software, students and teachers can interact with the material displayed on the screen. Websites can be displayed and used for instruction, students can be taught to use different computer programs and demonstrate their understanding at the board, and many resources including maps, charts, calculators, math manipulatives, photos, and even videos can be displayed and used for curriculum enhancement.

In addition to the boards, teachers also have the use of student response systems. These devices allow teachers to monitor learning by asking questions and having each student respond through the use of a small keypad. This way a teacher can determine if the students understand the concepts being taught continually throughout the lesson and can redirect instruction accordingly to make the best use of valuable instructional time. It also helps to keep every student fully engaged in the lesson being presented.

Plans are in place to put more boards in district classrooms next school year. Teachers will have many opportunities this summer to come into the district to learn many exciting ways to help our students learn through these new technologies and better prepare them for the challenges of the future.

Please visit the “For Parents” section entitled “Interactive Whiteboards” on the district’s webpage to view videos that highlight some of the features of IWBs.

Recognizing Academic and Athletic Achievements and Contributions

Six new members have been inducted into the Academic Hall of Fame this month and five persons were added to the Athletic Hall of Fame this past winter. This is the sixth year of Exeter's Academic Hall, while the Athletic Hall was initiated in 1990.

Nominees for the Academic Hall of Fame can come from three categories – alumni, former faculty and staff, and community volunteers. The 2010 inductees are alumni Charles P. Souders, Gail Metz Voorhees, and Cheryl Edwards; former staff members Emma Yoh and Sandy Seibold; and Patricia White, a community volunteer.

Charles P. (Pete) Souders graduated in 1960 from ETSHS where he played woodwinds in the school band, ran cross country, and played basketball. After 25 years as a systems professional, he opened Ortlieb's Jazzhaus in Philadelphia, which became one of the outstanding jazz clubs in the world. For 20 years, it served as a mecca for Philadelphia and New York musicians.

Gail Metz Voorhees, a 1986 graduate, attended North Carolina State where she graduated Magna Cum Laude in the fields of history and education. She earned a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh and has spent the majority of her law career as a prosecuting attorney in West Virginia.

Cheryl Edwards graduated in 1975 and attended the University of Maryland. She relocated to California in 1992 to pursue a career in screen writing. Her credits include screen plays for "Against the Ropes" and "Frankie and Alice," but she is best known for re-writing the script for "Save the Last Dance."

Emma Yoh served the district for many years as the reading supervisor and assistant director of elementary education. During her work in Exeter she mentored student teachers and assisted new teachers with an unmatched warmth and passion. She was a strong advocate for quality elementary education and was always devoted to all students.

Sandy Seibold is an Exeter alumnus who became a passionate and inno-

vative first grade teacher in the district for 38 years. Teaching was a passion in her life and she always dedicated herself to helping all students succeed. As an outstanding educator, Sandy served as a role model for student teachers and new teachers.

Patricia White was a dedicated volunteer in the ETSD for 19 years. Over the years she tirelessly served as president of the Music Association, Lorane Association of Parents and Teachers (APT) and Junior/Senior High APT. Pat served on the curriculum council, the Exeter Community Prevention Partnership, and chairperson of May Day.

The five alumni inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame this past January were: Gary Owens, Kristin Erb, Kristen Bankes Jacoby, John Kennedy, and Louis Terry, Jr.

Gary Owens, a 1981 graduate, was an outstanding cross country and track and field athlete. Owens was a Berks and Sectional all-star selection in his junior and senior seasons. He went 30-0 in dual meets and won two sectional titles and one conference over that span. Gary was a member of the 1978 Exeter team that finished second in the state for Coach Don Seltzer.

Kristin Erb, a 2005 graduate, was a four-time Berks all-star and two-time Player of the Year. Erb dominated Berks batters during her four-year career at Exeter, compiling seven perfect games, 13 no-hitters with 1,054 strikeouts and a 0.36 career ERA. Kristin continued her prowess at Lock Haven University, where she led the Eagles to two national titles. Among many prestigious awards, Erb was a two-time winner of the Honda Award, given to the Outstanding Female Athlete in all NCAA Division II sports (2006, 2009).

1974 graduate Kristen Bankes Jacoby was an outstanding runner at Exeter who gained much of her acclaim at Penn State University, where she was two-time cross country and three-time track and field All-American. Kris' high school highlight was a second place finish in the 880 yard run at the PIAA championships in 1974. In cross country at Penn State, Kris fin-

ished third in nationals as a sophomore and 15th as a senior. In track, she placed second in the 2-mile run and third in the 1500 at nationals as a sophomore.

John Kennedy, a 1968 graduate, was a standout football player and track athlete at Exeter. A two-way starter, John played halfback and linebacker for Coach Don Thomas on Exeter's 1967 Inter-County League undefeated championship team. John won the Berks County pole vault title, highlighting his senior track season for Coach Jim Sutton in 1968.

1966 graduate Lou Terry Jr. was an outstanding two-way football player and track athlete at Exeter. A three-year starter who primarily played offensive and defensive end, Lou was named to the All-Inter-County first-team defense and second-team offense as a senior in 1965 when the Eagles finished 7-2. He set several school records, including longest kick return (92 yards), longest TD reception (40 yards) and most receiving yards in a game (163).

More Good News

(continued from p.3)

Collection Award which includes \$150 and Jess Yuhasz captured the U.S. Plasma Technology Award including \$125. Kaitlyn also received second place in the calligraphy category. Other students whose pieces placed were: Linsay Bittinger received first place in the watercolors; Alyssa Newmoyer won first place in calligraphy and honorable mention in the loom fibers category; Annie Wegman took first place in color photography; the team of Phil Drumheller, Alex Moret, & John Purr won first place in computer art and Phil took second place in the computer art category; Amanda Price received second place in color photography; Danielle Burns received an honorable mention with her oil painting; and Hannah Wallner took honorable mention in the 3-D open category.

✓ Michael Wang, a junior, competed in the American Chemical Society's Chemistry Olympiad at Muhlenberg College in March and scored high enough to make the final round of the competition at the National Level. Michael will now compete to make the national team which will represent the U.S. in international competitions.

GAPP Extended Visit

(continued from page 1)

able period. After a few phone calls, an ETSD bus took them back to the senior high where staff and host families gathered to welcome them for a second time.

The Germans were overwhelmed. The host families were extraordinarily hospitable and helpful, and the district and high school did everything in their power to cope with the crisis. The stranded students were given meal tickets for the school cafeteria, the American teachers provided their German colleagues with textbooks and other school materials, and the school administration gave them a classroom for their lessons. A school bus was kept ready to take them to the airport as soon as transatlantic flights were possible. Everyone from the ladies in the cafeteria to the superintendent shared the Germans' anticipation when they would finally be able to travel home.

Both the teachers and students would like to express their gratitude to their host families, school district, and the Exeter Township community. During the week of uncertainty they have come to experience the true meaning of the saying that "a friend in need - is a friend indeed!"

Facility Facts - Energy Survey

Kenneth Pitts, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor

From time to time professional organizations conduct surveys to help members identify areas of success and areas that could use improvement. The Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO) conducts Facility Surveys about every two years, and one of the categories it measures is cost of utilities per square foot for school districts across the state.

With energy costs rising we have taken a look at what we believe we do right and what else we can still improve going forward. We used the PASBO survey to see how we "measure up" across the state. A total of 231 school districts participated in the last survey with the following statistics.

Highest Utility Cost per sq-ft	\$3.57
Lowest Utility Cost per sq-ft	\$0.79
Median - School Dists Our Size	\$1.69
Exeter's cost per sq-ft	\$1.44

As you can see our costs put us in the best performing third for both our size and generally across districts. In real numbers, if we were "average" our energy costs would be \$203,000 higher per year. So how did we get here? It

was a combination of improved systems and good practices, including building systems that automatically set back heating and cooling equipment, turn off or reduce lighting on timers and sensors, programs that will turn off computers at certain times, upgraded lighting during construction projects, preventative maintenance to keep equipment efficient, and reminders of individual responsibility.

How far we can go is a constant struggle to balance impact and benefits. What is the payback to upgrade lighting that will cost tens of thousands of dollars? How do we balance the appropriate amount of external lighting between the taxpayer who comments that at night the school looks like a Christmas tree and the parent picking up a student after a late play practice with only security lighting? How many creature comforts do we allow in the workplace and do we charge for them? In today's society, energy and its cost come into nearly every major decision we make. In the school district we try to make the best ones and will strive to continue to improve our practices. We don't know if we will progress to only \$0.79 per square foot, but every penny of improvement totals \$8,000. If you saw \$8,000 on the ground, you'd take the time to pick it up!

Academic Hall of Fame Inductees for 2010



The 2010 Inductees for the Exeter Schools' Academic Hall of Fame are (left to right) Gail Metz Voorhees, Cheryl Edwards, Charles (Pete) Souders, Patricia White, and Sandy Seibold.

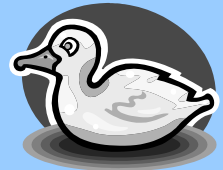
Buy a Duck!

You can support the Exeter Community Education Foundation by purchasing one or more rubber ducks to race in the Second Annual

Duck Race Raffle

Sat. May 15th

Numbered rubber ducks will race down Antietam Creek in conjunction with May Days. Tickets can be purchased at school events, the Administration Building, and at May Days on Friday and early Sat. afternoon.



Eagles Alumni News

The Exeter High School Eagles Alumni Association, which was established in May 2008, welcomes your membership and participation. During the past two years the group has made over \$5,000 available in grants to deserving seniors and has more than \$5,000 committed for the 2011 school year.

Lifetime dues are only \$10 and payment of this one-time-only fee allows you to submit information and pictures for placement on the Alumni website. The association has been instrumental in aiding several classes to hold successful reunions and has assisted classmates find one another to re-establish school friendships. You will enjoy all the pages of the website. Currently featured in the photo gallery is the recently held 50th Reunion of the Class of 1960, other class photographs, and photos of alumni social events.

A membership application is on the first page of the district website. To view all the pages, go to www.exeter.k12.pa.us, click on the Community link, and then the Alumni tab. We think you will find all the information interesting and hope that you will consider becoming a member. If you would like to volunteer to serve on the Executive Committee or have any questions regarding the Association, please e-mail jmhuckleberry@exeter.k12.pa.us or exeterdt@msn.com.

Remember..... all proceeds are turned over to Exeter students in the form of scholarship awards to assist with continued educational goals.

Exeter May Days

May 14 & 15 3-10 p.m.

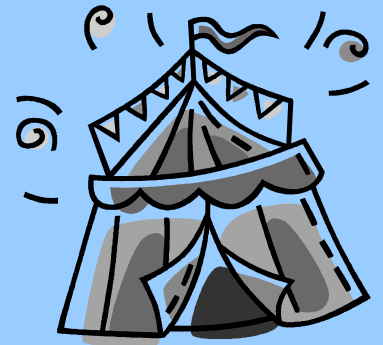
Exeter SHS Grounds

Food, Games, Rides & Non-stop

Entertainment

Fireworks on Saturday night

For more information, contact Parks & Rec Superintendent Joe Seltzer at 610-406-0263. Proceeds benefit the ETSD Associations of Parents and Teachers and the Exeter Township Parks & Recreation Department.



The NEWSLETTER is the official publication of the

Exeter Township School District

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