

# THE SIGNAL

## SHAMOKIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 2022: ed XII

### There will be “gadgets and gizmos aplenty” in spring musical

By Hannah Hess, *features editor*

The musical *The Little Mermaid* will be part of the Shamokin Area world in April 1-2. Auditions were held Nov. 10 where interested students chose to memorize a monologue and a portion of “*Part of Your World*” or “*Poor Unfortunate Souls*” for females, or “*Les Poissons*” or “*Her Voice*” for males. After auditions and callbacks, rehearsals were set into full swing!

The cast is hard at work almost every day, rehearsing Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 8:30 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. This year’s musical includes just a bit of everything: dancing, singing, and of course, lots of acting! The musical will be held in the Shamokin Area High School auditorium April 1 and 2 at 7 p.m. The cast and crew hope to see a packed house as they take you on a once in a lifetime experience! The cast list is as follows:

Alaina Glowatski, Ariel; Trevor Taylor, Prince Eric; Samantha Stancavage, Ursula; Owen Amato, Grimsby; Garrett Kitchen, King Triton; Jacob Erdman, Sebastian; Bennet Elio, Flounder; Nathaniel Miller, Scuttle; Brenden Rogers, Pilot; Camryn Hoover, Flotsam; Brielle Hornberger, Jetsam; Gabby Wagner, Aquata; Riley Elio, Andrina; Emily Stanton, Arista; Hannah Bashore, Atina; Emma Boyer, Adella; Kloe Baney, Allana; Robert Harvey, Chef Louis; and Molly Rossnock, Carlotta. Ensemble members are Benjamin Cohoon, Brian Jovel-Martinez, Elliot Bennett, Ethan Kauffman, Gabriel Grow, Nathan Beaulieu, Nathan Erdman, Ronin Elio, Abby Lowry, Alaina Combs, Alexis Burch, Alexis Zawalick, Alyvia Charriez, Autumn Peifer, Brandie Yoncuski, Brooke Kerstetter, Hannah Hess, Jasmine Bodiford, Jayden Duganitz, Lisa Wood, Makayla Eyster, Makenzie McCollick, Raven Dudra, Rylee Bickert, and Sandy Lin.



*Photo submitted by Samantha Stancavage*

### Start preparing! PSSAs and Keystone Exams are almost here!

It’s that time of year again! Temperatures are warmer. Birds are singing. Spring sports are underway! And, yeah... it’s testing season!

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment exams for third through eighth grade students will be April 25-27, English Language Arts; May 2-3, math; and May 5-6, science. Keystone Exams for high school students will be May 15-17, algebra; May 18-19, Literature; and May 20, Biology.

PSSAs measure how well students have mastered Pennsylvania Academic Content Standards in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science Technology. The testing content is what students should know and be able to do at various grade levels.

Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments designed to evaluate proficiency in academic content in the areas of Algebra I, Literature, and Biology. Pennsylvania adopted the Pennsylvania Core Standards, standards aligned with expectations for success in college and the workplace. The keystones are designed to measure these standards. Both tests include multiple choice questions and open-ended or constructed-response questions.

In a letter to parents and guardians in February, PA Secretary of Education Noe Ortega stated, “There have been significant changes to assessment and accountability in Pennsylvania in recent school years. In response to student, parent, and educator feedback, the length of the PSSA was reduced by 20 percent. The testing window was shortened, and the assessment is administered later in the school year to provide more time for teaching and learning.”

As for high school students, effective with the graduating class of 2023, Act 158 will provide additional pathways for students to meet statewide graduation requirements. Signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf in 2018, Act 158 will give students options to demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through pathways that more fully illustrate college, career, and community readiness. Keystone Exams will continue as the statewide assessment Pennsylvania uses to comply with student learning accountability and must be taken whether or not the student passes.



*Photo by Faranklin Carranza, staff photographer*



## Valentine's Day is rooted in myth and history

By Vincent Sawyer, *staff writer*

Valentine's Day, February 14, is a day to celebrate and appreciate your loved ones with gifts, cards, affection, candy, and flowers. Although it's a day to spread love and have fun, there are many stories and facts about this holiday.

According to the website, *History.com*, in ancient times, people celebrated the Lupercalia in mid-February. This feast was dedicated to the Roman god Faunus, the god of agriculture and fertility. The celebration was quite different from the modern holiday; it involved animal sacrifices and superstitions. If you paid attention in English 10 class during *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*, there is a mention of the Lupercal when Antony had to run a race, which was believed to help infertile women have children.

Other mythological characters that influenced Valentine's Day are the Greek god, Eros, the god of love; and his Roman counterpart, Cupid.

Later, the Catholic church recognized at least three different saints who were martyred, which means being tortured and put to death for one's religion or beliefs. One was a third century Roman priest who opposed the emperor's decree that all soldiers should be single, not married, men. The priest secretly conducted marriage ceremonies between the soldiers and their lady loves. When the emperor found out, he immediately put the priest to death. Another saint, St. Valentine of Terni, was the person for whom the holiday is named after. When he helped Christians escape Roman prisons, Bishop Valentine was jailed and then beheaded. During his imprisonment, Bishop Valentine became friends with the jailor's daughter. To show his love for her, he sent her a note that he signed "Your Valentine." That loving gesture later inspired the modern-day Valentine's holiday.



With credit to: <https://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day/history-of-valentines-day-2>

## Two swimmers qualify for districts

By Emily Thomas, *staff writer*

Diver Brian Jovell-Martinez ranked 18th in the PIAA swimming and diving championships boys diving 2A on March 18h at Bucknell University, Lewisberg. In addition, two swimmers qualified for district competition, according to head coach Mr. Patrick McDevitt.

Anthony Fuedale, junior, qualified for 100 freestyle and Liela Bellis, sophomore, qualified for 50 freestyle. Rosie Roman, sophomore, and Vance Shiko, junior, had standout seasons as well.

District swimming competition was held March 2-3 in Williamsport Area High School.

Juniors Brian Jovel-Martinez and Vance Shiko qualified for diving for districts, which was held March 2-3 at Bloomsburg Area High School.

"Overall the season was a bit of a struggle without inexperience but we made a lot of strides to build on our development for next year," said Coach McDevitt. In addition to McDevitt, other members of the coaching staff are swimming assistant coach Jessica Wolfgang, and the diving head coach Chelsea Lorenz.



Sophomore Liela Bellis, sophomore Rosie Roman, junior Vance Shiko, and junior Anthony Feudale pose at the PIAA district IV swimming competition.



## Berry reigns as “The King of Rock and Roll”

By Erika Bellinger, *staff writer*

To some he was “The Father of Rock and Roll.” To others he was “The King of Rock and Roll.” And finally, in formal circles, he was “The Prime Minister of Rock and Roll.” Whatever his title, the legendary Chuck Berry and his music inspired people to sing and dance as well as influenced singers and songwriters through decades.

Born October 18, 1926 in St. Louis, MO, Berry’s interest in music started at an early age. Sadly, when Berry was in high school, he was convicted of armed robbery and sent to a reformatory from 1944-1947. When he was released he married Themetta “Toddy” Suggs and focused on automobiles. He and his wife had four children: Ingrid, Charles Jr., Melody, and Aloha Berry.

Berry performed with many bands and credits his friend Ira Harris for showing him techniques for playing the guitar. In 1955 he signed his first label to “Chess Label.” His voice is one of a kind and his songs introduced the world to rock and roll. Berry also was known for his energetic performance style as he would strut low while playing his guitar. He is known for many hits, including “Maybellene,” “Johnny B. Goode,” “No Particular Place to Go,” “My Ding-A-Ling” and “Nadine.” Many people may not know that he sang “Run Rudolph Run,” too.

Berry’s life was filled with family and music but he also had additional run-ins with the law. He was convicted “Under the Mann Act” for illegally transporting women across state lines. With everything that happened he still managed to make people happy with his music. He was married nearly 70 years and was 90 when he died on March 18, 2017. Berry, a talented rock and roll pioneer, impacted many people’s lives.



## Queen of Soul deserves R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin started off as a child prodigy in Memphis, Tennessee, and quickly skyrocketed to fame as an inspirational singer, musician, and Civil Rights activist.

Aretha, who was born in 1942, experienced many difficulties throughout her life. When her parents’ marriage fell apart, her mother left with her brother. Aretha, who was six years old at the time, continued living with her sisters and her father, who was a very prominent preacher. Aretha began singing in her father’s church and wowed the congregation with her amazing voice. While her mother visited the family frequently, she sadly passed away when Aretha was only 10 years old. By the time Aretha was 12, she gave birth to her first son, Clarence Franklin, who was named after her father. Through a series of relationships in her adult years, she had three more sons. Other hardships that Aretha dealt with included failed marriages, career troubles, and health issues.

Despite these challenges, Aretha continued to hone her singing talents and taught herself to play the piano. Because of encouragement from her father and his friends, many of whom were famous musicians, Aretha continued to flourish as a talented Gospel, Blues, and Jazz singer. At 18 years old, Aretha moved to New York City and began her professional singing career. Among her hits were “I Never Loved a Man (The Way I Loved You),” “Respect,” “Chain of

*Fools,”* and “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman.”

Aretha earned many honors, including being named the first female inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. *Rolling Stone* magazine chose her as its “#1 Greatest Singer of the Rock Era.” Aretha also was a Civil Rights activist; at 16 years old she went on tour with Martin Luther King Jr. In addition to her support of Civil Rights, Aretha also endorsed the Black Power movement and was a staunch feminist and anti-war activist. Aretha died Aug. 16, 2018.



# MARCH

| Monday  | Tuesday                                | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday                     |
|---|--|-----------|----------|--------|------------------------------|
|   | 1.                                     | 2.        | 3.       | 4.     | 5.                           |
| 7.  | 8.                                     | 9.        | 10.      | 11.    | 12.                          |
| 14.   | 15.                                    | 16.       | 17.      | 18.    | 19.                          |
| 21.   | 22.<br>End of 3rd<br>Marking<br>Period | 23.       | 24.      | 25.    | 26.<br>Knoeblovs<br>Job Fair |
| 28.<br>Report Cards<br>Posted on<br>the Student<br>Portal | 29.                                    | 30.       | 31.      |        |                              |

## PMEA Region IV choral festival

Samantha Stancavage and Hannah Bashore, both juniors, will participate in the PMEA Region IV choral festival on March 24 and 25 at Valley View School District. The festival concludes with a public concert on Friday at 7 p.m.

# APRIL

| Monday                                | Tuesday                               | Wednesday                             | Thursday                         | Friday                                   | Saturday                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
|                                       |                                       |                                       |                                  | 1.<br>Musical<br>"The Little<br>Mermaid" | 2.<br>Musical<br>"The Little<br>Mermaid" |
| 4.                                    | 5.                                    | 6.                                    | 7.                               | 8.                                       | 9.                                       |
| 11.                                   | 12.                                   | 13.                                   | 14.<br>No School<br>Easter Break | 15.<br>No School<br>Easter Break         | 16.                                      |
| 18.                                   | 19.<br>No School<br>Easter Break      | 20.                                   | 21.<br>Chorus<br>Concert         | 22.                                      | 23.                                      |
| 25.<br>PSSA-<br>Language<br>Arts Exam | 26.<br>PSSA-<br>Language<br>Arts Exam | 27.<br>PSSA-<br>Language<br>Arts Exam | 28.                              | 29.                                      | 30.                                      |

## Social and school highlights



Music students are preparing for auditions for the upcoming PMEA Jazz Choral Festival. Jazz music is a broad style of music characterized by complex harmony, syncopated rhythms, and beautiful melodies. The festival will be held Friday, April 22, at Jersey Shore High School.



The Wellness Club is selling bottled water at 2 for \$1 in the high school gymnasium. See any physical education or health teacher for assistance.



Open gyms for all cheer squads started March 7. Open gyms are every Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. in the elementary gym. Students in grades 7-12 are welcome.



## MAY

| Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|--|----------|
| 2.<br>PSSA<br>Math Exam<br><br>AP<br>Chemistry<br>Exam | 3.<br>PSSA<br>Math Exam<br><br>AP<br>Psychology<br>Exam | 4.<br>AP Literature<br>Exam   | 5.<br>PSSA<br>Science<br>Exam   | 6.<br>PSSA<br>Science<br>Exam  | 7.       |
| 9.<br>AP Calculus<br>A/B and B/C<br>Exam               | 10.<br>AP<br>Composition<br>Exam                        | 11.<br>AP Biology<br>Exam   | 12.<br>AP Physics<br>Exam   | 13.<br>Prom  | 14.      |
| 16.<br>Keystone<br>Algebra                             | 17.<br>Keystone<br>Algebra                              | 18.<br>Keystone<br>Literature<br>Senior Final<br>Exams<br>Periods 1 & 8 | 19.<br>Keystone<br>Literature<br>Senior Final<br>Exams<br>Periods 2 & 7 | 20.<br>Keystone<br>Biology<br>Senior Final<br>Exams<br>Periods 3 & 6 | 21.      |
| 23.<br><br>Senior Final<br>Exams<br>Periods 4 & 5      | 24.   | 25.<br>Baccalaureate<br>awards night                                    | 26.<br>Graduation<br>6:30 p.m   | 27.  | 28.      |

## Jazz festival



From left are students who will participate in the Jazz Festival in April, Alaina Glowatski, Hannah Bashore, Samantha Stancavage, Mrs. Stump, Trevor Taylor, Garret Kitchen, and Owen Amato.  
(Photo By: Franklin Carranza, staff photographer)



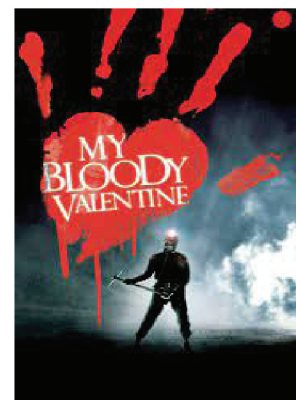
## Movie suggestions; 'Love' or 'Guts'

Compiled by Emily Honicker, *staff writer*

**Just Friends:** High school student Chris Brander (Ryan Reynolds) loves his best friend, Jamie Palamino (Amy Smart). He finally confesses his feelings, but she tells him that she just wants to be friends, and he leaves town in shame. Ten years later, Chris is a successful record executive and involved with self-absorbed pop star Samantha James (Anna Faris). He still pines for Jamie, though, and when his plans to go to Paris for the holidays fall through, he returns to his hometown to try and win her heart.

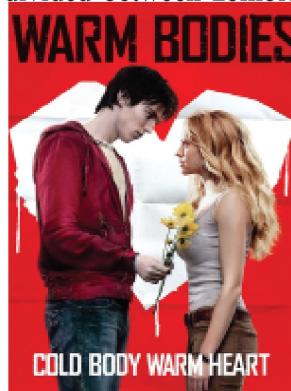


**My Bloody Valentine(2009):** Ten years ago, an inexperienced coal miner named Tom Hanniger (Jensen Ackles) caused an accident that killed five men and put a sixth, Harry Warden, into a coma. A year later, on Valentine's Day, Harry woke up and murdered 22 people with a pickaxe before dying. Now Tom has returned home, still haunted by the past. And something else is back in Harmony, a pickaxe-wielding killer in a miner's mask, who may be the ghost of Harry, comes to claim Tom and his friends.



**Warm Bodies:** A terrible plague has left the planet's population and humans. An unusual zombie named R (Nicholas Hoult) sees his walking-dead brethren attacking a living woman named Julie (Teresa Palmer) and rescues her. Julie sees that R is different from the other zombies, and the pair embark on an unusual relationship. As their bond grows and R becomes more and more human, a chain of events unfolds that could transform the entire lifeless world.

divided between zombies



**Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind:** After a painful breakup, Clementine (Kate Winslet) undergoes a procedure to erase memories of her former boyfriend Joel (Jim Carrey) from her mind. When Joel discovers that Clementine is going to extremes to forget their relationship, he undergoes the same procedure and slowly begins to forget the woman that he loved. Directed by former music video director Michel Gondry, the visually arresting film explores the intricacy of relationships and the pain of loss.



**Fright Night(1986):** Teenage Charley Brewster (William Ragsdale) is a horror-film junkie, so it's no surprise that when a reclusive new neighbor named Jerry Dandrige (Chris Sarandon) moves next-door, Brewster becomes convinced he is a vampire. It's also no surprise when nobody believes him. However, after strange events begin to occur, Charlie has no choice but to turn to the only person who could possibly help: washed-up television vampire killer Peter Vincent (Roddy McDowall).



**Crimson Peak:** After marrying the charming and seductive Sir Thomas Sharpe, young Edith (Mia Wasikowska) finds herself swept away to his remote gothic mansion in the English hills. Also living there is Lady Lucille, Thomas' alluring sister and protector of her family's dark secrets. Able to communicate with the dead, Edith tries to decipher the mystery behind the ghostly visions that haunt her new home. As she comes closer to the truth, Edith may learn that true monsters are made of flesh and blood.



**Cryw-Baby:** A prim and proper schoolgirl goes against her mother's wishes when she dates a motorcycle-riding juvenile delinquent.





Gianna Venna and Kamryn Kramer were selected most school-spirited in the TwosDay contest.



Sophomores Carly Nye, top, and Ally Waugh.

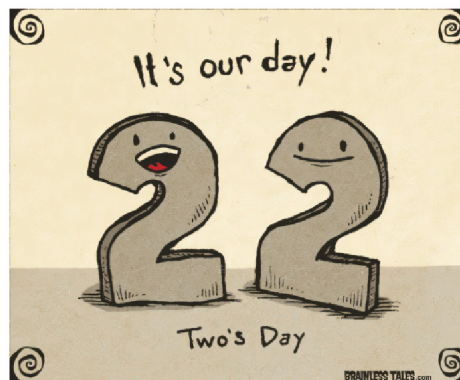
*Photos by Franklin Carranza, staff photographer*



Most creative winners were Aiden Krebs and Samantha Stancavage, who dressed like Joe Exotic and Carol Baskin from Tiger King for the TwosDay contest.



John Shepard and Brooke Kerstetter were selected most identical in the Twosday contest.



## Two's Day Winners

**Most creative** - Samantha Stancavage and Aiden Krebs

**Most original** - Lyla Barrett and Gina Carapelucci

**Most Identical** - John Shepard and Brooke Kerstetter

**Most school spirited** - Gianna Venna and Kamryn Kramer



Most original winners in the Twosday contest were, from left, Gina Carapelucci and Lyla Barrett, who dressed as Dionne and Cher from the movie *Clueless*.

# HAPPY SPRING FROM THE SIGNAL STAFF



Color and submit your work to C216 (Mrs. Rhoads's room) by March 31. Your submission must include your name and homeroom somewhere on the sheet. The top three winners will earn a **full dressdown day** (no hoodies).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_