Rockville TelegRAM

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
Published monthly, September-June
70 Loveland Hill Road
Vernon, Connecticut 06066-2304

DECEMBER 2009

IMPORTANT DATES

December 4	College applications due to Guidance
December 4-5	Drama Club Fall Production
December 5	SAT Administration at RHS
December 5	Project Graduation bus trip to NYC
December 8	Parents Meet the Coaches Night, 6:00 p.m., Auditorium
December 10	Winter Pep Rally, 1:00 p.m., Auditorium
December 10	Project Graduation meeting, 7:00 p.m., Staff Lounge
December 16*	Second quarter midterm progress reports distributed to students
December 21	Symphony Band & Chorus Holiday Concert, 7:30 p.m., Auditorium (snow date, December 22)
December 23	Half day, 11:57 a.m. dismissal
Dec. 24-Jan. 1	No School, Holiday Recess
January 4	Classes resume

*Date subject to change as a result of school closings due to inclement weather

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 15-16	Winter Recess
March 1-31	CAPT Administration at RHS
April 8	College Planning Evening
April 19-23	Spring Recess
May 1	Class of 2011 Junior Prom
May 20	Undergraduate Awards Evening
May 21	Class of 2010 Senior Prom
June 4	Class of 2010 Senior Outing
June 10	Senior Awards Evening

SEMESTER EXAM INFORMATION

Mid-year exams will be administered on January 27, 28 and 29 and on February 1, 2010 (subject to change due to weather cancellations prior to these dates). A schedule will be included in the January newsletter.

Q2 MIDTERM REPORTS

Second quarter midterm progress reports will be distributed to students on Wednesday, December 16. Parents are encouraged to contact their student's teachers or guidance counselor with any questions or concerns regarding the midterm reports. If inclement weather causes school to be canceled prior to December 16, the distribution date will be moved to the next school day.

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

If inclement weather forces school to be canceled, open late (two hour delay), or close early, announcements will be made on area radio (WTIC AM & FM, WRCH, WZMX) and television (WFSB 3, WVIT 30) stations. Parents may also access Vernon information online at www.ctweather.com and sign up for email or cell phone text notifications about delays and cancellations. If the opening of school is delayed, the schedule will continue in the usual rotation of an A day or a B day. If school is closed, the rotation will continue on the next school day. For example, if Monday is an A day, and school is closed on Tuesday, then it will be a B day when school reopens. The same policy applies for holidays and school vacations.

RHS PARENT GROUP UPDATE

Submitted by Mr. Eric Baim, Principal

Rockville High School is currently seeking parents who are interested in becoming part of the RHS Parent Group. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the Main Office at 870-6050 or email Mr. Baim at eric.baim@vernonct.org for further information. This organization meets bi-monthly with the principal to discuss an array of topics dealing with the school. There have been no meetings this year due to a lack of members in the group. Mr. Baim is seeking parents who are committed to the growth and improvement of all aspects of the high school.

GUIDANCE NEWS FOR SENIORS

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS: When completed, college applications should be turned in to the student's counselor for processing at least ten school days before they need to be mailed. The target date for submission of all applications is December 4. This will allow time for all applications to be processed and mailed from RHS before the holiday recess. Applications must be accompanied by an envelope (9" x 12" size recommended) addressed to the college (with no return address) and four forty-four cent stamps.

Many colleges are encouraging students to submit their applications online but information must still be sent directly from the school, including an official transcript and counselor and teacher recommendations. Students who submit their applications online should contact their guidance counselor about having this information sent to the colleges and should provide the counselor with a stamped envelope addressed to the college.

UCONN APPLICATIONS: The University of Connecticut strongly recommends that students complete applications online. The Regular Admission deadline for the Storrs campus is February 1.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID: Scholarship and other financial aid information is posted in the Guidance Office and updated weekly. Updated information about the local scholarship program becomes available in early February.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION: Many colleges require that students file the PROFILE financial aid form in order to qualify for any financial aid at their school. Register for your customized PROFILE application at www.collegeboard.com.

- Click on CSS/PROFILE under "Pay for College" on the student's home page.
- Click on the 2010-2011 PROFILE.
- Enter your collegeboard.com user name and password (or click "sign up" and provide the required information).
- Save your user name and password.
- Click on "Register for PROFILE."
- Print the Pre-Application Worksheet and Application Instructions before beginning to help you complete the PROFILE process.
- Complete the registration questions, select the colleges and programs to receive your PROFILE report, and pay the registration processing fee. Your registration information is not saved until these steps are completed.
- Register at least two weeks before the earliest priority filing date specified by your colleges and programs. Go to the PROFILE Online home page and click on "Participating Institutions" to check the priority filing date for each of your schools.

The 2010-2011 Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) must be completed by all seniors who are seeking financial aid. It will be available online in November. This form determines eligibility for all federal monies. The family completes this form, indicating the colleges to be informed of the results. After it is processed, the student receives a Student Aid Report (SAR). The FAFSA must be completed online after January 1, 2010 at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

** Parents and students should visit the website in advance of filing the FAFSA to request a PIN number because there is some "wait time" before the number is assigned. A separate PIN is required for parents and students. This PIN number is necessary to electronically "sign" your application. Electronically signing the application allows you to save time in the filing process.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

Grade 11 and Grade 12 students who have not met the Mathematics Performance Standard for Graduation and/or the Reading/Writing Performance Standard for Graduation may participate in a three-day Mathematics, Writing, and/or Reading DPT session. Each session will include two days of remediation in the specified area followed by the administration of the District Performance Task (DPT) on the third day. **Students who wish to participate in any or all of these DPT sessions should sign up with their guidance counselor**. The dates for December are as follows:

Writing – Room 150
Tue., December 1 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm
Wed., December 2 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm
Thu., December 3 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

Reading – Room 150
Tue., December 15 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm
Wed., December 16 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm
Thu., December 17 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

CONTACTING RHS STAFF MEMBERS

Parents are encouraged to contact their student's teachers and counselor throughout the school year. All staff members may be reached by phone at 870-6050. Teachers, counselors, administrators and paraprofessional staff members may also be contacted by email (first name.last name@vernonct.org). A complete listing of staff members' email addresses can be found on the RHS website (www.RockvilleHighSchool.org).

JUNIOR & SENIOR ATHLETES

Students who plan to participate in Division I or Division II intercollegiate athletics during their freshman year in college must complete an NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse form. Students should register at the end of their junior year after an informed judgment has been made as to their potential at the Division I or Division II level. Prospective student-athletes should access the registration materials online at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. From the home page, click on "Prospective Student-Athletes," which will link the user to the necessary information. Once the online registration is complete, the student must notify the Guidance secretary so that their transcript will be mailed in June.

NOTE TO PARENTS: Beginning with the Class of 2011 (current grade eleven), general level courses will no longer be acceptable as core courses by the NCAA Clearinghouse, making students ineligible for Division I or Division II athletic participation.

SAT INFORMATION

The online registration deadline for the January 23, 2010 administration of the Scholastic Aptitude Test is December 15, 2009. This test will NOT be administered at Rockville High School. However, RHS students who wish to take the SAT in January may register for nearby sites such as East Hartford High School, Bulkeley High School (Hartford), Windham High School (Willimantic), Suffield Academy, and Conard High School or Hall High School (West Hartford). Registered students should be certain they know how to get to the test location before the day of the test. Students should bring their admission ticket, photo identification, several #2 pencils, and their calculator.

The next SAT administration at Rockville High School will be on March 13, 2010. The online registration deadline for this test is February 4.

"COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY" PROGRAM

Connecticut's second College Goal Sunday will take place on Sunday, January 31, 2010 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at thirteen sites throughout the state: Capital Community College, Central High School (Bridgeport), Eastern Connecticut State University, Gateway Community College, Manchester Community College, Middlesex Community College, Norwalk Community College, Norwich Free Academy, Post University, Ridley-Lowell Business & Technology Institute (New London), Sacred Heart University, Science & Technology Magnet High School (New London), and Western Connecticut State University. The program is designed to assist prospective college students and their parents in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In addition to receiving assistance in filling out the FAFSA, participants will receive general information regarding state and federal financial aid programs. The Connecticut College Goal Sunday program is an effort to make sure that the process of applying for college financial aid does not become an obstacle that would keep any person from pursuing an education beyond high school. By attending the College Goal Sunday event, participants will receive free, hands-on assistance in completing the FAFSA and will walk away from the event with a completed financial aid application. To register for College Goal Sunday, visit www.collegegoalsundayct.org and click on the "Registration Form" tab to select a specific location.

RHS – HVCC CONNECTION

Submitted by Mr. Paul Courtois, Student Activities Director

Rockville High School, along with four other area high schools, is teaming with the Hockanum Valley Community Council to help stock their new food pantry. The program asks each participating school to collect a certain type of food each month. The schools collect a different food each month. RHS is responsible for the collection of MACARONI & CHEESE and RAVIOLI in December. HVCC has recently moved into a much larger facility. This new home will allow them to service a larger number of needy families. However, this calls for a larger donation from the community. Please consider donating a box of macaroni and cheese and/or cans of ravioli, beefaroni, etc. during December. Donations can be turned into the Main Office, Room 150 or the Guidance Office. During November, RHS made a sizeable donation of instant potatoes to the food pantry. We hope that the donation will grow with each passing month. Stay tuned for January's "food of the month"!

RHS DRAMA CLUB NEWS "HARVEY"

Submitted by Ms. Amy Matyseck, Drama Club Advisor

On Friday, December 4 and Saturday, December 5, the Rockville High School Drama Club will present its fall production of *Harvey*. Come see this off-beat comedy that puts a new twist on man's best friend, an invisible six-foot tall rabbit. Tickets will be $6 for students/seniors and $8 for adults. Ticket will be sold at the door on the evenings of the performances. We look forward to seeing you in the audience!

PARKING PERMITS REQUIRED

All students who drive to school must obtain a parking permit in the Main Office to ensure appropriate parking (in the correct lot) and to increase safety and security on school grounds.

THE GREAT GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

Submitted by Mrs. Kim McTighe,
Peer Advocates Program Coordinator

The holiday season is a wonderful time for some people but, with these tough economic times, it can be very hard for many local families. For younger children there are toy drives and holiday parties but there are many high school students who are going to be without anything this holiday season so that their parents can maintain the bills. From November 18 until December 16, the Peer Advocates will be sponsoring a "Gift Card Giveaway". We are asking that RHS students and families donate a gift card (in any denomination) or make a monetary donation. Suggestions for the gift cards include Kmart, Walmart, Target, Kohls and other stores that carry basic need items such as food and clothing. There will be collection boxes in the Guidance Office, the Administrative Office, and in Mrs. McTighe's office (Room 235). We will also have a collection box outside of the library during lunch waves from December 2 through December 16. The gift cards will be distributed to those in need by the school guidance counselors and social workers. Please call Kim McTighe at 870-6050 (x416) with any questions or if you would like to request a gift card for your child. All donations are greatly appreciated. Happy Holidays!

Enjoy a safe & happy holiday season

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Jill Goldberg, Fine Arts Coordinator

The Symphony Band and Chorus will present their annual Holiday Concert on Monday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m., in the Rockville High School Auditorium. A wide variety of musical selections will be performed by both groups. The snow date for this concert is December 22 (same time and place). This concert is free of charge and the public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Congratulations to the RHS Marching Band, director Darcy Davis, and all associated Band staff, recognized as The Outstanding High School Band in the Connecticut Veterans Day Parade held on Sunday, November 8 in Hartford. There were more than twenty Connecticut high school bands performing at this immense parade. Their dedication and tremendous efforts have afforded them this most prestigious and deserving honor.

GROUNDHOG JOB SHADOW DAY 2010

Submitted by Mrs. Rebecca Brodersen,
Career Center Facilitator

Hopefully on Groundhog Day, it won't be just Pennsylvania's Punxsutawney Phil and Connecticut Chuckles (aka Arnie at the Lutz Children's Museum in Manchester) who see their shadows! Rockville High School will be participating in National Groundhog Job Shadow Day on February 2, 2010. Do you know any sophomores or juniors who might like to job shadow someone in the business community? If so, send them to see Mrs. Brodersen or Ms. O'Sullivan in the Career Center in blue hall for additional information about this program.

BANNER YEARBOOK NEWS

Enclosed with this newsletter is valuable information about yearbook ordering for all students and senior parent messages for the 2010 graduates. This year, the RHS Yearbook will be in **full color** -- that's right, full color -- and for the same price of $65. Please take a minute to read over the ordering information and place your order before January 15, 2010. This year we will not be ordering any extra books so if you do not pre-order by the deadline, your student will NOT be able to get a yearbook. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Derrick Magoun (x145 or derrick.magoun@vernonct.org) or Bryan Wright (x105 or bryan.wright@vernonct.org). Thank you, in advance, for your support and patronage.

CLASS OF 2010 NEWS

Submitted by Mr. Paul Courtois, 2010 Advisor

Congratulations to Kyle DeCarli who earned the title of "Mr. RHS 2009" on Friday, November 20 during the annual senior class pageant. First runner-up was Claude-Alexander Ziehbrunner, our foreign exchange student from Switzerland. Second runner-up was Nathan Ouellette. Special thanks are extended to everyone who attended, the judges, the contestants, the emcees, and to the members of the Drama Club who provided technical assistance for lighting, sound, and stage management throughout the evening. It was a great show!

Cap and gown measurements will be completed in February. All seniors must be measured for and purchase a cap and gown at this time. Seniors should listen for announcements and check the senior board for more information. Specific dates and costs will be included in the January newsletter.

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS APPRECIATED!

Several corporations with locations in our area have programs in place that will provide funding or equipment to Rockville High School based on their customers' purchases or use of services:

- STOP & SHOP's A+ Bonus Bucks Program will donate cash to Rockville High for educational needs based on the amount of points earned by shoppers who register their Stop & Shop card online at www.stopandshop.com/aplus. Rockville High's ID code is #06103. You can also call 877-275-2758 to register your card by phone. The program runs through March 25, 2010. Even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register it this year for RHS to receive credit.

- The Big Y Education Express program will provide RHS with needed equipment and supplies. Customers should register their Express Savings Club card for the program and designate RHS as the beneficiary of their normal, everyday grocery spending. Visit www.bigy.com and click on the "Education Express" link to register.

- TARGET will donate money to RHS based on your purchases using your Target Visa or Target guest card. Connect to www.target.com and click on "Take Charge of Education." RHS' ID number is 39284. You can also register at 800-316-6142.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Mary Leslie and Ms. Jackie Markel, Advisors

The RHS chapter of the National Honor Society will sponsor its annual Holiday Toy Drive from November 23 through December 4. New and gently used toys will be collected in the Library for delivery to local children in need. For many, RHS donations are the only source of holiday gifts each year. The Toy Drive is open to all students, parents, and staff members. Staff members will also be collecting and donating teddy bears to go along with the toys. Anyone who brings in a toy will receive a raffle ticket for a drawing for a Mall gift certificate. NHS members are reminded that this is a mandatory chapter project. Please be generous in your donations. See Mrs. Leslie (Room 138) or Ms. Markel (Room 204) for more information.

The NHS is also sponsoring two children through Children International. Through this sponsorship, Jaiveya and Arturo will receive opportunities for after school programs as well as medical care. The NHS members will be holding several fundraisers in order to support these two children who live in Little Rock, Arkansas. Members will also maintain correspondence during the 2009-2010 school year. The NHS plans to continue this support until the children complete high school.

SOPHOMORE CLASS NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Diane Madore, Class of 2012 Co-Advisor

The sophomore class has been busy this fall. We participated in Homecoming activities in October and also in two fundraisers for gourmet pies and Entertainment books. We are also currently wrapping up our Class Ring sales. It will be several months before the rings arrive here at RHS. We will be holding another fundraiser in the spring, watch for more info on that in the coming months.

PROM DRESS COLLECTION

The high school prom is a rite of passage for many high school students. Over the past few years, we have received many requests for donations and/or prom dresses to enable RHS students to attend their prom. Last year we collected more than 100 dresses and many students benefitted from them. This year, Vernon Youth Services will, once again, collect "gently used" prom dresses to assist these students next spring. Swiss Cleaners in Vernon has graciously agreed to dry clean and bag all of the dresses. Please call Kim McTighe at 870-6050 (x416) for more details or to arrange a drop off.

CLASS OF 2013 UPDATE

Submitted by Mrs. Rita Courtois & Mr. Michael Mas, Class of 2013 Co-Advisors

The Class of 2013 initiated themselves into the RHS community quite well during the fall months. Freshmen were well represented during October's Spirit Week and held a very successful first fundraiser, selling gourmet pies that were delivered just before Thanksgiving. The class handled the concessions for the annual Mr. RHS Pageant on November 20, adding to the already growing class treasury with their efforts. Several service projects were also completed during November including baking breads for the Service Club's donation of ten Thanksgiving baskets to local families. Students also signed holiday cards to be sent with candy canes to American soldiers deployed to Iraq during the upcoming holiday season. The class is looking forward to more community service opportunities as well as to a Dining to Donate fundraiser at Applebee's in Manchester in December (see separate newsletter entry) and a Munson's candy sale in late February for delivery prior to the Easter holiday. Freshmen are encouraged to listen for announcements and to attend class meetings held during block 1 study halls on an as-needed basis. Students can also see Mrs. Courtois or Mr. Mas in the Guidance Office with any questions or ideas for class activities.

DINING TO DONATE APPLEBEE'S, MANCHESTER

On Monday, December 14, the Class of 2013 will hold a Dining to Donate fundraiser at Applebee's Restaurant (191 Deming Street, Manchester) from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Applebee's will donate 10% of patrons' checks (excluding tax and tip) from that evening to the freshman class treasury. Diners must present a voucher in order for RHS 2013 to receive credit. The vouchers are attached to this newsletter and will be available in the RHS Main Office as well as from Mr. Mas or Mrs. Courtois in the Guidance Office. The vouchers will also be distributed to freshmen during their block 1 study hall during the week of December 7. Everyone is encouraged to dine at Applebee's on Monday, December 14. Take a break from the hectic holiday shopping season (right near the mall) and help the freshman class at the same time! Thank you, in advance, for your support.

RHS INTERNATIONAL TEA

Submitted by Ms. Marylou Montanye, World Language Teacher

More than 200 students and staff members celebrated the rich diversity at Rockville High School on November 4 at the annual International Tea. Sponsored by the World Languages Department with the assistance of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program staff, each year the tea offers members of the school community an opportunity to welcome and interact with ESL and exchange students. This year these students represent the countries of China, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Pakistan, Poland, Puerto Rico, Switzerland, and Vietnam. Following welcoming remarks by Dr. Sue Andrews and Mrs. Jaya Vijayasekar and introductions of the international students, tea participants were treated to light refreshments and activities designed to promote multicultural connections. Thank you to Ms. Marylou Montanye, Mrs. Sara Prattson, Mrs. Margaret Youmatz, Mrs. Jo Ann D'Amato, Mrs. Joan Doucette and Ms. Alba Osorio, as well as the other teachers and student volunteers who helped with the event.

WORLD LANGUAGE NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Jaya Vijayasekar, WL Coordinator

Purple hall students and teachers have been busy! On November 4, they hosted the annual RHS International Tea. French students celebrated National French Week (November 9-13) by reading and researching about the thirty-seven French-speaking countries around the world and tasting café au lait. Our Spanish students celebrated the Day of the Dead by learning more about this cultural tradition and by tasting authentic Mexican hot chocolate. In addition, students took advantage of International Education Week during the week of November 16 by gathering to plan the Taste of Languages event, by making announcements highlighting language awareness at RHS, and by continuing their participation in the annual fruit fundraiser. THANK YOU to everyone who supported students in the World Language program by purchasing fruit from Langdon Barber Groves during the annual sale. Orders will arrive during the third week of December. Students will use their profits to defray the cost of World Language department sponsored field trips.

Parents and community members who would like to share their heritage, language, or their art form or help by soliciting food donations from area restaurants, organizing, or publicizing the annual Taste of Languages event should contact Mrs. Vijayasekar at 870-6050 (x329) or by email at Jaya.Vijayasekar@vernonct.org.

"EMPTY BOWLS" EVENT RETURNS TO RHS

Submitted by Mrs. Patricia Bengtson, Art Department

During December, students and staff at Rockville High School will once again be participating in Empty Bowls, a two-day fundraiser that will benefit our local food pantry. Art students and staff have been busy making ceramic soup bowls that will hold delicious homemade soups made by Mrs. Gilmore's Food for Today classes. A luncheon will be held on December 8 and December 9 for people to purchase a bowl and soup. All proceeds will help to feed hungry people in our community. The entire school is getting involved in this worthwhile event. Stay tuned to hear how much we raised! If you would like to make a donation, you can drop off an envelope marked "*Empty Bowls"* in the Main Office.

RHS SOPHOMORE HONORED BY PARKS ASSOCIATION

Adapted from a *Hartford Courant* article (11-23-09)

A non-profit organization committed to promoting, developing, and improving recreation and park services in Connecticut has honored RHS sophomore Christopher Stauder as this year's recipient of the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association's Youth Leadership Award. Chris was recognized for his "leadership in programs for teens or related activities." He has been involved in the Vernon Teen Center since he was in sixth grade. As a volunteer, he has also been active in the Vernon Teen Board, track program, fitness program, Easter Egg Hunt, Earth Day, Mother's Day Dash, summer camp, Halloween Boo Bash and the Holiday Festival. Congratulations, Chris!

STUDENTS AS EMPLOYEES

The Connecticut Department of Labor requires all 16- and 17-year-olds to obtain working papers in order to work within the state. A student must bring a written promise of employment from their employer to the Career Center to obtain this necessary document. New working papers must be obtained for each place of employment.

SELECTIVE SERVICE REMINDER

An important reminder for males who will soon celebrate their 18th birthday: federal law requires that you register with Selective Service within 30 days of your 18th birthday. When you register, you stay eligible for federal student loans, federal job training, and federal jobs. Registering is easy. See Mrs. Courtois in the Guidance Office with your Social Security number to complete the registration process that takes about five minutes.

THE FOCUS OF TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Submitted by Mr. Matt Kibbe,
Technology Education Department Chair

In less than ninety years, the western world has moved from an industrial society to one with an economy based primarily on information and technology. Technology has achieved such a high level of sophistication that many people are unable to comprehend its economic, social, and cultural impact. This lack of understanding often leads people to feel they have little control over their daily lives because they do not understand technological changes or the reasons for them. Schools must prepare students to understand technology, the improved productivity enabled by technology, and the impact that technology has on our quality of life. Technology Education is not just about computers. It is about career and life skills. Parents and educators must ensure that our graduates are well prepared to live in a technology-based society and to be contributing members.

President Obama is working on revamping the nation's entire infrastructure which will mean jobs for thousands of construction workers and engineers. Taking Technology Education courses can help students appreciate and develop interest in those and other viable career opportunities. Since few high school students know exactly what they want to do for a living, it makes perfect economic sense for students to explore their career interests now before entering the work force or attending an expensive college majoring in an area that many decide they dislike.

The hands-on, minds-on activities students engage in while taking Technology Education courses helps to enhance the areas of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) which is an important part of what we do. STEM will be a major component of secondary education reform. Technology Education classes give students greater meaning as to why they need to learn the core areas. These courses can and do make a difference in raising the level of awareness among students about career choices while improving their technological literacy and technical "know-how" in the process. Technology Education courses help develop the minds of technology competent individuals who will be entering college or the workforce in the near future. It is an important elective area that is available to all students. Keep this in mind when course selection time approaches.

INTERACT CLUB NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Dianne Grim, Advisor

The Interact Club officers are Co-Presidents Rachel Berglund, Devyn Dowty and Lindsay Grim, Vice President Sabah Ashraf and Secretary Jennifer Leonardi. Our first project of the year was to set up a recycling program at RHS. With the help of Coca-Cola Company, who donated recycling collection boxes, we are encouraging both students and faculty to donate their deposit cans and bottles. All proceeds from recycling will be donated to various community projects in the local area. We spent two Sundays raking leaves and cleaning up yards in Rockville and Ellington. On November 12, we volunteered with the Cornerstone Foundation, Inc. to raise money to improve the quality of life for people in our local area. A number of our seniors volunteered to set up the event that was held at the Lodge in Tolland. We collected change during the lunch waves and raised $120 to donate to the Soup Fest project. November 19 marked the 7th year that the Interact Club participated in the Pitkat Center's Senior Citizen's Thanksgiving Dinner, an opportunity for Rotary and Interact members to work together to serve the residents and their guests a traditional dinner. We had more than 25 club members serve over 100 meals to residents and guests that evening! We have also helped out the RHS Service Club Thanksgiving gift basket project by collecting canned cranberry sauce and stuffing mix. Our final project of this semester will be collecting teddy bears to add to Mrs. Cokkinias' fantastic collection to be donated to the Cornerstone Shelter's children's holiday party. It's never too late to join the Interact Club! Our group meets every Thursday afternoon from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 131. Please contact one of the Club officers or Mrs. Grim for more details.

PROJECT GRADUATION NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Daryl Gottier, Project Graduation

The Project Graduation committees are planning and fundraising for the 2010 celebration. Don't forget, the Project Graduation celebration is FREE for all graduating seniors but we are also looking for volunteers from parents of RHS students from all grades. This is a huge undertaking and help is needed from as many people as possible to make it a success. Although parents of seniors are not allowed to work the night of the party, they are strongly encouraged to work during the year to help put this celebration together for their 2010 graduate. Thanks to all the students that worked as waitstaff and made the fund-raising flapjack breakfast at Applebee's a big hit. Your service was greatly appreciated! Our next meeting is December 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Staff Lounge (blue hall).

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Upcoming events include the winter Parents Meet the Coaches Evening for the parents of all winter season student-athletes on Tuesday, December 8, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Auditorium.

The Winter Pep Rally celebrating all winter athletic teams will be held in the Auditorium on Tuesday, December 10 at 1:00 p.m. There will be no admission charge to the event. Additional information about the Pep Rally will be provided to students on the morning announcements.

Visit the Athletic Department's website at www.vernonschools.com for up-to-date schedules for all winter sports teams and directions to other school locations. For your convenience, you can also download the physical form, permission slip, Travel Release Form, and sign-off sheet from the Student-Athlete Handbook.

DECEMBER SPORTING EVENTS

Dec. 9 (7:00) – Girls' Basketball at Plainville
Freshmen (3:45); JV (5:30)
Dec. 11 (5:30) – Girls' BBall at Hartford Public
JV (3:45)
Dec. 15 (7:00) – Girls' BBall vs. Manchester (home)
Freshmen (3:45); JV (5:30)
Dec. 16 (7:00) – Boys' BBall at Glastonbury
Freshmen (4:00); JV (5:30)
Dec. 16 (6:00) – Wrestling vs. Hall (home)
Dec. 18 (7:00) – Boys' BBall vs. New Milford (h)
JV (5:30)
Dec. 19 (7:30) – Hockey at E.O. Smith/Tolland/
Windham (UConn, Storrs)
Dec. 19 (10:00) – Wrestling tournament at East
Hartford
Dec. 22 (7:00) – Boys' BBall vs. Rocky Hill (home)
Freshmen (3:45); JV (5:30)
Dec. 22 (3:45) – Hockey at Farmington (Int'l Skating
Center, Simsbury)
Dec. 22 (7:00) – Girls' BBall at Rocky Hill
Freshmen (3:45); JV (5:30)
Dec. 23 (6:00) – Wrestling at Glastonbury
Dec. 28 (TBA) – Girls' BBall at Southington Holiday
Tournament
Dec. 29 (7:00) – Boys' BBall at Ellington
Freshmen (4:00); JV (5:30)
Dec. 29 (2:30) – Hockey at Fermi (Enfield Twin
Rinks)
Dec. 30 (6:00) – Wrestling vs. Berlin (home)
Dec. 30 (TBA) – Girls' BBall at Southington Holiday
Tournament