

Bulldog Barks

December 2011– January 2012

Sponsored by the LHS PTSO

Principal's Message

David Ponn



It is difficult for me to realize that four months have elapsed since the opening of school. During this three-month period, we have had a very successful Ninth Grade/New Student Orientation, Parent Conference Day, Bulldog Celebrations, and Homecoming.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the students, parents, faculty, and staff for the smooth school opening. The first semester ends on January 19 and report cards will be issued on January 26. Congratulations to Jennifer Kellyforbeing selected Student Athletes of the Week by WHSV-TV. She truly embodies a true student/athlete.

S.O.L. Testing for Term Grad is scheduled for December 12-16 for 11th grade English/Reading Tests and E.O.C. Tests. Mrs. McDaniel, Mrs. Bauserman, and Ms. Jenkins are providing assistance for students needing to re-take an E.O.C. Test. Students interested in receiving assistance should see any of the instructors listed above. SOL EOC Testing and Common Assessment Testing is scheduled for January 11-19.

As the holiday season approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a Happy Holiday Season on behalf of Luray High School. We will dismiss at 1:00 p.m. on December 21 prior to our winter vacation and return to school on January 3 at our regular time.

Thank you again for your support as we endeavor to provide the best education possible for our students.

Dave Ponn
Principal

LHS Athletic Boosters meeting: Monday, December 19 at 5:30 pm in the commons!

Join the LHS PTSO! For more information, contact Tracie Dickson at tracied@embarqmail.com.

Agriculture Department Activities

The agriculture department has had a busy few months since the school year started. In September, Lyndsey Good, Jessica Wittich, and recent graduates Mari Cathern Sours and Hannah Yancey competed in the Big E dairy foods judging contest in Springfield, Massachusetts. The girls placed 6th out of 9 total teams from other northeastern states, but only 29 points separated 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th places. This is the first time Luray High has competed in a Big E regional event. Congratulations to the team. Students are now preparing to compete in other upcoming FFA contests. Cassidy Good, Chandlynn Gregg, and Tiffani Freeze attended a horse judging clinic in Blacksburg on November 5th sponsored by the Virginia Tech equestrian judging team. A horse judging contest will be held in February in Lexington, Virginia. Other students are preparing to compete in the Skyline Stockmen's Contest to be held in February at Front Royal. Jessica Wittich was chosen to be secretary and Lyndsey Good historian in the Rockingham FFA Federation which comprises chapters located in Page and Rockingham counties.

Citrus sales began during the first week of October and ended in November. The FFA sold approximately 700 cases of fruit and 60 boxes of apples. The winning sales team consisted of Amanda Luckey, Kaila Judd, Dustin Nauman, Cassidy Good, and Josh Breeden. These students won a free steak dinner and bowling. Brandon Hilliard sold the most fruit with a 73 box tally. Fruit will be delivered during the first week of December. Proceeds of fruit sales will help defer some of the cost of field trips to the Pennsylvania Sportsman's Show and Keystone National Truck & Tractor Pull. Other fundraisers we have ongoing include beef jerky sales and we are building corn hole games in the shop.

The FFA/ Ag Department have been involved in community related activities. In October, we participated in the Page County Heritage Festival and sold beef jerky and fruit. In November, students in the Ag department helped lay 18 pallets of sod on the new girls softball field and helped set concrete forms for the dugouts. The FFA parked cars at all home football games. Upcoming FFA activities include maintenance of the Raingarden between A & B wings, participation in the Town of Luray Christmas parade, and planting shrubs and trees in the riparian buffer zone at White House Farms.

Bulldog Barks

December 2011– January 2012

Sponsored by the LHS PTSO

LURAY HIGH RECEIVES EXXON/MOBIL GRANT



Thanks to the efforts of Bobby Smith of East End Exxon, Luray High School has been awarded a \$500.00 ExxonMobil Education Alliance Grant for the Science/Math initiative. Funded by the ExxonMobil Corporation, the ExxonMobil Alliance program is designed to provide Exxon retailers like Bobby Smith with an opportunity to invest in the future of their community through educational grants to neighborhood schools.

“DREAM TEAM RECYCLE RALLY”

Mrs. Racer’s students have been busy this semester working on the new program to the school the “Dream Team Recycle Rally”. This program gives students the chance to use real world skills and get prizes. For every bottle or can that the students recycle a point is added to the schools account and then spent on school supplies or even a pizza party. Everything that is recycled also gives a donation to disabled veterans, especially post 9/11 responding victims. We will continue the program into the New Year and the future. We ask that you please send any recyclables with your child to school and tell them to add the recycling to any blue bin in any classroom.

For more information go to www.DreamMachineRecycleRalley.com or www.greenopolis.com

Over 30,000 bottles

collected since September 1, 2011

Thank you,
Mrs. Racers AFDA class

What ‘s Happening at L.H.S.?

Ever wish you knew more about what was going on at L.H.S.? We can be found on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/lurayHigh> or search lurayhigh, on Twitter @ LurayHigh. Our website is located at <http://eclipse.pagecounty.k12.va.us/lhs/index.htm>. On our website you can links to Career and Counseling, Program of Studies for 2011-12, the Student Handbook , this newsletter, Luray High School Calendar of Events, a link to our athletic page <http://www.luraybulldogs.org/> , the Page County Public School Calendar, and the school Ning <http://lhs-success.ning.com/>. Also don’t forget to use the Power School portal to check on your student. The principal’s e-mail is dp@pagecounty.k12.va.us.

If you do not have computer access we will continue to send this newsletter and feel free to call at (540) 743-3800

Bulldog Barks

December 2011– January 2012

Sponsored by the LHS PTSO

Mrs. A Bausermans – French and Ecology

The school year has started off to a wonderful beginning. French 1 students have been working on increasing listening and comprehension skills and have just finished a project on family and will be starting on cultural traditions and foods of France. French 2 students are working on grammar and finding the difference between passé compose and imperfect to not be as easy as they thought. They have also been worked on a mystery project using past tense forms to practice the use of the two grammar forms, which is one of the more challenging concepts in French 2.

Ecology students have been presenting weekly current events related to the environment and we have had topics range from rainforest deforestation to energy efficient building and vehicles.

As a reminder please keep track of your grades on Powerschool. This is a wonderful tool for both students and parents to be able to keep up with grades in your classes. Parents can be given a login by speaking to the guidance department. Grades are updated weekly and it is a wonderful asset to monitor progress outside of school. I encourage all parents and students to get a login. If you are going to be absent for more than three days I would also encourage parents that you notify guidance and work can be collected from your child's teachers. It is very challenging for a student to make up work upon return if they have been absent for an extended period of time. Please help your child stay on task and not feel overwhelmed upon their return. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

FCCLA

LHS FCCLA has been busy with many activities. In October, members celebrated Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Teachers helped to support the causes by participating in Jeans for the Cause day. \$150 was raised and will be donated towards a Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence charity. Students wore pink and purple to support the cause and also welcomed guest speakers from CHOICES to the Family and Consumer Science classroom.

During the October FCCLA meeting, officers Taylor Beahm and Eppie Ehlers presented an inspirational PowerPoint to members concerning Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence. Members applauded two LHS staff members who survived Breast Cancer. Lead by the two LHS Teacher survivors, members took a silent walk around LHS in memory or in honor of a Breast Cancer or Domestic Violence victim.

In November students and teachers participated in the annual FCCLA Teacher Turkey contest. Students purchased feathers for the teacher they wanted to see dress as a Turkey. Congratulations to Mr. Pitts for winning the 2011 Teacher Turkey contest. Students rewarded all Teacher Turkey participants by providing them with a Teacher Turkey Lunch on November 23rd. All money raised from the Teacher Turkey contest will go towards making gift baskets for the residents at CHOICES.

In December FCCLA will be holding its annual Angel Tree program. Students, teachers, staff and members of the community can pick an angel to sponsor and help make someone's holiday season a little brighter.

United States History Classes

J. Baldwin

The saying goes that "Time flies when you are having fun." That statement sure applies to this semester!!! My U.S. History classes have been really busy working their way through our curriculum as well as meeting with Mrs. Seretha Judy, our career counselor at LHS, and working on their community service project of holding the Kitty-Pup Drive to benefit the Page Animal Shelter. So far, we have collected almost ½ ton of pet food! Jami Buracker, the manager of our Shelter, brought in her dog, Brown Dog, and gave a presentation on the animal shelter. It has been amazing for me to see how the students really want to help the animals that so desperately need it.

We will be starting World War II soon and then doing the 1950s, so please don't hesitate to ask the students about what they are learning in class about weaponry, leaders, battles, and society of post-war America.

Bulldog Barks

December 2011– January 2012

Sponsored by the LHS PTSO

Class of 2013 News

J. Baldwin

Another Homecoming has come and gone! With the help of Junior Class officers, Allysah Fox, Ryann Kelly, and Carolyn Vickers, the Juniors had a very successful Homecoming week. Once again, parental aid from Rodney and Tracy Turner and Bow and Angela Cook was imperative in producing an outstanding float! Thank you for so many years of hard work and dedication! In addition, I don't think I have ever seen so many students wearing maroon and white as I did the Friday of Homecoming. Way to show Bulldog Spirit!!

PRIDE/INTERACT CLUB

The Pride/Interact Club collected approximately 600 cans of food for local food bank Page One to support needy families in our community during a food drive in November. They also raised \$175 for the non-profit as well. Members of the club will also be volunteering to help serve the community Thanksgiving Day dinner hosted at the American Legion building on Nov. 24.

In December, Carolyn Vickers, a junior at LHS, will be delivering a speech on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention during a Leadership Conference hosted at Virginia Tech. Carolyn was chosen out of seven Interact members by the Luray Rotary Club to represent LHS and the Luray Rotary Club at the weekend conference. Five other Interact members and the club's co-advisors will also be traveling to VT to attend the Leadership seminar on behalf of Rotary. Also, in December, the Pride/Interact Club will be participating in the Luray Christmas parade on Dec. 10, hoping to spread some Christmas cheer as the holiday season approaches.

Academic Team

The Luray High School Academic Team kicked off their season in November. They are currently tied for first place in the district with Riverheads High School. The team consists of 21 members this year, the largest team roster since the academic competition began in 1999. The Academic Team competes on Monday evenings at 6pm. Senior night for the team is planned for Monday, November 28. The final district tournament is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 14 at 10 a.m. at Riverheads High School.

Class of 2014 News

The Sophomore Class is planning a book/clothing drive during the months of November and December. Students are currently collecting books and clothes to give away during a free give away at LHS on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Sophomores will take kids and adult books and any size or style clothing that is in decent shape. Please see sophomore class sponsors Mrs. Jamie Coleman, Helenice Chroniger, Debra Markanich, April Smith, Linda Turgati, Ann Andrews, Sandra Weikle, Lynn Hamilton, and Tammy Racer if you would like to make a donation or help in an

Wonderful World of Biology

Ms. S. Weikle

We have had a very busy nine weeks in biology. This past nine weeks, the students have studied the environment, biological chemistry, mitosis, meiosis, and genetic problems. We have a test each weeks so that we may keep on pace for the SOL test in January. It is very important that students keep up with their daily assignments. The daily assignments are practice and review for the class assessments. Please have your child study for test and quizzes. I provide a study guide which a great tool for reviewing for chapter test. Also students are welcome to come in early, stay late or even come in during mentor lunch period to review with me for all quizzes and tests. Students who access this review time do better on my tests. As a team we can help your child be successful in biology.

A Letter to Senior Parents

Dear Senior Parents,

It's hard to believe that it's almost Christmas... the past three months have passed by in a blur. I hope the kids are enjoying their senior year so far! I know they were most appreciative of the t-shirts, tailgate party, and the breakfast that we've provided so far. I'm excited for the treat they'll get for Christmas! We ordered each of them a custom designed ornament and we plan to distribute them the week of December 19th.

Due to inclement weather the bake sale that was scheduled for October was postponed until the spring. I'm looking at the weekend before Easter and I'll either email or call you with a request for a donation of baked

Bulldog Barks

December 2011– January 2012

Sponsored by the LHS PTSO

items. I'm also planning to ask the kids to help with a car wash and I'd like for them to donate the proceeds to a school project that will be starting soon.

If you would like to receive more of this type of information via email, please send an email to me at kgochenour@yahoo.com and I'll include you on the mailing list. We continue to accept (and greatly appreciate) monetary donations. Checks can be made payable to LHS 2012 Senior Class and can be mailed or dropped off at the school office.

Thank you!

Karen

L.H.S. Robodawgs

Luray Robodawgs will field a team again this year. Our many thanks go to James Madison University for the grant to pay registration and kit of parts. This will be our third year in a row to receive the \$5,000.00 grant. Ron Vickers, Technology Education teacher and Kevin Carini, Chemistry teacher work together to mentor a select group of students after school for Team #3307. We will be attending the Chesapeake Regional competition in March. Students meet after school for an hour to rebuild last year's robot and learn more programming. This endeavor stretches the capabilities of teachers and students alike. The world wide kickoff event is the first weekend in January where teams get the parts and watch the video cast to learn of this year's problem. We will then have only 6 weeks to design, build, and test a student made robot for competing. With several seasoned members we hope to end up with a high ranking this year. Everyone is welcome to come see what we are up to in Mr. Vickers lab after school.

Met Tower

The 'met tower' erected in the back of the school continues to measure wind speeds. A data logger collects this data where it is shared with JMU Wind Energy Center. At the end of one year we will be able to make a cost analysis to purchase a wind turbine. The goal is powering a future concession stands for the athletic fields by way of alternative energy.

S.C.A. News

The Luray High School's motto for the 2011-2012 school year, "Elevate Your Game", surely has been upheld by the Student Council Association. Sponsored by Mrs. Melissa McDaniel, the students from Luray are tirelessly making this year the best! The officers, AileenDeirig (co-president), Alexis Richards (co-president), Megan Osborne (vice president), CarlieHoke (reporter), Sonia Mehta (treasurer) and Rebecca Berry (secretary) meet weekly to discuss activities to involve all students in the school. Their work began in the summer months with the preparation of homecoming week. Homecoming week was October 17-22 with a theme of "Where Dreams Come True", based on the four parks of Disney World. During the week classes battled for spirit points. Points were earned through penny wars, the amount of participation and by the parade floats. Each class was given a different park and movie: Magic Kingdom and Cinderella (seniors), MGM Studios and Toy Story (juniors), EPCOT and Aladdin (sophomores) and Animal Kingdom and Lion King (freshmen). Then, everyday of the week had a different dress up theme. Monday was class color day. On this day a majority of the senior class wore black togas to show who really ruled the school. Tuesday was dress as any Disney character day. The halls of LHS were full of Mickey Mouse, Dalmatians , Peter Pan's and Jack Sparrows. Tuesday was an important day because Ryan Foltz was crowned Homecoming King at the volleyball game. Wednesday followed with dress as a character from your class' movie. Senior girls enjoyed dressing as Cinderella along with the junior boys who dressed as soldiers from Toy Story. The scariest part of the week was Thursday; students dressed as Disney villains. The true creativity was shown by the Queen of Hearts and Scars. Maroon and white flooded the halls as students prepared to show all their spirit at the pep rally and game. At the pep rally three students and three teachers with the most maroon and white received cash prizes. The parade before the game began at the high school and ended up at Bulldog Field. At half-time Rachel George was crowned Homecoming Queen. The dance, which everyone was excited for, was Saturday evening.

Homecoming has not been the only exciting activity this year. Halloween gave students and teachers the opportunity to spook the school. The best costumes were also rewarded cash prizes. On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving break, students who had no unexcused tardies, outstanding attendance, no referrals and an 80 percent or higher in all their classes received a sock hop the last hour and a half of school. 287 students were

Bulldog Barks

December 2011– January 2012

Sponsored by the LHS PTSO

able to attend this activity Elevation doesn't stop there, however. In the months to come, a Snow Ball, random spirit days, a bon fire and much more are in the works.

CLASS OF 2012

The Luray High School 1st Semester Senior Class has contributed over 425 hours of community service to Page county and the surrounding areas as of mid-November. While this is not a record setting pace, there are only 53 seniors involved in the 1st semester program. Beneficiaries of senior volunteer time include the Page County Animal Shelter, Mont Vue Nursing Home, the Town of Luray Halloween Trial, Page One, Page County 4-H, and many others. The seniors have taken their act on the road as well, assisting at the Shenandoah Volunteer Farm in Woodstock, Virginia. The non-profit farm provides food for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank through various distribution centers. When the citizens of Luray voted on Election Day, there was a Luray High School Senior there to greet them on behalf of the Page County Electoral Board. These students have developed a sense of ownership of their community.

The next DEADLINE for BULLDOG Barks is January 19 for the February/March

**LHS – PTSO
Luray High School
243 Bulldog Drive
Luray, VA 22835**

**Bulk Rate
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit #147**