

CURRENTS

The Official Newsletter of St. Mary's High School • Lancaster, NY



Honor Society welcomes 37 new members

On Wednesday, Dec. 10, the Marian Chapter of the National Honor Society welcomed 37 new members.

The Induction was held in the Gus Galasso Performing Arts Center as part of a celebration that included a candlelight ceremony, reading of the new inductees' biographies, and a dessert reception.

The newest members are (first row) David Owczarczak, Joelle Cianciosa, Julie Pijacki, Olivia Carl, Helen Gibson, Madeline Wnuk, Alyssa Zirnheld, Bradley Berchou, Bailey Dolegowski, Alexander Hokaj, Andrew Salamone, Carolyn Kidder, Allison Rusinski, Emma Winiarski, (second row) Ann Hamilton, Kendra Ciezki, Grace Pysz-

czek, Marissa Dantonio, Mikala McCartney, Zachary Ineson, Jia Wei Gu, Genevieve Zajac, Regan Weiss, Jessica Michalski, Hanna Streck, (third row) Evan Zaprzal, Garrett Braniecki, Bridget Herod, Victoria Powell, Andrew Blaszak, Jessica Kranz, Jennifer Piskor, Leah May, James Roetzer, Sean Wilson, Megan Vogel, and Anna DiDomenico.

January Exam Schedule

Due to the snow storm and cancelled school in November, changes were made to the January Exam Schedule to make up for

lost class time. Many mid-term exams are either being incorporated into the class schedule or have been cancelled.

The following is the schedule for final and Regents exams for the week of January 26 to 30:

Mon., Jan. 26	Tues., Jan. 27	Wed., Jan. 28	Thur., Jan. 29	Fri., Jan. 30
<p>Regular Class Schedule</p> <p>Students taking the Algebra 1 Common Core Exam or the English Regents Exam (make-up) will miss periods 5 through 9. Afternoon Regents Exams ends at about 3 p.m. <i>(students will have to provide their own transportation).</i></p>	<p>Regular Class Schedule</p> <p>Students taking the Global Studies Regents Exam (make-up) will miss periods 1 through 4. Students taking the Integated Algebra Regents Exam will miss periods 4 through 9. Afternoon Regents Exam ends at about 3 p.m. <i>(students will have to provide their own transportation).</i></p>	<p>Special Class Schedule</p> <p><i>8 to 9 a.m</i></p> <p>Grade 9 – Study Skills Final Exam Grade 10 – Old Testament Final Exam Grade 11 – Morality Final Exam Grade 12 – Social Justice Final Exam</p> <p>Students taking the Geometry Regents Exam (make-up) will miss periods 1 through 5. Students taking the Chemistry Regents Exam (make-up) will miss periods 5 through 9. Afternoon Regents Exam ends at about 3 p.m. <i>(students will have to provide their own transportation).</i></p>	<p>Special Class Schedule</p> <p><i>8 to 9 a.m</i></p> <p>Grade 9 – Study Skills Final Exam Pt. 2 Grade 10 – Old Testament Final Exam Pt. 2 Grade 11 – Morality Final Exam Pt. 2 Grade 12 – Social Justice Final Exam Pt. 2</p> <p>Students taking the Algebra 2/Trig Regents Exam (make-up) will miss periods 1 through 5.</p>	<p>No School for Students</p> <p>Faculty / Staff Retreat</p>

Final Exams not listed here will be given in class. Check the class Schoology page for the dates.

January is time for a fresh start

January is always my favorite month of the year, not just because it is my birthday month. It symbolizes a new beginning, a fresh start, an opportunity to begin anew.

As the school year goes by so quickly it nice to slow down for a minute and realize that we still have a little over half a year left and an opportunity to define what the rest of our school year can become.



We spend our lives counting down to the next big event and really what we need to do is to stop and focus on the moment, live the day, relish the experiences that come our way.

There is a famous quote, "Yesterday's the past. Tomorrow's the future. But today is the gift that is why they call it the present."

As we begin 2015 let's all try to live by

that motto, let's treat every day as a gift and enjoy it for what it is, another day.

Some gifts are great, others you want to take back, but each gift has meaning to it and that is what life is: a series of days, some good, some bad, but each one shapes who we are and who we will ultimately become.

I can say that 2014 was a rough year for me on a personal level, but I can dwell on that or look at today as an opportunity to enrich my life.

If we go into everyday with that attitude we will have a positive experience and 2015 can be a great year in our lives.

So as we return to school let's sit back and cherish each day as if it was our last, squeeze every ounce of life from it, and make this year a memorable one.

Happy New Year everyone – may it be our best year to date.

Mr. Matthew Ard
Dean of Student Affairs

Students/Teacher of September



Kaitlyn Tytko

Carolyn Kidder

Savannah Meyers

Shae Antonicelli

Mrs. Junik

Students/Teacher of October



Alexandra Zelazny

Helen Gibson

Alex Paul

Shala Wright

Mr. Ard

Students/Teacher of November



Gillian Sacco

Christopher Gresham

Hannah Pufpaff

Chloe Isbrandt

Mrs. Migliore

Fundraising
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Currents

Published 12 times a year by
St. Mary's High School
142 Laverack Ave., Lancaster, NY 14086
(716) 683-4824 • www.smhlancers.org

Editor: Keith L. Kidder '85

Vol. 23, Issue 5

Exciting changes coming to Lancer Auction '15

Plans are already underway for Lancer Auction 2015. This year's Auction will be held on Friday, Feb. 6, beginning at 6 p.m.

Whether you are new to St. Mary's or have been here for many years, exciting changes have been made to the Auction for 2015. Here is a brief description of all that is in store at this year's Auction:

First off, what is Lancer Auction 2015?

The Lancer Auction is the major fundraiser for St. Mary's High School. The evening combines Raffles, Silent Auction, Live Auction, wonderful food, and lots of great conversation to raise money to benefit the students of St. Mary's High School.

What is the evening like?

Registration begins at 6 p.m. in the Gus Galasso Performing Arts Center. Guests will be invited to participate in a variety of raffles (50/50, Lottery Tree, Liquor Basket). Participants then proceed to the Athletic Center where they will have the opportunity to bid on hundreds of wonderful items in the Silent Auction. Hors'd-oeuvres, an open bar, and deluxe food stations provided by Frontier Catering will also be available.

Beginning at approximately 8:15 p.m., the Silent Auction portion will come to a conclusion. Everyone will then be invited to take their seats at which time there will be a champagne

toast and dessert from Chrusciki Bakery. This will be followed by the Live Auction.

For those interested, valet parking is available. Check-out this year will be taking place in the Auditorium.

What is the "Silent Auction"?

The Auction committee has gathered many items for people to bid on. This includes housewares, sporting equipment, and certificates for dinners and entertainment, just to name a few. There will also be Special items including autographed jerseys, dinner packages, and more expensive items. There will also be projects prepared by the students in the St. Mary's Art Club.

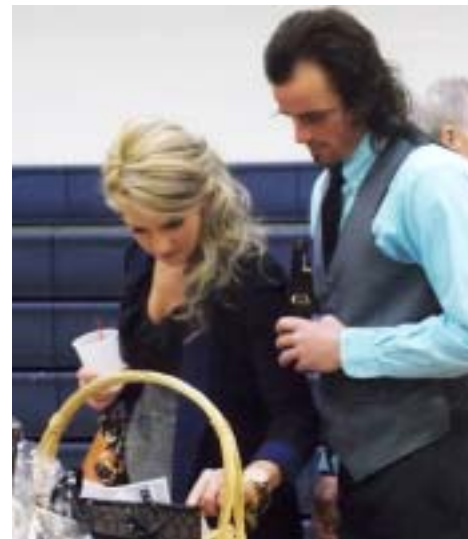
Next to each item will be a bid sheet on which those who wish may place a bid for that item. There is also a spot for "Guaranteed Bid," where participants can claim the item for themselves. At designated times throughout the evening, bidding on specific sections will close; those who have the highest bid when bidding closes will be awarded the item.

Winning bidders will be notified during the Live Auction of the items that they have won.

What is the "Live Auction"?

The Live Auction is what people think of when they think of an Auction – items will be described, an Auctioneer will then call for bids from the auction participants, and the person who has the highest bid will receive the item.

Some items available during the Live Auction include use of condos, tickets to a Sabres game in a



Placing bids during last year's Silent Auction.

suite, tickets to Yankees and Red Sox games, the use of a suite for a Brooklyn Nets/Cleveland Cavalier basketball game, and much more.

What is the cost for the Auction?

This year, the Lancer Auction costs \$85 per person. Cost includes delicious food provided by Frontier Catering and an open bar.

How do I receive an invitation?

St. Mary's families, past and present, will receive an invitation shortly. If you do not receive an invitation and would like one, or if you have a suggestion of someone who should receive one, please contact Pam Aquino, Special Events Coordinator, at (716)683-4824, ext. 223 or at paquino@smhlancers.org.

Please note that Auction guests must be 21 years old or older to attend.

Do you need any volunteers?

There are several places where volunteers are needed. This includes registration, raffles, check-out, and more. Students are also needed to help serve the dinners and work check-out. Those interested in volunteering should contact Mrs. Aquino.

Those who have any other questions about the Lancer Auction should contact Mrs. Aquino.



Mrs. Theresa Kruse volunteered to help with Check-out at last year's Auction.

Counseling Corner

Sarah Neudeck (sneudeck@smhlancers.org) • 683-2349 • Jamie Whitwood (jwhitwood@smhlancers.org)

Counselor to Classes of 2015 & 2017

Counselor to Classes of 2016 & 2018

Avoid scare tactics when disciplining

When lecturing your teen for the hundredth time about wearing her seat belt, it's tempting to start screaming, "You must wear your seat belt! If you don't, and there's an accident, you will break your neck!"

That reaction makes sense. However, it's important to remember that your teen doesn't always think the same way that you do – and that's why scare tactics don't work.

Teens understand that bad things could happen, but they think those bad things will only happen to other people. Teens are better at processing concrete information – what's going on in the here and now – than they are at thinking about abstract situations. That's why a direct statement ("If you're not wearing your seat belt, I'm taking away your driving privileges") is more effective than a scare tactic.

Scare tactics can also cause your teen to lose respect for your advice. If you respond with a "scary story" every time your teen tries to talk to you about a serious issue, she is likely to stop discussing them with you. It's more important to know your teen's concerns and issues than it is to scare her away from doing things. So give your teen reasonable explanations for why you feel the way you do on serious issues.

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Resolutions for school success

It's the start of a new year, and that's a good time to take stock. Are your teen's grades where she – and you – would like them to be? If not, it may be time to make some learning resolutions.

Here are three to try:

- Get to class on time every day. Teachers can't teach students who aren't in class. And if teens consistently miss a class, or if they arrive late, they're going to miss something important.
- Read for pleasure. Research shows that teens strongly benefit from time spent reading. Unfortunately, according to studies collected by Common Sense Media, there has been a clear decline in reading among teens. Nearly half of 17-year-olds say they read for pleasure no more than one or two times a year.

So encourage your teen to spend time reading something she likes – a sports story, a thriller, or a magazine. It doesn't matter what she reads, just that she reads.

- Cut down on screen time. Studies show that most teens spend more than seven hours a day using media. Not surprisingly, those with the highest media usage had the lowest grades. So have your teen turn off the TV and put her phone down for an hour or two. Encourage her to use that time to read, be active, or just daydream.

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Shaping attitudes toward money

Your daughter wants you to buy her an expensive pair of jeans she saw a friend wearing.

Even if you can afford the jeans, should you buy them? Keep in mind that what you don't give your teen can be more important than what you do.

Teens have always wanted to look like their friends. There's nothing wrong with dressing fashionably. But there's a big difference between looking nice and wearing clothes that cost more than the rent on your first apartment.

Teens need to be taught the value of money. Learning how to manage money, save money, and how to spend it wisely are valuable skills.

So, rather than just saying no (or yes) to the jeans, use this as an opportunity to teach your teen about making responsible decisions. Give her a clothing allowance and let her decide how to spend it. Would she rather have one pair of really expensive jeans or two tops and two pairs of less-expensive jeans? Remind her that once the money is gone, it's gone.

Regardless of her decision, you'll help your teen learn the financial self-discipline that will make her a more responsible adult.

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Apply NOW for Financial Aid

Now is the time to apply for Financial Aid for the 2015-2016 School Year! To apply, go to www.smarttuitionaid.com and

enter the school ID: 11384.

Here is what you will need to support your application:

- Most recent paystubs and W-2 forms for all jobs
- Most recently filed tax returns with all schedules
- Most recently filed business tax returns (if applicable)
- Supplemental income documentation (Social Security, Child Support, Veterans Benefits, etc.)

The deadline to apply for Financial Aid is **January 31, 2015!** Failure to apply by the deadline will jeopardize your award.

If you have any questions regarding Tuition Aid, contact Steven Grieco, Enrollment Director, at (716) 683-4824, ext. 237, or sgrieco@smhlancers.org.

Sign up for SAT Prep Class

St. Mary's is pleased to offer an after-school SAT preparatory course to help Juniors perform their best on the SAT standardized tests.

These classes are designed to prepare students in strategies, content, grading, and techniques needed for the SAT exams. Throughout the course, students will practice various strategies tailored specifically for the Critical Reading, Math, and Writing sections. The cost of this course is \$215.

Students will need to purchase the textbook (McGraw-Hill 12 SAT Practice Tests – 2nd Edition, ISBN# 9780-07-158317-6) prior to the first class. The classes will meet on Monday afternoons from 3-5 p.m. on February 2, 9, and 23, and March 2 and 9 at St. Mary's High School. Students are also required to attend the practice SAT diagnostic on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 8 a.m.-12 noon.

Those who have questions should contact Ms. Jenna van Groenewoud at jvangroenewoud@smhlancers.org. To register, please contact the St. Mary's Guidance Department.

The deadline to register is Friday, Jan. 23.

Lancer Parent Partnership Committee people, models needed

The Lancer Parent Partnership Fashion Show Committee will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 6 p.m. in the St. Mary's High School Library.

Now that the holidays are over, the planning for the spring fashion show, "Lights, Camera, Fashion!" will be in full swing! All are welcome to join the committee and assist with the planning.

This year's event will be held on Tuesday, April 21, at Salvatore's Italian Gardens Restaurant, beginning at 5 p.m. As the Lancer Parent Partnership's only fundraiser, the event raises money for student scholarships, as well as parent networking socials and faculty and staff appreciation events. If you are unable to attend the January meeting, but would still like to help, please e-mail Sandy Gibson at ekgib15@msn.com. There are many ways to help, including assisting with the models, decorating, obtaining theme basket donations, and helping with

admissions and raffles the night of the event. We are also looking for vendors and stores for fashions that our models can showcase.

The online model sign up form will be available on the St. Mary's web site beginning January 12, and will be open until February 13. All students and faculty are encouraged to sign up early if they would like to model in the show. Any applicants who sign up after February 13 will be placed on a wait list.

The annual fashion show is a wonderful evening of fun, food, fashions, and fabulous prizes! Tickets will be \$40 and include admission, a door prize ticket, a three-course dinner, and the show. Tables of 10 are available. A cash bar will be available, as well as a theme basket raffle. Please invite your friends and family from outside the St. Mary's community and help us showcase this great event to benefit our students!

Bye, Bye Birdie to be Spring Musical

The St. Mary's Theater Department is pleased to announce that the 2015 Spring Musical will be *Bye, Bye Birdie*.

Conrad Birdie is the biggest rock & roll star of the 1960s ever to be drafted. Aspiring chemist and song writer Albert is convinced that he can make his fortune and marry his girlfriend Rosie if he gets Conrad on the Ed Sullivan show to kiss a high school girl goodbye. Albert's mother will do anything to break him up with Rosie. Kim and Hugo, the high school steadies,

live in Sweet Apple, Ohio, where most of the action takes place.

Some memorable songs from the musical include "Put on a Happy Face," "A Lot of Livin' to Do," and "We Love You Conrad."

Auditions for the St. Mary's production will be held on January 6 and 7, with callbacks on January 9.

Bye, Bye Birdie will be performed March 19, 20, and 21, with curtain at 7:30 p.m. each night.

SEEK Week explores different cultures

During the week of December 1 through 5, St. Mary's High School observed SEEK Week. Named for the SEEK (Students Exercising Equity & Knowledge) Club at St. Mary's, the week and the organization are designed to allow all members of the school to realize and appreciate that everyone is different and the same in so many ways.

The theme of the week was "Common Threads." Throughout the week, members of SEEK offered a variety of activities to show these common threads, to display the contributions of various cultures. For example, photos of various sports from China were displayed, pictures from famous Irish painters were presented, a decade of the Rosary was said in Polish, famous Italian songs were played, and Shannon

Murty, a St. Mary's freshman, sang the National Anthem of Ireland in Gaelic during all lunches.

In addition, the cafeteria offered a menu with foods from different cultures, including Italian, Chinese, Polish, Irish, and African.

SEEK Week concluded with an assembly featuring the African Drum Corps. The dancers and drummers offered a lively and entertaining performance demonstrating the music and dance of the African culture.

"The members of SEEK were striving to show the many similarities people of different ethnicities share," commented Mrs. Cindy Powers, Moderator of SEEK. "We used the theme 'Common Threads' to celebrate similarities such as food, the arts,



Freshman Shannon Murty sings the Irish National Anthem in Gaelic.



Members of the African Drum Corps lead the St. Mary's students in one of their dances.



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faith, sports, and music.

"I think the students especially enjoyed some of the different foods we experienced," she continued, "but the highlight of the week was definitely the African Drum Corps and dancers. The students loved being involved in the dancing and listening to the drums! The experience brought about an awareness of the rich cultural heritage of Africa in an educational and fun way."

Student members of SEEK felt that the week was a great way for students to examine the world outside of their "comfort zone."

"I think the students learned a lot more about the world other than their own personal background," said Hannah Gresham, a member of the SEEK club.

"I thought the week was an awesome way for the students to connect with people from cultures around the world," added fellow SEEK member Gillian Sacco. "I think the students developed a better appreciation for each other, and hopefully they will form a connection with other students, especially with those from other cultures."

Second STEAM Challenge is successful

By Miss Jennifer Anthone
STEAM Coordinator

I am excited to report the success of St. Mary's second STEAM project! For this challenge, students were asked to build a wind turbine that could generate the greatest amount of energy for its size. Students were restricted to using only recyclable materials, hot glue, and duct tape to assemble their wind turbines. Some students chose to be daring and built their own turbine stands in addition to building the blades, while others chose to narrow their focus on the design of the wind turbine blades only and use the premade stands provided. Every student was very creative in the development of their wind turbine blades, however.

After a great deal of research and much trial and error, the students found a variety of unique blade shapes that worked well for them. For example, Daquan Hunt chose to model the blades of his wind turbine after the shape of a hockey stick. Hannah Puspaff and Haley Wipperman decided to use three cardboard panels cut into the shape of a trapezoid for their wind turbine blades, while Joshua Fontaine chose to cut his three cardboard panels into the shape of a rectangle. Like Hannah and Haley, David Fasolino also decided to

use trapezoid shaped cardboard panels; however he used two panels per blade instead of one.

Frida Zheng and Karen He, who worked together, and Kevin Li, who worked independently, decided upon rounded, oval shaped blades made from balsa wood for their respective wind turbines. Jakari Woods and Jon Pasternak used balsa wood as well; however they had six blades total of two different sized trapezoids, three larger trapezoidal shaped blades and three smaller blades.

The challenge's champion for producing the greatest electrical output is Matthew Pietrzak. He chose a more simplistic design than his peers for his wind turbine blades. He decided to build three blades made only out of cardboard. The genius of his idea lay not behind the material, but the design. Matthew made short and narrow, elongated trapezoids for the blades and carefully angled the bases of the blades in the axle so that when wind was applied to the blades they generated maximum speed. Matthew's wind turbine achieved the greatest voltage output maxing out at 2.25 V!

The award for constructing the lightest wind turbine goes to Frida Zheng and Karen He. Their wind turbine weighed in at only 0.6 pounds! The girls built their turbine stand out of styrafoam and cardboard. They used a styrafoam cube for the base of the stand, which they duct taped to the floor for support, and a cardboard cylinder from a wrapping paper tube. The use of these lightweight materials enabled the girls to achieve the



Joshua Fontaine and Hannah Puspaff give their turbine a test run.

lightest weight possible amongst their competitors.

The overall champions of the challenge for constructing the most efficient wind turbine are Jakari Woods and Jon Pasternak. Their wind turbine generated 1.5 volts of electricity and weighed only 0.8 pounds! Like Frida and Karen, the boys elected to construct their own wind turbine stand. They made their stand out of a shoe box, styrafoam, duct tape, and a cardboard cylinder. Due to the combination of the lightweight materials used for the stand and the design of their wind turbine blades, Jakari and Jon were able to produce the greatest amount of energy per pound.

Congratulations to Matthew, Frida, Karen, Jakari, and Jon on a job well done! The Game Developer and School of Rock challenges have begun and are well under way, so there will be more STEAM success to report in the near future. Also, the next STEAM Challenge, the Make and Wear Challenge, begins Monday, Jan. 5. Don't forget to follow me on Twitter and Instagram at @missanthone for updates on your classmates' progress!



Jon Pasternak constructs his wind turbine.

First *Canvas • Cookies • Cocoa* is a success

Thank you to everyone who participated in the year's Canvas • Cookies • Cocoa, which took place on Thursday, Dec. 11.

Approximately 30 people – students, parents, teachers, and alumni – enjoyed an evening of painting, food, and fun, under the direction of Art Teacher Laura James.



Campus Ministry



Resolve to read Scripture more

A blessed, peaceful and happy New Year. May 2015 be a year of following Jesus in mercy, humility, truth, and service.

Did you make any resolutions?

As new calendars get hung, checks get the new year date (when we remember), and the Church continues to celebrate Christmas (until January 11), we are often prompted to see a new beginning, a new order to our life. One's resolutions are often positive in nature: lose weight; work out more regularly; clean the garage, attic, basement, or junk drawer; and perhaps pray more.

We frequently fall victim to the same admonition that Jesus gave to His apostles in Matthew 26:41: "The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak." However, it

is not the one who falls that fails; it is the one who falls and fails to get up. The blessings and grace of God will lift us up when we fall.

This year may be the time to resolve and reorder our relationship with God and His Church. As one of his seven pillars of Catholic spirituality, the author Matthew Kelly suggests reading the Bible as a daily practice. The Catholic Church teaches that the Bible is absolutely true in all matters necessary for our salvation.

Here are two suggestions for the reading/praying of Scripture. First, in preparation for the following Sunday, read the Scriptures that will be read. One day from the Old Testament, another the Psalm, another the New Testament, and finally the Gospel. Many church bulletins publish the

readings for the week to come. If you don't have access to a bulletin, readings are also available at www.usccb.org.

Second, start your journey through Scripture by reading the Gospels. Begin with Mark, the "spark notes" of the four Gospels. His was written first; it is the shortest; and much of his insight comes from his association with Peter. Then, onward read Matthew, Luke, and John.

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong with our lives." NLT.

My resolution is to pray that the St. Mary's family continues to make God's word a part of our daily life.

Benedicat vos omnipotens Deus.
twf+

Students participate in Hour of Code

By Miss Jennifer Anthonie
STEAM Coordinator

Wednesday, Dec. 10, St. Mary's students, under the leadership of Science teacher Miss Jennifer Anthonie, had the opportunity to participate in the global wide event, the Hour of Code.

The Hour of Code initiative is a one-hour introduction to computer science and computer programming. Its aim is to teach students of all ages the basics of computer programming to prove that anybody can learn how to code. The event took place in locations all across the world during the week of December 8th through 14th, which is designated as Computer Science Education Week. Even President Obama took part in the Hour of Code!

In today's society, computers and technology impact every aspect of our lives. No matter what career students choose to pursue, now and in the future, their jobs will involve computers in some respect. Furthermore, the marketplace for computer science careers is dramatically expanding and, as of right now, there are not enough qualified candidates to fill the number of computer science jobs available. This is why it is imperative students learn how to code.

The Hour of Code at St. Mary's took



Juniors Christopher Greshman, Jonathan Rowe, and Justus Pigford were just three of the St. Mary's participants in the Hour of Code.

place after school from 2:30 to 3:30. Students gathered in the library, where they could work on desktop computers, laptops, and iPads. During that hour, students guided themselves through a variety of tutorials provided by Code.org. Students had the freedom to choose which tutorial they wanted to do and at what level to begin.

Students who had no prior experience with coding chose to start at the beginner level while others who have some back-

ground knowledge of coding started at the more advanced levels. Students learned how to program their own games, and apps, and write lines of code. Some students coded lines for the game, "Flappy Bird", while others coded lines for their own websites. No matter what level or tutorial, all students were learning and having fun!

As a teacher, it was very exciting to see the students engaged in the coding tutorials. The students were completely immersed in what they were doing. It was amazing to see the amount of collaboration and learning that was taking place. On many occasions when one student got stuck on a step, he would ask his friend for help, and together they would solve the problem.

At the end of the event, all students earned a certificate of completion. The look of pride and the smiles on the students' faces was incredible. They were so proud of themselves, and I was proud of them, too.

If you were unable to attend the event, there is no need to feel left out! Anyone can complete the Hour of Code at anytime! Just visit the code.org website and start a tutorial, any tutorial! I hope you will.

Register for Spring Driver Ed

St. Mary's High School offers Driver Education classes to its students and any member of the community. Trained professionals committed to the student's success teach both the classroom and in-car sessions.

The Spring Session begins on January 22, and run through May 14.

The cost for the session is \$450.

The New York State Education Department requires that each student attend 24 hours of classroom instruction and 24 hours of in-car instruction. One-and-a-half hour driving labs are available at

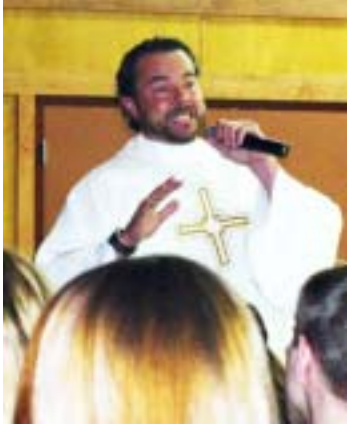
various times in the Driver Education vehicles.

Every effort is made to register students in the classroom and driving lab of their choice.

Registration forms are available on the St. Mary's website (www.smhlanders.org) by clicking on Driver Ed. Forms and payment must be received by **January 14, 2015!** After that date, please call for availability.

Those who have questions regarding registration information should call St. Mary's High School at 683-4824.

Christmas time at St. Mary's!



Father David Richards



Unwrapping CHRISTmas



The meaning of Christmas

The Christmas Show



2014-15 Winter Sports Schedules

Boys' Varsity Basketball

Games begin at 7:30pm, unless noted
 Tues. Jan. 6, 6:30pm, @ Walsh
 Tues. Jan. 13, 7pm, @ St. Francis
 Thurs. Jan. 15, vs. Cleve-Hill
 Fri. Jan. 16, vs. O'Hara
 Tues. Jan. 20, vs. Niagara Catholic
 Fri. Jan. 23, 6:30pm, @ Park
 Mon. Jan. 26, vs. St. Joe's
 Fri. Jan. 30, 6:30pm, @ Nichols
 Tues. Feb. 3, @ Niagara Catholic
 Wed. Feb. 4, 6:30pm, vs. Park
 Tues. Feb. 10, 6:30pm, vs. Walsh
 Wed. Feb. 11, vs. Fredonia
 Fri. Feb. 13, @ O'Hara
 Sun. Feb. 15, 4pm, @ Canisius

Boys' JV Basketball

Games begin at 6pm, unless noted
 Tues. Jan. 6, 5pm, @ Walsh
 Sat. Jan. 10, 12:30pm, vs. Depew
 Tues. Jan. 13, 5:30pm, @ St. Francis
 Thurs. Jan. 15, vs. Cleve-Hill
 Fri. Jan. 16, vs. O'Hara
 Tues. Jan. 20, vs. Niagara Catholic
 Mon. Jan. 26, vs. St. Joe's
 Fri. Jan. 30, 5pm, @ Nichols
 Tues. Feb. 3, @ Niagara Catholic
 Tues. Feb. 10, vs. Walsh
 Wed. Feb. 11, vs. Fredonia
 Fri. Feb. 13, @ O'Hara
 Sun. Feb. 15, 2:30pm, @ Canisius

Wrestling

Tues. Jan. 6, 6pm, @ St. Joe's
 Sat. Jan 10, 9am, @ Alden State Bank Duels (Alden HS)
 Sat, Jan. 17, 9am @ Niagara Falls Tourney
 Sat, Jan. 24, 9am @ Cat-Little Valley Tourney
 Sat, Jan. 31, 9am @ Lew-Port Tourney
 Tues. Feb. 3, 6pm, vs. Gow
 Sun. Feb. 8, time TBA, All-Catholic Tournament (St. Mary's)

Girls' JV Bowling

All matches begin at 3:35pm. For the new year, matches are moved to Airport Lanes.
 Tues, Jan. 6, vs. Immaculata
 Thur., Jan. 8, vs. Mt. St. Mary's
 Tues, Jan. 13, vs. Mt. Mercy
 Thur., Jan. 15, vs. Nardin
 Tues, Jan. 20, vs. Sacred Heart

Girls' Varsity Basketball

Games begin at 7:30pm, unless noted
 Mon, Jan. 5, 6pm, @ Nichols
 Fri, Jan. 9, vs. Park
 Sat, Jan. 10, 6pm, @ Fredonia
 Mon, Jan. 12, 5:30pm, @ Buffalo Science (Daemen College)
 Wed, Jan. 14, 6pm, @ Nardin
 Sat, Jan. 17, 4pm, vs. Christian Central
 Wed, Jan. 21, 6pm, @ Sacred Heart (Villa Maria College)
 Fri, Jan. 23, vs. Mt. St. Mary's
 Tues, Jan. 28, vs. Niagara Catholic
 Thurs, Jan. 30, vs. Mt. Mercy
 Wed, Feb. 4, 6pm, @ O'Hara
 Mon, Feb. 9, @ Buffalo Seminary
 Fri, Feb. 13, vs. Immaculata

Girls' JV Basketball

Games begin at 6pm unless noted
 Mon, Jan. 5, @ Nichols
 Fri, Jan. 9, vs. Park
 Sat, Jan. 10, 12noon, @ Fredonia
 Wed, Jan. 14, 4:30pm, @ Nardin (Villa Maria College)
 Wed, Jan. 21, 4:30pm, @ Sacred Heart
 Fri, Jan. 23, vs. Mt. St. Mary's
 Mon, Jan. 26, 4:30pm, @ Sacred Heart
 Tues, Jan 28, vs. Niagara Catholic
 Thurs, Jan. 30, vs. Mt. Mercy
 Fri, Feb. 13, vs. Immaculata

Boys' Bowling

All matches begin at 3:35pm. For the new year, matches are moved to Airport Lanes.
 Tues, Jan. 6, vs. St. Francis
 Thur., Jan. 8, vs. Canisius
 Tues, Jan. 13, vs. St. Joe's
 Thur., Jan. 15, vs. O'Hara
 Thur., Jan. 22, vs. Timon
 Thur., Jan. 29, vs. Christian Central
 Tues, Feb. 3, Position Round
 Thur., Feb. 5, All-Catholic Match
 Sat, March 7, State CHSAA Tournament

Hockey

Sun, Jan. 4, 4pm, vs. Lockport (Northtown)
 Tues, Jan. 6, 4pm, vs. Canisius (Buffalo State)
 Fri, Jan. 16, 7:30pm, vs. Lockport (Lockport)
 Sat, Jan. 17, 3pm, vs. Amherst (Northtown)
 Mon, Jan. 19, 8:45pm, vs. North Tonawanda (Hyde Park)
 Fri, Jan. 23, 8pm, vs. Niagara Falls (Harbor Center)
 Sun, Jan. 25, 5pm, vs. Lew-Port (Buffalo State)
 Fri, Jan. 30, 8pm, vs. St. Francis (Harbor Center)
 Sun, Feb. 2, 7:50pm, vs. West Seneca East (West Seneca)
 Wed, Feb. 5, 9pm, vs. Sweet Home (Northtown)
 Fri, Feb. 7, 1:45pm, vs. St. Joe's (Brighton)
 Fri, Feb. 14, 5:30pm, vs. West Seneca West (Northtown)

Freshman Basketball

Sat. Jan 3, 1pm, @ Timon
 Sat. Jan 10, 11am, vs. Jamestown
 Tues. Jan 13. 4pm, @ St. Francis
 Thurs. Jan 15, Time TBA, @ Lancaster
 Fri. Jan 16, 4pm, @ St. Joe's
 Sat. Jan 17, 11am, @ Jamestown
 Sat. Jan 24, 11am, vs. Clarence
 Sat. Jan 31, 11am, vs. Lockport
 Wed. Feb. 4, Time TBA, @ Lockport

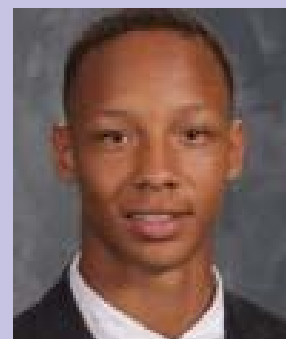
Athletes of the Week



Dec. 8-12

Alyssa Yebernetsky

In the girls' Bowling match against Nardin, Alyssa rolled a 204, her personal best and 47 pins over her average.



Dec. 15-19

Takal Molson

In men's Basketball games, Takal was the leading scorer in the Lancers' victories over Iroquois and Middle College.

Desiderios donate Lancer

Thank you to Gerald and Robert Desiderio who recently restored and donated this Lancer to St. Mary's High School.

The plaque reads, "May This Lancer Stand Guard of Your Path to EXCELLENCE."

The Lancer presently stands in the entrance of the Athletic Center.



Accolades continue for Leah Meyer

Over the past few weeks, even though the volleyball season is over, senior Leah Meyer continues to receive recognitions, both on the local, state, and national level.

When *The Buffalo News* unveiled their All-Western New York team, Leah was selected on the First Team, along with fellow St. Mary's senior Ashley Drzymala.

The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, announced that Leah was named as its 2014-15 Gatorade New York Volleyball Player of the Year.

MaxPreps.com, a website for high school sports throughout the nation, named Leah to the All-American Volleyball Second team.

The 6-foot-3 senior middle blocker led the Lancers to a 47-0-1 record, the New York State Catholic High School Athletic Association championship and a No. 20 ranking nationally according to PrepVolleyball.com. Leah recorded 460 kills, 139 digs, 79 blocks and 53 service aces this past season, with a hitting percentage of .468. A four-time All-Catholic selection and

a three-time Msgr. Martin League MVP, she was ranked as the No. 45 Senior Ace nationally by PrepVolleyball.com.

Leah has maintained an A average in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally as a mentor for younger students and as a summer camp counselor.

"Leah Meyer is one of the most

dominant players I've ever had to coach against," said Kyle Shanley, head coach at Immaculata Academy. "She hits from the back row, passes really well, serves well ... she's just a complete player. She's in a league of her own."

Leah has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Duke University in the fall of 2015.

Molson receives Jim Kelly Award



Congratulations to Junior Takal Molson who received the Jim Kelly Underclassman Football Player of the Year. With him are St. Mary's coaches Matt Ard and Chris Glenn

Lunch Menu – January 5 to 30








	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Student Lunches: \$4 <i>Please note: You may prepay for student lunches by sending checks made out to "St. Mary's High School" to Mrs. Skalski, Cafeteria Manager.</i>	5 Chicken Parm, side pasta, bread stick	6 Steak quesadillas, salad	7 Specialty pizza	8 Chicken breast sandwich, pasta salad	9 Buffalo Best Pizza (barbecue chicken)
	12 Cheeseburger, fries	13 Tacos in a bag	14 Specialty pizza	15 Beef stir fry	16 Specialty Mac & Cheese (Buffalo chicken finger)
	19 No School	20 Chicken breast sandwich, fries	21 Specialty pizza	22 Shepherd's Pie	23 Hawaiian chicken
	26 Chicken Parm, side pasta, bread stick	27 Tacos in a bag	28 Specialty pizza	29 Cheeseburger, fries	30 No School

Lunches provided by:



D'Avolio Kitchens

January 2015 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day NO SCHOOL Christmas Break Offices Closed 	2 NO SCHOOL Christmas Break Offices Open 8am-1pm 	3 FreshBB @ Timon 1pm
4 Hockey vs. Lockport 4pm	5-D Day Student Senate 2:30pm WBB @ Nichols 4:30, 6pm	6-E Day SADD 7:30am Curriculum Committee 2:30pm Auditions for Musical 2:30pm Scholars Time TBA MBowl vs. St. Francis 3:35pm WBowl vs. Immaculata 3:35pm MBB @ Walsh 5, 6:30pm Hockey @ Canisius 4pm Wrestling @ St. Joe's 6pm	7-F Day Campus Ministry 7:30am SEEK 2:30pm Auditions for Musical 2:30pm	8-A Day Weekly Mass 7:30am NHS Tutoring 2:30pm President's Ad Board 2:30pm MBowl vs. Canisius 3:35pm WBowl vs. Mt. St. Mary's 3:35pm	9-Closed Ext HR / PM Liturgy Schedule (Class Meetings / Epiphany Liturgy) Callbacks for Musical 2:30pm WBB vs. Park 6, 7:30pm 	10 Wrestling @ Alden State Bank Duels 9am FreshBB vs. Jamestown 11am WJVBB @ Fredonia 12noon MJVBB vs. Depew 12:30pm WVarBB @ Fredonia 6pm
11	12-B Day Student Senate 2:30pm WVarBB @ Buffalo Science (Daemen College) 5:30pm	13-C Day NHS 2:30pm MBowl vs. St. Joe's 3:35pm WBowl vs. Mt. Mercy 3:35pm FreshBB @ St. Francis 4pm MBB @ St. Francis 5:30, 7pm	14-D Day Principal's Ad Board 2:30pm WBB @ Nardin 4:30, 6pm	15-E Day Weekly Mass 7:30am NHS Tutoring 2:30pm Math Club 2:30pm MBowl vs. O'Hara 3:35pm WBowl vs. Nardin 3:35pm MBB vs. Cleve-Hill 6, 7:30pm FreshBB @ Lancaster TBA	16-F Day Pride Day FreshBB @ St. Joe's 4pm MBB vs. O'Hara 6, 7:30pm Hockey @ Lockport 7:30pm 	17 Wrestling @ Niagara Falls Tourney 9am FreshBB @ Jamestown 11am Hockey vs. Amherst 3pm WVarBB vs. Christian Central 4pm
18	19 NO SCHOOL Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Hockey vs. North Tonawanda 8:45pm 	20-A Day SOUL 7:20am WBowl vs. Sacred Heart 3:35pm MBB vs. Niagara Catholic 6, 7:30pm	21-B Day Campus Ministry 7:30am Faculty/Staff 2:30pm WBB @ Sacred Heart 4:30, 6pm	22-C Day Weekly Mass 7:30am NHS Tutoring 2:30pm MBowl vs. Timon 3:35pm	23-D Day Jeans Day WBB vs. Mt. St. Mary's 6, 7:30pm MVarBB @ Park 6:30pm Hockey vs. Niagara Falls 8pm 	24 SAT Testing Day Wrestling @ Cat- Little Valley Tourney 9am FreshBB vs. Clarence 11am
25 Hockey @ Lew-Port 5pm	26-E Day Regular Schedule January Exams MBB vs. St. Joe's 6, 7:30pm	27-F Day Regular Schedule January Exams	28-A Day Special Schedule January Exams WBB vs. Niagara Catholic 6, 7:30pm	29-B Day Special Schedule January Exams End of Second Quarter MBowl vs. Christian Central 3:35pm	30 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Faculty/Staff Retreat MBB @ Nichols 5, 6:30pm WBB vs. Mt. Mercy 6, 7:30pm Hockey vs. St. Francis 8pm 	31 Wrestling @ Lew- Port Tourney 9am FreshBB vs. Lockport 11am

Feel the Beat



A performer from the African Drum Corps gets the St. Mary's students going, especially Ben Blackhall. A story on SEEK Week and more pictures are on page 6.

In the January issue of *Currents*

- *NHS inducts new members*
- *SEEK Week explores diversity of backgrounds*
- *STEAM students complete turbine challenge*
- *January Calendar & Menu*
- *And much more!*

**For the latest news about
St. Mary's High School,
go to www.smhlancers.org
and follow us on**

