



# THE TALON

Bradford Area High School Newspaper

April - May 2011  
Volume 1: Issue 1

“Sharpest newspaper  
around.”

## Important Dates to Remember:

- April 1: Grade 12 Graduation Project Deadline
- April 4-8: Grade 11 PSSA Science
- April 4: 5th marking period progress reports mailed
- April 8: SAT I/II regular registration deadline for May 7th test date
- April 9: ACT test date
- April 21-25: Spring Break (NO SCHOOL!!)
- April 22: Financial Aid Night #2, 6:30 p.m. room 232; SAT I/II late registration deadline for May 7 test date
- April 26- End of 5th marking period

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## Coming In May:

BAHS Art / Communication  
Technology Art Show -  
KOA Art Gallery, Blaisdell  
Hall, UPB

May 2 - May 15

## Forensic Science Students Solve a “Murder”

As their final project for the first semester, the Bradford High forensic students were once again tasked with solving a murder within the school. The crime this semester occurred in the faculty lounge, with Ms. Fox, a Spanish teacher in the building, graciously volunteering to act as the victim. To ensure justice for Ms. Fox, the 20 students comprising the class, divided themselves into specialty teams, based on the various aspects of forensic science that they had studied throughout the semester. This division of



labor allowed them to work as a team to investigate the physical and testimonial evidence they gathered.

On the day of the crime, one team of forensic students was tasked with securing the scene, which they quickly found can be a challenging task, particularly since news of the crime had “leaked.” Both the yearbook and TV Production students were on scene, cameras and notebooks in hand, trying to “get the scoop” on what had happened. The second group of forensic students was tasked with photographing the crime scene, and the third was responsible for recording all of the events that occurred during the processing of the scene, both through notes and by making a detailed sketch of the crime scene. A fourth team was then responsible for locating, and collecting any physical evidence present. The BASD School Resource Officer Bartlett was present during their processing, and (See **MURDER** pg. 4)

## Career and Technical Students Shine

Students from Bradford Area High School’s Career and Technical programs competed at the Skills USA district level in their respective career fields during the month of January.

There were 21 competitors with 19 of those students bringing home medals. Nine gold medalists and will transfer to State competitions in Hershey, Pa in early April. They include Christen Taylor - Basic Health Care, Devin Zelko - Technical Drafting, Tyler Morris - Computer Maintenance, Matt Mongillo - Residential Wiring and Maddie Marasco, Rachel Speaker, Suzi Sager, Olivia Astor - Health Occupations Knowledge Bowl.

Skills USA consists of more than 300,000 student and instructors annually, organized into more than 17,000 sections, 54 state and territorial associations. Skills USA has served more than 9.9 million members.

Skills USA's mission is to help its members become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. (See **SKILLS** pg. 4)



Robert Schoonmaker receiving his FFA Keystone Degree from Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding.



## High School Class Gone to the Dogs

By Kim Preston



What do you get when you combine a couple of two month old German Shepherd puppies and 20 three and four year olds in a high school classroom filled with birthday cupcakes? You get a "Happy Birthday, Clifford" party and a mess the janitors are still trying to clean up. But that's what we did on February 24th when Kristen Sisler invited Mrs. Vinelli's Pre-Kindergarten class to the Child Development Lab. The C. D. II students prepared science activities; one experiment included food ingredients. Where else can you create an experiment and eat the results?

Kristen divides her time between Mrs. Vinelli's classroom and the Child Development lab in the High School. In the pre-K classroom she applies the classroom instruction she receives through the Child Development program. The C. D. students spend three periods a day for three years working toward a national certification in Child Development. The Child Development program has attracted growing attention from students, parents, and the children the students serve. Mrs. Vinelli commented that her students loved being in the High School classroom. The most common comments were "wow" and the popular "awesome", not to mention, "can I hold the puppy now?"



All in all, it was a good day. I can't wait to see what the other C.D.II students have planned for the students and teachers with whom they work. I am always amazed at their imagination and the way they apply the skills they are learning. By the way, one of our learned skills is cleaning, so the janitors don't really have to work as hard!



## National Merit Scholarship Program

The administration and faculty of BAHS are proud to recognize the accomplishment of two seniors that have been chosen Finalists in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program: Lisa Lau, daughter of Mrs. Nina Lau and the late Dr. Manhot Lau, and Daniel Tingley, son of Timothy and Sarah Tingley.

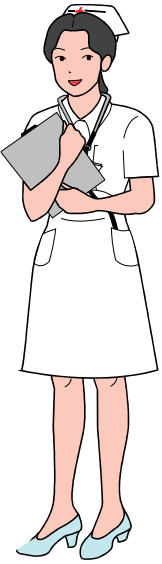
The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in the fall of their junior year. This is the initial screening test of the more than 1.5 million entrants each year. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, which represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state. Semifinalists advance to finalist standing in the competition by having an outstanding academic record, receiving the endorsement of their H.S. principal, and earning SAT scores that confirm their earlier performance on the qualifying PSAT. Semi-finalists must submit a detailed scholarship application, which includes an essay and resume of their school and community activities and leadership qualities.

The chosen 15,000 Finalists will now compete for three types of National Merit Scholarships. There are 2500 National Merit \$2,500.00 Scholarships awarded on a state representational basis. About 1,000 Corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be provided by nearly 250 corporations for Finalists that meet their specified criteria. In addition, about 200 higher education institutions finance some 4,900 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend their school. We wish Dan and Lisa continued success as they compete with the other Finalists.

## Nursing Exam

On February 10, 2011, ten senior Health Occupations students successfully passed the State Nurse Aide Certification exam. They are now eligible to become employed as certified nursing assistants and or put their knowledge to good use as they continue their education in a health care field of study. Those receiving certification are:

Olivia Astor  
Tricia Ekas  
Erin Frisina  
Jodi Irons  
Maddie Marasco  
Caroline Morris  
Suzy Sager  
Alicia Skaggs  
Amanda Slavinski  
Rachel Speaker



### AP SPOTLIGHT

Students in the AP Government Class at Bradford Area High School recently visited Rep. Martin Causer's office to discuss state government. Pictured in the front row, left to right: Dan Tingley, Seth Morrisroe, Jacob Cauvel, and Caleb Pennington. Second row: Kaitlin Barton, Chelsea Kahle, Danielle Hollenbeck, Lauren Bauschard, and Elizabeth Gardner. Third row: Rep. Causer, Alice Chen, Sean Mooney, Isabella Gleason, and Chad Ambrose.

## Buena suerte, bonne chance, and good luck!

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, the foreign language students in Ms. Fox's, Ms. Starfield's, and Mr. Kuhn's classes attended the Foreign Language Day at Kane Area High School. These students competed against other foreign language students from surrounding high schools. These included reading poetry, creating pieces of artwork, acting in skits, and singing or playing music. All of these activities took place in the student's foreign language. We enjoyed seeing our students demonstrate their growing skills in their chosen foreign language as well as seeing them shine in a competition setting. Earning first place was the musical styling of David Reinhardt, Zach Ware, Derrick Milne, Kaitlin McCann, Mitch Lander, Christina Kohlmeier, and Bethany Swan all performing the song *La Bamba*. Other Spanish winners were

Lindsey Bay taking first, Chelsea Cummins taking second, and Ashley Crumrine taking third with their poems. The Spanish I skits tied for third with Selma Sosis, Max Cummins, Ryan McCammon, Brandon Whelan, Megan Stratus, Fabian Lichtenberger, Lauren Zickelfoose, Jean Haskins, Brie Kloss, Michelle Cucuzza, and Ashlyn Kelly. The French winners included level I students Mason– Leigh Jordan and Madison Gangloff, winning first place with the French poem II "Pleure Dans Mon Coeur" by Paul Verlaine. Also level I Donald Caskey and Elizabeth Bernheisel winning second prize for their skit of À l'aéroport. French II students, Saraya Milne, John Higbie, Mayva Squires and Ella Sprague won first place with their skit Le Café Français.



### MATH SPOTLIGHT

The Geometry students completed a unit on quadrilaterals. They did a project which involved investigating the properties of kites. Some of the work is displayed outside of Mr. Pattison's room.





(**MURDER**, page 1) offered professional suggestions about what they did well and what they could have done differently. He also met with them several times throughout their subsequent investigation to offer tips on topics such as interviewing witnesses, and preparing and submitting search warrants. The following week was spent processing the physical evidence back in their classroom laboratory, and interviewing individuals throughout the building with information pertinent to the case. The students processed hair, fingerprint, and DNA evidence, and relied on information from the “autopsy” to formulate their hypothesis about what happened during the crime. Testimonial evidence from teachers and students in the building led them to develop a list of potential suspects, including teachers: Mr. Morrisroe, Mr. Kuhn, Ms. Starfield, Mr. Simpson, a library aide, Ms. Compton, a district administrator, and Mik Kloss, a student of the victim.

After a week-long investigation, and daily information updates with each other, the students were asked to individually submit the name of their chief suspect, and to justify their decision based on their evidentiary findings.

They were also asked to recommend whether prosecution should occur in criminal court or civil court, based on the burden of proof in each. The class overwhelmingly decided that Mr. Kuhn, a Spanish teacher, was the most likely perpetrator of the crime, as he had motive, opportunity and his fingerprints were found at the crime scene. However, they recommended prosecution in civil court rather than criminal court as the burden of proof in civil cases is a “preponderance of evidence” pointing to guilt, rather than guilt “beyond a reasonable doubt” as is required in criminal court. While there was evidence pointing to Mr. Kuhn’s guilt much of it was circumstantial and might not have resulted in a criminal conviction. Because civil cases, typically end with fines, rather than incarceration, justice for Ms. Fox may end up only coming in the form of financial restitution from Mr. Kuhn.

(**SKILLS**, page 1) Skills USA is an applied method of instruction for preparing America’s high performance workers in public career and technical programs. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character

development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills. It emphasizes total quality at work—high ethical standards, superior work skills, lifelong education, and pride in the dignity of work. Skills USA also promotes understanding of the free-enterprise system and involvement in community service.

## Special

### Shout-Out

Here at *The Talon*, we would like to give a special shout-out to three talented seniors for successfully earning the industry-recognized computer credential, Comp TIA A+ certification: Tyler Morris, Daniel Yeager, and James Karrasch.



## **PRIDE Winners Winter**

### **2010-2011**

Alice Chen  
Mrs. Brown  
Amanda Benner  
Mrs. Roupe  
Amanda Franco  
Mrs. Snow  
Ashley Mackey  
Mrs. Whitney  
Autumn Lasher  
Bev Watson  
Bri Kloss  
Collin Costello  
Colton Holzworth  
Dawn Barrett  
Evan Smith  
Haley Quick

John Golden  
Josh Shugars  
Justina Bowen  
Karli Kozminski  
Katherine Williams  
Kayla Hayden  
Keerstyn Stives  
Matthew Green  
Mercedes Simonds  
Michelle Cucuzza  
Sean Szelangoski  
Shelby Kinney  
Tahlisa Brougham  
Tiffany Patrick  
Zach Ware

## **Editors Note**

Thanks to all who contributed articles and photos to make this newspaper happen.

Sincerely, *The Talon*

*Lead Editor - Ashley Stone*

