



The Grinson Courier

New Year, New You?

By: Savannah Lockwood

Hello, 2024! It's hard to believe that we are already entering a new year. For many people, as the new year approaches, they look forward to implementing change and growth within their lives. This can include setting a New Year's resolution or working towards accomplishing a long-term goal. If I were to look back on 2023, I would name it as my year of many firsts. For the first time, I traveled to a foreign country, attended an NFL game, and participated in football cheerleading. For this new year, I anticipate that it will be a year full of accomplishments as I have my own goals set. How do you want your year to play out? Have you thought about trying new things or changing certain aspects of your life? If so, there's an easy, memorable way to make sure you achieve those ideas.

2024

As I and some others have learned from Mrs. O'Malley in room 118, the acronym SMART Goals is the best possible plan to follow when seeking a desire. "S" stands for specific, "M" for measurable, "A" for achievable, "R" for realistic, and finally, "T" for time-bound. Specify the exact goal you are looking to achieve. Then, make sure to establish how and when this goal will be acted on, such as a certain day at a repeated time. Next, allow yourself to be honest by assuring that the goal is within your reach. To be realistic, determine a finishing point that you are certain is attainable to avoid disappointment. Lastly, set a strict deadline when you want to complete your goal.

While the SMART Goals method is an excellent way to victory, there are some other vital aspects needed when initiating truly desired goals. You have to want it enough. You must stay motivated, brave, and curious. You also have to allow room for acceptance. Be mindful that it is reasonable to be easy on yourself or take a break once in a while. Do not forget that the most important part of the entirety of goal setting is the power you hold to make it happen. If you choose to work hard at something, you are more than likely to accomplish it. Setting goals, resolutions, and changes are great ways to begin fresh. In addition, all of this keeps life interesting and gives you something to look forward to. Take this opportunity of a new year and make something great out of it.

Celebrate Sober & Paint the Plow!

By: Savannah Lockwood

A big congratulations is deserved by artists Geanna Kirchner, Sophia Welk, and Lily Massaro!



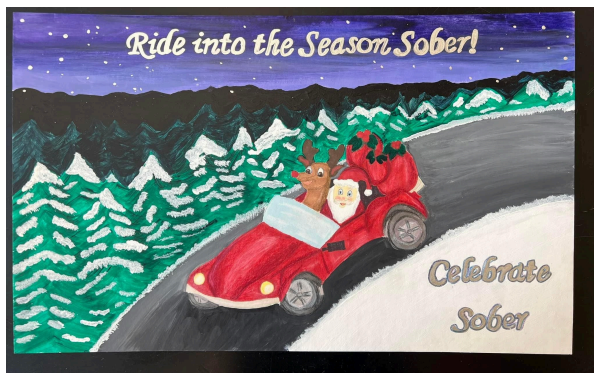
In December, the three lovely ladies worked hard to design posters for the Celebrate Sober contest. Celebrate Sober is an annual contest that raises awareness for drinking and driving while getting artistic students involved in showcasing their work. This year, hundreds of high school and

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elementary-aged contestants from various schools around the Lackawanna/ Susquehanna Counties entered their designs. After careful consideration, DHS students swept the floor by winning the top three placements. Led by art teacher Mrs. Hogan, Geanna Kirchner (12) placed first, Sophia Welk (12) placed second, and Lily Massaro



(11) took third place. To honor their successes, a ceremony was held at the Scranton Cultural Center where the winners and other participants were recognized for their art. Also, the first-place winner, Geanna Kirchner's poster was displayed on billboards around the area and printed on wearable pins! This annual contest is a great way to continue raising awareness for alcohol abuse and explaining its consequences through an artistic perspective.



In addition, Dunmore High School took another victory with the Paint the Plow competition. Participants include Grace Burrell, Anna Belko, Cailey Waters, and Alexa Marone who all worked together to design a scene on a snowplow. Similarly, this annual contest also utilizes art to depict the outcome of drinking and driving with this year's slogan being, "Seatbelts Are Always In Season." Out of multiple schools



around the area, Dunmore won the Fan Favorite award, meaning they received the most votes for their snowplow. Teacher and leader of the group, Mrs. Hogan says, "I just wanted to thank all of you for voting for the snow plow. I was just notified that we won the fan favorite award!!! We had the most votes, and the districts we were against were significantly larger than ours." Congratulations to all involved in both competitions and thank you for donating your time in raising awareness for the serious issue of drinking and driving.



News

Editor: Maggie Jimmie

Staff Writers: Sydney Harding and Izzy Rought

Spirit Week in January?

By: Izzy Rought

The one thing that many of us at DHS look forward to the most exciting time of the year is the one and only Spirit Week! If you don't know or understand the meaning behind this week, I will gladly share more with you! Spirit Week is the one week where we, as high schoolers, can dress up in themes that are different every day, chosen by our senior class officers. We can all participate in many activities, such as Dunmore Family Feud, Dodgeball, Volleyball, Minute to Win It, and more! Only those in 9th to 12th grade can participate. The classes get points tallied up from each day, and at the end of the week, we get to find out who is crowned the winner of the year's Spirit Week! This year, the overall theme of each class was "video games." The senior class theme was Mario Kart, the juniors' was Fortnite, the sophomores' was Pac-Man, and the freshman class chose Minecraft.



Each class gets its own hallway, and members of the class decorate the hallway to represent each video game. You may be wondering why Spirit Week is so early this year, but I unfortunately do not have an answer to your question..

Although Spirit Week is a yearly tradition at Dunmore, I thought it would be nice to give a little

run down of what goes down during this week. Yes, we still do have classes every day, but they may be interrupted by our Spirit Week festivities! Come back to our next issue to find out who the champion was and what eventful actions happened during the week!



Friday Night Semi

By: Sydney Harding

After being postponed due to the snow, the Semi-Formal finally took place! It was once again held at Fiorelli's, and the music was provided by our favorite, EJ the DJ. The Semi is an event that most students look forward to all year. I can't speak for everyone, but I enjoy it more than the Prom because all grades can attend. Typically, Semi is on a Saturday, but because of the dangerous weather conditions on the planned day, it was on a Friday this year. I don't think any students had a problem with this, considering it got the high schoolers an early dismissal. Sometimes, the dances can feel like they are dragging, but this one didn't feel long at all. In fact, it felt like it flew by. Everyone seemed to find the music selection extremely entertaining, and there were plenty of fan favorites, including the "Riff Off" from Pitch Perfect. Additionally, the wide selection of food at Fiorelli's never disappoints.



Some of our favorite teachers made an appearance at the dance, including Mrs. G, Mrs. Shields, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. O'Malley, and a few others. Overall, all of the students who attended the Semi had a great time, and they will certainly be looking forward to the event next year!



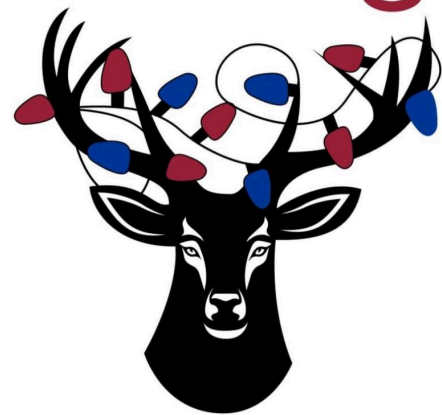
A Silent Night in Bucktown

By: Maggie Jimmie

On December 19, our town came together once again to celebrate the Silent Night game. The Silent Night game is an annual event organized by the Service Club and led by Mr. Jones. The club asked the community to come to the boys' basketball game on the 19th against Honesdale and bring a new stuffed animal, an unwrapped toy, or

winter apparel with them. The crowd was asked to come out wearing their white, specifically the Silent Night game t-shirts that were sold, and to remain silent until the Bucks scored their 5th point in the game. After the 5th point was scored, the crowd was allowed to throw their stuffed animals onto the court or carefully bring down the other items they had brought. The items collected from the game were donated to the Dunmore Police Department's holiday initiative.

Silent Night



2023

On top of the crowd's festive cooperation, the players showed support by wearing their t-shirts. The cheerleaders, decked out in red ribbon bows and holiday socks, added extra cheer to the event by performing their dance at halftime to "Santa Tell Me." Overall, the charitable event was once again a great success and added a bit of holiday joy to our town community!



Sports

Editor: Loren Spudic

Staff Writers: Krithika Krishnan and Olivia Santarsiero

Dunmore Swim

By: Krithika Krishnan

The Dunmore Lady Bucks swim team won their first match of the season. They secured a fantastic victory with a score of 94-22 against West Scranton.

Reagan Kearney and Catherine Gilhooley were absolute stars in the pool for Dunmore. They both clinched first-place finishes in their individual events and additionally contributed to the team's success by swimming in the winning relays. Reagan won the 100 Butterfly and 500 Free. Catherine won the 200-meter individual medley and the 100 Free. Talk about an impressive performance!

Although they faced a tough opponent in Valley View High School, the Lady Bucks gave it their all but unfortunately fell short with a final score of 66-88. However, Reagan Kearney showed her incredible skills once again by taking first place in the 100 Butterfly and securing a close second in the 500 free by just three-tenths of a second. Giulie Escobar had two 3rd place finishes next to Catherine Gilhooley and Sydney Harding who each had a third-place finish. Reagan, Giulie, and Catherine also placed second on both the 200 medley relay and the 400 free relay.



The boys' swim team also had a great victory, beating Valley View with a final score of

72-17. Anthony Bonavoglia placed first in the 100 free, the 500 free, and participated in the winning 400 free relay. It's amazing to see the dedication and talent of both swim teams. I can't wait to see what they achieve in the rest of the season. Go bucks!

The Lady Bucks are Back

By: Loren Spudic

The Lady Bucks are back in the game for the 2023-2024 season! I'm sure we all remember cheering them on last year as they made their way to earn the state championship title. With a current win record of 9-3 this season, they're riling up for a rerun at the Chocolate Town! The memory of their triumphant victory will not soon be forgotten.



DePietro's Pharmacy has made sure of that. This summer they painted a beautiful mural on the side of their building in Dunmore to commemorate the team. On it, you can see an incredible display of all the team players posed with their gold medals. It truly serves as an inspiring sight and a wonderful reminder of how far perseverance and dedication can get you; like Harrisburg! After their triumph, Pennsylvania Representative Kyle Mullins honored the team with a visit to the capitol. Our Lady Bucks are shooting for the stars one hoop at a time. Here's to another outstanding season!

Bucks Go Bowling

By: Olivia Santarsiero

At the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, some students and teachers were thinking of a few new clubs they could start that would be interesting and engaging to the students at DHS. After some brainstorming, a new club was formed... the bowling club! The bowling club is new this school year and has become very popular. The teacher who helped form this club is our 9th-grade biology teacher, Mrs. Hinton. Earlier in the school year, there was a club fair held in the gymnasium that allowed students to hear about the different clubs. After hearing about the bowling club, many students signed up. Mrs. Hinton is very proud to say that this club has 54 students.



The club leaders decided to meet once a quarter at Idle Hour Bowling Lanes after school hours from 4:00 to 5:00. Before our first meeting at Idle Hours, we held a 2-day bake sale to raise funds for our club. The sale was a great success. Our first two outings were held on October 23rd and December 18th. Everyone who attended had a great time, and they are looking forward to the next time we can get together. We would love to be able to meet more than once a quarter in the future. So far, this new club is a big hit! If you're interested or have questions about the bowling club, please ask a

member or stop in room 208 to learn more. Happy bowling!



Touchdown for the Bucks

By: Loren Spudic

If there's one thing Dunmore loves, it's football. This year, our bucks gave us a lot to be proud of! As if winning the District 2 Class 2A championship wasn't enough, they made it all the way to reach the PIAA Class 2A semifinal!



This outstanding feat was led by seniors Danny Pigga, Chris Conte, and Nick Donvito, who were selected to play in Pennsylvania's Class 2A All-State Team. The trio's jerseys will be retired by Dunmore football. Donvito took his talent outside of Dunmore this December to the home of the Dallas Cowboys! Having been recognized after his All-Region junior year, Donvito received a nomination to play in the Blue-Grey All-American Game at the AT&T Stadium. Congratulations to these dedicated players for their remarkable football careers and the entire football team for their collaborative effort towards this season's success.

Opinions

Editors: Alex Blasi & Collin Blasi
Staff Writers: Alex Blasi & Collin Blasi

Winter Break

By: Alex Blasi

Once winter comes around, one thing comes to mind: Christmas. And for kids, many love to spend their Christmas during winter break. Christmas is a time for giving or caring about your friends and family, and when you're on winter break, everything for kids is great. When anybody is on their winter break, they start making cookies and setting up the decorations, and the best part is that there is no homework! Nothing is better than having no homework, as kids since nobody likes doing homework, especially during holidays and during their break.



Even though Christmas is a major part of most people's winter break, New Year's is also a prime holiday in the winter break since the final days of the year are within that time. For many, a new year means setting new goals or resolutions. Staying up until midnight just to watch the ball drop in New York City was always hard to do as a young kid, but once the ball dropped, a new year began. Winter break is what almost any kid looks forward to, and it should be the same for each generation for years to come.

In conclusion, winter break is one of the best events in a child's life since there are a lot of things to look forward to, including Christmas, New Year's, presents, cookies, etc. Some could argue that winter break is a

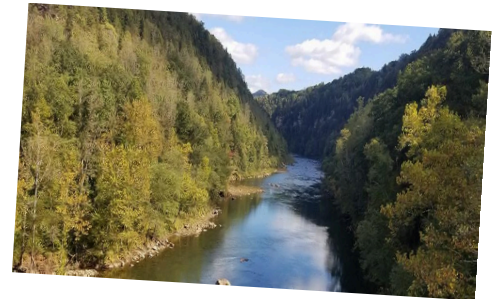
major part of a child's development since you're deciding what they could do with their lives within the next few years.

Spring Break

By: Collin Blasi

If I had the choice to take any week off during the school year, I would choose to take it off at some point during the spring because it would be good to have a break in April or May when you don't have to focus on studying until after the time off. During that break, people can solely focus on tasks they want to do in warmer weather instead of being stuck inside around Christmas because of the cold weather.

Another reason is that some winters in



Pennsylvania are so snowy that schools are forced to give students time off. However, some winters don't give enough snow, and as a result, can give students some days off later in the year. In conclusion, I would choose to have a spring break because it allows students to focus on doing what they want instead of worrying about school. After the break, they can focus on studying for any upcoming tests or finals, and they don't need to worry about the bad weather that could make the student feel that their free time was wasted since most don't want to be cold during their time off from school.

Middle School

Editor: Brigid Ahern

Staff Writers: Brigid Ahern, Violet Vazquez, & Madison Perrella

The Hat, Glove, and Scarf Tree

By: Brigid Ahern

Winter in Northeastern Pennsylvania is a bit different every year, but one thing is for sure: there will always be days during that time when we all wish to be bundled up.

Having the accessories to help you stay warm is a simple yet meaningful comfort everyone deserves to feel. Unfortunately, as I am sure you are aware, not everyone has the privilege of such warmth. There are good people out there willing to help those in need, such as the middle school's Service Club students and their advisor, Mr. Bill Jones. Mr. Jones and the club members sponsored a collection of winter accessories such as hats, gloves, and scarves.

You may have noticed when you walked by that a Christmas tree stood in a corner of the middle school office. On this Christmas tree hung scarves, gloves, and hats. All of what was on the tree was given to those in need in our community. It is not just those in far-off lands but our Dunmore borough. Please use this as a reminder that there is a variety of people in need of help from all around us and that it would do good for us to lend a hand of our own.

Let the members of the Service Club and Mr. Jones serve as inspiration. Thank you to all who do your part to spread good in this world.



Mrs. Telnock's Cookie Exchange

By: Violet Vazquez

Mrs. Telnock's Annual Cookie Exchange is a time for students to make memories and new friendships. Mrs. Telnock has been upholding this tradition for over 15 years to share the season of giving with her students. Students send their cookie recipes to Mrs. Telnock a week in advance, and she assembles a cookbook with all the kids' recipes inside. It's then given to the students on the day of the exchange. Students gather in the home economics room to pass around their treats. Each student brings three dozen cookies of their unique flavor to share. The students enjoy their cookies with cups of milk (provided by Mrs. Telnock) and each other's company. Students go around in a circle, taking a cookie from each bin, and they add it to their own, with the result being that everyone leaves with a variety of cookies from each person who attended.



This exchange is meant to promote the Holiday Season ideal of giving to others and making lasting memories. "Students won't

remember the grades they got or the tests they are given, but they will remember how something made them feel.”

Everyone who volunteered to participate in the exchange did it because they wanted to enjoy the sweets and have fun. In Mrs. Telnock’s words, “It was a solid half hour of chewing and smiling.” The Annual Cookie Exchange is a simple, cute, and effective way to enjoy the holiday season.



Adopt an Angel

By: Madison Perrella

Christmas is a magical time of year for many kids. If you ask kids their favorite part about Christmas, many would say when Santa brings them gifts. Unfortunately, not all kids can receive presents during the holiday time. The Adopt an Angel program aims to help children in our community who are in foster care or families who can’t afford gifts.

The Adopt an Angel Program is run by the Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services. According to Lisa Sohara, a supervisor at the agency, the Adopt an Angel program was created in the early 90s. The program began when JC Penney reached out to the county and asked to sponsor a family in need. The program has grown over the years to include many community organizations that volunteer and donate their time to raise money and

physical gifts. Lisa Sohara said that local school districts, like Dunmore, are very big supporters of the program. The Adopt an Angel program sponsors hundreds of children every holiday season.

The Dunmore School District 8th grade class again participated in volunteering for the Adopt an Angel program. This year was the third year 8th grade students and teachers donated their time. This year, 3 children were sponsored. The children were ages 1, 2, and 5. Miss Snyder, an eighth-grade teacher, says, “We raised over \$800 through donations from students and faculty. I was inspired to start the program here at Dunmore after participating in it while teaching in Abington. It is a great opportunity to focus on helping others during a time that tends to focus on what we want. The students are excited to raise money, shop, and wrap the gifts and have enjoyed it every year.” After raising the money, students and teachers pick a night to make a trip to Target to find and purchase the presents. The 8th-grade class’s participation in this program truly shows how big the heart of the Dunmore community is. The Adopt an Angel program is an incredible tradition that Dunmore has become involved in, and hopefully, it will remain for many years.



Arts

Editor: Julia Noto

Staff Writers: Krithika Krishnan and Danielle DePietro

Award Season!

By: Julia Noto

Award season is among us! With award shows like the Golden Globes, the Emmy Awards, the Oscars, and the Grammy Awards, this time of year is big for music and film lovers alike. We had many big movies come out in the past year, such as *Oppenheimer* and *Barbie*. Even animated movies had time to shine with *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* and *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*. So far, the Golden Globes, Critics' Choice Awards, and the Emmy Awards have aired. Across all three award shows, the movie *Oppenheimer* has won various awards for many titles. Next week, the nominations for the 2024 Oscars will be released. People have begun to predict who they believe will be nominated for the categories. Many people have viewing parties where opinions on the winners are shared, or perhaps argued over. Who do you believe will be nominated? We will soon find out!

PMEA District 9 Band

By: Krithika Krishnan

Shifting gears from the Marching Band season, the Dunmore band has some talented musicians selected for the District 9 PMEA (The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association) Band. I'm thrilled to share that Krithika Krishnan, Emma Renard, John Silvi, Loren Spudic, and Aiden Walsh from our school were selected! It's an amazing achievement for them, and they should be incredibly proud of their hard work and talent. Being a part of the District 9 Band is a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their skills, learn from other talented musicians, and perform at a higher level. It's truly an exciting, prideful journey for them! They represented our school at the Blue Ridge High School concert in January. Moving to the next round for regionals are Emma Renard, John Silvi, Loren Spudic, and Aiden

Walsh. John and Loren placed 1st chair in their sections. They will perform at Honesdale High School in February.



The Lightning Thief

By: Danielle DePietro

This March, the Crimson Company will be putting on their production of *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*! The drama club is guaranteed to make another amazing show filled with hard work and dedication. If you are unfamiliar with *The Lightning Thief*, it is based on the series Percy Jackson by Rick Riordan. It is about a young boy, Percy, who discovers his father is a Greek god. He is sent to a camp specifically for children like him. Percy then goes on a quest across the country to try and recover Zeus's missing bolt. You may have already heard of Percy Jackson due to the new show that has just come out. It centers around the same plot; however, the DHS Crimson Company has a lot more singing and dancing! The show dates are March 7 and 8 at 7 pm, March 10 at 2 pm, and March 14, 15, and 16, all at 5 pm. There will also be an understudy performance on March 13 at 7 pm. To switch it up from watching a football or basketball game, come out to support DHS differently by watching your classmates in *The Lightning Thief*.



Photo Editor: Izzy Rought

