

November Events

- Nov 1...Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov 2.....MS BB Starts
- Nov 3...Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov 7.....Fall Athletic Buffer Week
- Nov 10.....HS VB Banquet
- Nov 11.....HS Musical
- Nov 12.....HS Musical
- Nov 14.....HS BB Practice Begins
- Nov 16.....FFA District @ Winfield
- Nov 17.....Band and Vocal Concert
- Nov 23.....Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 28.....HS BB Can Scrimmage



Photo by Tammy Duvanel Unruh

The debate team went 2-3 in their debate tournament on Oct. 15 and has debated in many other tournaments since.

Debate Goes 2-3 at Hutch-Trinity

Moundridge Debate competed Oct. 15 at Hutchinson-Trinity. Both teams went 2-3. There were 10 schools and 30 teams at the tournament.

Moundridge had two teams debating in the competition. Seniors Allison Jasso and Bayard Bell-Martinez made up the open team. The novice team was senior Rebeca Samuelson Jimenez, and freshman Sicily Richert.

The Hutch-Trinity Tournament was the novice team's first time debating against experienced debaters and senior Bell-Martinez's first time debating this year.

"I felt pretty good about my first week. Our first two rounds went pretty well,

but it just kind of snowballed from there," Bell-Martinez said.

The debate team has been to four tournaments and brought home three awards.

The debate team is running a case that says the U.S. should support the unification of the Korean peninsula and work together with China. They ran against some other cases about deforestation and other things about China.

"The topic this year is challenging. There is a lot to cover, and because of that, the team is working very hard. I am looking forward to seeing continued success because of that hard work," Coach Tammy Unruh said.

This year's resolution is that the United States Federal Government should substantially increase its economic and/or diplomatic engagement with the People's Republic of China.

"It's hard to say whether or not China will work with the United States, like the resolution would want. I do like learning more about the Chinese culture and politics, though," Jasso said.

In the fourth round, the experienced debaters were judged by Kansas Senator Tim Huelskamp.

"That put a lot of pressure on us to do well," Bell-Martinez said.

Cayman Wiens



October 2016

Volume 3, No. 2

Cat's Corner

A Publication of 21st Century Journalism at MHS

Contents

Elementary School

- Field Trip 2

High School

- "Behind the Scenes" 3
- FFA 3
- English IV 4
- Art 5
- Physics 6
- Football 6
- FCA 7
- FCCLA 7
- Musical 8
- Volleyball 8
- Crossword 9
- Comic 9
- Debate 10



Photo by Alyssa Goering



Sophomore Nathan Ginder works on his gory zombie pumpkin for the MHS art pumpkin fundraiser.

Art Students Make and Sell Pumpkins for Fundraiser

MHS Art II-IV students created and sold pumpkins at the football game on Friday, Oct. 14.

The pumpkin that sold for the most was the Moundridge Wildcat created by sophomore Jamya O'Quinn and senior Parker Lange.

The top three pumpkins with the most votes were: first place- Moundridge Wildcat by Lange and O'Quinn with 26 votes, second place- Trumpkin and Hillary by senior Olivia Green with 23 votes, and third place- Shopkins Cupcake Queen by juniors Bethany Stucky and Devin Wagner with 18 votes.

"My favorite part of making the pumpkins was the colors," sophomore Calissa Fattig said.

There was a wide variety of pumpkins,

ranging from cute Shopkins to a gory and gross zombie.

"It was hard for our group to come up with an idea because we had to think of one we could all agree on," senior Brooke January said.

Some of the themes for the pumpkins included: haunted house, ladybug, Hillary and Trumpkin, Kevin from *Up*, haunted carriage, breast cancer awareness, and M & M's.

The students were able to pick out their own pumpkins at the Moundridge Food Market.

"[My favorite part was] working with my partner and getting to bond while working on it," Stucky said.

"I like that it helps out the art program in the end," senior Brandon Porter said.

Alyssa Goering

21st Century Journalism Class

Editor
Sierra Diehl, Jr.

Reporters & Photographers
Ashleigh Accardi, Fr.
Jenika Allenbach, Fr.
Shannon Clark, Sr.
Macy Craig, So.
Alyssa Goering, So.
Kalee Henderson, So.
Mackenzie Porter, So.
Ashlyn Unruh, So.
Cayman Wiens, So.

Advisor
Ms. Krehbiel

This newsletter is a production of the 21st Century Journalism Class of 2016-2017. Advisor is Ms. Melanie Krehbiel. Questions or comments may be directed to: krehbielm@usd423.org.



Abigail Bretz finds a little pumpkin at the Pumpkin Patch.

What are you going to be for halloween this year?

"I want to be Alana from Avalor."

-Anna Galle, K

"I want to be a football player."

-Logan DenHartog, 1st

"Batman."

-Alejandro Pfeiff, 2nd

"I wanna be an olympic gymnast."

-Isabele Weber, 3rd

"I probably want to be a shadow."

-Layton Wiens, 4th

MES Visits Pumpkin Patch

On October 17, Moundridge Elementary School (Grades K-5) visited the P & M Pumpkin Ranch. P & M is located in rural Moundridge.

"We started it last year and decided to do it because two of our students, it's their parents farm and so we thought we would go out and support them.

"It's great because they do a curriculum where they take them out to the barn and give a science lesson on how to grow pumpkins and they do it by age level. Then the kids get to pick a pumpkin and go play," Principal Mrs. Brown said.

"My favorite part was watching the kids run and play because you get to see their real personalities come out. They can have fun and are free to be loud and run around. These are things

we can't always allow them to do in the classroom," second grade teacher Ms. Helms said.

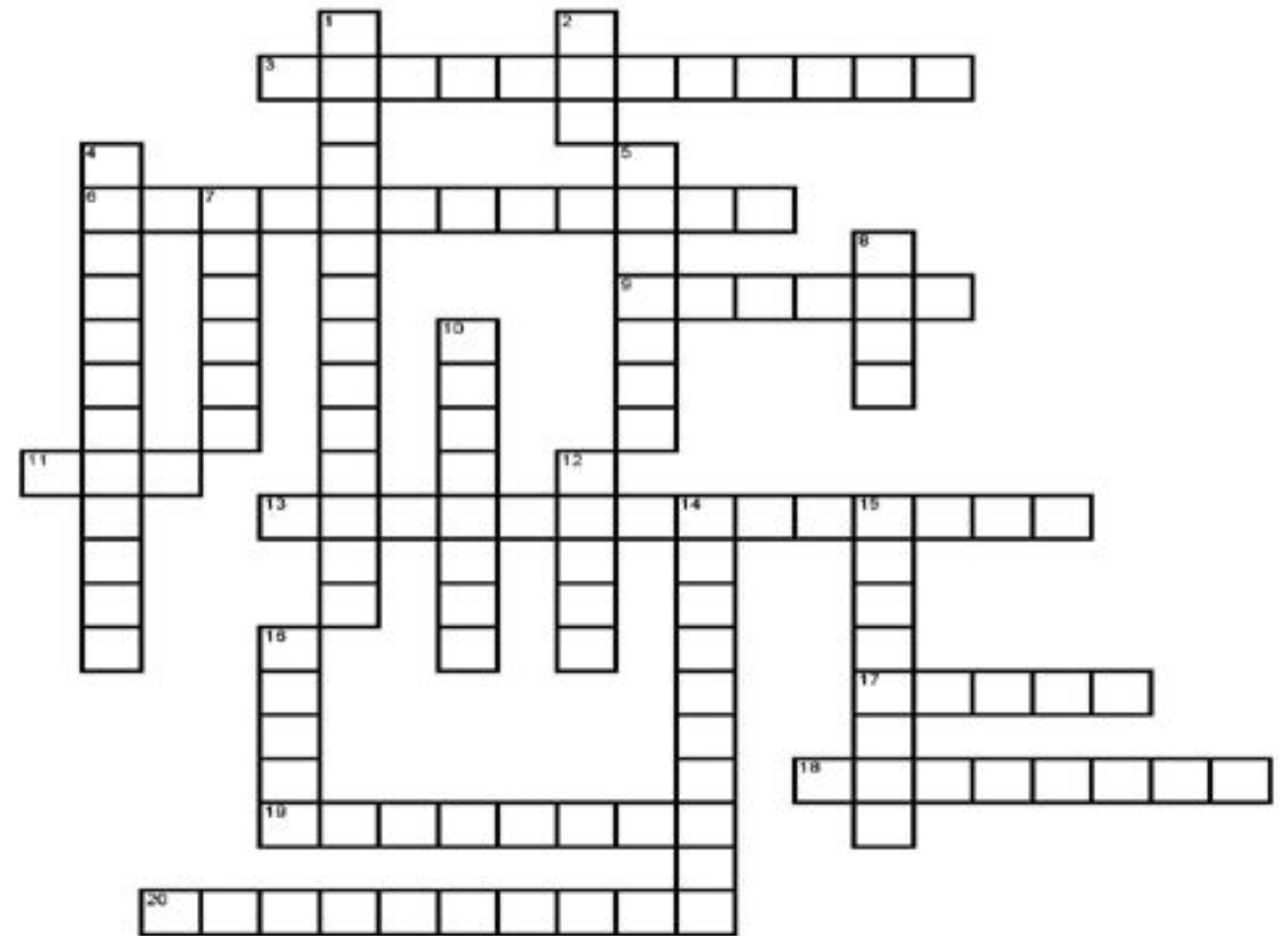
"My favorite part about going to the pumpkin patch with the kids was the lesson about how pumpkins grow and the different types of pumpkins and gourds they grow at the P & M ranch. I liked this because it was more hands-on learning than I can provide in the classroom with a pumpkin, books and videos," Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Beasley said.

"My favorite part about going to the pumpkin patch with the kids was watching them pick out their pumpkins because it was interesting watching them figure out different types of pumpkins and which one they wanted," Second grade teacher Ms. Spencer Kaufman said.

Ashlyn Unruh



(Clockwise from top left)- Hayla Copper and Aspen Blaylock pose with a big pumpkin; Preslie Doane searches for a pumpkin; Ms. Modellmog's Kindergarten class enjoys the pumpkin patch.



Read the issue to find answers to the crossword puzzle!

Across

- 3 Who judged the debate tournament at Hutch-Trinity?
- 6 Who is the FCA sponsor?
- 9 What did Layton Weins want to be for Halloween?
- 11 What group played human tic-tac-toe at a meeting?
- 13 FCCLA helped at the Pine Village _____.
- 17 K-5 students went to the _____ pumpkin ranch.
- 18 If Mr. Leary had to choose a different job, he would choose to be a _____ photographer.
- 19 The first performance of "Singing in the Rain" will be on Friday, _____ 11.
- 20 What book did the English IV class read for the Hesston College common read?

Down

- 1 FCCLA members went to the elementary school to read to _____.
- 2 How many years has FFA attended the Poland Angus competition?
- 4 Who is playing Don Lockwood in the MHS production of "Singing in the Rain"?
- 5 MHS's English IV class participated in the _____ College common read for their first reading project of the year.
- 7 Mr. Leary taught at _____, Flo. for one year.
- 8 The debate team has been to _____ tournaments.
- 10 What teacher was a target during the Angry Birds experiment?
- 12 FFA had to judge _____ total classes of cattle.
- 14 What was the physics project called that the physics students participated in for 3 days?
- 15 Olivia Green made the pumpkins _____ and Hilary.
- 16 What character from the movie "Up" did Mackenzie Porter and Kevin Vivanco base their pumpkin off of?

MHS to Perform "Singing in the Rain"



Photo by Kalee Henderson

Juniors Allie Sparks and Jerod Kaufman and seniors Cameron Clark and Cassidy Sparks will perform in "Singing in the Rain."

musical this year is "the music because it's catchy and everybody knows most of the songs and they're fun to dance to."

"It's a lot more comedic than the ones we've done in the past, and I think that's because it's meant to be funny and not a drama," Sparks said.

Kaufman's favorite thing about the musical is "having a lead role and being able to make people laugh."

Kellum, Sparks, and Kaufman have their own favorite songs in the musical this year. Kaufman's favorite song is "Fit as a Fiddle" because he thinks it is fun to sing along to.

"I get to get dipped by my partner, then dropped to be funny," Kaufman said.

Kellum's favorite song is "Good Morning" because it makes her happy and helps her start off having a good rest of her day. Sparks' favorite is "Broadway Melody" because it has a lot going on and everybody has their own part.

"We are hoping that we will be able to make it rain on the stage if everything works out right," Kellum said.

Kalee Henderson

The musical "Singing in the Rain" will be performed in the high school auditorium Nov. 11 and 12. The play will be directed by Ms. Kim Kellum. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students and are available for purchase in the MHS office.

Juniors Allie Sparks and Jerod Kaufman play two of the main leads, Lenna Lamont and Cosmo Brown.

"[Cosmo is] a comic relief, and he does a lot of funny stuff," Kaufman said.

"Lenna is really annoying and sassy, in a way," Sparks said.

Sparks and Kaufman are looking forward to this year's play because the dances are more challenging and intricate than have been done in the past.

Kellum's favorite thing about the

The Cycle of High School in Four Stages



Behind the Scenes with Supt. Leary

Mr. George Leary first came to Moundridge when he student taught for Mr. Neufeld in the fall of 1985.

"I was so impressed with Mr. Neufeld! He was patient with me as I was learning how to be a teacher. He was (and still is) a great role model. I remember wondering if I would ever be as great as Mr. Neufeld. I also remember the principal, Mr. Walters. He was so supportive too. It was this experience that solidified my decision to be an educator," Leary said.

Leary taught middle school and high school science.

"I really enjoyed teaching. The school I was at came to me and asked if I would consider stepping up to a leadership position. That conversation made me think about my future and the possibilities. I'm very glad I made the decision to become a principal," Leary said.

He taught or worked in the following places: Deland, Flo. (taught one year), St. John, Kan. (taught two years), Stanton County, (two years as principal), Pretty

Prairie, (two years as principal), and Newton, (twenty years as principal).

After being a principal for a while he wanted the next level of professional challenge so he decided to become a superintendent. He has not regretted it.

Leary's role as superintendent at USD 423 involves a routine of hiring people, writing reports for the state (which he spends the majority of his time doing), and meeting with the USD 423 Board of Education. Their last meeting was Monday night, Oct. 10.

"The best part of my job is having my office in the building, because I am able to interact with everyone and see for myself what is going on throughout the day," Leary said.

Activities on his to-do list are: budget updates and looking over Greer. These are just a few of the items on his to-do list. He is hoping to be able to update the facilities in the near future.

"The hardest part about my job is the budget restrictions. One of my priorities

is to meet with the task force to try to get the bond under \$20 million dollars," Leary said.

His hobbies outside of school include anything outdoors, like hunting, fishing, or photography.

"My most favorite thing to photograph is wildlife. I try my best to photograph animals without them knowing I'm around. I try to leave without them knowing anyone was around. Due to the nature of my job and working inside the vast majority of the time, I appreciate the outdoors even more," he said.

If Leary had to choose a different job right now, he would choose to be a wildlife photographer.

"I cherish the time I spend with my family. Right now it is just Jeanette (my wife) and I at home. Our two children live out of state. My extended family also lives out of state. We take advantage of every opportunity to visit them and/or invite them to Moundridge," Leary added.

Mackenzie Porter

FFA Goes to Poland Angus Competition

On Oct. 12, the Moundridge FFA Chapter traveled to Isabel, Kan., for the 23rd annual Poland Angus FFA Judging Contest. They left the school at 6:30am.

Freshman Carson Orpin placed 35th out of 286 individual competitors at the contest. Orpin also placed first out of the eleven Moundridge students who participated.

"I felt good about my placing, and I tried my best," Orpin said.

They had to judge eight total classes of cattle, with four classes of bulls, three classes of heifers, and one class of cows with calves.

"We were 9th as a team. 20 teams participated in the contest this year," Adviser Shad Marston said.

"I feel like I did decent. I placed 4th out of the 11 Moundridge students that judged that day. I scored 450 total points out of 500 points possible," Sophomore Cassidy Finley said.

This was the 10th year that Mound-



Photo provided by Shad Marston

(Top left to right) Carson Orpin 9th, Miguel Suarez 11th, Josh Knight 11th, Ben Schrag 11th, and Paige Finley 12th. (Bottom left to right) Keira Sebrant 10th, Brandon Gearhart 9th, Ashleigh Accardi 9th, Alayna Colwell 9th, Cassidy Finley 10th, and Sicily Richert 9th.

ridge FFA has attended the Poland Angus competition.

"Poland Angus is a contest to teach kids to use EPD numbers as well as visual evaluation to judge beef cattle in certain

scenarios that are picked by the owner of the ranch," Marston said.

EPD stands for Expected Progeny Differences.

Ashleigh Accardi

Physics Completes Angry Birds Project



Photo Provided by MHS yearbook

Junior Luke Ratzlaff prepares to launch water balloon during project on Oct. 13.

The Moundridge High School Physics class underwent a three-day project from Oct. 11-13. The class was studying 2-dimensional Forces and Motion, so teacher Adam Robb decided to do a project that allowed students to measure how adjusting the angle of launch, the amount of pull back on a slingshot, and the mass of the balloons would af-

fect the distance traveled. The goal was to get a better understanding of what factors affect how well an object travels under two dimensional motion.

"Physics can be a really challenging class, so I am always looking for ways to make it more enjoyable, more relevant, and more fun - all while still learning," Robb said.

Robb filled nearly 400 water balloons "to help demonstrate how quantities like distance, time, velocity, height, and acceleration are all related. I think it will really help students make sense of how these quantities are present in a very real world," Robb said.

Principal Hilarie Hecox was a target on Thursday Oct. 13.

"I was hit once for sure by a group consisting of Zaelynn Foth, Peyton Fast, and Mason Dyck. Many other groups were very close and I almost got hit smack in the head but luckily it whizzed by," Hecox said.

Teacher Greg Fast was also a target in the activity.

"I would have been hit once if I hadn't reacted and moved my knee a bit. It was a knee jerk reaction! I apologized to the launchers. At least one other balloon zinged by my ear," Fast said.

Jenika Allenbach

Wildcats Advance to Playoffs



Photo provided by MHS Yearbook

MHS Football took on the Sedgwick Cardinals in the Parent's Night game Oct. 14

Moundridge High School football's record is currently 3-7 with wins against Remington, Medicine Lodge, and Prue.

The football team is coached by Jeremiah Meeks, who led them to their first win with a score of 34-30 over Remington in the Homecoming game on Sept. 30.

The Cats lost 20-24 to the Sedgwick Cardinals in the Parent's Night game on Oct. 14.

Even after these losses, the team's season is not yet over.

The team has definitely had its high and low points this season, but they are continuing to improve and work together as a team as the season progresses.

"[We have improved] pretty much everywhere because it's a new system after a new system from last year. We all had to adjust and I think we improved a lot as a team," Quarterback Anthony Otte said.

The Cats took a major win over the Medicine Lodge Indians on Oct. 21.

"We have played really well on defense except for one week this year... [But] we need to be more consistent running the football. We did much better against Sedgwick and need to keep improving," Modellmog added.

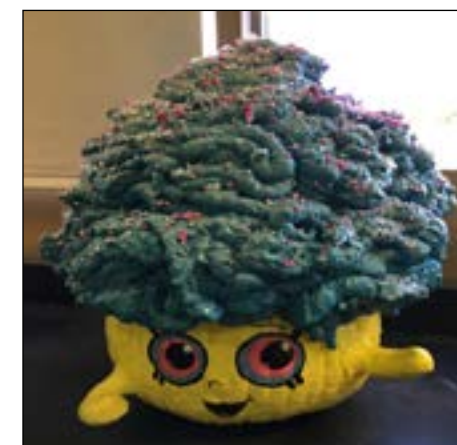
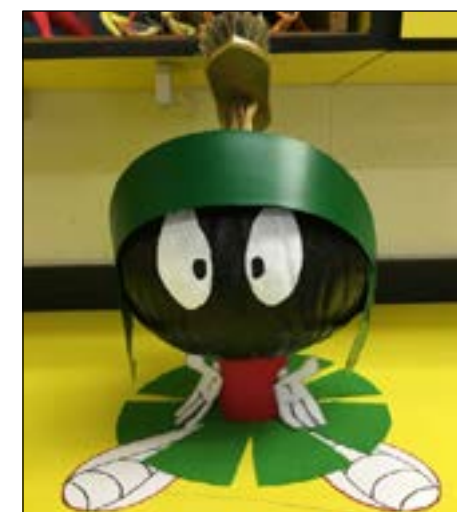
The team traveled the three hours to Prue, Oklahoma and defeated the Rockets with an ending score of 41-0 on Oct. 28.

"[We have to] keep practicing hard and staying focused on the game ahead," Otte said.

The team travels to Smith Center to take on the Redmen in their first playoff game of the season on Friday, Nov. 4.

Jenika Allenbach

MHS Art Pumpkins



(Top left to right)-Kevin from the movie *Up* by sophomores Mackenzie Porter and Kevin Vivanco, Marvin the Martian made by Mrs. Kelsi Chisholm, and box of donuts by sophomore Calissa Fattig and junior Kadie Carrell. (Middle left to right)-Moundridge Wildcat created by sophomore Janya O'Quinn and senior Parker Lange, Shopkins Cupcake by juniors Bethany Stucky and Devin Wagner, and Pumpkin patch by senior Lexi Lorimor. (Bottom left to right)-senior Alessandra Vergano's M&M pumpkin, senior Brandon Porter's Big Hero 6 character, and senior Kayla Frazer's Big Hero 6 character.

Photos provided by Alyssa Goering and Kelsi Chisholm



Photo by Larry Barret, Hesston College

(Left to right) Seniors Allison Jasso, Alonso Paraiso, Alessandra Vergano, and Giorgia Panella talk to Joshua Davis, author of *Spare Parts*.

English IV Students Hear Author Speak



Photo by Melanie Krehbiel

Model of "Stinky," the robot made by the teens in *Spare Parts*.

MHS's English IV class participated in the Hesston College common read for their first reading project of the year. Every year, Hesston College chooses a book for surrounding schools and community members to read and gives them the opportunity to hear the author as they finish the book. This year, they read *Spare Parts* by Joshua Davis. Davis spoke Oct. 4 at Hesston Menno-nite Church.

"[Meeting the author] was very enlightening and interesting. Davis is a very engaging storyteller," senior Olivia Green said.

Twelve of the twenty-two students in Ms. Melanie Krehbiel's class went to meet the author. Davis spoke about his career and how he got to the point he is at today.

Senior Allison Jasso felt it was very beneficial to go see the author and hear him speak because the way he told the story and showed pictures made it feel more real to the students.

"The book was very good, and I think it gave a good insight to immigration in the United States," Jasso said.

Spare Parts is a true story about four illegal Mexican teenagers in West Phoenix, Arizona, who join the High School robotics team. Since they live in a low-poverty area and have few opportunities, they are not expected to create a well-equipped, working robot. The boys work together to overcome these obstacles and create a final product that they decide to enter it into an underwater college robotics competition. When they arrive, their robot looks sad compared to the robots of the elite college teams in the competition, but their robot ends up winning first place, beating and changing their worlds forever.

"I really enjoyed this book because it is easy to read and brings to life problems that teens face regardless of where they're from," Krehbiel said.

Sierra Diehl

FCA Hosts Activities to Worship God

FCA is a group that gathers to learn about and worship God. FCA stands for Fellowship of Christian Athletes, but students do not have to be athletes to be involved.

FCA kicked off the year on Aug. 26 with a game of Mafia.

"My favorite event of FCA this year so far would have to be our mafia night after Wildcat Pride Night. We had over 40 kids there and it was our kickoff night for the school year. Since then, we have had 35-40 students attending each event and have received awesome feedback!" Senior Natalie Kaufman said.

On Sept. 8 FCA hosted a game of water balloon hand soccer and senior Caleb Frye shared his testimony to the group.

Their next event was on Sept. 29, when they played human tic-tac-toe.

After the game, Kaufman planned an activity where every student shared their testimony in a small group.

"Caleb Frye had just shared his testimony the last time our FCA group had met, so I wanted to piggy-back off of that idea of getting to know more about our peers so we could form closer



Photo provided by Natalie Kaufman

FCA members huddle and pray after a meeting.

relationships with one another and build trust," Kaufman said.

On Oct. 12 some FCA members attended Fields of Faith at McPherson College. There was worship and Bubba Dowling spoke.

"We hope to continue to grow FCA by sharing our love and relationships with God with others. It has been amazing to see the courage and dedication to faith in the kids that have made FCA a priority

in their lives and the impact that it can make here in Moundridge is inspiring," FCA sponsor Andrew Scheef said.

The next FCA event will be held on Oct. 30.

"We will be having a fall event on October 30th with food, campfire, Jimmy Fallon games and a message. There will also be an FCA movie night in the near future," Scheef said.

Macy Craig

FCCLA Reaches Out to Kids and Elders

On Oct. 12 the FCCLA members went to the elementary school to read to the kindergartners during seminar.

Students who went included seniors: JedDrek Seeber, Zaelynn Foth, and Bryn Lintecum; juniors: Taylon Potts, Bethany Stucky, Allie Sparks, Sierra Diehl; sophomore: Mylaya Bell-Martinez; and freshmen: Makayla Blair, Zizi Sebrant, Jenika Allenbach, Hailey Unruh, and Josalyn O'Quinn.

"I love seeing the FCCLA members reading to the kindergartners. The kindergartners look up to these high school students and love to hear them read their favorite stories," FCCLA sponsor Connie Kaufman said.

"I like how they interact with me as I read them the story," Seeber said.

They read whatever the elementary student wants them to read.

Potts said that she goes to read because she "thinks it is great for the community and to set great examples."

FCCLA plans to read at the elementary once a month. Mrs. Kaufman said that she likes going to the elementary school because "we feel that interaction between FCCLA members and kindergartners is a positive experience for both."

FCCLA members helped at the Pine Village benefit auction on Oct. 20. The students who helped are seniors: McKayla Waltner, Brooke January, and Lintecum;

junior: Diehl; sophomore: Ellika Ptacek; and freshmen: Allenbach, O'Quinn, and Seth Holloway.

The supper was a way to raise money for special projects at Pine Village. The FCCLA members help with the supper by serving drinks, carrying dinner trays for people and clearing the tables after people are done eating.

"I feel this project is a good way to share our leadership skills with the community. We hopefully present ourselves in a professional manner and create a great connection with the community," Kaufman said.

Shannon Clark