Cleaning up Pine Road’s Nature Trail

Despite the cool temperatures and rainy conditions, a group of dedicated volunteers gathered on Saturday, Oct. 14 to assist in the semi-annual clean up and mulching of the Pine Road Nature Trail and outdoor classroom. Students, parents, teachers, and several members of the Lower Moreland High School National Honor Society worked side by side from 9 am. to 12 p.m.

The result is a safe and tidy outdoor environment where our students can extend and enrich their studies. Mrs. Rachel Thierolf, kindergarten teacher, continues to promote, organize, and lead these annual endeavors. Thank you to Mrs. Thierolf, Mr. Mark Kenney and Boy Scout Troop 208, and to all of the volunteers. Thanks also to Mr. Lou Giroud, who donates wood chips when needed. This activity is an excellent example of how Lower Moreland students, teachers and parents work hand in hand and continually go above and beyond to provide exciting learning opportunities for students.

High School Drama Club presents...

“All in the Timing”

One Act Plays by David Ives

November 2, 3 & 4 at 7:30 p.m.
in the high school auditorium

Have news to share?

If you have newsworthy items or a photo opportunity, please contact Dina McCaffery at dmccaffery@lmtsd.org or 215-938-0270 ext. 2170.

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In the Spotlight...

Maureen Donahue: Assistant Business Manager

What is your position? How long have you worked in the district? I am the Assistant Business Manager for the school district. I've been with the District for seven years as the Chief Accountant. In September of this year I was promoted to Assistant Business Manager.

What did you do prior to coming to work for Lower Moreland? I worked in accounting at LaSalle University and St. Joe's University.

Tell us a little about your daily duties. I do bank reconciliations, state and federal grant filings, PSERS filings, accounts receivable, board reports and many other miscellaneous accounting functions as assigned by the Business Manager. I work closely with Accounts Payable, Purchasing and Payroll as well. I am hoping to add some new challenges to my list of daily duties now that I am the Assistant Business Manager.

What is the most challenging part of your daily job? The most challenging part of my daily job is the unexpected. Sometimes I spend my entire day working on different problems that arise. By the end of the day I haven't even approached my “To Do” list. I love the challenge though.

What is the best part of your job? Working with everyone else in the department. I enjoy that camaraderie.

When you aren't working, what do you like to do in your free time? I like to play and watch sports with my boys, and do “girlie” things with my daughter. I really enjoy those rare quality moments when my husband and I are actually alone! I really like my girls nights out with friends, too. And, I'm an avid reader.

Tell us a little about yourself. I've been married to Mike for 10 years, and we have three children, two sons, ages 5 & 3 and a daughter, who is just turning 9. I graduated from Beaver College (now Arcadia University) with a bachelor's degree in accounting. I chose Accounting because it was practical. I like a good challenge. I think it makes work more interesting. I like a good laugh on a daily basis if possible to relieve my normal self-inflicted stress.

What do you like most about LM School District? I like the people that I work with the most. It is a very relaxing and friendly environment.

What is one thing you would like people to know about you? I love to laugh. I love being busy, because I like moving all the time. I like being able to have a career and still be a quality mom. The moments I share with my children now are truly quality moments.

In the Spotlight

Each week, a different member of the Lower Moreland Township School District family will be featured in this section. Take the opportunity to learn something new about someone! Keep your eyes open, you just may be the next person “In the Spotlight.”
Forty-three students in Ms. Valerie Pfaff’s high school photography class visited The Eastern State Penitentiary to take photographs. Unfortunately, it rained heavily all day which hindered some of the opportunities to take pictures. But it was an adventure and the rain added to the feeling of gloom and doom which is part of the atmosphere of the deserted prison. Both black and white photographers and students from the new digital photography class made up the group.

Murray Avenue

8th-grade musicians visit 3rd grade

Eighth-grade musicians visited Pine Road third-graders to introduce the students to string instruments. The eighth-grade students that participated were violins: Polina Kovalzon, Rachel Ebner, and Rebecca Fong; Viola: Linnea Jaffe; Cello: Sean McCusker and David Glass; String Bass: Angie Nocella. They played “Theme from Canon in D” and “The Pink Panther.” Polina, Linnea, and Sean played solo pieces on their instruments so the 3rd grade students could here the sounds each one made.

Pine Road

A lesson in Lower Moreland’s history

The third grade social studies units on maps, globes, and community are designed to make learning come alive for students. Third-graders learn about the history of Lower Moreland Township and its community. This authentic learning experience included the children incorporating newly-learned map skills as they collaborated and created a mural size map of Huntingdon Valley. Last week, they went on a walking tour of Huntingdon Valley with guest tour guides and retired teachers, Mrs. Brandt and Mrs. Stock. Another guest speaker, Ms. Williams, shared her memories of growing up in Lower Moreland and teaching in Huntingdon Valley.

Students had an opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts with Ms. Williams. This week, students will be preparing for their Community test and writing thank you letters to Ms. Williams, Mrs. Brandt, and Mrs. Stock.
School Board Notes …

From the October 17 meeting.
Next meeting is Tuesday, November 21 in the MA library.

National Merit Semifinalists recognized

School Board member Mr. Michael Mueller (left) joins High School Principal Mr. Gregory Doviak in congratulating National Merit Semifinalists (from left): Atira Odhner, Ali Leskowitz, and Elizabeth Lakata. Not pictured is: Jacqueline Kim.

State Tennis Champs

School Board member Dr. Barbara Breitman (left) joins High School Principal Mr. Gregory Doviak and Tennis coach Dr. Jeanette Hausmann in congratulating state Tennis champions Cohen (left) and Samuel Harmatz, both sophomores.

The following actions were approved:

- Family Medical Leave for Mrs. Claire Hertz, Pine Road Kindergarten teacher, effective November 28, 2006.
- Family Medical Leave for Mrs. Kristine Adams, Murray Avenue 5th grade teacher, effective on or about February 24, 2007.
- The resignation for retirement of Mrs. Elaine Zanzinger, secretary of Special Education, effective October 20, 2006.
- The resignation for retirement of Mrs. Rose Cowhey, Murray Avenue library aide, effective December 22, 2006.
- The resignation of Ms. Maureen Meade, high school special education instructional assistant, effective October 13, 2006.
- To extend the long term gifted support substitute teacher position to the end of the 2006-2007 school year for Mrs. Elizabeth Trostle.
- Ms. Jacalyn Martin as a KinderLinks program aide.
- To adopt the following textbooks: The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini; After the First Death by Robert Cormier; and Damage by A.M. Jenkins.

Upcoming Events

10/21 - PSAT at LMHS

10/27 - Halloween Parade; Pine Road School; 1:30 p.m.

10/27 - Halloween Costume Party Fundraiser for LMHS Band; Blair Mill Inn; 7:30 p.m.

Tax Study Commission meeting

10/26 - Murray Avenue Library; 7 p.m.