

THE DEVIL'S HERALD

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COMMUNITY

GIVING BACK Wilmington organization cleans up the streets



-Courtesy of Enoch Johnson

Members of the Community Dream Team in Wilmington cleanup their neighborhood and supply food for those in need.

By
Olivia Watson
Staff Writer

Growing up I was always taught to help those who are less fortunate. For Enoch Johnson, this is a lesson that all children, teens, and young adults should learn.

Enoch Johnson is a member of an organization called Community Dream Team, located in Wilmington, Delaware.

"This organization was created by a group of friends from our neighborhood. We decided that we wanted to make a difference and bring some positivity to an area that has a lot of negativity," said Johnson.

Community Dream Team is involved in many ways in the community. They have a Sunday breakfast mission, they cleanup the community, and organize activities with teens to keep them off the streets.

He has been apart of this for three years.

Johnson believed that he and his team could make a difference in the community, a thing that all of us can do, even if we realize that or not.

"We believe youth involvement is critical, especially in a time and era when everything is online. The teens that participate can get a real good look into reality and be more humble and thankful for their blessings."

The city of Wilmington is known for its violent past and present. Wilmington is one of the most dangerous cities in the United States.

According to *USA Today*, "Wilmington far and away leads the country in its rate of shootings among young people under 18."

Research shows that Wilmington has the highest rate of gun violence involving teens. It is extremely higher than places like Chicago, New Orleans, and Pittsburgh.

With technology and youth involvement in gangs, Wilmington has become very dangerous.

But you don't have to live in a big city for there to be people in need. There are people everywhere that need help—not just in bad areas or in big cities.

There are many people that live in our community, some may even go to our school, that need people like Johnson and the people at Community Dream Team.

"There is always someone whose shoes are worse than yours. Stay humble!"

YEAR-IN-REVIEW

Eagles win, royal wedding highlight 2018

By
Olivia Kunitsky
Senior Editor

What comes to mind when you think about this past year?

Perhaps you remember the childlike joy you felt as you watched the Eagles win Super Bowl 52, or do you grimace as you recall the horrific school shooting that took place in Parkland, Florida?

2018 has been like other years in that it contained events such as the Winter Olympics (which took place in Pyeongchang, South Korea), the FIFA World Cup (which took place in Russia), and the midterm elections.

However, 2018 has also encompassed events that are quite unique, including the royal wedding between Prince Harry and Meghan Markle and the search-and-rescue of a youth soccer team that was trapped in a cave in Thailand.

Additionally, wildfires, hurricanes, and even volcanic eruptions have been an inter-

gral part of life on Earth during 2018, and the debate about climate change and global warming has heated up.

"The issues with global warming are scary to think about because we might not have a future since the world is dying," said senior Haley Allen.

One thing that is undeniable is that 2018 has been a year of enormous changes and even a year of some firsts.

On March 14, high schoolers all over America united for an official National School Walkout to raise awareness about gun violence, showing people that this generation is not afraid to speak its mind.

For the first time ever, an American president met in person with a North Korean head of state (which took place in Singapore), shocking the world.

On June 24, women in Saudi Arabia were finally granted the right to drive. According to National Public Radio, one Saudi Arabian woman commented, "I always knew this day would come. I feel free like a bird."

For the first time ever, a vast area of wa-

ter was discovered on Mars, foreshadowing interesting things to come with space travel in the future.

On November 30, former president George H.W. Bush passed away and the world lost "a man of the highest character," as his son George W. Bush stated according to CNBC News.

On a local level, 2018 has been an interesting year at Avon Grove High School as well.

The girls swimming team placed second in the state and once again, the boys lacrosse team made it to the state tournament.

Avon Grove experienced the retirement of two great teachers: Mrs. Wilkinson and Mrs. Worrell.

"Being able to talk about such an awesome person in the community was inspirational and showed me just how much impact one person can have," replied senior Justin Woodward, who is the Student Council president and gave a speech about Mrs. Wilkinson during Homecoming.

AG and Kennett areas support those in need



-Photo by Lara McKinnon

Avon Grove's Humanitarian Club collects cans which supports nearly 400 families in the community.

By
Lara McKinnon
Senior Editor

When most people think of the holidays, they think of a time of joy, but it is also one of the busiest times of the year for many local food pantries.

At an event on Saturday, December 8, Nutrition Services Manager, Kate Miller, said that at the Kennett Area Community Service food cupboard they "often do see a rise around the holidays. Sometimes it's assistance with heating oil or electricity bills during the colder months, and sometimes it's food related assistance. We can see as many as 50 additional families over the November and December timeframe."

Kennett Area Community Service, also known as KACS, is an organization that offers food, and financial aid to community members in need as well as community service opportunities.

At any given time of the year, however, KACS provides assis-

tance to around 375 families a month.

One of the best ways for the community to help, Miller says, is by donating food, funds, and volunteering their time.

When asked if KACS receives local donations, Miller said, "Yes, we get donations from all over the area, of all sizes. Sometimes from individual donors who buy an extra bag or two while they are shopping and sometimes from small organizations, as well as the large ones."

The Avon Grove School District is also making an effort to give during the holidays.

The Avon Grove High School Humanitarian Club held a districtwide food drive.

The food collected will go towards making food baskets that will benefit families in need.

Last year, this food drive was able to give over 390 families food baskets.

AG Life

Friday, December 21, 2018

Page 2

PROFILE

Happy Holla Days

Ms. Miller reflects on her time advising Student Council



-Photo by Matthew Sullivan

Ms. Miller stands in front of each of the student-made shirts for the Holiday Holla since 2010.

By **Matthew Sullivan**
Staff Writer

The crowd erupts in applause. People are clapping, cheering, and celebrating. That's what the performers hear when they finish their act. Going up to perform in front of your peers takes courage, and that courage has been present for many years at Avon Grove High School.

The students have been performing at the Holiday Holla for a long time, dating back to the 1980s. Every year, new performances are made by returning and new performers.

When something this big occurs every year, there have to be people that help set up and organize the event. The event is run by Student Council members and two Student Council advisors.

Ms. Miller is one of the advisors, and she explained that she started in 2010. But before she started, the group was led by Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Snead, Mrs. Creamer, and Mrs. Hunter.

Student Council entails more than just the Holiday Holla, but for Ms. Miller, it is "my favorite thing

to do."

Miller realized she wanted to participate in Student Council ever since she started teaching.

But Ms. Miller isn't the only one doing all the heavy lifting; there are more people to help carry the sleigh.

Mr. Mazzola is the other Student Council advisor this year, and has recently joined to help Ms. Miller and the students.

But, the Holiday Holla wouldn't be complete without the students, and not for the reason some may think.

The students have a very large role in the whole event, and according to Miss Miller, "All of the members of Student Council do a lot of hard work. It's mostly them because it's their show and their ideas."

The Holiday Holla is a show for the students, showcasing the students, so it is fitting having the show also being run by students, allowing for the target audience to be reached.

Ms. Robtison, the Director of Athletics and Student Activities, also helps organize the event by ensuring there is a proper environment for the artists to perform.

Ms. Miller does "the background stuff," meaning she handles the renting of the equipment that is needed, and keeps track of the budget.

Each year the Holla provides a lot of very memorable moments that end up sticking with someone well after the event itself.

For Ms. Miller, this is no different, "The thing I like the best about it is that kids that I have in class who sometimes are really quiet, get up in front and perform something."

Miller said that she also "loves the drumline" and she also likes it when "the teachers get involved and do something."

After nine years of advising the Student Council, Ms. Miller feels like the end may be near in the next couple of years. "I feel like it might be time to pass the reins to somebody else."

After helping out for so long and doing a lot for the students, it makes sense as to why she might want to let someone else give it a shot, and whoever it may be, they can go to Ms. Miller for some advice, just like she did with previous advisors.

COMMUNITY

Annual Country Christmas starts holiday season



-Photo by Ashtin Rector

Local craftsman Ed Farina has his creations on display and for sale at the Country Christmas.

By **Ashtin Rector**
Staff Writer

From cozy blankets to food, Country Christmas was the perfect stop for Christmas gifts. Held on Saturday, December 1 at the Avon Grove Intermediate School, it always draws many people from the community.

The 27th annual Country Christmas was a great time for families and also local consignors who want to share their product with the community.

It was so helpful for consignors because their items are held in other stores and other places so now their work can be dispersed to a larger marketplace.

The proceeds support the Parent Teacher Associations for Penn London Elementary School

and the Avon Grove Intermediate School.

The most famous part of Country Christmas are the raffle baskets. There were so many different types of packages from gaming consoles, food, and sports teams.

People could buy raffle tickets and drop them in the basket for a chance to win it.

But it is a great time for kids and the whole family.

It helps out with the community because everything that's being shown is from people who want to help the community and give great gifts.

COMMUNITY

Santa's sleigh stops in Avon Grove

Students host breakfast to benefit music department

By **Zach Humphreys**
Staff Writer

Avon Grove High School hosted the 26th annual Santa's Breakfast for Kris Kringle himself on December 8. All the good boys and girls came to enjoy some delicious breakfast and tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas.

This event was hosted by the Music Department and all the money and funds went towards it. Students dressed up and went around the cafeteria waiting on people and bringing them food.

"It's an awesome thing for the community. It's a really awesome opportunity for the kids to see what it's like to provide something valuable for people in your

community," said Avon Grove High School choir instructor Mrs. Amanda Wilcox.

Everyone was in a happy mood including the big guy, Santa Claus. He was very happy to see all the children there enjoying his time, and apparently, he was excited too.

"Fantastic, because it is my big day and I look forward to it all year long. I enjoy the fact that I can eat as many cookies and drink as much milk as Mrs. Claus can bring to me," Santa stated.

While people were eating, there were some performances from the students there. The students in choir, band, and all music groups performed some comforting Christmas songs.

The kitchen was smelling delicious with the cooks preparing breakfast. The menu was comprised of pancakes and sausage with orange juice, chocolate or white milk, hot chocolate, coffee, and water.

After such an eventful morning, Jamie Jones, a sponsor of the event, acknowledged how he feels every year about this event.

"Holiday excitement. It's just the feel good environment... the families that come visit. You can see the light in the kids' eyes to see Santa. They're coming to have a really good meal, some pancakes and sausage. It's a good time."

After a jolly morning at AGHS, everyone went home counting down to next year's breakfast.



-Photo courtesy of Maggie Humphreys

Sarah Renz, Antonio Gentile, and Charlotte Condliffe entertained the crowd.

SPORTS

Boys basketball takes a shot with new coach

Roe looks to rebuild program

By
Ben Younger
Staff Writer

The skidding Avon Grove basketball program hired new coach John Roe. He knows exactly what kind of program he has, a young rebuilding team with only three seniors.

"I came to Avon Grove because I was looking forward to having my own program again. It has been about seven years since I have, and Avon Grove has been a great place so far. The kids have been very receptive, and I am trying to build something here. We have a young team with a lot of talent, and I expect us to be very good for years to come," the new coach explained.

Even though Coach Roe only has three seniors, one of them is three year varsity letterman Bryson Morgan.

"Bryson has been a great leader and he has been our guy. He's a good kid and has really worked well with our young team. I think the biggest thing with Bryson is that he gets it. He buys into what I am trying to coach, and he is a player I am glad to have as my leader," said Roe.

When asked about Coach Roe, Morgan had nice things to say about his fourth coach in four years.

"I like him a lot. I think he is the right guy for the program, and so far everyone seems like they want to play for him," Morgan said.

Roe has previously coached Haverford and Ridley high schools.

Where Bryson Morgan seems to be the main guy on the team, he has some other talent around him with juniors Timmy Brown and Matt Gallagher. Senior Daniel Greenjack is also a player to watch in the low post.

"Timmy has also stepped up as a leader on this team and he is going to be good for us this season," Coach Roe said. "I also have been very impressed with Daniel Greenjack. He is a good kid, has been good with the younger guys, and has stepped up his leadership. He is a very coachable player and is fun to be around."

As a last second hire, Roe has had a lot of help. One person who really stepped up during the off-season was JV coach Kyle Christy.

"I can't say enough about Coach Christy. The boys respond really well to him. I know I can always rely on him as my assistant coach, and I am blessed to have him in the program."

Even though the Red Devils have a young roster, there is no question they have a shot to do big things this season.



- Photo by Ben Younger

Coach John Roe pumps up his team before practice. The next day they defeated Interboro 51-23. As of December 14, the team is 2-1 to start the season.

Boys Basketball Schedule

Friday, December 7 vs. Design-Lab (W) 58-49
Saturday, December 8 @ Octorara (L) 47-41
Tuesday, December 11 @ Interboro (W) 51-23
Saturday, December 15 vs. Kennett
Tuesday, December 18 @ Bishop Shanahan
Thursday, December 20 @ Downingtown West
Saturday, December 22 @ Unionville
Friday, December 28 @ Boyertown Holiday Classic
Saturday, December 29 @ Boyertown Holiday Classic
Thursday, January 3 vs. West Chester East

Saturday, January 5 vs. Oxford
Tuesday, January 8 @ Downingtown East
Thursday, January 10 @ Henderson
Tuesday, January 15 vs. Coatesville
Tuesday, January 22 vs. Bishop Shanahan
Thursday, January 24 vs. Downingtown West
Saturday, January 26 @ Great Valley
Tuesday, January 29 @ West Chester East
Thursday, January 31 vs. Downingtown East
Saturday, February 2 @ Oxford
Tuesday, February 5 vs. Henderson
Thursday, February 7 @ Coatesville

Sports Schedule

December 21

Boys Ice Hockey @ Downingtown West, 9:35 p.m.
Girls Ice Hockey vs. Radnor, 7:45 p.m.

December 22

Girls Basketball vs. Unionville, 4:45p.m.
Boys Basketball @ Unionville, 6:00p.m.

December 28

Boys Basketball @ Boyertown Holiday Classic, 3:00p.m.
Girls Basketball @ Unionville Winter Tournament, 5:30p.m.

December 29

Boys Wrestling @ Hatboro-Horsham HS, 9:00a.m.

For more information visit <http://avongrove.digitalsports.com/>

AG CLUBS

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Style Swap wears dresses to end human trafficking

By
Abigail Osborne
Staff Writer

46 million people, including two million children, are in the sex trafficking industry unbeknownst to millions of people across the globe.

Knowing these statistics, Zoe Frantz, a junior and co-president of the Style Swap club, wanted to make a difference through Dressember.

Dressember is a month long fundraising campaign aiming to help end human trafficking and help victims of sex trafficking join recovery programs through people wearing dresses every day of December.

According to the official Dressember website, this movement began in 2009 when the founder, Blythe Hill, started to do this "style challenge" every December, and eventually her friends joined, which led to a ripple effect of sorts that became "an international campaign."

Last year, the same year of the creation of the club, Style Swap decided to join too. Frantz had heard about this organization through her church who supports IJM (International Justice Mission, an organization also dedicated to

end modern day slavery that frequently collaborates with Dressember).

"My family has donated to IJM for years, and when my mom heard about Dressember being a part of it, she wanted to participate, and she's done it for four years now," Frantz said.

Eager to join her mother's efforts, Frantz brought it up during a Style Swap meeting to which the group collectively agreed was a fantastic idea.

"To me this is a chance to educate the school and community about how slavery is still a huge issue in the world and to show people how they can help out to free those who are slaves," Danielle Caprarola, a junior and vice president of the club, said.

Through commercials airing on AGTV daily, selling carefully handcrafted scrunchies, hanging posters all over the school, and a myriad of other fundraising activities, Style Swap is doing just that. Dressember is their biggest endeavor of the year which involves at least two months of planning.

"In October, we began the planning phase of how we would raise awareness in the school and how we could raise money," Frantz said.

Their efforts aren't small either.



-Photo by Abigail Osborne

Members of Style Swap participate in "Dressember." Students wore dresses everyday in December to raise awareness for sex trafficking, an issue that affects millions of people, including children, across the globe.

Last year they raised over \$1,500 dollars and recruited numerous amount of individuals to join their

club and help with future Dressember events.

"One of our main goals is get-

ting people who aren't even in the club to participate," Caprarola said.