

Shen-Val-Lore

The Student Voice of Shenandoah Valley Academy

Shenandoah Valley Academy

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GIRLS' AND BOYS' CLUB BANQUET

SOPHIE HINTZ

A This year's theme for the Girls' and Boys' Club Banquet was "The Groove." Choosing this theme meant dressing in bright 80's style clothing. Many girls teased their hair up high, put it in ponytails, or used eccentric hair accessories. For the guys, most of them stuck to doing their normal hairstyle but a few sprayed neon hairspray onto their heads. Because it was a girls ask guys banquet, the girls walked over in groups to the boys' dorm to pick up their dates. All of the students and chaperones loaded the buses, making their way toward Funky's Skate Center in Harrisonburg.

Upon arrival, each person who chose to skate was given a pair of rollerskates, or roller-

blades if that was their choice. The skating was very fun. Although it was obvious that people were falling, they got up with a smiles on their faces, continuing their laps around the rink. The venue for the banquet offered games, food, and other activities. Around the rink were colorful patterned walls which turned out to be great for pictures. People who chose not to skate played pool or sat in booths while watching the others skate and fall. A few people said that their highlights for this banquet were dancing with their friends, watching others fall while skating, and hanging out with their friends. The music that was played was fun to skate to and matched the theme of the banquet.

After a while of skating, pizza, drinks, and ice cream were offered to all attendees. Eventually the food was digested and the skating races and number games began. First up were the boys. Out of the five who participated, Danny Baires, a Junior, swept the floor, double lapping a few other competitors. His swift movements and agility, along with good balance and practice, made it look easy for him to leave the others in the dust. The other races took place and then the number game began. Everyone went out on the floor to participate, but only a few won. The prizes for the races and number game were Walmart gift cards. The skating continued.

Near the end of the evening, the DJ put on a slow song and, making Shenandoah Valley Academy history, couples were allowed to hold hands without being put on social probation. This event was many people's favorite moment during the outing. Before leaving, popular songs such as the "Cupid Shuffle," the "Cha Cha Slide," the "Macarena," the "Twist," and the iconic "Y.M.C.A." were played. Finally, the buses were loaded and attendees headed back to the school and dorms.

Overall, this banquet was very well planned and enjoyable. From watching Danny slide around the rink, to laughing with friends when they fell, to eating yummy

food, the night included many entertainment options that anyone could enjoy. Everyone was happy with the theme and was able to easily find outfits from their closets without having to go out and spend tons of money. Since it was an activity instead of a formal banquet, more people came out to this event than to the Student Association Banquet and Junior-Senior Banquet. The student body is thankful to the Girls' and Boys' Club officers and staff who helped make this banquet so much fun and low stress.



UPCOMING EVENTS MARCH

6 End of 3rd Term

8 Sunday School

11-23 Argentina Music/Mission Tour

12-23 Spring Break

APRIL

2 AU Visit

2-4 Potomac Elementary School Music Festival

5 ACT / Junior-Senior Banquet

6-10 Week of Prayer

13 Sophomore Field Trip

16 Senior Tree Planting

17-18 Alumni Weekend

19 School Picnic

22-26 Homeleave

30 US History Tour

MAY

1-4 US History Tour

5 AP Calculus Exam

6 AP English Exam

8 ROK International Vespers

9 Final Music Concerts

14-15 Senior Exams

15 Baptisms

16 Best of Everything

17-20 Senior Class Trip

19-20 Final Exams

22 Consecration

23 Baccalaureate / Class Night

24 Class Night

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 Girls' and Boys' Club Banquet	5 Candlelight Concert / WAU Band/Strings Festival
2 NHS Induction and Principal's Brunch	6 Andrews Tournament
3 Spiritual Retreat / Religion Field Trip	7 Faculty Family Night / Government Field Trip
4 ROK Vespers / Fayetteville Trip	

NHS INDUCTION AND PRINCIPAL'S BRUNCH

IGNACIO LIZARRAGA

The NHS Induction and Principal's Brunch was held on Sunday, January 19. The NHS Induction was in the morning from 8:00 to 9:30 AM, after which the Principal's Brunch was held.

To be part of the NHS Induction, a student must be accepted into the National Honor Society, or NHS. To be eligible to join the NHS one must have a GPA of 3.5 or above and have attended SVA for at least one semester. Once invited to join, students

must write an essay to the NHS Committee explaining why they should be a part of NHS and how they demonstrate the skills needed to be a member. Shortly after, students received an email saying whether they had been accepted or not.

The NHS Induction was a ceremony for those who had been accepted this year. It took place in the auditorium and everyone dressed in vespers attire, since it was a formal event. It started off

with current NHS members talking about NHS and what it means to be a part of the group. After that, the new members were called up and lit their candles. Then, they all stood up and recited the code of NHS. There was also special music by some of the new NHS members. Finally, Mrs. Short lined them up to take pictures and the ceremony was over.

After the NHS Induction, everyone headed over to the cafe where the Principal's

Brunch was going to be held. The Principal's Brunch is a special brunch to recognize those who excel in academics for their success. Eligible students have a GPA of 3.5 or above. Those who have a GPA of 3.0-3.49 made Honor Roll. Families were welcome to come and attend, as this is a special event for the students and something parents do not want to miss. The food was pretty good and the cafe workers were dressed up in formal wear for the event.

After we enjoyed the food, the awards started. As students' names were called, they went up and received their certificate and took a picture with Mr. Short. After everyone was called up in the class, they took a class picture. Once that was over, Mr. Lowe talked a little bit about SVA and the work he does as a recruiter. He encouraged the parents and students to help spread the news about SVA and get people interested in coming.

Overall, these events were very fun and we all enjoyed them. It was a good opportunity for parents to come out and see their child's achievements. A lot of parents were able to come, which was nice to see. Hopefully, as each year passes by, more and more students will be able to make it for this awesome day and celebrate their achievements.



SPIRITUAL RETREAT

KATIE DAVIS

On January 10, a total of 30 students spent the weekend at Camp Overlook. We were planning a student-led Week of Prayer for Shenandoah Valley Academy. After a lot of praying and talking, we came up with a theme: Now is the Time. Each day would include a talk about how to change yourself inside and be prepared for Jesus' second coming. The theme song that we chose was "Fullness."

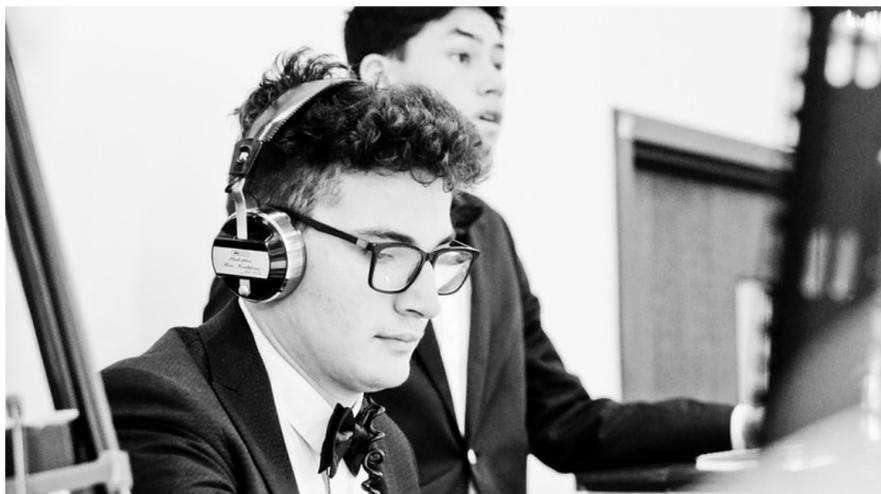
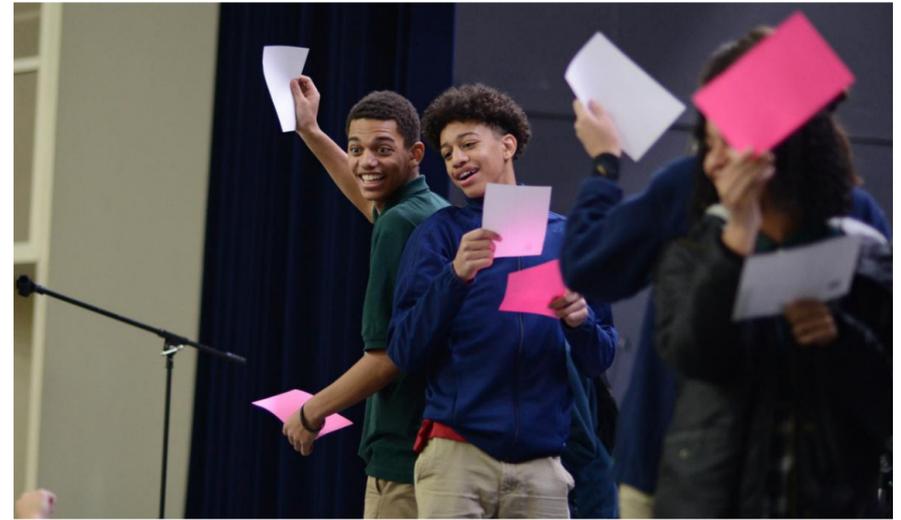
On Friday evening we arrived at Camp Overlook. Everyone helped bring in food and other supplies. We had mostly Juniors and Seniors with us. Pastor Harley, the leader of the group, led us in a devotional thought after supper about Elijah and Elisha. We had an amazing worship with Dean McCullough on the guitar. We sang old camp songs and sang until our voices got hoarse.

Sabbath morning, we woke up bright and early and had a cinnamon roll breakfast. Then, PH told us that he wanted us to go on a prayer walk by ourselves before Sabbath school. Camp Overlook is in the woods, so it was really pretty and quiet. Many people walked out to the open field right across the cabin or walked on a path up a mountain. Several students sat down at the campfire place and listened to Christian music to get connected to Jesus.

During Sabbath school, PH split us into six different groups. We all discussed a miracle that Elisha performed. When Elijah went up to Heaven, he asked Elisha what he wanted. Elisha asked for a double portion of the Holy Spirit. As we read 1 and 2 Kings, we saw that Elijah performed a total of seven miracles, but Elisha performed a total of fourteen miracles!

Afterwards we talked about what changes we want to see at SVA and how we could create a theme around that idea. After we heard a lot of opinions, we finally decided what the theme should be.

After lunch we packed up our bags and cleaned the cabin. Then, we brain-stormed what each day's theme should be. Eventually we picked two people who would choose each day's theme for the whole group, because there were too many opinions about the daily themes. We also chose a group that we would be a part of to decide either music, drama, speakers, or activities. With a lot of prayer and the Holy Spirit, this student-led Week of Prayer was life changing for many students who attend Shenandoah Valley Academy.



RELIGION FIELD TRIP

GISELLE VILLATORO

On Tuesday, November 19, the Senior class of 2020 had a religions field trip in Washington DC. We loaded the bus at seven in the morning and made our way to The National Cathedral. Upon arriving at the National Cathedral, I first noticed the beautiful gothic architecture. I noticed many pagan symbols that are worshiped such as the cross, the sun, and Mary the mother of Jesus. Inside were hundreds of Stained Glass window paintings and millions of carvings on the walls. All the chairs are named after saints and some were even buried in the cathedral, along with famous influencers like Helen Keller. The cathedral also had a children's chapel that was donated by a couple who lost their only son. Each of the chairs in the children's chapel has a famous historical person like Benjamin Franklin or Thomas Jefferson. The cathedral was beautiful but seemed more of a museum than a house of God.

Next, we visited an Islamic center. This church also had beautiful architecture and detailed designs inside and outside. We had to take off our shoes and the girls had to cover our hair before we could walk in. As we arrived at the hour of prayer many Muslims began to arrive and lined up praying and kissing the floor. They follow the Quran and use the five pillars of Islam as their five rules to life. It was very interesting to see that they took time out of their day to pray. Muslims pray five times every day no matter where they are.

The next place was a Buddhist house of worship. We entered and again, had to take off our shoes out of respect. Then we all grabbed pillows

and sat on the floor facing a Buddha statue surrounded by flowers. The leader of the house was wearing robes and had a shaved head. He told us that this was to keep him from drawing attention to his outward appearance. As a Buddhist, their belief is to achieve peace from within by intense meditation and denying anything that glorifies themselves. The Buddhist also told us his beliefs on rebirth, which are that animals come back into different lifetimes as less intelligent humans.

After the Buddhist church, we went to a Jewish temple. All of the boys had to wear a hijab to enter the sanctuary. I learned a lot about Jewish beliefs that at first seemed similar to seventh day Adventist's ones, but I soon found them to be somewhat questionable. Such as Jews keep the sabbath day but interpret the Bible in a way that forbids them from doing any kind of work. I agree with not working on the sabbath, but a Jew's definition of work is a whole other level. For example, on the sabbath, they can't make a fire, which for them interprets to not turning on a car or a stove. But yet they can heat their food on a hot plate, and they also don't mention a thing about the heat in the winter. Some extremes taken to avoid work include walking to church and not turning on the lights on the sabbath. Jews also don't openly invite new members unless they are of Jewish origin, the process of a non-Jew to become Jewish is long and difficult. All these things were a surprise to me because I believe that a church is formed to bring God's word to as many people as they can, not keep it to themselves.

The last place we visited was a Mormon visitors center. Because we were not Mormons, we could not enter the usual sanctuary and not the Mormon temple that is kept for priests. The visitors' center was big and screamed money. It was fully decorated and loaded with staff. Upon arriving we entered an auditorium to watch a film about how Mormons began their beliefs. They believe that an angel appeared to Joseph Smith (founder of Mormonism) and told him where to find some engraved gold plates that were buried in the ground. Smith later translated them to English, creating the Book of Mormon, which to Mormons is another testament of the Bible. Mormons believe that when they die they will either go to one of three places in heaven. These three different "heavens" are determined by how holy your heart is. While we were there the Mormons gave us Books of Mormon to take back with us. They worship on Sunday but seem very secretive when asked questions about the Mormon temple. The Mormon temple has no windows which are supposed to make sure Mormons are not distracted with nature and things in the world. Mormons have different levels the higher you are the more you can enter the Mormon temple. I had a great time being able to experience different beliefs and cultures. I learned a lot about how others perceive God and are interested to continue to keep myself open to understanding others' traditions and beliefs even though I may not agree with them.

ROK VESPERS

CEIRY FLORES

This year ROK (Reach Our Kids) Vespers was a little different than it has been in past years. Usually, the theme is based on a different part of the world and focuses on a specific ethnic group. However, this year ROK Vespers fell on February 14, Valentine's Day. ROK ministries decided to do something based on love since it fit the occasion. The program started with singing songs related to love. Mrs. Feitosa, Kelvin Feitosa, Sammie Armstrong, Gabby Patrick, and I were part of the praise team for the night. The last song we sang was very special and touching to many. The song was "Love in Any Language." It talked about how love does not have any boundaries and that love is love no matter where you live. Mrs. LaPierre, alongside her daughters and friends,

were following the song with sign language and it added a special touch to the song.

After we finished singing, Mrs. Feitosa introduced the speakers for the night, Mr. and Mrs. Mashburn. They both talked about the five love languages and incorporated examples of each love language. The five love languages include: words of affirmation, acts of service, receiving gifts, quality time, and physical touch. At the beginning of their talk, they gave each person present a test to help us figure out our own love language. After everyone had finished taking the test, they spent time going over each love language and explaining the pros and cons of each one. I learned that love languages were giving gifts and words of affirmation. It was very interesting being able to

learn about each other's love languages and know how to express the right ones to our friends and family.

Once the speakers finished, we were all led to the fellowship hall where we were welcomed with brownies, chocolate, fondue, and many more desserts. I enjoyed going table to table and tasting the different desserts. They were all very delicious! They had also set aside a table scattered with rocks that had special messages written on them, which we could take to our rooms as a reminder of this memorable night. I do think the SVA students enjoyed vespers and were able to have a good time in fellowship with their ROK parents and friends. I really appreciate all the people who were involved in making this night possible!



FAYETTEVILLE TRIP

TANIA MOOROOVEN

On February 14, 2020, Shenandoans embarked on a journey to Fayetteville, North Carolina. We loaded the bus and left right after lunch. Since the drive was going to be approximately six hours, I was very excited to finally get some sleep. The drive was nice and it was refreshing to see new surroundings, different from those that we see every day.

After driving for a while, we finally arrived at the church. Everyone was hungry, so we went straight to the fellowship hall to eat, where we were greeted with warm hugs and smiles. Everyone was very friendly and treated us like family. There were multiple alumni from a few years ago or even last year that still attend that church, and it was nice to see them as well. The members had set up cute Valentine's Day themed tables and had decorations on the wall. After greeting everyone, we prayed and went in line to get our food. The food was really good, and it felt nice to eat something different than what we eat every day.

It was getting late and a lot of us were tired but we had to do a quick sound check before we could leave and go to bed, so we went into the sanctuary and ran through a couple of the songs, just to see how they sounded in that specific sanctuary. After Mr. Biaggi had finished what he wanted to accomplish, he divided us into groups to spend the night at a specific church member's house. I was in a group with Sarah, Andrea, and Rose, and we went to the home of one

of the Seniors who graduated last year. When we arrived there, we spent some time together talking and laughing before going to bed. In the morning, we could sleep in a little bit and then we got ready. We had arepas with eggs and cheese and tater tots for breakfast and I really enjoyed it. As soon as it was time to leave, we packed all our things and took them to the car. We had a very wild car ride, but we made it safely to church.

As soon as we arrived at the church, we warmed up our voices and lined up to get ready to enter the sanctuary. I really enjoyed the ambiance of the church service and I liked the instruments that they used. We performed a lot of songs and we each prayed with the members as well. It was a really nice experience and the members enjoyed it as well. As soon as we were done singing we had to get ready to leave and head back to SVA for basketball games. We did not have time to eat at the church so they made us to-go food, and it was tasty. On the bus we played Bible charades and "Finish that Song," which were both interesting and amusing to watch.

The trip to the Fayetteville church was a very good experience, and I have made memories that I will cherish forever. It was rewarding to see the smiles on people's faces, and I am glad that we have a devoted group of young people who are willing to use their talents for the glory of God.

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

ROSE SERRANO

In the spirit of Christmas, the annual Candlelight Concert is something longed for by family and friends of the students of Shenandoah Valley Academy. Not only do they see their loved ones perform, they can feel Christ through the music and atmosphere of the church. Candlelight could be described as a long, emotional, peaceful, calming, and angelic concert by the students at SVA. This year's Candlelight was a marvelous performance due to our band and choir director Mr. Biaggi, orchestra conductor Ms. Wiedemann, and the performers.

The first complete run through of Candlelight was on Friday, December 13, at the New Market SDA Church. The prelude was played by Monica Biaggi, and then the

audience was welcomed by Mr. Short. The invocation followed and was given by Pastor Shane Anderson. The band began the concert by performing two wonderful pieces, "The Glory of Christmas" by Paul Jennings and "The Savior is Borne," which was an arrangement by our own Mr. Biaggi. These two songs definitely set the tone in the church and prepared the church for what was to come.

The SVA choir and guests then performed "Magnificat" by Z. Randall Stroope, leaving the audience amazed by the extreme talent at SVA. Leah Shaw and Elsy Kersey had solos and their angelic voices definitely made an impression in the minds of those who heard them. The choir also sang "All My Heart This

Night Rejoices" by the same composer. Stella Souza, Student Association president, said a few words to introduce the next song, which was "The Wondrous Gift" by B. Nix and "How Great Our Joy" by C. Courtney, both performed by the chorale. The messages in these songs were understood by the congregation, who clapped aloud when they remembered the life of Christ, who came to save us all. The Junior class and National Honor Society presidents, Nathanel Perez and Kiera Griffin, read selections that reminded us that we must be a light to the dark world around us.

Handbells then performed "Gloria! The Savior is Born" by Sandra Eithun and "Toccata on King Weston" by Matthew Compton. Both

were wonderfully performed by those in handbells. Strings played "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" and "Christmas in the Mountain Medley." SVA Drama then performed a skit called "To Save the World," which explained how we shouldn't brag about ourselves, and how Jesus was God on earth but yet was humble. The yearly performance of "Breath of Heaven" was performed by Sarah Durichek, Andrea Huaytalla, Stella Souza, and myself after the skit. Shenandoans boys—Stefan Ullrich, Asher Ardron, Nathanael Perez, Jeremy Boca, and Basam Mohamed-El Sayed Gonzalez—sang "A Strange Way to Save the World." Sophomore and Freshman presidents, Kezia Despirito and Emma Cuellar, then read a short

poem that made us all think. Orchestra then performed "Once in Royal David's City" and "A Holst Christmas." Shenandoans then sang "Do You Hear What I Hear" and "Emmanuel." Both songs related to the birth of Christ and the longed-for Messiah. Then, Gabby Patrick, Senior Class President, gave a few words. The congregation was led by Shenandoans in singing "Silent Night" as the orchestra played, and then Chorale and Shenandoans were given candles and circled around the church, and sang "O Jesu So Sweet." Alumni that remember the song stood next to loved ones or complete strangers and sang this powerful song. After that, Chorale and the guest performers went back on the risers to sing the second part of "Magnificat."

The benediction was given by Pastor Buz Menhardt, and final words and remarks were given by Janel Ware.

The love of Christ was seen by everyone who participated and those in the audience. Candlelight was bittersweet for those graduating this year. Not only was this last time we will be attending Candlelight as students, but many of us have been performing with SVA music since our Freshman year. The many practices that we had to go through all paid off and ended with a beautiful performance. It was a really amazing experience and I will personally miss it. I hope that Candlelight will continue to be a blessing to those who watch or hear the concert.



WAU BAND/STRINGS FESTIVAL

DRUSILLA APOLA

On February 6, seven students—Anisa Phillips, Ellie Anderson, Kristiana Hoffmann, Emma Clark, Aubrey Benton, Drusilla Apola, and Ronnie Schimpf, along with Mr. Biaggi—left Shenandoah Valley Academy and drove to Maryland for Washington Adventist University's Band and Strings Festival. The evening we arrived, we registered and had a short meet and greet with other schools. After getting settled in, we were split into our band and string groups. The strings stayed in the music building, while the band went to the church to practice.

That night, all groups started the first rehearsal. The strings rehearsal started very nicely. We warmed up with one of our slower songs that everyone loved. Then, as soon as we had warmed up, we got a new song that was longer, faster, and harder. Everyone was so stunned and many people were not sure whether we would be able to play it by the end of Friday. However, the conductor assured us that, with more practice, we would get to concert speed.

After the rehearsal, we went to the hotel and had a great first night. Friday consisted of a lot of practicing, rehearsals, and touring the campus during our break. Friday morning, we got more acquainted with the songs. By the time afternoon came we were sounding more like a string ensemble and orchestra. In one song, the strings were able to join the band to play as an orchestra. Friday evening, we had our Music Fest performance. Each group played their songs; then, at the end, scholarships were given to select musicians. Four of our SVA students (Emma, Aubrey, Ronnie, and Drusilla) had the privilege of receiving scholarships, and two received invitations to play with the New England Youth Ensemble on tour. WAU Band and Strings Festival was a very educational and fun experience. We made many new friends, the people were very welcoming, and we learned so many new techniques and were taught new things about music. I would encourage everyone who can to go on this trip in the future.



ANDREWS TOURNAMENT

RILEY MAYER

The girls' and boys' basketball teams loaded the bus on January 29 at 7:00 a.m. to drive 13 hours to Michigan for the annual Andrews University Newmyers Classic tournament. Pillows and blankets were a necessity for the long trip ahead. Many students slept most of the way, recovering from a stressful week of school beforehand.

Before we arrived, we stopped for food and then headed to the campus to watch Andrews University team play a basketball game and win! Afterwards, we checked into the hotel we would be staying in and hung out with each other for the rest of the night. The next day the girls and the boys played a few games against the best teams in the tournament. Both teams played their hardest and fought until the end.

Each day, we had the privilege to eat in the University's cafe and we enjoyed the variety of options to choose from. Each night we ate out at different restaurants. My personal favorite was Baguette de France, which made the best sandwiches I have ever tasted. It is a very well-known restaurant for the college students and was highly recommended.

On Friday, both teams pushed through injuries, sickness, and exhaustion and continued to play their hardest. The boys were able to win a game on Friday and many of us celebrated in the hotel's

pool later that day. Some were pushed in with all their clothes on and still played a bunch of games until we had to leave. It was probably the highlight of the trip for many. Friday night vespers was a very well put together program. A skit was performed and contained very good acting. The music was also very moving. I especially liked the preacher, who was very engaging and enthusiastic. I loved how he related his topic to basketball. After vespers, all the teams visited in the lobby and enjoyed hot cocoa.

On Sabbath morning, we decided to go to Silver Beach and walk on the pier. Many found it fascinating how big the lake was. Some brought bathing suits to jump in the frigid water, but backed out at the last minute so they wouldn't risk hypothermia. Afterwards, we went back to shower and got ready for church at 2:00. We enjoyed a delicious lunch in the cafe after church and then journeyed back to the hotel to rest.

Saturday night we went to watch the championship game and enjoyed cheering on the schools that made it. After the nail biting games, we stayed for the award ceremony. Kezia DeSpirito and Chris Reedy won All-Tournament Player for the SVA teams. Overall, even though this trip was very tiring, many would agree that they wouldn't have missed it.



FACULTY FAMILY NIGHT

JULS CUELLAR

February 8 was Faculty Family Night. The school does this event twice a year and every year it is refreshing. Many students look forward to Faculty Family Night to relax, reset, and take one evening to do something fun with their group. My Faculty Family is Mrs. White, the English teacher. Our Faculty Family always goes to her house and does some activity there. We all love the comfort of her home, while she provides pizza and her special cobbler. It is nice for all of us

to hang out and spend quality time with each other.

There are a variety of groups that do many different things. There is some comfort in knowing that you do the same thing. Others may get tired of that repetition. However, I think many people enjoy being able to just relax. This year, instead of just a movie, we played the game Pit. The game is basically a version of spoons, but the only difference is that you use grain cards rather than the traditional playing cards and

that you trade a set number of cards with any other player. It is definitely not as hard as it seems. The only difficulty is paying attention and being able to quickly snatch cards or spoons. The game requires you to pay attention, but that is hard when the chaos of everyone trying to trade cards overcomes the room. It is a really fun game when you play it correctly. One of our group members was sneaky and tricked us. We were well into our game of Pit when this individual

quickly grabbed one of the spoons! We all went for the spoons after her, and she was laughing profusely. She then exclaimed that she tricked us. What had happened was that this person grabbed one of the spoons without having all the cards the same. By grabbing a spoon, we all thought she had won the round. This person was so set on winning that she tricked us all. We all found it very funny. All of us were laughing by the end of the game.

Faculty Family Nights really draw us closer to our other friends, but most importantly, to our staff friends. It gives all of us the opportunity to have a special relationship with the staff in our lives. Another example of a Faculty Family experience was with Ms. Wiedemann's group. They did face masks, painted their nails, sang karaoke, ate lots of good food (pizza, lavender lemonade, and brownies), and they watched a nice movie set in Ireland. They had a relaxing night with their group

of girls at Ms. Wiedemann's house. Since we all have many small groups of people in our Faculty Family, we can have a closer connection to the people in them than if we just had a few larger groups. This way, it helps our prayer groups to be able to discuss many important topics that may be troubling us. Having that kind of relationship here at SVA really helps us students trust and respect our staff more. All of our experiences help us all grow as a family in Christ.



GOVERNMENT FIELD TRIP

STELLA SOUZA

On Wednesday, February 26, at 5:45am, the bus's wheels started rolling. It was packed with Seniors, a few Juniors, and staff as they headed toward Washington, DC. Once we arrived, the government class went through security at the Capitol Building, taking off belts, jackets, and any other accessories.

After security, we entered the Capitol Building. Excited, we put on our headphones as we listened to a tour guide with a wonderful British accent. We then followed the tour guide as he explained the meaning of all the beautiful architecture and paintings. The main portion of the tour was the Capitol Dome, which is around 300 feet tall. The lovely tour guide explained the history of the United States and how it came to be one of the greatest countries in the world.

The tour ended quickly, for we had an appointment with Mr. Barry Black, the 62nd chaplain of the United States Senate. He is the first African American and the first Seventh-day Adventist to hold this office. He inspired us and explained how one can be successful. He told his own story about how God had blessed him even though he did not deserve it. His last thought was to inspire the us to always trust in God no matter what we do.

The day was filled with things to do. We went to see a session of the House of Representatives. It was very interesting to see where our governors and representatives create laws and introduce bills. After the sessions, we ran back to the bus to eat a sack lunch made by the cafe.

After the quick lunch, we went to the Supreme Court where an intern told many people about the Supreme Court, the Justices, and the architecture. She answered many questions from the people. The most interesting thing I learned was that there is a basketball court directly above the Supreme Court. Isn't that fascinating? As the session ended, the government class was a bit tired, as any class would be after a whole day of walking. However, the last stop was the most beautiful to me. We entered the Library of Congress, and it had such beautiful architecture and paintings. I was mesmerized by how beautiful it was. It was good to relax at the library and learn information about different acts and laws that were made.

At the end, the class was ready to go back home after a long day trip. We stood in front of the Library of Congress and took a group photo to end the day, then walked back to the bus and happily rode back to SVA, arriving right on time at 6:00.



Happy Birthday March

- 1 Saray Castillo-Cruz
- 2 Kent Suddarth /
Jessa Kinney
- 6 Alisson Bonilla
- 7 Seth Mace
- 9 Kelvin Feitosa
- 12 Chase Parnell /
Carrie White
- 13 Toby Pitton
- 16 Diego Vargas
- 18 Eliazar Sanchez
- 21 Riley Mayer
- 22 Kaitlyn DeLong
- 24 Rashelle Copp
- 25 Sabrina Fernandez
- 26 Giovanna Moraes
- 27 Natalee Townsend /
Anaiah McCalla
- April**
- 5 Gabriel Lowe
- 10 Tania Mooroven
- 11 Andrea Davis
- 12 Amber Ennis /
Braxton Jedamski
- 16 Miguel Valdez
- 18 David Ortega
- 19 Fernando De
Almeida / Melanie Moraes
- 20 Luis Castellanos

May

- 10 Gabby Patrick
/ Asher Ardron / Emily
DeLong
- 12 Abigail Thomas

- 15 Abby Tolbert
- 16 Judah Hammond
- 21 Javier Hernandez
- 22 Danny Baires
- 24 Emily Gutierrez
- 27 Tumelo Tembo
- 30 Jasmine Willis

June

- 2 Cole Gentry
- 6 Valeria Navarro-
Fonseca

- 7 JoonWoo Ha
- 10 Christopher Reedy
- 12 Emma Clark
- 14 Alexandra Jackson /
Nya Walker
- 16 Simeon Miongo
- 17 Edwin Balcarcel

- 18 Danielle Moore
- 20 Carissa Schoonard
- 24 Andrea Huaytalla /
Ethan Reinoehl

SHOUT-OUTS!

To Everyone at SVA: If you want us to publish your shout-outs, email them to aubrey.benton@student.sva-va.org or text them to 301-331-7797

- Sarah Durichek and Aubrey Benton, Newspaper Editors

To Mikayla and Cailee: Thanks for doing Talent Show with me!

- Jessa Kinney



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Sarah Durichek: Head Editor
Aubrey Benton: Co-Editor
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Letters to the Editors:

The Shen-Val-Lore welcomes your letters. All letters must contain the writer's name and phone number. All unsigned letters will be omitted. The Shen-Val-Lore reserves the right to edit your letters for space and clarity, and to reject any letters. Place all letters under the door of the newspaper room or mail them to: Shen-Val-Lore, 234 West Lee Highway, New Market, VA 22844.

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