

# Viking Press

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April 2011

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**Important Dates for Seniors:**

- 4/19- Class meeting @ 9 a.m. in Auditorium
- 5/17- Class meeting @ 9 a.m. in Auditorium
- 5/20 & 23- Pick up checkout sheets at lunches

**Last day for Seniors: May 26**  
**Exams: May 23, 24, 25**

Senior Picnic ~May 26, 11 a.m.-2:20 p.m.

- Buses leave at 11 a.m. Students will NOT be able to drive.
- Attendance REQUIRED or no walking at commencement
- Food and adult supervision provided

**Baccalaureate, June 1 (optional)**

- St. James Catholic Parish, Montague at 6:30 p.m.
- Dress clothes are appropriate

**COMMENCEMENT: 4:00 p.m. June 5, 3100 White Lake Drive, High School Gymnasium**



**\*Students report to Viking Center by 3:00 p.m.**

**Students will be given 10 tickets for guests**



**Breakfast/ Graduation**

**Practice: June 3, 8:30 a.m.-**

**Report to the Viking Center**

**ALL SENIORS MUST**

**ATTEND!**

**All academic and attendance requirements must be met at this time in order to graduate.**

- Senior Honors Assembly-June 2, 9:00 a.m.
- High School Auditorium, SENIORS MUST ATTEND!
- Seniors Assemble at 8:15 a.m. in the gym
- Seniors wear gowns- NO CAPS

**Graduation Gowns: DO NOT press; hang in a steamy room, like a bathroom during a hot shower**

Parents- If you are interested in helping out with the senior picnic or breakfast/ graduation practice, please call Mrs. Lallo at 893-1020.

# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Spring Break					
10	11 <i>Back to School</i>	12	13	14 <i>Junior Career Fair @ Reeths Puffer HS</i>	15	16
17	18	19	20 <b>Full day for students Parent/Teacher Conferences 5-8</b>	21	22 <i>No School (Good Friday)</i>	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 <i>Mid-Marks</i>	30

For information on the games and times, please see the spring sports schedule on the high school website.

# May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 <i>State HS Choral Fest</i>	6	7 <i>Prom at Fruitport Golf Club from 8:30-11:30 p.m.</i>
8	9 <i>HS Symphonic Band Spring Concert 7:30 HS Auditorium</i>	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 <i>"Spring Collage XX" All Bands</i>	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <i>HS Pops Concert 7pm</i>	26 <i>Seniors last day and picnic</i>	27	28
29	30 <i>Memorial Day Parade HS Band No School—Memorial Day</i>	31				

For information on the games and times, please see the spring sports schedule on the high school website.

# Counselors' Corner

## **Delta-Kappa-Gamma-Alpha-Kappa-Chapter Scholarship**

Eligibility: Based on a required essay. Open to young women interested in a career in the field of education. Amount of Award: \$1,000 Scholarship. Detailed Info: Essay is critical! Applications available in the Student Services Office. ***The deadline for the application is April 20, 2011.***

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Congratulations to Summer Klomp, Logan Ridge, Kirsten Briegel, and Janet Madendorp. These four girls have been selected by, and will be sponsored by, the Montague-Whitehall Rotary Club to attend leadership conferences this summer.



*Pictured are the girls who were selected by the Rotary Club to attend the leadership conferences this summer.*

*From left to right; Summer Klomp and Logan Ridge  
Bottom left to right; Kirsten Briegel and Janet Madendorp*



# Academics

## *Honoring excellence*

By: Ben Fielstra

Students, parents, and staff members gathered Monday, March 28, for the induction of students entering the National Honor Society.

National Honor Society is an organization that allows students who exhibit exceptional performance in the areas of scholarship, leadership, character, and citizenship to gain membership. These areas are known as the pillars of National Honor Society. Scholarship is defined as earning the cumulative grade point average of 3.5 set by NHS standards. Leadership is defined as the ability for students to be, "resourceful, good problem-solvers, promoters of school activities, idea-contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life." To exhibit character a student, "upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others, and generally maintains a good and clean lifestyle." Finally, students who, "understand the importance of civic involvement, have a high regard for freedom, justice and democracy, and demonstrate mature participation and responsibility through involvement with such activities as scouting, community organizations, and school clubs" represent citizenship.

Students who commit to the organization must complete a minimum of 15 community service hours (forty hours for graduating members), and demonstrate strong work ethics and positive overtones. Students who reached those standards were inducted. Junior Ben Parmley hopes to get, "quality experiences and the gaining of leadership skills through activities that help other people" by contributing to the organization.

Mr. Troy Love, a Whitehall teacher and father of two WHS students, opened the induction ceremony. During his speech, Love analyzed the meaning of honor, actively involving his former students into his lecture. He emphasized the value of students honoring their peers and family.

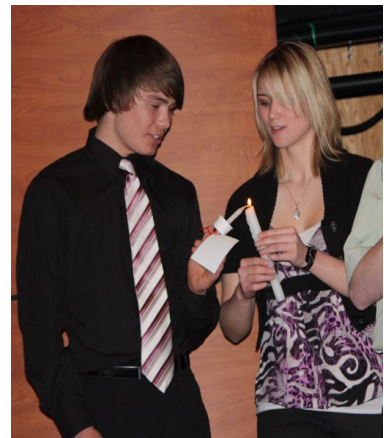
During the ceremony, the leaders of the Whitehall NHS Chapter spoke about the four pillars of National Honor Society. NHS President, Hannah Mahoney conveyed the message of the significance of leadership, and its role in the organization. She said, "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." Vice-president, Heather Dillon, stressed the importance of scholarship and welcomed Secretary Jacob Kellis to express the meaning of character. Kellis explained the difference between "having" character and "being" a character. Treasurer Mallory Parmley described why the inductees should be recognized for their presentation of citizenship. Soon after, an impressive number of 36 students were inducted. Each student shared a quote which they believed was an accurate representation of character. Junior Daniel Westrate said he is committed to the organization for, "the enjoyment of providing quality services for the benefit of the community." Newly admitted members concluded the service by the lighting of the official NHS candles.



*NHS Secretary Jake Kellis lights the candle representing 'character.'*



*Junior Zach Balzer signs the NHS book during the induction ceremony.*



*Junior Colin Schweigert lights his candle from Treasurer Mallory Parmley before reciting the pledge.*

## Fine Arts/Clubs

### *Singing Out*

By: Lauren Throne

Stretching may be easily found on a sports field, but it is not what most may expect to find in choir class. On a typical day in choir class, students begin the hour by warming up. They start with some stretches to wake up their bodies. On some days, they even give each other back rubs. Once the stretching is completed, the vocal warm ups begin. Students sing scales, practice core progression (a warm up that Mrs. Cindy Moore has the choir practice to assist in blending and intonation), and follow Moore in any other warm ups she feels would help benefit the choir. After that, the choirs practice the songs that Mrs. Moore has selected for them. Sometimes, certain sections or individuals are required to sing by themselves if notes sound off or are not blending. This may make students uncomfortable, but all in all, it helps improve the choir as a whole. Moore said, "We have such gifted students all around us. Just when you think they are not paying attention, they show you that they are. I thank my students for reminding me why I am here, and why I chose this profession."

On Wednesday, March 16, Whitehall High School Choirs participated in the District Choral Festival at Grand Haven High School. Many different schools traveled from around the area to perform in front of four different judges that rated and critiqued each choir. Whitehall Choirs began working on the songs they performed in January and spent many hours practicing and improving them with the help of Moore. Moore has been teaching choir classes at Whitehall High School and Whitehall Middle School since 1989. Whitehall brought four different choirs to the event; Concert Choir, Women's Chorus, Advanced Chorale and Chamber Ensemble. Concert Choir consists mainly of freshmen girls, Women's Chorus, and Chamber Ensemble. Both require students to go through the audition process for them to be in the class. Advanced Chorale is a combination of Women's Chorus women and Viking men. Chamber Ensemble is the most advanced choir at Whitehall. Each choir was required to sing two songs of contrasting nature and perform sight reading in front of a judge. Upon entering the sight reading room, students sat in chairs according to their sections and waited for the okay from Moore to open their booklets. Next, students all sang the scale along with Moore and studied the line of sheet music with their partners. Students were given twenty minutes to read through four lines of music to the best of their ability. They were judged on keeping rhythm and singing the right notes with the corresponding solefege (do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti, or do) according to the scale. Most schools used their allotted twenty minutes fully, but Whitehall's students blasted through sight reading in less than ten minutes. The highest score on the rating scale was a "six", but the judge was so impressed with Advanced Chorale that she awarded them with a "seven." All of the Whitehall choirs that performed at District Choral Festival did well and qualified for state in May.

## Birthdays

### **Mar. 20**

Jenna Pesch

### **Mar. 21**

Daniel Hite  
Ryan Quinn  
Quinn Santa Ana

### **Mar. 22**

Alie Gagnon  
James Cousins  
Madelon Brand

### **Mar. 23**

Katie Beaman

### **Mar. 25**

Adrekis Stillson

### **Mar. 26**

Andrea Garvey  
Kari Grove

### **Mar. 28**

Grant Lamb

### **Mar. 29**

Daniel Stout

### **Mar. 30**

Logan Potter  
Hudson Marecek  
Amber Pulaski

### **Mar. 31**

Devon Lorenz

### **Apr. 1**

Kyle Mueller

### **Apr. 3**

Renee Noom

### **Apr. 4**

Logan Goins  
Kara Smith

### **Apr. 5**

Austin Bean  
John Schilbe  
Shelly Wilson  
Jaelynn North  
Matthew Rohen

### **Apr. 8**

Trevor Gonzalez

### **Apr. 10**

Anthony Wright  
Jared Christensen

### **Apr. 11**

Cameron Lewis

### **Apr. 12**

Frank Owens  
Matthew McCollom  
Zachary Uganski

### **Apr. 13**

Jacob Grinwis

### **Apr. 14**

Madeline Johnson  
Brittany Taylor

### **Apr. 15**

Brian Boyce  
Lisa Kraai  
James Rissi  
Cheautenae Anderson  
Rebecca Munoz

# Sports

## *The Ball is in our Court*

By: Blake Whittington



A picture of the current condition of the track.

The bidding for the much anticipated athletic field renovations will be announced during the first week of May, according to Dave Rodgers, the Director of Instruction and Administrative Services. Whitehall athletic teams traditionally have been in the top tier of area athletics, and for the first time in recent history, the Whitehall Vikings will play in facilities to match. Renovations to the track and field area, both sides of the bleachers, and the football field will greatly benefit the Whitehall facilities.

Because of the renovations to the football field, soccer will, for the first time, be played on the same field. The current soccer fields at Shoreline Elementary will be available for community use. A central location for Whitehall events such as soccer, track and field, and football will allow Whitehall to host events such as the City and Regional Tournaments.

The eight-court tennis complex will be placed directly north of the large brown storage unit at the new high school on White Lake Drive. The current tennis courts at the Community Education Building will be made into a practice football field. The current cross country course at the high school will have to maneuver around the new tennis infrastructure. According to Rodgers, he hopes to arrange the new course by the beginning of fall.

Baseball and softball fields will also receive renovations directly after their respective seasons. With softball currently playing its games at Funnel Field, coaches hope to return to the new field by the beginning of the 2011-2012 season. However, they may be playing at Funnel Field while the grass seed sets in, according to Rodgers.

Below is the list of tasks that outline the athletic field renovations.

### Middle School

- Remodel Existing Football Field
- Construct New Concession/Restroom Facility & Two Ticket Booths at Current Stadium
- Remodel Existing Locker Rooms
- Replace Visitor Bleachers
- Construct New Running Track
- Create Green Space Exterior Play Field

### High School

- Construct New 8-Court Tennis Complex

### District

- Reconstruct Baseball & Softball Fields



This is one of many cracks in the track that will be replaced with the renovations.

# Student Spotlight

## The "City Life" of the Party

By: Andrea Garvey



*Mrs. Medendorp talks to members of the prom committee.*

Prom committee is to prom, as city council is to a city. This year's prom committee is under the direction of Mrs. Ingram Medendorp. The theme of the prom is "Take Me Back to ManHattan." This creative theme consists of the cityscape around the year 1920.

This year, the people volunteering to plan prom consists of McKaela Myers, Ashley Sietsema, Josh Kennebeck, Kelsey Dore, Summer Klomp, Marie Dillivan, Gwen Horning, Jacqueline Derks, Zach Balzer, and Blake Zenobia. All of these members are juniors who have been planning this event since the end of February, dividing the work into subcommittees. Some members worked on invitations, others came up with decoration ideas, and jobs like planning food, snacks, or music were done by different people on the committee.

The committee mentioned that time has been the main sacrifice for everybody. A good portion of their time was spent on deciding on the theme for the dance, and creating the invitations. Tickets will be sold April 19, 20, and 21, during first and second lunches for \$25. Tickets are needed to attend the prom, no exceptions. Although the committee has been contributing a lot of time to this project, it said that having a say shaping prom really makes up for it.

The prom will be Saturday, May 7, at the Fruitport Golf Club and Banquet Hall from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. The prom committee, along with Medendorp, worked hard to make this year's prom a success for all attendees.

## BPA Results

The Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference took place March 24-27 at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids. At this conference, students participated in business related events and competed for the top spots. Students who placed are eligible to go to Nationals in Washington D.C. on May 1.

### Winners:

Veronica Greve – 4<sup>th</sup> place – Advanced Office Systems and Procedures

Kayla Jagnow – 7<sup>th</sup> place – Fundamental Spreadsheets

Heather Dillon – 7<sup>th</sup> place – Basic Office Systems and Procedures

Mallory Parmley – Statesmen Award (a community service award)

Veronica, Kayla, and Mallory will be attending the National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. in May!

## Valhalla

This newsletter is produced by the Viking Communication Class of Whitehall High School. Students in grades nine through twelve learn various skills producing this newsletter. Writing, photography, layout, interviewing, and communication skills are just some of the advantages students gain from participating in this class.

## Valhalla Newsletter

### Staff:

**Editors:** Kassey Lohman and Hannah Zwemer

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