



SUSSEX TECH'S *Expressions*

Fall 2004



JROTC walks to help seniors

For the second year, Sussex Technical High School JROTC cadets choose the Governor's Walk for its Community Service project. Sponsored by Sussex County Senior Services (CHEER), the walk benefits programs for senior citizens in Sussex County. The battalion traveled to Rehoboth on September 17 to participate in the annual Beach Day walk and were recognized for collecting the most money for the non-profit agency—\$1,235.70. They are shown in photo with Governor Ruth Ann Minner, Lt. Gov. John Carney, and Executive Director of CHEER Arlene Littleton.

Cadets receiving Community Service ribbons were: C/MAJ Sophia Bay, C/CPT Amy Lewis, C/SFC Jeff Lecates, C/SFC Samantha Roche, C/PVT Joshua Dill, C/PVT Michelle Hamlin, C/PVT Amber Jester, C/PVT Ally Mohun, C/PVT Axel Moore, C/PVT William Schuller, C/PVT Justin Williams, C/PVT Tiffany Moorman, C/PVT Keith Perry, C/PVT Michael Skis, C/PVT Corey Phoebus, C/PVT Alexandra Stamat, C/CPT Ben Evans, C/CSM Ceasar Skis, C/SFC Jill Willey, C/SFC Dontez Collins, C/PVT Michelle Gorman, C/PVT Justin Hopkins, C/PVT Edward Meade, C/PVT Michael Mulrine, C/PVT Ashlee Payton, C/PVT Calvin Yelverton, C/PVT Whitney Adams, C/PVT Schuyler Livingston, C/PVT Elizabeth Rix, C/PVT Charlisa Duncan and C/PVT Justin Brown. The cadet collecting the most money in the battalion was C/PVT Michelle Hamlin who collected \$130.00. JROTC instructors are MAJ (Ret.) Ben Jester and SGT (Ret.) Luis Melendez.

SkillsUSA Quiz Bowl team wins national honors

A team of four graduates of the Class of 2004 from Sussex Technical High School were awarded the Bronze Medal for their performance in the Quiz Bowl competition at the 40th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference and SkillsUSA Championships held this summer in Kansas City, Missouri. Members of the team are 2004 graduates Anthony Baron, Mike Danz, Brian King, and Andrew Harp. The team was coached by Ms. Donna Johnson, a mathematics teacher at Sussex Tech.

The Quiz Bowl tests a team's ability to quickly respond to questions covering the areas of academic knowledge, professional development and current events. The event places multiple member teams into a competition to determine which team can answer the largest number of questions correctly. At the orientation, each member takes a 50-question written test. The scores are averaged into the active scores. The active rounds (preliminary and finals) are 100 questions each.

SkillsUSA is the national organization for students in trade, industrial, technical and health occupations education. Over 4,200 outstanding students from throughout the country joined the 77 trade, technical and leadership competitions. In order to qualify for the national competition, the students competed in local and state contests. The state gold medal winners advanced to the national

SkillsUSA Championships.

The winning team in the Quiz Bowl was from Tennessee and the team from New Jersey took home the silver medal.

Also winning national honors was junior Alexandra Stamat who placed 10th in the Customer Service competition.



National Skills USA Bronze Medal Quiz Bowl team includes Anthony Baron, Mike Danz, Brian King and Andrew Harp, shown with their coach, Ms. Donna Johnson.

Electronics student takes part in military communications international operation

As hurricanes pelted the eastern and gulf coasts of the United States this season, electrical wires and communications towers were destroyed. Emergency and government agencies had to rely on amateur radio operators to keep in touch with all of their offices across the country. Amateur radio operators have also assisted at the Democratic National Convention in Boston, the Republican National Convention in New York, and during the attack on America on September 11th. Their duties range from providing back-up communications, monitoring various frequencies and gathering intelligence on anything of a suspicious nature.

Better known as "hams," these amateur radio operators willingly give their time to undergo various training exercises so that they can be ready at a moment's notice. One such exercise was operation "Grecian Firebolt" held at Fort Meade, Maryland this past summer. Throughout the two-week

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Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER

- 2 Election Day, NO SCHOOL
 3 End of First Marking Period
 4 Return Day, Content and LDP
 EARLY DISMISSAL, 10 a.m.
 5 Homecoming, Football vs. Milford
 6 8th Grade Open House, 8:30 a.m.
 8 School Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.
 11 Veteran's Day, NO SCHOOL
 12 First Marking Period Report Cards
 Senior Night, Football vs. Polytech
 15 Winter Sports Practice Begins
 17 STAR Team Meeting, 7 p.m.
 18 Josten's Senior Supplies and Class Rings
 23 LDP
 24-26 Thanksgiving Break, NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER

- 7 LDP
 7 & 8 Second Marking Period Progress Reports
 9 & 10 Santa's Workshop
 13 School Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.
 17-19 Drama Dinner Theater, "A Country
 Christmas Carol"
 23-31 Winter Break, NO SCHOOL

JANUARY

- 3 School Reopens
 10 School Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.
 17 Martin Luther King Day, NO SCHOOL
 18-21 Mid-Term Exams,
 EARLY DISMISSAL, 11:30 a.m.
 19 STAR Team Meeting, 7 p.m.
 21 End Second Marking Period



Justin Kates (right) works with John Scoggin, Jr. (a volunteer from Wilmington) inside the MARS Emergency Communications Unit at Fort Meade, Md., during Operation Grecian Firebolt.

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exercise, units from across the United States supported communications for four other large-scale exercises based around the country involving quartermaster, medical, chemical, and National Guard Army and Air Guard units. Dozens of Military Affiliates Radio System (MARS) team members from throughout the country participated, including the MARS unit headquartered in Wilmington, Delaware.

Sixteen-year-old Justin Kates of Lewes is one of the unit's members and participated in two days of Grecian Firebolt. The exercise provided the teenager an opportunity to experiment with new technologies and to participate in simulated terrorist acts across the United States and other countries. It involved civilian MARS members across the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Germany, as well as Army MARS members in Italy, Iraq, Greece, Kuwait and Belgium.

"It was the biggest communications exercise the military has all year," said the Sussex Technical High School junior. His experience at Fort Meade was featured in the September 2004 issue of the national trade magazine, *CQ, The Radio Amateur's Journal*.

Justin has been interested in amateur radio for over a year - since beginning his studies in Electronics Technology at Sussex Tech. Because he is under age 18, he is considered an auxiliary member of the MARS unit. But his age has not deterred his enthusiasm for amateur radio.

"I love amateur radio, and wanted to do more with it," Justin explained about joining the MARS unit. He spends over three hours a week attending meetings centered on amateur radio and has a fully equipped all band radio in his home on which he can communicate with others around the world.

Justin is one of 15 electronics students at Sussex Tech who possess an amateur radio license. He is the president of the Sussex Tech Amateur Radio Club and coordinated the club's first annual Emergency Community Day last spring which tested the interoperability of the emergency communications organizations of Sussex County during a disaster. The club is now working on setting up a MARS station at Sussex Tech in cooperation with the JROTC program at the school.

Santa's Workshop comes Dec. 9 and 10

The Class of 2006 will host a Santa's Workshop on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 9 and 10 from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. It will be held in the common's area outside the cafeteria. The purpose of the workshop is to provide an opportunity for high school students and staff to purchase holiday gifts for their family and friends.

Vendors can rent tables at \$20 each (sorry, no electricity) by calling Nancy Massaro at 856-0961.

BLOOD DONOR REQUIREMENTS

- Age:** 17 years or older.
- Weight:** Minimum of 110 lbs.
- Good Health:** No cold, sore throat or flu symptoms.
 No recent major surgery.
 No history of hepatitis.
 No tattoo or body piercing within the last 12 months.
- Eating:** Be sure to eat a good meal within three hours before giving blood.

Social Security Number is Required.

- Who Needs Blood?**
- Auto accident victims
 - Kids with leukemia
 - Newborn babies
 - People having surgery
 - Cancer patients
 - Someone you know



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