

Botkins students excel in Power of the Pen tourney

BOTKINS — Two Botkins students won medals at the district Power of the Pen tournament at Botkins School Feb. 9.

Olivia Ewry won 12th place overall as a seventh-grade writer. Amber Ferguson received 13th place overall honors as an eighth-grade writer. Five students earned

the privilege to compete at the regional tournament at Fort Loramie Middle School on March 23: Crystal Altstaetter, Ewry, Ferguson, Ali'sia Hoskins, and Lillian Koenig.

Twelve Botkins junior high students, coached by Paula Owen, competed with students from 16 area schools.

Students participating at the seventh-grade level were Jamie Carducci, McKenzie Depinet, Ewry, Allison Hatfield, Courtney Hufford, and Koenig.

Students participating at the eighth-grade level were Altstaetter, Ferguson, Hoskins, Holly Landreth, Isaac Oen, and Joe Shuga.



Photo provided

Balloon for the birthday girl

Scarfie, the mascot of the Shelby County Animal Rescue Foundation, presents a balloon to Kennedy Hughes (right) during a party celebrating her 10th birthday in February as Mariah Spradlin (far left) looks on. Kennedy requested that guests at her party give gifts to the animals at the Shelby County Animal Shelter instead of to her. The shelter received dog and cat food, treats, animal shampoo and money. Kennedy is the daughter of Terri Hughes and Mark Hughes, both of Sidney. Mariah is the daughter of Jeremy and Renee Spradlin, of Sidney.

Recipe of the Day

A delicious treat that was submitted for competition in the 2012 Shelby County Fair.

CHEWY OATMEAL COOKIES

- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1 cup oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 cups oatmeal
- 1/2 cup nuts
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup dried cranberries

Beat sugar, oil, and eggs. Mix dry ingredients. Add vanilla, oats, and nuts. Add raisins and cranberries and mix well. Bake 9 minutes in a 350 degree oven on ungreased cookie sheets.

Laura Schulze

Members get free trees

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb. — The Arbor Day Foundation will give 10, free, white flowering, dogwood trees to people who join the organization during March.

The trees will be shipped post paid at the right time for planting until May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member, send \$10 to Ten Free Dogwood Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, or join online at arborday.org/march before March 30.

Deadline nears for Kiwanis scholarships

The Kiwanis Club of Sidney has announced a March 21 deadline for receipt of applications for a number of scholarships that the club will award to graduating seniors of local high schools who reside in the Sidney City Schools district.

High School, Lehman Catholic High School, Christian Academy High School or Upper Valley Career Center are eligible to apply for scholarships totaling \$8,000. The Kiwanis Club will award the Vera DoLean Ginn Scholarship, the Robert and Delores Peters Scholarship, four Ki-

wanis Club Academic Scholarships, and up to two scholarships meant only for Sidney High School Key Club students. Applications, to be administered by the Community Foundation of Shelby County, are available online at www.commfoun.org.

LET YOURSELF GO

FRIDAY

The Shelby County Trustees and Fiscal Officers Association hosts its annual fish fry at the Shelby County Fairgrounds Activity Building from 5 to 8 p.m. The all-you-can-eat event is open to the public. Prices: \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and younger. Tickets are available from any trustee or fiscal officer, by phone at 693-3093 and at the door.

The Senior Center of Sidney and Shelby County, 304 S. West Ave., offers a spring dance at 7 p.m. Music by Bill Corfield. Admission: \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members. Open to the public.

The Blues, Jazz and Folk Music Society presents the River City Blues Festival tonight and from noon into the evening Saturday at the Lafayette Hotel in downtown Marietta. For information, visit bjfm.org.

Today is the deadline to register to participate in a card party which will be at Elmwood Assisted Living, Amsterdam Road at Walnut Street, New Bremen, on March 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. Refreshments and door prizes. To register, call (419) 977-2711, ext 1200.

YMCA Camp Willson in Bellefontaine offers Women's Wellness Weekend today through Sunday for cancer survivors and their friends and families. Fee: \$135. To register, call (800) 423-0427.

SATURDAY

Gateway Arts Council presents "Snow White" in the Cameo Theatre, 304 S. West Ave., at 11 a.m. Free craft at 10 a.m. for ticket holders. Tickets: \$6 adults, \$4 children

at 498-2787.

Brukner Nature Center, 5995 Horseshoe Bend Road, Troy, offers a night hike through the woods at 8 p.m. Free. (937) 698-6493.

The Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, 301 W. Main St., Troy, presents the Orchid Ensemble in concert on ancient Chinese instruments at 7:30 p.m. Free. The center also offers a class, "SmartPhone Photography: A Studio in Your Pocket," taught by Brad Reed from 9 to 11 a.m. Fee: \$40. (937) 339-0457.

Brukner Nature Center, 5995 Horseshoe Bend Road, Troy, hosts a night hike at 8 p.m. and a public star gaze at 9 p.m. Free.

Botkins High School Music Boosters host a chicken dinner at the school. Carry-out available from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Dine in from 4 to 7 p.m. \$7 advance sale tickets. \$7.50 at the door. Chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, roll, coleslaw, applesauce, veggie, drink and dessert. Delivery available for senior citizens and shut-ins. 693-4241.

The Versailles Knights of Columbus hosts a dinner and concert featuring music by the GGs. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. Concert at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25 per couple, \$15 per single at (937) 638-2196. Concert only tickets available after 7:30 p.m. at the door, \$5.

The National Museum of the U.S. Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Fairborn hosts Family Day: Kite Mania from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. For information, visit <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123337172>.

Spring Creek Christian Church, Miami Shelby Road East and Wiles Road, hosts a bean supper from 4 to 6 p.m. Donation is \$4 adult, \$2 children.

Amos Memorial Public Library, 230 E. North St., offers a St. Patrick's Day program for children 4 through fifth grade and their grandparents at 11:30 a.m. Irish stories, arts and crafts, games and green snacks. Free. 492-8354.

Sidney's Third Saturday Market at First Christian Church, 320 Russell Road, will offer baked goods, jams and jellies, crafts, jewelry, purses, soaps, fabrics and produce from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The church's Team Joe Ward Relay For Life will sell snacks and drinks. 492-5025.

Cinemark, 1020 Garbry Road, Piqua, screens the opera, "Francesca Da Rimini," noon to 4 p.m. Metropolitan Opera Live Series. Tickets: \$15-\$22.

SUNDAY

American Czechoslovakian Club, 922 Valley St., Dayton, hosts a dance from 3 to 7 p.m. featuring the music of the Sorgenbrecher Band and an Irish dance group performing at the first break. \$14 per person includes beer, wine,

soft drinks and snacks. Food available. Public welcome. (937) 287-4275 or visit <http://www.accdayton.com/>.

The Garst Museum, 2205 N. Broadway, Greenville, presents a talk by John Winkler, author of "Fallen Timbers 1794: The U. S. Army's First Victory," at 2 p.m. The talk is free but there is an admission charge to tour the museum.

MONDAY

The Amos Memorial Public Library, 230 E. North St., presents a talk on astronomy by retired NASA astronomer Kevin Manning at 6:30 p.m. Weather permitting, the audience will be able to look through a telescope at the rings of Saturn following the talk. Free.

The A.J. Wise Memorial Library in Fort Loramie hosts an Easter storytime with stories, finger plays, crafts and snacks for children 3 1/2 through kindergarten at 6:30 p.m.

The New Knoxville Public Library will screen a classic movie at 1 p.m. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

The Francis J. Stallo Memorial Library in Minster will have an Easter craft for children 4 to first grade at 3:30 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Ad-

vance registration is required.

TUESDAY

Today is the deadline to enter the March Madness pool at the New Bremen Public Library. Completed bracket forms must be turned in by 7 p.m. Prizes are gift cards to Dairy Queen. All ages may participate.

The Francis J. Stallo Memorial Library in Minster will hold a duct tape workshop for girls in grades 3 to 6 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

The American Legion Auxiliary hosts a card party at the post hall, 1265 N. Fourth Ave., from 1 to 4 p.m. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 and includes refreshments.

The WACO Museum, 1865 S. County Road 25A, Troy, presents a talk by Walt Hoy, "Catch a Falling Star," about catching spy satellites in mid-air over the Pacific Ocean. Free. (937) 335-WACO or www.wacoairmuseum.org.

The National Museum of the U.S. Air Force at Wright-Patterson

Air Force Base in Fairborn presents a talk by Col. (Ret.) Gaillard R. Peck Jr, "America's Secret MiG Squadron," at 7:30 p.m. Free. For information, visit <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123339176>.

The Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center's Secret Arboretum, 1680 Madison Ave., Wooster, offers a dormant pruning workshop from 8 a.m. to noon. Fee: \$50. Learn to prune young trees and shrubs. For information on registration, email cochran.7@osu.edu.

Cinemark, 1020 Garbry Road, Piqua, screens the opera, "Parsifal," from 6:30 p.m. to 12:15 a.m. in the Metropolitan Opera Encore Series. Tickets: \$14-\$20.

MARCH 21

The New Knoxville Public Library stages a Minute to Win It Tween Challenge from 3 to 4 p.m. for children in grades 5 and older.

The New Bremen Public Library Adult Craft Pinterest Party will be at the library at 1 p.m.



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