



We can envision a community of God never preparing for war again, but using what were once the weapons of war to produce food for humankind.

Lois Barrett

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

Isaiah 2:3, NRSV

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News & Notes

DECEMBER 2010

Choosing . . .

It's crunch time. Ahead of us is a new trimester, basketball season, Yuletide, family gatherings, Church programs and jobs. What have I missed? Students and staff are stressed out. Academics are last on the list. The school continues to add activities. No one wants to make a decision about what to cut. Parents and students don't want to cut anything either. Is the exhaustion all worth it?

Just as government regulates trans fats, smoking bans, and Happy Meals, does the school need to regulate activities? We

are here to expose students to a variety of options and activities, but not at the extreme cost of mental and physical health. Every time we suggest



Community Service Day

giving something up, there is gnashing of teeth because it is the one activity at which a cer-

tain child excels.

Planning ahead is required for such busy schedules. Adequate meals and rest are necessary. Respect for a decision is required. If parents and students have decided not to participate in an activity, then their decision needs to be respected - no bullying or harassing by other students or their parents.

Please, carefully consider options and priorities for your family.

Pam Tieszen

A Renaissance Yuletide, December 16 and 17, 6:30 p.m.

The annual Christmas musical event at Freeman Academy features the choirs and bands of all students in grades 5-12. Please see attached letter for more detailed information.

Attire for grades 5 - 8: A letter from Mrs. Kris Carlson was emailed or mailed at an earlier date. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Attire for grades 9 - 12: All of these students should furnish their own pair of black footed tights. Girls need black ballet style slippers and boys should wear black dress shoes. Contact Cindy Graber at 925-4237, ext. 226 or cgraber@freemanacademy.org with any questions.

Poinsettias-Once again Yuletide will have red and white

poinsettias from Fensel's Greenhouse as part of the décor. Each year we offer parents the option to buy plants after the concert at a price of \$15 each. They are lovely, big plants! Please contact Amy Hofer Vetch at ahofer@freemanacademy.org or 925-4237, ext. 240 to reserve your plants. Please indicate the number and color of plants you would like.

Enclosures

- December Menu and Activity Calendars—Subject to Change
- Yuletide Letter & Ticket Order Form for Parents/Guardians
- Flu Shot Information & Parent/Guardian Signature Forms
- Winter Weather Preparedness Info from SD Office of Emergency Management
- September 16, 2010 Board Minutes

Alumni Fun & Fellowship



Varsity Volleyball Team

Current staff, students and families are invited to join alumni and friends for a night of fun and fellowship on Monday, December 27 at 7:00 p.m. in Sterling

Hall. There will be a women's basketball game first and a men's game at 8:00 p.m. Teams are formed after people arrive, and current students and staff are welcome to participate if we don't get

enough alumni that want to play! There will be drawings for alumni gifts and refreshments for all who attend to watch or play. Hope to see you there! Contact Vernetta Waltner with any questions.

Strategic Plan Update

Task Force groups will be meeting on Tuesday, December 7 to move into the next phase of our strategic plan. They will be assessing and evaluating the five main profile statements on **1) enrollment, 2) facilities, 3) cur-**

riculum, 4) co-curricular activities, and 5) staff created by the strategic planning committee and board of directors. We would like representation from parents, staff, alumni and community on these groups. If you have not

been contacted but would be willing to serve on one of these groups, please contact Vernetta Waltner at vwaltner@freemanacademy.org or 925-4237, ext. 235 for more details.

Office Volunteers

Who are those wonderful individuals helping with important day-to-day FA communication needs (aka office volunteers)? Lori Ortman (Karina's mom), Tracy Voigt (Derian's mom), Lynne Riley (Chris' mom), Angie VanDiepen (Michael & Austin's mom), and Elizabeth Janssen (Calvin & William's mom) help answer the phones, post notes for students, run copies, update calendars and try to have

the answers to all phone calls dealing with everything from "what hotels does Freeman have?" to "what is this year's Schmeckfest musical?"

These faithful volunteers are to be commended for their willingness to pinch hit as needed. They need to be brave enough to ask the caller to "spell their name" because not all of our volunteers grew up in Freeman, as well as learn the technicalities of running a state-of-the-art copier which

requires 10 steps when the volunteer only needed one copy for a customer. The most admired characteristic is their willingness to show up again the next week and be prepared for whatever might be tossed into their "to do" basket. The next time you call in or happen to see one of these volunteers in the community or at a Freeman Academy event, please thank them for all they do.

Cindy R. Boese

These faithful volunteers are to be commended for their willingness to pinch hit as needed.

Nuttanicha Wungsuk-somjai and Karnthida "Honey" Sethsawad performing traditional Thai Dance



thanks to Delvonna Wentz, Gary Tschetter, Kerwin Graber, Jeri and John Butkus, Krista Graber and Kristi Hofer for their hard work with the

Auction Report

We would like to express special

annual benefit auction that was held on Saturday, November 6. The final numbers are not in, but we think the total raised will be more than last year. Sonja Waltner was the winner of the hot air balloon ride.

Thanks also to the individuals that helped committee members during the night of the auction. It was GREAT to see so many families represented in attendance. Together we can make a difference!

BOOSTER CLUB ACTIVITIES

Thanks to Brad and Kris Carlson for chairing the soccer concessions this past fall. We raised approximately \$350.

We need chairpersons for the following activities that will take place this winter:



- Pork BBQ on January 4
 - A Pizza Fest or Chinese Buffet meal on January 27
 - Fruit Sales in February/March
- Please contact Vernetta Waltner if you are willing to organize workers, food, set-up and clean-up for any of these committees.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY ADDITIONS

Please add Prem Sirikasemsuk "Joe" (pronounced Joey-grade 10) & Amornlerd Sukmark "Mark" (grade 11) from Thailand to your FA directory. Both students reside in the dorm.

SCHOOL POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

In the event of inclement weather or other emergencies, school postponements and cancellations will be announced on WNAX Radio (570 AM), KSFY TV, KELO TV, and KDLT TV. The close line is also published on the KSFY and KELO websites. The decision to postpone or cancel school is made by the president of the board and the superintendent/principal. Late starts allow students and staff more

time for safe travels.

Remind your student drivers to allow extra travel time even on late start days. Remember to create an emergency plan with your children in the event of an early dismissal due to inclement weather.

ANGEL TREE OPPORTUNITY

Lillie Koerner wins State Cross Country Meet

(Note: this information was also emailed to parents on Monday, 11/15/10.)

We are happy to be included in the Angel

Tree Project which gives families or classes the opportunity to help a child have a brighter Christmas than they may have otherwise. Freeman Academy's Angel Tree will be located in the Administration Building, lower level. The decorations contain the age and sex of the child (boy or girl) as well as gift ideas this child has indicated on a wish list.

If you are interested, please take a card (or have your student bring a card home), purchase a gift & wrap it for the child. Then, please note what you wrapped on the original Angel Tree tag, attach it to the outside of the wrapped gift placing both the gift and tag under the Angel Tree by December 3. Thank you for including your family in this gift of giving.

BUSINESS OFFICE CLOSED

The FA Business Office will be closed during the Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. Please call ahead if you are planning a visit to FA in order to ensure the person you would like to see is available. Thank you.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR—2010

I would like to thank everyone who helped support our Book Fair. We sold \$414 of books and received \$206 worth of free books for our library. Our sales were up from last year so our students will enjoy more books for their reading enjoyment.



Middle School Girls' Basketball

Your support of our library directly affects our students. Look for our next Scholastic Book Fair in October 2011.

Cindy Graber, Librarian

SENIOR PARENTS

FAFSA Webinars will be held on January 13 from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. and Tuesday, January 18 from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Register at www.mygreatlakes.org/fafsa2011

Scholarship opportunities can be found on the Freeman Academy website under Resources.

GENEROUS OFFERING!

A most generous offering of \$1363 for the Creative Arts Fund was collected during the vocal concert on October 21. Thank you for the continued support of the students, school and all of our programs.



5th-6th Grade Drum Circle

Remind your student drivers to allow extra travel time even on late start days.

Instrumental Music News

REGION I YANKTON HONOR BAND



Saxophobia and FA Band

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for **23** of our FA students. These students were selected to be in the Region I Middle and High School Honor Band Festival which will be held in Yankton on Monday, November 22.

This event is open to band students in grades 7-12. Last year's all-state high school and middle school band students, except this year's freshmen, were automatically accepted for this event (these students are marked with an *) and the rest were chosen by a recorded audition. Students rehearse all day with guest conductors and perform a free concert for the public in the Yankton High School Auditorium that evening. The director for the middle school band is Brian LeMaster from Parkston High School, and Dr. Jonathon Alvis from the University of South Dakota will direct the high school band.

Participating in the High School Honor Band from Freeman Academy are:

Kristin Waltner, senior daughter of Don and Sonja Waltner, 2nd chair flute; **Makayla Epp**, junior daughter of John and Beth Epp, 4th chair flute; **Karina Ortman***, senior daughter of Mark and Lori Ortman, 1st chair oboe; **Chris Miller**, sophomore son of Craig and Jenelle Miller, 2nd chair bassoon; **Lauren Unruh**, senior daughter of James and Sharla Unruh, 6th chair clarinet; **Ben Brockmueller**, sophomore son of Lee and Marilyn Brockmueller, 3rd chair alto saxophone; **Chelsea Wentz**, sophomore daughter of Doug and Delvonna Wentz, 1st chair tenor sax; **Brittney Ries**, junior daughter of Duane and Donna Ries, 9th chair trumpet; **Lillie**



FA Band

Koerner*, senior daughter of Todd and Suzanne Koerner, 1st chair French horn; **Matthew Graber**, sophomore son of Kerwin and Robin Graber, 4th chair French horn; **Caroline Schrag**, sophomore daughter of Dennis Lehmann and Dr. Eloise Schrag, 5th chair French horn; **Christina Hofer**, junior daughter of Todd and Marnette Hofer, 6th chair trombone; **Lea Graber**, sophomore daughter of Stewart and Krista Graber, 3rd chair baritone; and **Ben Carlson**, sophomore son of Brad and Kris Carlson, 2nd chair tuba.

Freeman Academy students participating in the Middle School Honor Band were:

Hannah Yoder, 7th grade daughter of Maynard and Barb Yoder, 1st chair oboe; **Sarah Miller**, 7th grade daughter of Craig and Jenelle Miller, 3rd chair clarinet; **Clara Koerner***, 8th grade daughter of Todd and Suzanne Koerner, 1st chair bass clarinet; **Brooklyn Ries***, 8th grade daughter of Duane and Donna Ries, 1st chair trumpet; **Emily Epp**, 8th grade daughter of John and Beth Epp, 1st chair French horn; **Bethany Wollman***, 7th grade daughter of Craig and Lois Wollman, 1st chair trombone; **Ryan Haggerty**, 7th grade son of Dan and Heather Haggerty, 2nd chair trombone; **Brennan Waltner***, 8th grade son of Don and Sonja Waltner, 1st chair baritone; & **Olivia Boese**, 8th grade daughter of Ted and Cindy Boese, percussion.

YULETIDE

The 5th and 6th grade band will make its debut on December

16 and 17 for our Renaissance Yuletide. The concert band, grades 7-12, will also perform those evenings.

PEP BAND

The FA Pep Band will be playing at most of the home basketball games beginning on December 10. Parents will be informed by email if a decision is made not to have the pep band play because of conflicts.

Pep band is a performance requirement of band students, so parents must notify Mrs. Ries at least 24 hours in advance or more if their child will not be at the game. Exceptions include illness and emergencies. Please note that Mrs. Ries needs to hear from parents – not only from students on game day! Let's support our teams!

Dec. 10 – Alcester-Hudson (DH)
Dec. 18 – Walthill (DH)
Dec. 20 – Andes Central (Girls)
Jan. 4 – Menno (DH)
Jan. 6 – Andes Central (Boys)
Jan. 11 – Marion (DH)
Jan. 14 – Dakota Christian (Girls)
Jan. 21 – Centerville (DH)
Jan. 27 – Irene-Wakonda (DH)
Feb. 7 – Flandreau Indian School (Boys)
Feb. 15 – Canistota (Girls)

HIGH SCHOOL ALL STATE BAND AUDITIONS

Auditions are scheduled in Sioux Falls for January 22. Students must have a solo prepared, their chromatic scale memorized, major and minor scales prepared, and terms studied. Parents, please send an email or short note stating that your child will be auditioning.

MOLE DAY CELEBRATION

The junior/ senior chemistry class celebrated Mole Day on October 25. Mole day is based on Avogadro's number which is 6.02×10^{23} . Mole day is actually supposed to be celebrated on October 23 (10/23) but this year that date fell on a Saturday. Each student was supposed to get up at 6:02 a.m. on Saturday to honor Avogadro. The chemistry class split into groups of two to three people and each group had to do a "mole" related project. One of these projects was mole jokes and puns. Question: Why did Avogadro stop going to the chiropractor on October 24? Answer: because he was only tense until October 23. This is an example of science humor. Mole piñatas were

also made by some groups, along with different assortments of mole themed foods, and even some MOLE t-shirts were worn. Don't worry - no actual moles were hurt in the process.

By Brittney Ries and Jaime Tschetter

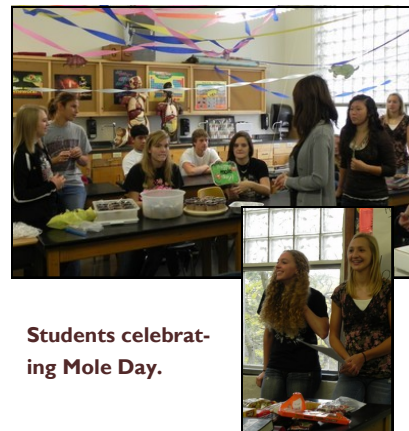
AUGIE SCIENCE DAY

On October 15, the Freeman Academy chemistry class joined 300 other high school students at Augustana College's Science Day. The morning was filled with interactive experiments and fascinating lectures on chemistry and physics-related topics.

The chemistry session involved experiments concerning spectroscopy, sound waves, fire, and chemical reactions that resulted in mysterious glowing solutions. Angular

momentum, moment of inertia, and the Monkey Gun were demonstrated during the physics session. All experiments were accompanied by helpful explanations from the experimenters which were current physics and chemistry students at Augie. Students then broke into small groups to hear different science lectures from Augustana's professors. Many learned how to break codes in "Cryptography: Past and Present," while others discussed atomic structure and anti-matter in "Physics at an Abandoned Goldmine."

By Lauren Unruh and Kristin Waltner



Students celebrating Mole Day.

Mole day is based on Avogadro's number, which is 6.02×10^{23}

TRIP News

As a reminder, TRIP cards at Norm's Pharmacy are handled slightly differently than the ones at the other local businesses. Norm's has a computerized system in which a credit account is opened for each customer joining this program. Holding a TRIP card will prompt store personnel to apply purchases accordingly, and the remaining balance will appear on the receipt. Credit accounts can be replenished by future payments to TRIP, but no additional cards will be issued to on-going customers. Also, please indicate at the time the order is placed if the card will be used/held by someone other than immediate family members.

National companies offer gift cards in varying denominations. Please ensure that a denomination ordered is actually available for the company of choice.

We want to challenge TRIP participants to "go green." Some ideas may include:

--When downloading the order forms from our website, run them front and back instead of on two separate sheets of paper.

--If an order is only local or only national, run the needed form on the blank side of a used sheet of paper.

--Reduce waste by submitting your order and payment in an unsealed envelope with your name on the outside. That same envelope can then be used to fill your order.

--Using a small, zippered cloth bag for handling both transactions of the orders is perpetual recycling! Elizabeth Janssen had this idea and uses one!

--When returning Ampride cards

for reloading, please avoid writing on them. Other ways to keep track of the balance would be to save the receipt until the next use or attach a sticky note to the card.

Please note the following adjustments in the TRIP schedule for Christmas:

<u>Orders Due</u>	<u>Pick Up Days</u>
Friday, Dec 3	Friday, Dec 10
Wednesday, Dec 15	Wednesday, Dec 22

**Office closed for Christmas Break
December 24, 2010 – January 3, 2011**

Friday, Jan 7	Friday, Jan 14
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Community Service Day



Upcoming Events

* Subject to Change

NOVEMBER

- 25-26 Thanksgiving—No School
 29 BBB Practice Starts
 Board Meeting 7:00 MH
 30 Flu Shots 2:00 - 3:00 Link
 MSGB (H) v Vib/Hurley 6:30

DECEMBER

- 1 SDSU Rep. 2:15 Chapel
 2 MSGB (H) v Centerville @6:30
 3-4 State Oral Interp. @ Aberdeen
 Private Reservation PH &SH
 4 Private Reservation DH evening
 MSGBB Ir/Wak Tny @ Irene TBA
 6 Yuletide Ticket Reservations Due
 Task Force Mtg 6:00 - 7:30 DH
 Community Mtg 10:00 CH
 10 GBB/BBB (H) v Alc/Hudson JV's @ 5:00
 13 MSGBB (H) Ir/Wak 6:15
 14 Early Dismissal 2:50, Staff mtg 3:00
 MH
 GBB/BBB @ ORR 4:15 GJV, BJV, GV, BV
 16-17 Yuletide (Grades 5-12) 6:30 pm PH
 (Advance Reservations Required)
 18 MSGBB Tny @ Viborg 9:00
 GBB/BBB (H) Walthill JV's 5:00
 20 HS Choir to Salem Menn. Home 1:30
 GBB (H) Andes Central 6:30
 Private Reservation FH (tent)

- 21 Board Meeting 7:00 MH
 23 Noon Dismissal
 24 No School—Christmas Break Begins
 25 & 26 Private Reservation FH
 27 Alumni Holiday Gathering 6:30-9:30 pm
 SH
 Private Reservation FH

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
 3 School Resumes
 4 GBB/BBB JV (H) Menno 5:00
 6 BBB (H) Andes Central 6:15
 8 GBB/BBB @ Mitchell Christian 1:00 BV,
 GV, BJV, GJV
 11 Early Dismissal 2:50, Staff mtg 3:00
 MH
 GBB/BBB (H) Marion JV's 5:00
 12 Mid-Term
 13 Finance Comm. Mtg 7:30 CH
 14 GBB (H) Dakota Christian 6:15
 15 BBB TV Classic @ Centerville TBA
 17 Late Start – 10:30 NCA Mtgs.
 18 BBB @ Canistota 6:15
 ESC Mtg. 6:00 pm Library
 20 GBB/BBB @ Baltic JV's 4:00
 21 GBB/BBB (H) Centerville JV's 5:00
 21-22 JH Honors Choir @ Rapid City
 22 All State Band Auditions Sioux Falls
 23 FA Music @ Salem Zion

- 24 No School P/S/T Conf. 10-6 DH
 25 GBB/BBB @ Ethan JV's 4:30
 27 GBB/BBB (H) Ir/Wak JV's 5:00
 29 GBB TV Classic @ Centerville 4:00

- ADM Administration (Classroom Building)
 CH Chapel
 FH Frontier Hall (dormitory)
 MH Music Hall
 PH Pioneer Hall
 SH Sterling Hall
 VisCtr Visitor Center
 Arbor Aboretum
 Amph Amphitheater

Calendar Reminders

- November 25 & 26 Thanksgiving Break
 December 6 Yuletide Reservations
 Due
 December 14 2:50 Dismissal; 3:00
 Staff Mtg
 December 16 & 17 Yuletide 6:30 (Grades
 5 – 12)
 Dec 24 – Jan 2 Christmas Break
 January 3 School Resumes
 January 11 2:50 Dismissal; 3:00
 Staff Mtg
 January 12 Mid-Term of 2nd
 Trimester
 January 17 10:30 Start; NCA
 Meetings 8:00 – 10:00
 January 24 No School – Parent/
 Student/Teacher
 Conferences 10:00 –
 6:00

FREEMAN ACADEMY

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Bring Learning to Life*

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Dorm News

This year we are hosting 9 students in the Freeman Academy Dormitory: one from Taiwan, three from South Korea, four from Thailand and one from Tea, South Dakota. Two of these students just arrived from Thailand this month, Prem Sirikasemsuk (Joey) and Amornlerd Sukmark (Mark).

Our students are very active at the Academy. Nutt, Joe and SiBeom are in chamber choir; Jump, Jun and Stella are in concert choir; Joe plays trombone in the band, James was a cross country runner; Joe was a soccer player; Nutt was manager for the volleyball team; Jun, James, SiBeom, Mark and Joey are planning to play basketball; Nutt and SiBeom were in the cast of "Little Women."

We attend church as a group at one of the local churches each Sunday and then go out to eat together. We often go to Yankton or Sioux Falls for the noon meal and some shopping. It takes a lot of grocery shopping to feed this crew!

The dormitory is closed for school breaks: Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter. In the months that do not have a holiday break, we close the dormitory for one weekend and allow the students to spend time with local families experiencing American family life, culture and activities. The

purpose of these host family visits is to enhance their immersion in the American culture. If you would be willing to open your home to a student for a weekend or a school break, please give Deborah Gray, "Dorm Mom," a call at 605-925-4289 or 605-371-6736. Again the purpose is not for the host families to function as an entertainment committee but to expose the students to American family life. They should participate in your normal activities – church, chores, meals, activities, etc.

If you would like to visit the dormitory and meet the students, please let Deborah know. We would love to have you visit.