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Smack Talk



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 30, 2013

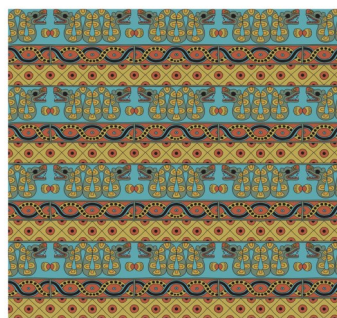
Experiencing Learning by S. Mills

The foreign language programs at Smackover High School offer more than an opportunity to learn how to speak a different language. They enrich that opportunity with experiences which the students are not likely to soon forget.

Spanish is taught by Jennifer Herrera, who is also head of the Spanish Club and the Spanish National Honor Society. One of the classes that she teaches is called Foreign Language Exchange. It is a semester long introductory course into Spanish geared toward 7th and 8th grade students. They are taught about the culture of Spanish speaking people.

Currently, Mrs. Herrera's Foreign Language Exchange class are studying the Aztec Indians. They will be participating in a video project which will be set as a newscast covering the fall of the Aztec Empire. Each student will have a role as an actual

Aztec Indian from that time period and will share their opinions and experiences which happened when the Aztec Empire fell to the Spaniards. "They have to take on the perspective [of] the role



they are playing and...put themselves in their shoes no matter what their personal opinion is." Mrs. Herrera shared.

French is taught by Sonia Barker. This year's classes are French I, so the stu-

dents taking the class are new to the language. The classes rotate each year, so the students will be able to follow up next year with French II.

Mrs. Barker also heads up the French Club and the French National Honor Society. She shared with us that the French Club has recently been in contact with Terry's Finer Foods, located in Little Rock. They are planning to dine on an authentic French meal soon. She said, "Many of our students have never even heard of *escargot* or *croque monsieur*, so this experience should be an educational and culturally expanding one."

The French Club will be participating in fundraisers to help pay for their authentic French meal. The community's support would be greatly appreciated; "We say *Merci beaucoup* already!" said Mrs. Barker. Please contact Smackover High School for more information.

OIL TOWN HOLIDAY PAGEANT

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.
Hobgood Auditorium in Smackover

Deadline for entry is Dec. 6 at 6 p.m.

Entry forms may be obtained from the
Chamber of Commerce Office. Contact
Cheryl Corley (725-3628) or Tammy
Ward (725-4186) for more information.

NATALIE RAGAN
Owner/Operator



870-725-0040
107 West 8th
Smackover, AR 71762

Your Appointment Is

HELPING HANDS



Students can study or hang out at Buck Stars Bistro

We believe in community involvement and I found two ladies who saw a need and did something about it.

Sonia Barker and Aprile Richardson are teachers at SHS who felt a great need for 7th– 12th grade students to have a quiet place to study, do homework, read, etc. Many children go home to empty homes where there is no one to make sure they do their homework, or they have homes that are chaotic and difficult to study in. “The bistro

was designed to be a comfortable environment for students to relax, have coffee and snacks, and get ahead in their studies.”, said Mrs. Richardson.

The Buck Stars Bistro is a true community effort. In addition to these ladies giving their time to create a safe place for our kids, Mrs. Barker shared that others donated furniture, appliances, food, and money.

Light snacks and drinks are provided for the students free of charge. Anyone who may

like to help with providing them for the students may bring their donations to the Bistro or drop them by the High School to be given to either teacher.

The Bistro is located in the old Bruce Drug building on Broadway and is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:20 –5:00. On Friday mornings it is open to our wise, elder men who gather for coffee. (By Sandra Mills)

Hometown Christmas Plans

Christmas is fast approaching and we hope that you are making plans to attend Hometown Christmas on December 6, 2013.

The Celebration will begin with our annual Christmas Parade (and float contest) at 6 p.m. Immediately after the parade, we will meet in Kennedy Park for Santa in the Park and the lighting of the

tree and Eddie's Cross. The winner of the float contest will be announced and trophies given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.

In conjunction with these festivities, we will be having a decorating contest for the merchants, city residents, and rural residents. The winners of the contest will be chosen on Dec. 11, One winner from

each category will win \$25.00 in cash. Winners will be notified by our office.

For more information about parade and contest entries, come by our office M-F, 11-2 or call 725-3521 or 944-0221.



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AT THE CHAMBER OFFICE**

SES Honored by ADE



(From the Buckaroo Blog)-In November, the Arkansas Department of Education designated nine Arkansas public schools as “exemplary” because of high achievement or significant achievement gains by their

SES recognized as exemplary!

school, Marvin Primary School, East Junior High, Newport Junior High, Des Arc Elementary, Wilson Elementary, and Helen Tyson Middle School.

Smackover Elementary was recognized for its achievement gains or

students on state exams last spring.

The schools announced were: Brookland Elementary, Haas Hall Academy, **Smackover Elementary**

growth.

“We are extremely proud of these schools for their efforts to ensure that all students are reaching proficiency,” said Tom Kimbrell, Arkansas Education Commissioner.

Smackover Chamber of Commerce would like to join the Smackover School District in congratulating Principal Holly Strickland, the elementary teachers and staff, and the students for their hard work and efforts.

Trunk or Treat a Success

A fun time was had by all during the Halloween festivities sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

The merchants got involved by giving out candy and treats. We had 124 contestants in our car and costume contests. A full list of those winners can be seen on our website at smackoverar.com under the **Events** tab. In addition, there was a mini carnival and Movie in the

Park. “I heard there were about 1,000 kids. The costume contest, games and movie were a big hit,” said Stacy Mullin, president of the chamber.

We would like to thank the groups which participated in our 2013 Trunk or Treat celebration: FBLA; Jr. Beta; Anchor Club; Skills USA; First Baptist Church; First Assembly of God; Buckaroo Band Parents;

and the Salvation Army. You all helped make it the greatest ever! (SCOC; sjm)



“The costume contest, games, and movie were a big hit”
- Stacy Mullin



Rhonda Ray and Heather Fife represent the Chamber at Trunk or treat



Trick or treaters enjoying the fun



Costume contestants look on as other categories compete

Focus on Our Future

December Basketball

Dec. 3 5pm Bearden JB/Srs
 Dec. 6 5:30 @Hampton JB/Srs
 Dec. 9 5pm @Jct. City 7GB/JGB
 Dec. 10 5:30 @Prk Chapel JG/Srs
 Dec. 12 5:30 Norphlet JG/Srs
 Dec. 13 5:30 Magnolia JB/Srs
 Dec. 16 5pm Prk Chapel 7GB/JGB
 Dec. 18-21 TBA Strong Tourny Srs

CHILDREN

ARE THE
 LIVING MESSAGES
 WE SEND
 TO A TIME
 WE WILL NOT SEE
 -Neil Postman

This is what one person had to say after reading the first issue of the revived town newsletter, Smack Talk: "As a Chamber member I just want to say how great of a job that the Smack Talk turned out. Disheanna Brown (a junior in Digital Communications III Class) did the layout and design and should be commended for outstanding work. This is a prime example of the material that is being taught and the teachers who so skillfully administer this type of education to future business leaders. To all who had a hand in putting this together my hat is off to you. Great Job."

—Kyle Wimsett, Chamber Board member

Odds and Ends

WANTED

BUS MECHANIC
 AT SMACKOVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
 CONTACT DAVE WILCOX
 870-725-3132

THIS

COULD BE
 YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT



Jerry Langley Oil Company, LLC

P.O. Box 113
 Smackover, AR 71762-0113
 Office/Fax (870) 725-3042

Please remember to
 SHOP OUR LOCAL MERCHANTS
 when you are
 shopping for the Holidays

THANK YOU!

SMALK TALK

in color rocks!
 PRINTING
 in color is expensive!

Contact our office
 if you'd like to help.

JERRY LANGLEY

APRICOT BROWN SUGAR HAM



*Apricot Brown Sugar Ham
from allrecipes.com —
perfect for Christmas dinner*

INGREDIENTS:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 (10 pound) spiral ham, fully cooked | 1/3 cup apricot jam |
| 2/3 cup brown sugar | 1 tsp dry mustard powder |

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 275 degrees F (135 degrees C).
2. Place ham cut side down onto a sheet of aluminum foil. Mix together the brown sugar, apricot jam, & dry mustard in a small bowl. Brush onto the ham using a pastry or barbecue brush. Reserve left over glaze. Enclose foil around the ham and place on a rimmed baking dish.
3. Roast for 2 hours in preheated oven. For larger or smaller hams, figure 14 minutes per pound. Apply remaining glaze 20 minutes before done.

SES VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

Smackover Elementary School hosted a Veteran's Day program on November 11, 2013, at Hobgood Auditorium. Clarice Long coordinated the program which the student council narrated. Mrs. Wood led the 6th

grade students in songs to honor our community's veterans for their service to our great nation. Several veterans and their families as well as members of the Smackover community attended the program.

There was a reception held for our veteran's right after the program.

(SCOC; sjm)



Sherri Wood leads the 6th grade choir in song at the Veteran's Day Program held November 11, 2013.





Mayor Bobby Neal cuts the ribbon at the Municipal Building's Open House

OPEN HOUSE SHOWS OFF NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Smackover Municipal Building held its Open House on November 10th. Mayor Bobby Neal was joined by members of the City Council, city employees, and members of

the Chamber of Commerce for the ribbon cutting ceremony. After cutting the ribbon, Mr. Neal and others gave tours of the new offices. Refreshments were served in the beautifully

decorated meeting room where many gathered to mingle and chat.

(SCOC; sjm)

SMACKOVER BUCKAROOS IN STATE PLAYOFFS!

The Bucks have enjoyed a successful season. Regular season play left the Buckaroos as conference champs with a record of 9-1. Bucks played their first round of post season football play on Nov. 15 against the Paris Eagles. They moved on to the second round

of post season football play. November 22 they played Melbourne Bearkatz and won. The third round of playoffs will be played on the Smackover field against the Little Rock Episcopal Wildcats on November 29, 2013, at 7:00

p.m. Successful play against Episcopal will send the Buckaroos on the road for round 4 of the playoffs. The season 3A state finals will be played in Little Rock on December 14, 2013, at War Memorial Stadium.

Words of Wisdom...

The Value of Wisdom (Proverbs 2:10-12)

10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

12 To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; (KJV)

Useless Trivia:

- 1 If you have 3 quarters, 4 dimes, and 4 pennies, you have \$1.19. You also have the largest amount of money in coins without being able to make change for a dollar.
- 2 Toughest tongue twister ever: "The sixth sick sheikh's sixth sheep's sick."
- 3 Ketchup was sold in the 1830's as medicine.

(from tripod.com)



Smackover Chamber of Commerce

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Smackover, AR 71762

Phone: 870-725-3521

Fax: 870-725-3521

Email: smkovrcofc@sbcglobal.net

**Working and serving together for a
stronger community!**

SmackTalk is a little community driven newsletter. Our goal is that you will enjoy reading the information you find within its pages. We welcome ideas from you. If you have a good recipe, success story, a child we can spot light, property to rent, items to sell, job listings, etc. please give us a call, e-mail us, or come by the office and let us know about it! Ads for SmackTalk are \$20.00 each. If you would like to place an ad in our next issue, please contact us or come by our office. Our e-mails address is smkovrcofc@sbcglobal.net Our contact numbers are 870-725-3521 (M-F, 11-2) and 870-944-0221 (any time).



Read a New Book Month

December is Read a New Book Month, so I stopped by the Smackover Public Library and talked to Mrs. Melba Bussell and Mrs. Relda Burton. I asked them what books they might have available for our reading pleasure. Mrs. Melba quickly showed me three books, all of which have been recently released, and written by popular authors.

The first book we'd like to share is "Gone" by James Patterson and Michael Ledwidge. It is the sixth book in the *Michael Bennett* series.

Book number two is "Sycamore Row," by mystery writer John Grisham. It is a sequel to "A Time to Kill," which was inspired by a real life experience 25 years ago.

Last, but not least, is "Final Cut"—a fun, action packed read

which starts off a new series authored by Catherine Coulter and J. T. Ellison.

Mrs. Melba added that Amish fiction is very popular with people. I would have to confess that I have enjoyed an Amish story or two myself.

There is a wide selection of children's



books available in the Smackover Library as well...and many with a Christmas theme. That is sure to peak the interest of any youngster this time of year!

Our Library is open on Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri. from 8:30 - 4:45, and closed on Wednesday. It has more to offer than just books, too. There are computers with internet access available for public use. Mrs. Melba and Mrs. Relda are always ready to provide friendly home town service...or just a friendly chat. Stop in to see them soon and check out a book you've never read before.

(By Sandra Mills; additional info from nightowlreviews.com; Ilia Bindeman/nydailynews.com; and fantastikfiction.co.uk)

December 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 National Pie Day	2	3 Christmas Family Night-SES	4	5 El Dorado Christmas Parade	6 Smackover Hometown Christmas	7 Oil Town Holiday Pageant @ 1:00 pm
8	9 City Council Meeting @ 6 p.m.	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 School Board Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.	17	18 SHS Semester Exams		20 SES Christmas Program-9 a.m.	21 Look on the Bright Side Day
22	23 School OUT for Holidays—January 6, 2014	24	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve	1	2	3	4

December is...

Learn a Foreign Language Month

Art & Architecture Month

Write to a Friend Month

Read a New Book Month

AIDS Awareness Month

National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month

This Month in History:

Dec. 3, 1967: The first human heart transplant was performed by South African surgeon Christian Barnard.

Dec. 5, 1776: Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic society, was founded at The College of William and Mary.

Dec. 5, 1782: Martin Van Buren, 8th US President, was born in Kinderhook, NY.

Dec. 21 1620: Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Dec. 27, 1927: The International Monetary Fund was established in Washington, D.C.

SMACK TALK