



THE *Celebrating our 62nd Anniversary* BUCKEYE

AN AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY BUCKEYE GIRLS STATE PUBLICATION

www.buckeyegirlsstate.org

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2008 EDITION

FRIDAY AT A GLANCE

- 7:15 am **Flag Ceremony**
- 9:00 am **Government Functioning**
- 12:00 pm **Blood Drive begins**
- 1:30 pm **Government Functioning**
- 2:30 pm **Government Tours**
- 5:00 pm **University Seminar/Choir & Band/Recreation**
- 7:30 pm **Government Functioning**
- 10:00 pm **City Meeting**

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A man can succeed at almost anything for which he has unlimited enthusiasm."

-Charles M. Schwab



FRIDAY'S WEATHER



PM SHOWERS
HIGH 77°F · LOW 57°F

STRICKLAND SENDS A POWERFUL MESSAGE

Governor Ted Strickland was welcomed by almost 900 girls at Buckeye Girls State Wednesday afternoon. He told the young juniors from all over Ohio that he "was at Buckeye Boys State yesterday, and that there is more enthusiasm in this room than in all of Bowling Green yesterday." He asked the delegates, "Do you know how lucky you are? You are bright, attractive..." and after a short pause added, "and not lacking in confidence. The world awaits you."

The Governor then gave the girls a little advice. He said, "I hope that you will take a little time, at this stage of your life, to be quiet and think about all the things that you can do." He told the girls that he was 66 years old, soon to be 67, and that they would see many changes in their life. He reminded them that they are a part of these changes. He said, "You will see things in your life that I can only dream of, things in technology that I can't even imagine." He explained that they can communicate with things, such as iPods, cell phones, and text messages, and "I was closer to the smoke signal era."

He advised the girls not to let life carry them along, without them planning about what part they would play in it. "Don't miss opportunities, just because you haven't thought about what you want to do," he added. "You are the cream of the crop; you are Ohio's best." He reminded the girls that by being delegates to Buckeye Girls State, they have already committed themselves to be a part of government. He told them to find a candidate, Republican or Democrat, and work to support that candidate and be involved in the changes of



Governor Ted Strickland

their time.

He told the girls how important youth is to the governmental process. They come with enthusiasm and open minds. They are willing to try new things and not afraid of change. He closed by advising the girls, "Don't waste your time; don't waste your life".

CITY CELEBRATION EXCITES

The Director of Government, Rene Reese, officially opened the 2008 Buckeye Girls State City Rally Wednesday evening to a very enthusiastic crowd. Miss Grace Francisco, of Benson City, played the processional hymn as the newly elected Mayors were escorted by their City Counselors to the podium.

The invocation was given by Jeanette Elum of Bombeck City and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Maggi Szasz of Montgomery City. The Buckeye Girls State Band and Choir performed the National Anthem beautifully, led by Kristen Kurivial of Montgomery City. The BGS song, "Here's to Girls State," was led by Amy Moorman of Flowers City.

Each City Government Advisor proudly introduced their City Mayor, and the Mayors explained a little bit about who their city was named after. Magistrate Deborah Rader administered the oath of office to all the Mayors of Buckeye Girls State. Oaths were then taken by all other city officials: Council Women, Auditors, Treasurers, Law Directors, Municipal Judges, and City School Board Representatives.

Michele Sandridge, Director of Counselors, announced that Hobart City was the recipient of the Ideal City Award.

Entertainment was then provided by Cassandra Utt of



Davidson City, with her rendition of "Taylor the Latte Boy."

The Federalists succeeded as the Majority Senate and House Party for this session, and results of the state contest were listed. The 2008 election ended as a very jubilant crowd of delegates rushed out to celebrate with the victors.

BGS 2008 GOVERNOR IS ELIZABETH HARTER!

Elizabeth Harter, of Jackson High School in Massillon, Ohio was elected as the Governor of the 62nd Buckeye Girls State at Ashland University. Miss Harter is 17 years old, and came to Buckeye Girls State with the intention of running for Governor. Her father's words of wisdom before leaving her on Sunday were, "Don't come home with anything less than Governor."

Elizabeth confessed that she has always strived to be the best that she could be. She added, "when I arrived here, and told my city what I wanted, they were all very supportive. That's what gave me the courage to follow through."

When asked what her goals were now as the Governor of BGS, she stated "I know all the girls here are extraordinary; so I want to be the best I can for them." Miss Harter believes that through the support of those around her, she will be able to fulfill the duties of Governor at BGS.

The newly elected Governor walked on campus with a slogan of "A good governor is at the heart of it all." She said that hearing her name called, and all the girls chanting her name as she walked to the front, was her most memorable experience yet at Buckeye Girls State.

Miss Harter plans to be a public figure and a role model after graduating from high school. She thinks this will give her a boost to be more confident in the future, and through tear-filled eyes, Elizabeth said that this has been the best experience of her life. Congratulations and best wishes as Governor of BGS 2008!



MEGAN ELAVSKY ELECTED LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

A very excited junior from Manchester High School, Miss Megan Elavsky, was elected as the new Lieutenant Governor of Buckeye Girls State on Wednesday evening. Miss Elavsky, of Akron, credits her achievement to this high office to "loving politics and working well with people." She is eager to begin making changes in new laws and looking forward to working with the new leaders. Megan is ready to communicate and work with her great team.

The whole experience of campaigning and being elected to Lt. Governor has been the "best experience" at Buckeye Girls State, Megan stated. Elavsky is looking forward to graduating from high school and attending a university to major in Political Science or in the Medical field. She will always have happy memories of her stay at Buckeye Girls State. Congratulations in your new position at BGS, Megan!



WHITEHEAD WINS SECRETARY OF STATE

Earlyn Whitehead, Buckeye Girls State's new Secretary of State, is a person who felt she needed to come out of her comfort zone. As she claims, she is not an outgoing person. With the help of the delegates, she felt she was able to achieve the dream of coming out of her shyness here at Buckeye Girls State. She now feels she has become a more secure person and will be able to achieve her dreams.

Whitehead's goals are to work closely with the Governor and Lt. Governor, and educate the delegates on the election process. Ms. Whitehead stated, "The delegates have a general idea regarding the election process, but Buckeye Girls State has given them more of an insight on the election process." To achieve her goals, Earlyn plans to reach out to the delegates of BGS.

After graduating from Springfield High School, Earlyn plans to attend either UCLA or the University of South Carolina. Her expectations are to be a Physician Assistant or Physical Therapist, and to have a dance career. Good luck with your duties here at BGS!



HOBART GIRLS STICK TOGETHER

I love the girls in Hobart City. I know I have only known them for about two days, but I know they have my back, whether it is about politics, my feelings, boys, or my health and safety.

I speak the last item with confidence due to an incident [Monday] night. One of our citizens of Hobart City (not to be named) started to have an asthma attack. After a few minutes, a girl named Haley Figlestahler from our city realized that the other girl was having an asthma attack. Most of us didn't know what to do, but felt extremely bad for her. Haley immediately calmed the girl down and told us what to do to help.

The girl was eventually fine, thanks to Haley. Every citizen of Hobart City worked as a team to help the girl. We have each others' back.

– Ruth Monnier, Hobart City



BGS 2008 Chorus



BGS 2008 Band

ATTORNEY GENERAL IS NAMED LUCCI

Katy Lucci of Vivo City was declared Attorney General on Wednesday night. Lucci stated that she wanted to be the attorney general because, "I wanted a challenge and something that would help me apply my interest in practicing law, along with working together with others to make BGS successful." Lucci's goals while in office include: "upholding the laws that the BGS legislatures create; along with upholding the Ohio constitution; preventing corruption within the government; and maintaining high moral standards and values." Lucci plans on completing these goals by supervising the divisions in her office without being controlling, laying out goals, and working together with her staff.

When asked what Katy's most memorable occurrences of BGS were, she responded, "I was very honored that the girls feel I was the best candidate to serve this position." She also spoke of campaigning with Earlyn with her "Gucci Lucci" bag and having a blast getting to know the other girls.

Lucci plans to attend a small liberal arts school (such as Davidson, the University of Virginia, or Vanderbilt) after graduation and major in political science and history. Good luck with the Attorney General position at BGS!



JALISA HERRON WINS STATE TREASURER

Hailing from Chandler County, Stowe City is Jalisa Herron the newly elected 2008 State Treasurer of Buckeye Girls State. When asked why she sought the office of State Treasurer she replied, "My decision to run for this office was greatly influenced by my interest in budgeting and my good math skills. I found great pleasure in helping set up the budget in our new home and watch it fall into place." She plans to work diligently toward improving school funding. She hopes to accomplish this from the income of interest rates and recycling.

Jalisa's most memorable experience at BGS was campaigning and working with her city members on the campaign. After graduation from Reynoldsburg High School, Jalisa plans to attend college, (hopefully Georgetown, Haverford, or Brown University) and major Pre-Med in hopes of becoming a Cardiothoracic Surgeon. Congratulations State Treasurer, Jalisa!



UTT'S AUDITOR AMBITIONS ARE ACCOMPLISHED

The State Auditor of Buckeye Girls State 2008 is Cassandra Utt of Davidson City. When asked why she decided to run for the State Auditor, Utt said that she likes math and knows Salem's (her hometown) auditor. Her goals while in office include making sure there is no fraud and everything balances correctly. Utt plans on accomplishing these goals by relying on city and county auditors and appointing good people to work to attain those goals.

Utt's most unforgettable moment here at BGS, besides winning state auditor, was being with her city and getting to know them. At her high school, Cassandra golfs, is in a touring chorus, and is heavily involved in theatre. Her plans after graduating from high school include attending college, possibly at the University of Cincinnati, majoring in either vocal performance or engineering. Congrats Cassandra!



HONG HAS HIGH HOPES AS CHIEF JUSTICE

Ms. Yeji Hong, of Westerville High School, has a passion for the Judicial System and wants fair treatment for all Americans. Staying true to the ideas of what the job stands for, Hong said she "will not sway between majority rule and minority rights." Yeji plans to listen, communicate, and work with the Associate Judges in hearing the cases.

Campaigning for Balzhiser County, having the delegates in her county make campaign posters and origami objects, and winning Ideal City have been the most memorable experiences at Buckeye Girls State for the new Chief Justice. "Hearing not only my name, but my friends' names, was so exciting," exclaimed Ms. Hong.

After graduating from High School Yeji plans to attend Oberlin Liberal Arts College and double major in music composition and chemical engineering. She hopes to minor in Spanish and Law. Good luck Yeji in your new position!



WHY NATIONALIST AND FEDERALIST PARTIES?

A question posed to the Public Relation Staff was why our parties are called Nationalists and Federalists. Much research was conducted on the subject matter through phone contact and archive records at the American Legion National Headquarters.

What is assumed is that the National Organization chose the "Federalist" party in representation of the first political party. The "Nationalist" party was chosen as representation of the National Organization.

The factual information is as follows: Boys State and Girls State was created in the early 1930s as a non-partisan, non-political program to educate youth about government and enable them to grasp the meaning of some of the responsibilities they will be called upon to assume, when they become an adult.

Since the early 1800s a two party system has prevailed in the United States. It should be clearly understood that selection and assignment of Boy State/Girls State participants to parties is in no way connected with existing political parties of the United States. Each delegate is assigned to a political party which has no philosophy or platform until the delegates develop one.





FLAG CEREMONY

Emcee

Kelsey Gooman, Montgomery City, Bond County

Pledge

Alyssa Ofat, Rice City, Bond County

National Anthem

Ellen Street, Rice City, Bond County

Reading

Taylor Godine, Oakley City, Bond County

Auxiliary Moment

Rebecca Faessel, O'Connor City, Bond County

Thought

Kahla Johnson, Resnick City, Bond County

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I would like to thank everyone who helped the Campaign Process team. Your help with the workshops, timing, tallying, and directing our BGS citizens through the campaign process is greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Beth T., Sharon G., and Pam D. for being an integral part of the CP Team this year.

Thanks for sharing your talents and knowledge.

Colleen K. Phillips

We the County Government Advisors would like to send a very big "Well Done," "Great Job," and "Thank You" to our County Board of Elections Staff:

Warner County- Betty Burnett, Advisor
 Balzhiser County- Darlene Leiter, Advisor
 Bates County- Carole Sowards, Advisor
 Bond County- June Stas, Advisor
 Chandler County- Diana Hansfeld, Advisor

City Mayors of BGS 2008



"Recognize the power of a team; no one succeeds alone." – Carly Fiorina



Wednesday's
 Ideal City
 was
HOBART CITY!
 Congratulations!



Congratulations to
BENSON CITY,
 Wednesday's
 Contest winner!

AU BOOKSTORE

The AU bookstore is open for business. Check out the BGS keepsakes as well as Ashland University items.

QUESTION OF THE DAY

What makes a good American?

"Someone who votes, who really cares about democracy."

– Megan Gisclon, Stowe City

"A good American is someone who supports and is respectful to our country and believes in the principles of the United States government. They follow the constitution and use it to the full extent."

– Amy Fox and Kirsten Smith, Flowers City

"Someone that's patriotic and has the courage to stand up for what they believe."

– Callie Garland, Allen City

"Just being interested in what's going on and having an opinion about what's going on."

– Ashley Christman, Zeller City

"Having patriotism, pride in our communities, and drive to improve our world for a better tomorrow."

– Courtney Reeder, Benson City

"Someone who obeys the constitution and is open-minded about everything because America is about everyone's freedom of speech."

– Maria Vaza-Kaczynski, Resnick City