

HISTORY HAPPENINGS

Volume II, Issue 11

CASD Social Studies Department

December 2023

Department Teacher Spotlight:

Mr. Gilbert – 8th Grade U.S. History Lamberton Middle School

Mr. Gilbert has been teaching for two years, but this is his first year getting to teach social studies. He received his undergraduate degree from Dickinson College and majored in history and minored in political science. He received his teaching certification from Wilson College. Mr. Gilbert's favorite thing about teaching 8th graders is they are funny. He enjoys their personalities, their jokes, and their sense of humor. He enjoys learning about their interests and hobbies. The best part is learning how to support them in many different ways. U.S. history has always been a passion of his. Starting as a toddler, his parents raised him to be a history nerd, and now he is lucky enough that it turned into a career. Mr. Gilbert believes he has succeeded when a student can empathize with people from the past because they can understand what they were going through. Some interesting facts about Mr. Gilbert – he is a graduate of Carlisle High School and he used to work at an archives. Students might be surprised to learn that Mr. Gilbert plays Fortnite and listens to current rap music. If he could be any superhero, he would be Flash so that his commute to and from work would be shorter (that way he could sleep in later!).



Mr. Gavazzi – 9th Grade U.S. History Carlisle High School – Swartz Building

This is Mr. Gavazzi's 27th year of teaching. He graduated from Penn State in 1992. He earned his master's degree from Shippensburg University in 1993. His favorite thing about teaching 9th graders is feeling the energy when students are excited to learn about something they otherwise felt they would not have cared about. Mr. Gavazzi's favorite thing about teaching US History is when students see how what is happening now is directly affected by our nation's past triumphs and mistakes. Fun facts about him are that he has four brothers and one sister, and he used to taste-test chocolate for Hershey's Chocolate Company. His students might be surprised to learn that he used to skateboard in the late 1970s, and he was the first kid in his school to wear Vans sneakers (black and white checkered) in the early 1980s. If he could be any superhero it would be the Incredible Hulk, so he could smash a bunch of stuff up in the fight for good against evil.



AAUW SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Do you know a young lady, currently in college, who is a resident of Cumberland County in need of financial aid for college. The AAUW- Carlisle sponsors a \$2,000 scholarship each year for any female resident of Cumberland County that has completed at least one full-time year of college or equivalent college credits. To learn more, click [HERE](#) for the application information. **Application deadline is January 16, 2024.**



Department Happenings: What's Going on in Our S.S. Classrooms?

Mr. Wolf's 8th Grade U.S. History – Wilson MS

Mr. Wolf's class did a simulation about how it would feel to get taxed by the British leading up to the American Revolution. They had a king and members of Parliament. Students got to choose what they wanted



to tax the rest of the class for. It was typically silly items like wearing a sweatshirt, having sneakers on, etc. If the students had enough money after the taxing was through, they could buy a piece of candy. Only ten kids all day had enough money to buy themselves a piece of candy and the rest were not very pleased about getting taxed! Fun activity to help the students experience the colonists' frustration with being taxed and not being able to do anything about it.



Saying Thanks to Our Veterans



On Friday, November 10, 2023, 21 students from Carlisle High School had the honor and privilege of sitting down to lunch with 21 local veterans. It was the second year for the CHS Veterans Luncheon, which gives students an opportunity to talk with veterans about their military service and experience. And this provides students with a chance to say "thank you" to our veterans for their service. This year four of the five branches were represented – Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines – and many saw deployments to Vietnam, Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and other places around the globe. A special thanks to the D-Day 2044 organization to help sponsor and pay for the meals provided by our very own CHS Culinary program students.



Carlisle Organization Spotlight:

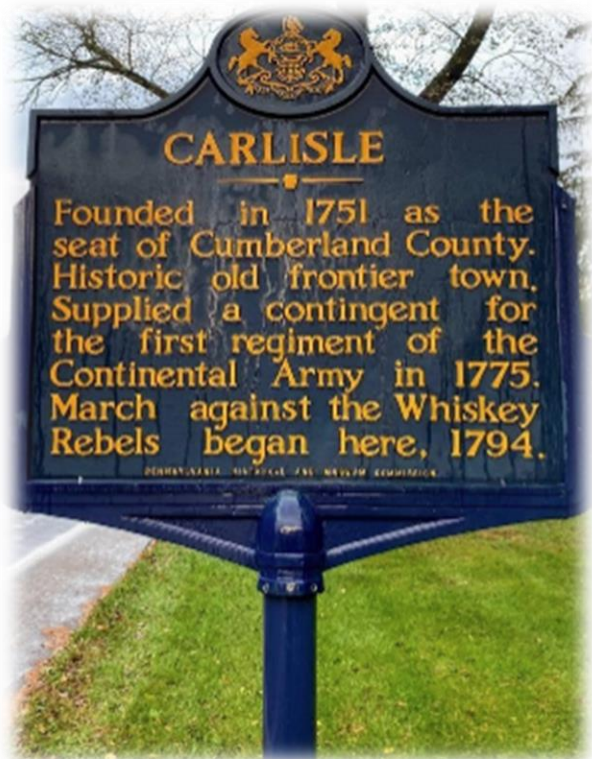
HISTORIC CARLISLE, INC.



Historic Carlisle, Inc. is a non-profit corporation. Its mission is to recognize and promote the history of Carlisle and Cumberland County. The mission is accomplished through annual presentations and celebrations, living history reenactments, educational programs, the Carlisle Civil War Building Plaque Program, and the installation of Wayside Markers.

There are a total of 23 Wayside Markers in and around the town of Carlisle. Click [HERE](#) to get a map of the locations and take a nice stroll around town to learn about our history!

Carlisle and its surrounding areas have over 250 PA historical markers to explore as well. For a full list of all the markers and their locations, click [HERE](#).



For the Month of December

Chill the night wind moans and sighs,
On the sward the stubble dies;
Slow across the meadows rank
Float the cloud-rifts grim and dank;
On the hill-side, bare and brown,
Twilight shadows gather down,—
'Tis December.

-Mary Elizabeth Blake

December got its name from the Latin word decem (meaning ten) because it was originally the tenth month of the year in the calendar of Romulus c. 750 BC which began in March. The winter days following December were not included as part of any month.

Fun Days in December:

- Dec. 1: National Pie Day
- Dec. 4 – National Sock Day
- Dec. 9 – National Pastry Day
- Dec. 12 – National Ding-A-Ling Day
- Dec. 15 – Bill of Rights Day
- Dec. 24 – National Eggnog Day
- Dec. 27 – National Fruit Cake Day
- Dec. 30 – Bacon Day

December is also:

- Universal Human Rights Month
- Learn a Foreign Language Month
- HIV/AIDS Awareness Month
- National Car Donation Month

Some Historical Events...

- 12/1/1955 – Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a bus
- 12/6/1964 – Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer appears on TV for the first time
- 12/7/1941 – Pearl Harbor is bombed by the Japanese
- 12/10/1869 – Wyoming (a territory) allows women to vote and hold office
- 12/15/1791 – Bill of Rights is enacted, amending the Constitution for the first time
- 12/17/1843 – Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is first published
- 12/21/1620 – Pilgrims land at Plymouth
- 12/22/1882 – Thomas Edison creates the first string of Christmas lights
- 12/24/1818 – Franz Gruber composes "Silent Night"
- 12/27/1932 – Radio City Music Hall opens in New York City
- 12/31/1904 – The first New Years Eve celebration is held in NYC's Times Square