

Club funds trip to France

ANTERPREET KAUR
Staff Reporter

The French Club is raising funds to award scholarships for the annual summer trip to France. Officers are brainstorming fundraising ideas for spring. The club has already made profits from the holiday See's Candy sales.

French club participated in International Kitchen during Multi-Cultural Week last year. French club also raised money selling croissants during an official fundraising schedule. However, the newly-adjusted food regulation laws do not classify croissants as

healthy snacks.

"We also plan to participate again with croissants, Nutella, madelines, and oranges at International Kitchen on March 19," French teacher Jennifer Pardini said. "We also raise money through our movie nights hosted certain Fridays of the month, which are open to any student, not just French students."

The French Club administra-

tion awards the central scholarship to French language students who have signed up for the France study abroad program in summer 2010. A valid candidate must have been in at least a French 2 class with a recommendation from Pardini.

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Avtar Josen

"After studying French for four years, I'm curious and excited about experiencing the French culture and practicing

my language skills," junior Avtar Josen said. "Through numerous visits to distinct places around the world, I believe that the pleasure and knowledge gained from actual experiences exceeds anything that can be achieved from textbooks and movies."

The trip costs about \$5000 per person, but the cost is relatively low compared what a person would pay independently.

"I believe a lot of kids don't end up going because of the costs," senior Schaffe Rodriguez said. "Yet, if I add up all the travel, food, and hotel costs for myself alone, they end up being far more than this one cost of five thousand."

Rodriguez is an AP French 4 student.

During the three-week trip, students live with a host family, and students will afterwards have the option to revisit France with to learn more language skills.

A study broad program helps students to improve language skills through involvement with the culture and community. It also allows students to observe and explore the many parts of France.

French club encourages all qualified candidates to attend the trip.

Barbecue honors basketball teams

PAIGE CASTER AND
CHRISTELLE XU
News Editors

ASB held a lunchtime barbecue Feb. 23 to celebrate the advancement of both the boys and girls basketball teams to NCS.

"It's been roughly 10 to 15 years since we've sent both boys and girls basketball to NCS together," activities director Helen Paris said.

The funding came from ASB, athletics and the money initially meant for the "Up Yours" lunch. Leadership decorated eaves with paper replicas of team jerseys, each personalized with players' last names and numbers.

"It was great for ASB to put on the barbecue for basketball and to show support for the team," senior John Songponnopachon said.

ASB made the decision Feb.



Photo by NICOLE PHAM

Senior Eric Olsen hand out hamburgers to juniors Bach Phan and John Im. 50 cents for a hamburger, chips and a bottle of water.

22 to put on the barbecue; they set up posters and announcements around school by first period Feb. 23. Despite the unexpected rain,

ASB fed over 300 students.

"The price and food was good but there was a really long wait to get the food. It took like 20 min-

utes," junior Andrea Bonilla said.

ASB members began turning students away so they would have enough time to clean up, not because there was a lack of food.

"One lesson I learned was that I should do every barbecue in the rain; everybody stays on campus," Paris said.

Seniors earn bucks for burritos



Photo by HARRIS AFRIDI

Senior Ben Rich and Jonathan Eng eating gigantic burritos.

HARRIS AFRIDI
Staff Reporter

Senior class vice president Ben Rich organized a Chipotle burrito fundraiser from 5 to 9 pm, March 11. This was the second fundraiser Washington had with Chipotle.

"Students come in with their flyers; we count them off, take our share, and give the rest to Washington," Chipotle manager Jose Corgorno said.

Chipotle donated fifty percent of the proceeds to the class of 2010.

"Every one [one word "every-one"] loves Chipotle and the senior class needs some money," Rich said. "We're very grateful to Chipotle for helping us out."

"If we can reach out to Washington High School, it's a pleasure for us," Corgorno said.

ASB decorates school campus with flowers and walkway



Photo by Kaylee Miu
Seniors Ben Rich and Paul Sun help build the new pathway outside the Eggers building.

ALEX TYLER
Staff Reporter

ASB members redistributed large planters filled with an assortment of wildflowers around campus over the past few weeks.

The students put in a brick pathway outside of the Eggers building, and they also trimmed plants around school, with student activities director Helen Paris wielding an electric edger.

These efforts are appreciated, but some students feel the money should go to school improvements, such as new books and bathroom locks. However, ASB isn't authorized to use student funds on such items.

Senior John Rasure said although the improvements are help-

ful "they should have done this a long time ago, at this point the money could be better spent elsewhere."

Paris thought of the idea to move the planters from their original position near the Eggers building because she thought that students were not noticing them. So ASB moved the planters to more noticeable areas, and work during fourth period to water the new flowers and make sure the additions maintain their beauty.

Junior Julien Malard, president of the New Leaf Club, said their club submitted a plan to ASB to place plants around school throughout the year, but then ASB moved ahead with this project separately.

"I first was a bit disappointed because I wanted our club to do

the planting," Malard said.

However, ASB agreed with the New Leaf Club to continue adding flowers, trees and other plants around the school with the help of the club. They will plant to celebrate Earth Day, April 22.

Niles residents petition closure of post office

BRIANA TERRY
Staff Reporter

Local residents discussed the potential closure of the Niles post office at a community meeting held by the U.S. Postal Services at the Niles Elementary School auditorium, Jan. 5.

Niles joins 169 post offices on the list for closure because of the detrimental effects of the economic downturn. People favor using email communication, causing a reduction of mail circulation and overall declining post office revenues.

Residents spoke about losing a local post office that has been in business for 136 years. The office has poor road access to other Fremont districts and is four miles from the nearest full-service post office.

"It shouldn't have to be this

way. It's a lot of gas to be going around to the next nearest post office," parent Carmen Correia said.

Correia made one of 3,000 signatures on a petition drafted to defend the post office against closure. Information and the petition signatures will be handed over to

the Postal Service district manager's office in Oakland, to then be forwarded to the Postal Service area vice president in San Diego. The final decision will be made at the Postal Service headquarters in Washington, D.C., in 2010.