

MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT

I. Senior Citizens' Luncheon

On Friday, October 17th students from our 8th grade Family and Consumer Science elective hosted nearly 100 members of the Itasca Senior Citizen's Club. The annual event featured a three-course meal, music, and art with a German theme. Students, under the direction of Mrs. Christie Mann not only planned but also prepared a wonderfully ethnic cuisine. Students dressed in traditional German outfits made sure that our guests were well fed and entertained. Our chorus under the direction of Mr. Bryen Travis sang several German songs while another group performed a dance one might see in a German village of Bavaria. Students from our 8th grade Art program directed by Mrs. Donna Dengler created works reflecting the German Bauhaus design.

II. Live Newscast

The first newscast of the school year took place on Friday, October 31st. The periodic news magazine show presenting information and features that interest our students was distributed to all rooms by tape as our studio is still in need of a teleprompter. Our "anchors" have expressed some reservations going live without the teleprompter. Several live broadcasts have already occurred, however, including the principal's introduction of Peacock's Curriculum Night. Several more small live features are being planned through Mr. Travis' video elective class as well as future news magazine shows.

III. WeatherNet Weather Station

The installation of Peacock's WeatherNet Weather Station will take place within the next two weeks. The station, to be connected to our roof, is designed to operate 24 hours per day providing real time, up-to-the-second weather observations. The WeatherNet Weather Station measures all primary meteorological parameters, including temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, wind speed and direction, and precipitation. Using basic technology that we already have at Peacock in the form of a dedicated computer and Internet connection students studying earth science and geology in the 7th grade can download critical information that will enhance their learning opportunities. The information will also provide our newscasts with actual "local" weather data that will be used within live broadcasts of our news magazine program.