

Big Chicken

By: Grayson Garrette

The “Big Chicken” of Three Corners Market, a well-known landmark, has infamously made it on News Channel 4! One foggy Unionville night, “Big Chicken” was abducted and taken to an undisclosed location. This monstrous crime sent the big city of Unionville into a panic. Without “Big Chicken,” things would never be the same. Fortunately, “Big Chicken” was found thanks to an anonymous clue. The residents of Unionville are happy to know that “Big Chicken” is back safe and sound, greeting all who pass by Three Corners Market. On the bright side, this act of theft put Community High School on the news. Up and coming folk artist and Vice-Principal Keith Williams, along with his coun-

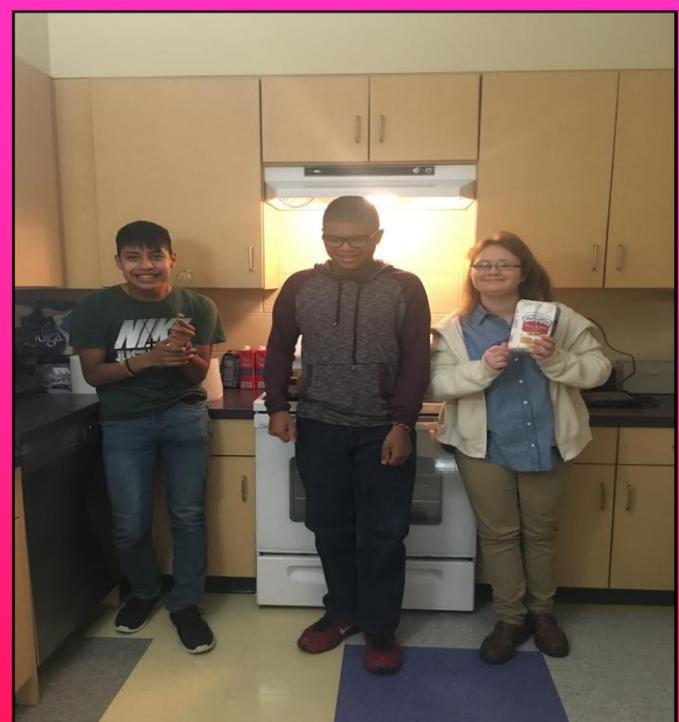


terpart Mike McClain, wrote a song about the infamous theft. Titled “Big Chicken Ballad,” the song was so popular it put Community High School at the center of attention. When asked about the jingle, Dr. Williams responded, “We heard about the ‘Big Chicken’ theft and decided it would be a good idea to write a song about it. Skinny, as we call him, had some time on his hands and wrote all the lyrics. We’ve been playing for years and the people from the news were as nice as they could be. They were happy to be doing such a funny story rather than reporting on all the bad things you see on the news.” Search “Big Chicken Ballad” on News Channel 4’s website to view the full story.

CDC Bake Sale

By: Gracie Miles

The CDC just recently had their annual bake sale, and it was the best yet. They raised a total of \$1,518.13! Mrs. Gassaway explained that they make a lesson out of the whole cooking and planning process. Mrs. Gassaway stated, “All of our money goes to field trips, and we try to go once a month.” Everyone in the class helps make a list of ingredients that they will need. They then take a trip to get all of the supplies while also having a great time. The students love to help cook. Josie says, “Cookies are my favorite!” When asked if he thought the bake sale was fun, Josue replied enthusiastically, “Yes!” All of the students enjoyed helping with the bake sale!



Josue, Jacqual, and Josie are shown helping out, and having fun in the kitchen.

Band and Choir Concert 12/8

By: Brayden Pearson

The band and the choir held a joint winter concert on December 12. Mr. Bratcher, both the band and choir director, was the conductor during both. When asked about the concert, Mr. Bratcher responded...

Did the concert go according to plan?

“The execution of the concert exceeded my expectations. The concert flowed well, the audience observed the proper concert etiquette, and most importantly, I did not trip over my words as much as during previous concerts. Everyone involved received glowing compliments, and no negative feedback was given. The audience, performers, and I seemed to genuinely enjoy the concert.”

What preparation was required to perform?

“I believe most people underestimate the time and energy that is put into holding a public performance. With few exceptions, the more seamless and effortless a performance looks, the more time and energy has been put into it. Hundreds of hours are put into every concert. I personally spend, at minimum, ten hours listening to potential pieces before picking out the final songs which will be performed at the concert. I then spend dozens of hours studying the scores and planning rehearsal strategies. The performers spend around 100 hours rehearsing and practicing the pieces. Before the



The clarinet section decides to pose for a picture before the big concert.

performance programs are made, printed, folded, and the equipment is loaded and set up on the theater stage. The lights in the theater must be set, and microphones need to be placed and balanced for recording. For the concert to flow smoothly, every moment and detail needs to be planned. How the ensembles enter and exit the stage, when the audience enters the auditorium, what lights are turned on and when, what words are spoken and when, and many other seemingly insignificant details need to be planned in detail. Without this meticulous planning, any concert can and will usually fall apart and result in an unpleasant experience for the director, the performers, and the audience.”



A group picture provided by Alyssa Amos features all band members before the Christmas concert.

Did anybody mess up?

“I have never experienced and will never experience a perfect performance. They do not exist. As long as humans are involved, mistakes will exist no matter how trivial and seemingly insignificant. We strive for perfection, knowing that we will not achieve it. There WERE several “mess ups.” However, the goal and beauty of a performance is how to best minimize your flaws and how well you recover from any blunders.”