

The Laurelette

6.27.2023

@ctgirlsstate

Tuesday

WHATS HAPPENING AT GIRLS STATE? 🤔

First Hand Opinions: Specialty Training School

Law Enforcement 🚓:

By Lily Luby

Today, June 26, Girls and Boys State members had the opportunity to select one of three specialty training schools to enrich their experience here and help with the further program processes. Out of the municipal, legislative, and law enforcement sessions, I chose to attend law enforcement. There delegates sat in a hall and heard from three different chiefs of police from the Yale University campus and from surrounding towns. After informational speeches introducing themselves and a little bit about their positions, these chiefs opened the floor to question and answer session where delegates could ask their burning questions regarding the police career and law enforcement in general. Anything and everything was asked, including whether it's a myth that police officers have a certain number of arrests they must make each month, explaining why more people are arrested at the end of each month (absolutely false, the chiefs said, quotas are unjust). Delegates also wondered about the legality of state police officers pulling drivers over at night when the police officers' headlights weren't turned on; this is legal and intended to give the police an element of secrecy to catch speeding drivers. More importantly, the session also discussed various tactics the chiefs use and are taught, particularly for dealing with uncooperative citizens. They stressed the importance of turning on their body cameras, to protect both the citizens involved and themselves and to provide a valid piece of evidence should any element of the situation wind up in court. Another key term mentioned was deescalation, or the attempt to maintain control over a situation and keep all involved parties calm and collected while problem solving effectively. Especially in wake of much political and social controversy concerning the role of police in controlling protests, not to mention police violence and brutality, such a session where delegates were able to personally meet and hear from respectful and accomplished police chiefs was refreshing and much heeded.



Laurelette Minutes 🕒:

By Morgan Brimecombe

Monday at Girls State consisted of lots of fun activities! Delegates heard from a number of speakers and representatives and learned how to strengthen our bill writing skills. Delegates split and participated in three separate specialty training schools; Law enforcement, Legislature, and Municipal Office! Tomorrow delegates begin electing Girls Nation senators and state officers! Stay tuned for updates :)

GIRLS STATE SERVICE PROJECT

Delegates Hear from Marine Corps Veteran Ryan Noonan

By Mary Dunn

On Monday during recreational time, a group from Girls State joined Marine Corps veteran Ryan Noonan in the auditorium, where he discussed topics ranging from the accuracy of the newest Top Gun movie to his thoughts on how to best deal with the mental toll of being in the military. His authenticity in answering such a wide range of questions was evident and impressive, and perhaps best conveyed in one surprising anecdote: that he doesn't appreciate the phrase "Thank you for your service." Contrary to popular belief (including my own), this phrase may come across just as impersonal as the piles of standard cards Ryan received during his deployment. Personally, I found this information incredibly eye opening; all the class assignments I've been doing since elementary school- writing "Thank you for your service" in red, white, and blue, may not have been doing much more than fulfilling my own desire to make a difference. In reality, as our speaker can attest to, the soldiers receive piles of cards like these everyday, and they don't change much about how they feel.

Taking this into consideration, the participants decided to complete their service project from a more personal level. Ryan advised the group to give them their email for possibility of further connection, and, in addition to showing their appreciation and support, include more to make the letter feel conversational and real for the soldier receiving it.

In general, this experience was super rewarding. On a larger level, it taught us that performative charity doesn't make much difference, and that the best way to give back is to be genuine.

Laurette Horoscopes 🌀:

By Elizabeth Eng

Aquariuses with blue eyes: make sure to drink your water.

Sagittariuses: something big will be happening, keep anticipating it.

Pisces: campaign hard, I know you can win this.

Virgos: be sure to wear SPF if it's sunny, don't want to get old.

Cancers: be prepared for disappointment, but try to work against it.

Cafeteria Food Reviews! 🤔

By Elizabeth Eng

Waffles: These were good, hard to mess up, but they were dry. A common theme with our food.

Barbecue chicken: It really lacked flavor, another common theme.

“Mac and Cheese”: this really just tasted like pasta, I found myself wanting it to taste bad so I knew it tasted like something.

Lasagna: this was probably my favorite non-bread stick item, all I can say is that it's really good.

HOT TOPIC 🔥

Last Chance to Sign Up for the Talent Show!

By Mary Dunn

On Wednesday from 8:45 to 10:30 there will be a talent show!!! We've already got some amazing acts, but it is definitely not too late to sign up! If you have any questions or want to join, talk to Ms. Deb.

We want to see your talent!

Survey!

Please take a moment to fill out this survey on your experiences so far in the Laurel Girl State program. You can fill it out as many times as you would like throughout the duration of the program and it is ok for your answers to change based on the day and experiences within them. Please note that this is not run by the Laurel Girls State staff but by a fellow participant in the program. I can make the promise to all that help in filling out the forms that any information used will be done so in an anonymous manner and anything said within the document will only be used to help better the program in the future for generations to come. Thank you all so much!

<https://tinyurl.com/alagssurvey>

Credits

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