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This Week

- Exchange Student Enjoys Stay In KC
- Hammond Dance Review—Revisited
- Which Business Structure is Best for You?
- Cardin Pushes for Immigration Reform

Weekly Refresher

"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers
- Psalm 1:1

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Guilford Gazette

Exchange Student Reflects on Her Time at Hammond High and Kings Contrivance



Pictured left to right, Tessa Patino, Anna Homann, and Kelly Patino at the Patino home in Kings Contrivance before Ms. Homann returned to Germany.

by **Ricardo Whitaker**
Guilford Gazette Publisher

This is part one of a two part series.

When you see Anna Homann in the halls of Hammond High School you see another 17 year old; a happy young lady in the midst of the high school swirl. She attends classes, engages in extra-curricular activities, hangs out with friends, and eventually goes home to spend time with family.

Upon having a conversation with Ms. Homann one may discover that she has an accent unfamiliar to many in the Kings Contrivance Village of Columbia, Maryland where Ms. Homann lived during the past academic year.

As it turns out, the family she lives with is an American host family. Ms. Homann is a native of Germany. She is an explorer. For the second time in her life she visited a country other than her own, in an effort

to study foreign cultures and experience new adventures. Her first stop was France where she spent a short time. Her trip to America, an extended tour, brought her to Kings Contrivance.

All the way from her hometown of Coesfeld, Ms. Homann discovered a slice of America where Kings Contrivance, Laurel, Savage, Guilford, and Jessup merge – the Hammond High School melting pot.

(Continued on Page 15)

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The Publisher's Notes

Summertime is upon us. Some parents in our area have the foresight and the resources to plan activities for their children during the summer months when school is not in session. There are various summer school programs and camps in our area, and others offered in other towns and out of state.

Some of the programs are day programs while others are overnight camping experiences. These camps range from basketball and other sports, to academic pursuits like engineering and science. Almost all of these camps are worth the cost. The experiences for the children are often exceptionally enriching and memorable.

Among those of us who fall into the struggling class, with just enough energy and resources to keep food on the table, all is not lost. With some parental guidance, you can keep your children busy throughout the summer for little or no money.

First of all, a little extra learning during the summer will not damage your children at all. Many children are in learning programs for at least part of the break. The public library is a great resource. You may want to implement a summer reading program. You can do this independently or do it in conjunction with your local library.

The books should be fun and of interest to the child. During the school year, the child typically does not have the opportunity to read for fun. The parent can award prizes for completing books. Implementing a storytelling element allows the child to demonstrate speaking skills and comprehension. Ask questions about the content. This exercise can be more fun and rewarding than you might imagine.

If you have young children, you can teach them new games to play. If you do not know any games, again the public library is the place to go. While your child is reading in the children's section you can look for books that teach games. The folks at the information desk will be able to help you.

Bowling at Brunswick Bowl on Carved Stone off of Snowden River Parkway has discounts all year long. Check out the Youth Page at www.GuilfordGazette.com for links to Brunswick's special offers and much more.

Your teenager and young adult may not want much guidance from you. If you have a child who is going through that independent streak, just lead them to the Youth Page. All summer, we will update our page with interesting places to go and fun things to do. Some activities cost money, while others do not. Most of our recommendations are local.

If you have never done this before, try it. Provide some guidance and nudge your children toward a better, more adventurous summer that includes reading and physical activity.

Ricardo L. Whitaker

Political Points

Senator Cardin Supports Workable Framework on Immigration

Press Release from
Sen. Ben Cardin

COLUMBIA, MD -- U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) today held a roundtable discussion on immigration reform with community leaders to discuss the importance of enacting a workable framework for comprehensive reform.

The U.S. Senate is scheduled begin consideration of the *Border Security and Economic Opportunity and Immigration Act*, S. 744, historic legislation with bipartisan support that would strengthen border security, create a fair legalization program, and create a workable system to ensure that employers only hire legal workers in the future.

There are approximately 11 million undocumented immigrants now living in the United States. In Maryland, there are an estimated 275,000 undocumented immigrants, accounting for 4.6 percent of our state's population and 6.2 percent of the labor force, according to estimates by the Pew Research Hispanic Center.

Senator Cardin has spoken out in support of comprehensive reform legislation that will ensure our borders are secure and

create a process that will give millions of undocumented immigrants an opportunity to emerge from the shadows and find a path toward citizenship if they want to stay in this country. "There is strong bipartisan support for immigration reform and for creating a fair pathway to citizenship for the approximately 11 million undocumented immigrants now living in the United States," said Senator Cardin. "We should not forget that immigration reform also is about keeping families together and ensuring that immigration laws are respected."

Despite fears that immigrants will take jobs from Americans, numerous studies show that immigrants and U.S.-born workers generally do not compete for the same jobs. In fact, a 2009 study by the Cato Institute, a conservative think tank, found that immigrants have a positive effect on the workplace. The business sector strongly supports comprehensive immigration reform because our economy is in need of highly skilled workers that can help stimulate growth and keep our nation at the forefront of innovation

and innovation. From 1990 to 2005, foreign-born nationals founded more than 25 percent of the technology startups in the United States, including Google, e-Bay, Yahoo, and Intel. These companies now employ 220,000 people in the United States.

School Performance Reports Online

The Individual School Performance Report for each school reflects stu-

dents' performance on the 2012 Maryland School Assessment (MSA) and the Alternative Maryland School Assessment (Alt-MSA).

Performance at the high school level is measured by the English, algebra/data analysis, and biology High School Assessments (HSAs).

The reports can be found on the HCPSS website, under each school's profile.

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Revisited: Hammond HS Dance Company Performance



Photo Courtesy of DorothyDavid2013©

by **Amanda Frekot**
Guilford Gazette Intern

As a Hammond High School graduate and Junior Dance Company alumnus, I always enthusiastically anticipate Hammond’s spring dance concert. This year was no different. Recently, dance director Brooke Kuhl-McClelland and the Hammond dance companies and classes presented “Leave Your Legacy,” a show presenting 30 pieces and running two-and-a-half hours.

The length of the concert may seem alarming, but I was quite surprised when I

saw that so much time had passed by the end of the show. I was left wanting to see more of what these talented dancers had to offer.

The show started on an energetic note with a Dance Company number called “Party Time!” The girls were animated as they jumped around to an Aaron Carter song and garnered the attention of the crowd immediately.

The Dance Company shined in pieces choreographed by Ms. Kuhl-McClelland, such as the image-centric dance “Start All Over” and “Don’t Stop Movin’,” which looked

like an intense work-out, although the dancers did not show it or break character.

Ms. Kuhl-McClelland developed a new Dance Company piece this year called “Night Night.” The

dancers were wore messy hair and clown-like make-up to create an eerie look that matched the dark choreography. The nightmarish dance included a closet door prop, which the girls (Continued on Page 6)

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Dance from Page 5

entered and exited from like the monsters a child would fear. The piece was satisfyingly unsettling and ended with the spotlight on senior Dance Company captain Nadira Adams waving goodbye with a creepy smile as she closed the closet door behind her.

Ms. Kuhl-McClelland said that the dance came from the music, which she heard as she was watching the Olympics this past summer. The dance is a great addition to the already-astounding collection of Ms. Kuhl-McClelland's legacy.

Alex Krebs, a guest choreographer for the Dance Company, introduced a piece called "Black Widow," which included unique, memorable moves to a dub-step remix, and ripple effects that flowed tastefully. Krebs's piece provided a refreshing addition to the concert.

Variety was not an issue in the show, however. The dances were mixed and well-rounded in everything from group sizes to style. Tap, modern, jazz, lyrical and hip-hop were only a few of the styles found in this concert.

The Junior Dance Company performed just as well as the Dance Company in upbeat showstoppers like "Some Kinda Wonderful," choreographed by Ms. Kuhl-McClelland and "Poppin' Tags," choreographed by junior and

Dance Company member Alli Richards. They showed a fiercer side but did not lack energy in Ms. Kuhl-McClelland's "Power Full."

The talent of the companies was impressive, but the performance from the classes was a delightful surprise. Within the pieces they choreographed themselves, it was clear that the students had a firm grasp of dance technique as they utilized space, repetition, ripples and other dynamics effectively.

Ms. Kuhl-McClelland seems to have provided a solid foundation for the students to develop a style and identity through dance. She said the pieces that were choreographed as a class assignment were selected based on a ratings system of "entertainment value, choreographic elements, and performance quality."

Although the classes seemed to know what they were doing, the mentors who choreographed pieces for these classes still had their work cut out for them. There were more than 20 students in each class, which created a challenge for the students that were choreographing for these large groups.

On the stage, the dancers looked put-together and in sync. The efforts of the mentors came through in pieces such as "Stop the Madness!," which was choreographed by junior and Dance Company mem-

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ber Katie O'Connell and graduating seniors and Junior Dance Company captains Keiko Lewis and Shannon McCarthy and performed by Dance I/II.

Ms. O'Connell said that she relished the challenge of being a mentor. As a long time dancer, she enjoyed discovering the differences between the way students learned choreography and the way she did. "It was really interesting and fun because the class that I worked with was a mixed class with Dance I and II," she said. "It's fun to teach other people."

Ms. Kuhl-McClelland acknowledged that the mentors and captains went above expectations this year. "I've been having some back problems and neck problems, so they took on teaching when they could," she said. She also added, "Their choreography is stunning. People ask if it's mine."

Although seniors have graced the Hammond stage for the last time in this performance, the talent remaining in both the companies and the classes is

promising for next year's show, which O'Connell called "a special concert." "Next year will be my twenty-fifth year at Hammond, so we're bringing back all the favorites," Ms. Kuhl-McClelland said. After watching this concert, I am eager to see what the Hammond Dance companies and classes have in store.

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Hammond News

Leadership Opportunity Maryland Leadership Workshops' Summer Workshop. Learn communication, project planning, self-awareness, and group dynamics, July 28 through August 3, 2013. Go to www.mlw.org to apply or call 301-444-8623. Hammond offers a \$100 scholarship.

Concussion Testing Scheduled for Aug 12-13, 8AM-Noon and . Forms can be found on the Ham-

mond website.

Fall Sports Meeting

Set for Aug 12th, the annual parent meeting to discuss fall sports information, will be held in the Auditorium at 7 pm.

Golf Team Tryouts

Interested? Minimal experience is necessary. Send email to:

Scott_osborne@hcpss.org

College Access

University of MD is hold-

ing a College Access Conference to offer guidance to first generation college students and underrepresented groups. For more information call 301-314-8385 by Tues., June 18th.

2013 - 2014 Events

- **Student Leadership Summit** on August 12 & 13, 9 am - 1pm.
- **Fall Sports Parent, Athlete, and Coaches Meeting** on August 12, 7 pm.
- **First Day of Fall Sports**

- Tryouts** on August 14th
- **Ninth Grade Eat, Meet and Greet** on August 29th, 6 pm
- **Back to School Night 2013**, August 29th, 7 pm
- **Boosters Golf Tournament**, October 5th
- **Homecoming 2013**, October 12th.
- **Prom 2014**, May 3rd—Martin's West

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Business

Which Business Structure is Best for You?

by **Joseph T. Soltis**
Guest Columnist

This article will be the first editorial of a series that I will compose in an effort to answer the fundamental question of the significance of appropriate business structure and as such, I will address the major talking points of:

1. Differentiating the types of business structures
2. The legal and tax ramifications of sole proprietorship,
3. Partnerships,
4. Limited Partnerships
5. Incorporation

For now, perhaps we could focus on two essential questions – choosing the legal name of the business and choosing the legal form in which to operate the business. These choices should be carefully considered, as making the incorrect choice could be financially devastating.

Basically, there are three ways to operate a business:

1. Sole Proprietorship
2. Partnership, and
3. Corporation.

There is no simplistic test for the existence of a Partnership; however, the major requirements are co-ownership of a business, and naturally, making a profit. As a general rule with respect to taxes, the

sharing of profits, together with dividing the work of operating the business, is enough evidence to imply the existence of a partnership.

Each type of business operation has benefits and downsides.

The type of business can make a big difference in the net profit;

- Affect the tax liabilities;
- Affect the ability to attract capital needed for expansion;
- The extent of personal liabilities if the business falls into hardship and;
- Minimize (or maximize) the friction among individuals within the organization.

Choosing the form in which to operate our business is our choice. To be recognized for tax purposes, the form we choose must be a genuine business entity – whereas, it must be entered into and pursued in good faith for the purpose of making a profit.

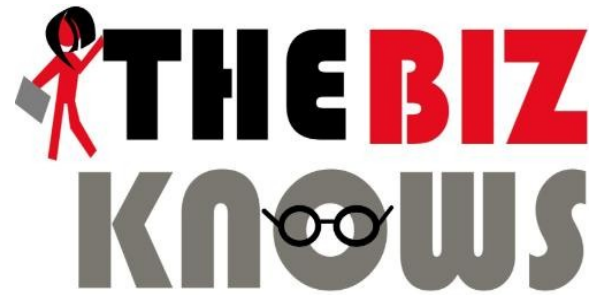
This makes it legally different from a personal activity and/or for public good. Our activities will be classified as a business if it produces a profit in any 2 out of 5 consecutive years (unless the Internal Revenue Service rules to the contrary).

Theoretically, every new business should seek organizing themselves in the most advantageous way from the beginning – this will allow the business to expand without changing form. In practice, our businesses may not be able to start with the legal structure we foresee will be needed a few years from now.

It is always sound advice to consult our attorneys at

the beginning and seek their council and advice. *Joseph T. Soltis, Jr. is the Owner of Soltis Consulting, an organization offering business, strategic, and operations consulting since 1994. He has over 25 years experience in business management, strategic planning, business development, consultancy, and business analysis. Contact Joe directly at (443)*

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Financial Moves New Parents Need to Make

Non-profit credit counseling agency Take Charge America offers new parents advice for securing their family's financial future.

PHOENIX – (June 4, 2013) – When a baby comes home for the first time, new parents are often consumed with the daily tasks and expenses associated with feeding, diapering and sleeping – not so much on long-term money management and goals.

“New parents are eager for advice on topics like strollers or vaccinations,

but future money matters are often overlooked,” said Mike Sullivan, chief education officer for Take Charge America, a national non-profit credit counseling agency. “In the long run, getting your financial house in order will impact your children far more than your choice of baby swing or diaper brand.” Sullivan explains further with six moves new parents should make to ensure their family's financial security: Establish an Emergency Fund – The cornerstone of every financial plan, an emergency fund is espe-

cially important for parents. The liquid savings account is intended for true emergencies, like covering the cost of a trip to the emergency room or a new air conditioning unit in the dead of summer. A well-funded emergency savings account should cover three-to-six months of living expenses. Pay Off Bad Debt – Now is the time to pay down student loans and get rid of credit card debt. If you're in the habit of using a credit card, it's time to stop accumulating debt and focus on prudent living for the benefit of your new family. Establish a Will and/or

Estate Plan – While it may be hard to imagine needing a will or estate plan, they're critical for protecting your children. A will and trust allow you to name a guardian for your children, ensure their personal and financial wellbeing, and protect your assets from probate and hefty taxes. Purchase Life Insurance – Life insurance will protect and provide for anyone who depends on you financially. A good rule of thumb is to purchase enough term life insurance to cover five-to-seven years of income.

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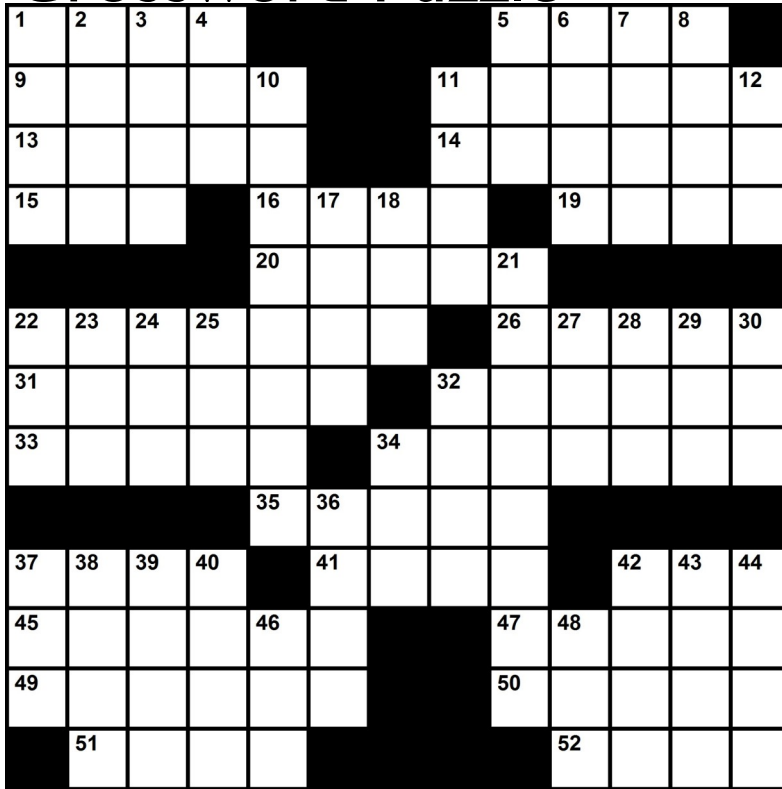


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Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1. Haggling word
- 5. Burst
- 9. Posed
- 11. Oregonian
- 13. Like some lingerie
- 14. Marvel at
- 15. Haul off
- 16. Bible book
- 19. Ran, as colors
- 20. Not as good
- 22. In a rush
- 26. Townie
- 31. Harsh
- 32. House check and balance
- 33. Lacing
- 34. Paid for
- 35. "Naughty you!"
- 37. Kuwaiti
- 41. Sign in a store window
- 42. Martini ingredient
- 45. Carmaker's woe
- 47. Exchange your car
- 49. Deserved
- 50. Things to deck
- 51. Take a breather
- 52. Convene

Down

- 1. Hold up
- 2. Parrot
- 3. Fret
- 4. Recognize
- 5. Greenhouse plot
- 6. Souvlaki meat
- 7. Google promised not to be
- 8. Wolf type
- 10. Lotteries

- 12. Scarlet or burgundy
- 17. Icy
- 18. Attempt
- 21. Hour before midnight
- 22. QB's cry
- 23. "___ calls?"
- 24. Mountain shoe
- 25. Metal
- 27. Number
- 28. Garage contents
- 29. Devoured
- 30. Was ahead
- 32. Just a little bit
- 34. Baseball hat
- 36. Reserve
- 37. "We ___ Family"
- 38. Back end
- 39. Farm unit
- 40. Forbids
- 42. Strong wind
- 43. Like some threats
- 44. Branch headquarters?
- 46. Court decision
- 48. Computer memory

Find Solutions to the puzzle at:

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Children's Chorus of Maryland Performs at Saint Nicholas' Church In Baltimore

Children's Chorus of Maryland's lyric and concert choirs performed at the Greek Festival at St. Nicholas Church in Baltimore on Thursday, June 6, 2013 in preparation for their Hungary tour this summer. CCM has been chosen to be the Lab Choir for the 2013 Kodály Institute's Summer Workshop in Hungary. The CCM Tour Chorus will perform in Budapest as well as Kecskemét. The Tour Chorus will perform a concert in Budapest as well as perform for the International Kodály Symposium, take Solfa Classes and perform 1 additional concert in Kecskemét. In addition, the students will visit the homes

of Bartok and Kodály. CCM students will be in Hungary from July 19-31, 2013. Children's Chorus of Maryland is a non-profit 501c3 organization that has been feeding children's souls since 1976 by teaching them to read and write and truly understand the language of music, making learning fun, helping children develop poise and confidence, helping them make good friends with other children that share similar interests, giving them personalized attention in small learning groups taught by specialists, and providing them with opportunities to perform with pride at very high lev-

els. CCM performs on national and international tours, on recordings, on television and radio, at festivals, and with professional artists including orchestras, adult choruses, opera companies, celebrities, and more. CCM choruses have performed at Carnegie Hall, the White House, Kennedy Center, National Cathedral, and many other fine venues around the world. Past performances also include tours and festivals in Nova Scotia and Banff, Canada, as well as Hawaii, Disney World, Vienna, Salzburg and Prague. This summer CCM will expand its resume of performances to include the Kodály Insti-

tute in Hungary. For further information about this tour and our program in general, please visit www.ccmsings.org or call 410-494-1480.

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Healthy Living

Credit Union Employees Shape Up for Better Health

by **Natasha Henry**
Special Contributor

[Laurel, MD] — An increasing number of businesses are finding new ways to help employees take better care of their health. Tower Federal Credit Union, headquartered in Laurel, Md., has capitalized on that trend. One example is the credit union's recent "Shape Up" fitness challenge.

During the eight-week challenge, 70 Tower employees formed teams and tracked their physical activity, nutritional intake and weight loss. Employees received tips on nutrition and fitness activities and exercised in Tower's free on-site gym facility. At the end of the challenge, the weight loss total was a whopping 226 pounds.

"Shape Up" challenge winners included Joyce Conley, Patricia Barlow, Maria Cook, Caroline Evans and Darlene Herman from Tower Title Services, Tower's in-house title company.

Each received a trophy and a gift card for achieving the highest average weight loss. Out of the 226

pounds, the winning team lost 45 pounds. Another group of Tower employees, appropriately called "The Pep-toes," each received gift cards for completing 100 percent of the program. "I'm glad that Tower has made the employee wellness program available.

The activities that we participated in were fun and I can see a big difference in my physical health," says Cook, a Senior Title Processor at Tower Title Services. "I especially enjoyed the camaraderie we had while working together during the 'Shape Up' challenge."

In addition to the fitness challenge, Tower offers Lunch-n-Learn sessions, health fairs, exercise classes, and health screenings.

The credit union's award-winning "Wealth of Wellness" employee wellness program, offered in conjunction with corporate health and fitness vendor Well Advantage®, has received numerous awards including an Innovation in Wellness Award from the Howard

County Health Department. Tower has also received recognition by the Baltimore Business Journal as one of the Baltimore area's healthiest employers.

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Exchange from Page 1

Ms. Homann is a foreign exchange student living with the Patino family. During her stay with the Patinos, Ms. Homann became an extended member of the family. Kelly Patino is the stereotypical suburban soccer mom with more tasks than time. Ms. Homann said that she wants to model Kelly Patino's method of housework, which is more laid back than her biological mom's routine.

Ms. Patino said she "learned fast to stop worrying about how the house looked." She decided to be herself while Ms. Homann lived with the family.

The experience is new for Ms. Homann. This quiet young lady is living with Manny Patino, the dad, who is expert at funny sarcasm and fun teasing.

Mr. Patino said that Ms. Homann was quietly accepting the teasing, but it was not long before she learned to give it right back, proving that she is no light weight when it comes joking around. Tessa Patino, is the teenager in the family who attended Hammond High School right alongside Ms. Homann.

Kelly Patino said that while the two girls had a good relationship and shared much, they maintained their individuality. Ms. Homann's idea of

what the U.S. was like changed when she arrived here. She said, "I thought I would land in the middle of a country with cowboys. In high school I thought cheerleaders and football players would be sitting at lunch tables together. So I just wondered about it." She said, "I thought Columbia would be a big city without any trees. But I really like it and there are things to do at school."

Ms. Homan considers American schools more exciting than the German counterpart. She pointed out that there are 1,200 students in the hallways of Hammond, but only 300 in her school in Germany. She said, "It's hard to

make friends" in a German school because the classroom population stays intact from 5th grade through 10th. There is no opportunity to freely interact with other students.

The German school day ends at 1:10 pm. Ms. Homann said, "In Germany, school is over and all go home. Here, people stay after. stick together like this."

Anna Homann is an exchange student through World Heritage. You can learn more about World Heritage by visiting their website at www.whhosts.com.

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