School District of Cameron 600 Wisconsin Avenue P.O. Box 378 Cameron, WI 54822

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Blood Drive

Cameron FFA will be hosting a blood drive on Wednesday, November 17 in the high school gym. Make an appointment online at redcross. org or contact Mr. Ladd at jladd@cameron.k12.

wi.us to make an appointment.



Remember Veterans' Day

The Veterans' Day program will be held on November 11 at 9:40 a.m. The public is invited to attend. Veterans are invited to stay for coffee and snacks. Thank you, Veterans, for your service.



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The Cometary



Fall 2021 Volume 18 Issue 1

On the water

by Erin Salm

What does Mr. Ladd's natural resources class do? Really, what don't they do! His class, contrived of about 20 students, often starts the period off by launching their canoes or kayaks into the school's pond. With two to a canoe, the students hold races, paddle the perimeter, and have a chance to observe nature. Various students and Mr. Ladd himself have mentioned a few scenarios involving races resulting in shrieking students and teetering canoes. However, there has yet to be an overturned canoe. Knock on wood.

Along with outdoor activities, Mr. Ladd also gives his students the opportunity to get their boating certificate. After completing an online course, students are granted their boater's certification and are capable of operating a boat



Kayaks on the pond! Two natural resource students paddle vigorously across the water.

themselves.

The students in natural resources learn about the many things the DNR does, and they study the benefits of recycling. Mr. Ladd also

has his students learning how to measure the weight of garbage. They calculated the total waste of the school's food after the two lunches. The leftover food weighed between 50 and 100 pounds. With recycling in mind, the natural resources class is trying to come up with a good, economical way to discard the trash. Mr. Ladd is fervently on the hunt for somebody with a pot-bellied garbage disposal. He believes a swine is the solution for the school's waste conflict. If you just so happen to own a hungry pig, feel free to email Mr. Ladd!

The natural resources class is a great way for students to get outdoors and learn about ways we can improve our planet, city, and school.



Race! Ashtyn Waite (left) and Wyatt Warner (right) paddle towards shore.

Notes from Mrs. Sanborn - school counselor

Attention Seniors

Get help paying for college! The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the 2022-2023 school year became available October 1. Students should use 2020 tax year data to complete the forms. Once a student submits his/ her FAFSA, financial aid estimates from campuses can be processed. The FAFSA application is available at https://fafsa. ed.gov/.

Receive free on-site assistance completing your FAFSA during a College Goal Wisconsin event. Local events

will be held in Rice Lake at Northwood College (1900 College Drive) on Monday, October 25. This event is open to the public, regardless of where you plan to attend



college, and starts at 6 p.m. For more information and what to bring, visit

www.collegegoalwi.org. Information was shared with all seniors during their senior conferences with Mrs. Sanborn.

Notes from Mr. Meznarich - principal

End of first trimester

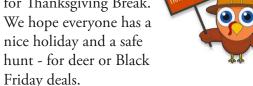
The final day of the first trimester is Friday, November 19. It is very important that students have all of their classwork completed by the end of the day on the 19th.

Second trimester

The second trimester will begin on Monday, November 29. Students should check their schedules over the break because everyone's schedule will change. This includes potentially your lunch time as well.

Thanksgiving break

Students will not have school Monday, November 22 through Friday, November 26 for Thanksgiving Break. We hope everyone has a nice holiday and a safe hunt - for deer or Black



Veterans Day Ceremony

The high school and middle school will host an in person Veterans Day ceremony on Thursday, November 11 at 9:40. Weather permitting, the ceremony will be held outside on the football field. After

the ceremony, a small receptions for veterans will be hosted by members of the Future Business Leaders of America club.

Academic and Career Planning (ACP)

The Department of Public Instruction requires all schools throughout the state of Wisconsin to work with students in grades 6-12 on Academic and Career Planning activities. Students at the high school did goal setting at the beginning of the school year and they will do a variety of other activities throughout the year, such as interest inventories, college and tech school visits, and career explorations. The complete Academic and Career plan can be found on the district website.

Class rings and graduation announcements

Each year members of the sophomore and senior classes meet with a representative from Jostens to pick out and order class rings and graduation announcements. Seniors are also fitted for caps and gowns. This meeting will take place by the end of October.

Yearbook orders

To order this year's yearbook, there are two easy options.

- 1. Go to www.jostensyear books.com and order online. You may pay with a credit card.
- 2. Fill out the form and bring it and your money to Mrs. Hopkins.

Order forms were distributed in homerooms and are available in the high school office. To order directly, go to www.jostensyearbooks.com. Cost at this time is \$55. Until October 29, four free icons are available with the purchase of a line of personalization. See Mrs. Hopkins with additional questions. Don't miss out!

Senior yearbook pics

Please bring two senior and two baby pictures to Mrs. Hopkins by November 19 to be included in the yearbook's special senior section. Pictures may either be emailed to chopkins@cameron.k12.wi.us or brought in to be scanned. Pictures will be returned.

Logrolling!

by Erin Salm

When you think of logrolling, what comes to mind? Most probably one wouldn't imagine a tall, thin freshman girl running on a floating, felled tree. However, this is exactly what CHS freshman Katie Shilts does--and she's good at it. The whole Shilts family is involved in the sport. Each summer, they travel to various competitions throughout Wisconsin, all in different categories depending on their age.

Though logrolling is not a very well-known sport, it has existed for a long time in Wisconsin. Mrs. Shilts explained, "[Logrolling]started as a sport in the evenings after lumberjacks had worked moving logs down the river all day." They challenged each other to see who could stay on a log the longest."

Logrolling matches begin with two people standing on either end of a log. Those new in the sport wear shoes and run on carpeted logs,

which allow for easier grip. Those with more experience wear spiked shoes and run on uncovered logs. Typically, a match is the best out of five falls, and the larger the log, the easier it is to roll on.

Every year, Hayward hosts the World Lumberjack Competition, where people from around the world come to compete in logrolling. Katie Shilts and her sister, Reece, have been competing for five years now, and each have placed at the World Lumberjack Competition. Mrs. Shilts said the key to remaining on the log is to have fast feet, and to always be moving. Her daughter, Katie, said, "Logrolling takes more endurance than people think. Sometimes you're rolling on the log for ten minutes. More people should compete. It's fun!"

So picture it -- the Shilts family on a log, rolling as fast as they can! What a great image.



Seniors: Lacy Johnson, Zen Jacobson,

Coach: Melissa Longmire

Sports in Brief

Seniors: Maddie Wall, Brooklyn

Moravitz, Elena Martinson, Julia Eck,

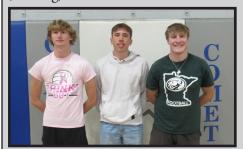
Volleyball

Coach: Val Pumala

Briana Klabunde

Dance

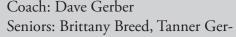
Coach: Dan Henken Seniors: Jeremy Benck, Wyatt Warner, Ashtyn Waite, Caleb Gillett (missing)



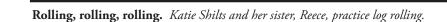
Cross Country Coach: Dave Gerber

ber, Cali Romsos, Taylor Severt, Mady Robel, Hailey Mikolon









Comet football

Be a team, be the most excited to play, be the best at doing your job

by Ethan Gifford

"Winners never quit, quitters never win," said the infamous NFL football coach Vince Lombardi. Last year, the Cameron football program had some success and created a foundation for the Comets to build upon. This year, Coach Henken tried something new for the program--he took the team to Bemidji State for a three day camp. This camp helped the Comets get ready for their upcoming season with many scrimmages against Minnesota teams. The camp based the experience on what it would be like to be a college football player.

After the camp, the Comets were inspired and had a goal to do something they haven't done in 5 years--earn another game to play or, in other words, make it to playoffs. As the season progressed, the team realized this would be a tough goal to reach as the Comets have an extremely young team and many of the starters are getting their first feel on Varsity. However, the Comets' determined seniors gave everything they had on the field to help teach the underclassmen.

Senior guard and middle linebacker, Ashtyn Waite, reflected on the year, "The difference this year is the position I'm in with the pressure of people looking up to me,



I want to be the ideal role model and pass it down to the underclassman. I hope I can make a difference in this program." Ashtyn was a leader since the first day of camp and set the tone for the program.

Another successful senior tightend and outside linebacker, Caleb Gillett, commented on the season, "I think we have one of the better coaching staffs in the area, but our four seniors make the staff work with coming up with game plans. I would do anything to go back and

start over as a freshman and there are only a couple things I would change. I would put more time into lifting and bettering myself physically and I would have put a greater effort towards bringing the team together. There is a sense of pride you feel when you win with 30 or 40 guys on the field." Caleb's advice to the younger guys is for them to take every opportunity they can get to play football because it is the most rewarding sport, in his opinion.

"Our first ever win on the new field was something I will never forget. I was happy to be there--as a group we really played for each other and felt like we did something special for the town," said senior outside-linebacker and tight end Jeremy Benck.

Cameron football is getting better every game. With the help of the strong senior leadership, the future is looking good. The Heart 'O' North better watch out because the Comets are back!

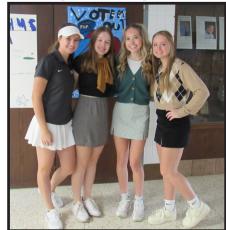


Srong Comet defense. Captain and leader of defense Ashtyn Waite gets the defense set agianst the Northwestern Tigers.

Go loco for Hoco!

by Ashley Schamberger

The week we all had been anticipating finally arrived --HOMECOMING! Homecoming week in the Cameron High School consisted of many events and dress up days in efforts to win the Spirit Stick. This award is decided based on a system of points. Whichever class racks up the highest amount of points based on various events would win the Spirit Stick. The Spirit Stick symbolizes the class that has the greatest teamwork and spirit. As past years have proved, this fight for the stick can get quite rowdy! CHS's Student Council organized the week's events. This year's dress-up days consisted of U.S.A., Country vs Country Club, Class Color Day, Rave, and lastly, Comet Pride Day. Dress up days allowed the students to rack up some extra points in



Fore! Juniors Gretta Hall, Sarah Weber, Jordyn Allen, and Carli Wilson dressed up as country club ladies on Tuesday. efforts to gain the Spirit Stick.

The week started off with a friendly, competitive Kahoot, created by Henry Pike. The questions consisted of various trivia about Wisconsin, Cameron history, HON mascots, and railroad history for our opponents Friday. The Kahoot points were decided based on the accumulative position of each grade. The rankings from first to fourth



Senior royalty. Homecoming court members include Jeremy Benck, Wyatt Warner, Caleb Gillett, Tanner Gerber, Ashtyn Waite, Brooklyn Moravitz, Elena Martinson, Taylor Severt, Madison Wall, and Cali Romos.

were seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen.

Afterwards, the senior homecoming court was announced. The court members consisted of Madison Wall, Brooklyn Moravitz, Elena Martison, Cali Romsos, Taylor Severt, Jeremy Benck, Tanner Gerber, Ashtyn Waite, Caleb Gillett, and Wyatt Warner--who all reigned for the entire week in their sashes and crowns.

As the week continued, Wednesday held the boys Powder Puff volleyball tournament. The boys dressed up in their kneepads and took to the volleyball court ready to bump, set, and spike. The tournament started with the freshmen playing the seniors and the sophomores playing the juniors. The winners of both games faced off for first and second. The losers determined third and fourth. In the end, the sophomore boys came out victorious over all followed by--in



Sophomores take the win. The sophomore boys hold up a "W" as they take home the gold in Powder Puff.

numerical order--seniors, juniors, and freshmen.

Friday ended the week with a pep assembly containing various competitions such as "hungry hippo," "balloon stomp," an impairment goggles obstacle course, a makeover race, and "finish the lyrics" game. The students were even graced with a dance performed by teachers and staff. At the end of the assembly, the Student Council announced the queen and king. Brooklyn Moravitz and Ashtyn Waite were declared royalty. Proceeding the pep rally, were the final two events--a dance performance by the Cameron Pom and Dance team and girls Powder Puff football. In the end, the senior girls came up victorious, scoring the last available points for the Spirit Stick. But, the reigning champions-the senior class--came up short with the juniors (Class of 2023) winning the Spirit stick. Friday night was the long-awaited football game against the Spooner Rails. The game was a hard-fought match, but didn't end in



Dazzled up! Cameron seniors get dressed up, ready to tear up the dance floor at their last homecoming.

the Comets favor.

Saturday concluded homecoming week with an outrageous amount of dancing and a tremendous amount of fun. The dance was a nice way to end the week and celebrate the annual homecoming game. #ripourcalves

Blooming butterflies

by Eden Dellinger

Over the several months of quarantine in the Spring and Summer of 2020, raising caterpillars into butterflies became a worldwide internet trend. The world became very aware of the impact humans have on our environment and decided to take action. Butterflieslike bees and moths—benefit the environment through pollination and population control of different plant and insect species.

In Mrs. Jen Groskopf's classroom, you can find an enclosure at the front containing beautiful Monarch



Drink up. The milkweed leaves absorb the water in these test tubes. Mrs. Groskopf replaces these with fresh water every day for the caterpillars.

butterflies. Just a week prior, they were lively caterpillars, munching on milkweed leaves, preparing to form cocoons. When Mrs. Groskopf first received the little caterpillars, they were hardly as long as a pinkynail. She couldn't believe they would ultimately transform into the beautiful butterflies they are today. The entire process took a little over three weeks and Mrs. Groskopf's language arts class had the opportunity to observe their growth from start-to-finish and will be writing stories based on the



Hungry caterpillar. This caterpillar climbs the branch towards a milkweed leaf. The caterpillars quadrupled in size within the first



Monarch at last. The beautiful butterflies emerged within weeks of the process. Students enjoyed watching the process and will start writing about it in the language arts class.

process and what they saw.

At the end of every day, Mrs. Groskopf takes the time to clean out the butterflies' enclosure, replacing the paper towel, water, and milkweed leaves. She plans on upgrading to something larger to allow them to spread their wings more, in the event they are unable to be released right away due to lack of food for the butterflies outside.

Trick or treat

As a service project this Halloween season, the Cameron National Honor Society members will be trick-ortreating for canned goods. All proceeds will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul Pantry and Kitchen in Rice Lake. The food will be made and served to those in need in our local community. So, when shopping for your treats, please stock up on your canned goods! Thank you.

"32 Strong"

by Julia Eck

"32 strong"—this is the motto for the 2021-22 Cameron Girls' Volleyball team. The motto entails that as a team they are all pushing each other to be the best version of themselves. The seniors this year are Iulia Eck, Elena Martinson, Brooke Moravitz, Madison Wall, and Briana Klabunde. They have been described as well structured, determined, and scrappy.

Ever since the school moved into the Heart 'O' North conference. the team has been playing against a lot of Division 1 and 2 teams. The girls have been able to keep up with the higher competition. Almost every single weekend included a tournament for the Comets. The Stout Sprawl was a two-day tournament with 40 teams total, including the Comets.

When asking the seniors what kind of advice they would give the girls who still have years left in the program, right side hitter Elena Martinson said, "Always believe in yourself and each other, trust is key to being a team."



Ace. Senior Maddie Wall serves an ace while dominating Barron.

Middle hitter Julia Eck, agreed with Elena on always having trust within your team. Her advice would be, "Make sure you have the right team chemistry. To help with this you have to learn to let go and not hold grudges. When things get stressful, remember why you started the sport and who you play for."

Other seniors interviewed were the aggressive libero, Maddie Wall, and strong hitter, Brooke Moravitz. Their advice to others is, "Never take anything for granted and cherish the little things because by the time you blink, it's all gone."

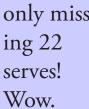
The lady Comets are always ready for their next competition, all while being excited for the future and are curious to where their volleyball season is going to take them. Meanwhile, they're staying "32 strong."



There's a wall there. The girls felt unstoppable after Julia Eck put up a huge block against Chetek-Weyerhaeuser.

1,022 serves Briana Klabunde

served her 1,000th playable serve this season... only missing 22



Congrats, Briana.

Happy Feet

by Mathias Weber

Run, run, run! With the season running down to its final stretch, the Cameron High School cross country team is one of the best in the Heart 'O' North conference. "The girls have won the last three invitationals, and have a good chance of making it to State," head coach David Gerber said. Seniors Brittany Breed and Taylor Severt have medaled in each race this season, and constant top fives from both girls have helped the Comets going into Regionals. The girls have also welcomed six new girls to the team, including two foreign exchange students-Mavi Carrescia, who is from Italy, and Anna Thomas, who hails from Germany. "The coaches are super nice and supportive. I will definitely miss it when the season is over," Anna said.

Don't discredit the boys, though! The boys team won the Ashland meet on September 23, their first win of the season. Senior Tanner Gerber has led the charge throughout the season, with junior Jacob



Country champions! (Top) Alyssa Kuffel, Hailey Mikolon, Brittany Breed, Cali Romsos, Taylor Severt, Mady Robel, (Bottom) Cora Romsos, Lexi Kuffel, Maddie Severt, and Mavi Carrescia posing after a victory.

Pearson and sophomore Hayden Hince continuing to improve. The freshmen, Carter Cherney, Wenzel Segebrecht, Ryker Ebert, and Chase Hauck, are new to cross country.



Boomin' Boys! Carter Cherney, Wenzel Segebrecht, Chase Hauck, Hayden Hince, Jacob Pearson, and Tanner Gerber show off their Ashland title.

They may have been thrown into the fire of the race setting, but they have exceeded expectations. The team is firing on all cylinders, with conference on October 12 (took 2nd place) and Sectionals on October 23. The girls look to make a State run and with this pace, they have a good chance to do it. The boys have a tough uphill battle in front of them, but with their motivation, we believe in them. They are a serious threat for the Regional title.

Collectively, the cross country team is getting better with every step they take and are looking foward to the rest of the season!

Good luck at your sectional meet!

MREs: the chemically engineered "full meal"

by Sarah Berg

Staff Sergeant Taylor Breault and Staff Sergeant Andrea Wahl of the National Guard came to Cameron High on September 22 to present what they eat as soldiers. They came in to teach Mrs. Adams' Foods class about the nutritional, scientific, and practical use of an MRE (Meal Ready to Eat). MRE, is a compact meal that can fit in the assault packs of soldiers as it comes in a vacuum sealed bag, is between 1,200-1,300 calories, and is meant to be carried and used on the field. Their presentation used TOTMs instead of actual MREs. A TOTM (Tailored Operational Training Meal) is under 1,000 calories, and is not meant to replace an MRE, but rather be used as a snack in training.

The students had the opportunity to take apart the TOTMs and create a gourmet meal from its contents. They competed to see who could make the best-looking dish, with the Staff Sergeants and Mrs. Adams as the judges. Students ate their creations after the judging. Her class was split up into four teams, and were judged on which team had the best-looking dish. The kids had to perform drills such as pushup



Teaching about TOTMs. Staff Sergants Taylor Breault (7 yos) and Andrea Wahl (19 yos) present what they eat as soldiers.



Cutting critics. Mrs. Adams and the visiting Staff Sergants judge Mrs. Adams' Foods class on their "gourmet" MRE meals.

contests to receive rewards. The last team judged (they called themselves the High Cuts) won with an A+. Many of the students were surprised by how good the prepackaged meals actually tasted, as their preconceived notions deemed them as just cans of spam and a pack of cigarettes. MREs can actually come with dessert and expired candy is also sometimes included. The packs always include condiments, moist towelettes, a spoon and gum. A US soldier once killed a terrorist with an MRE spoon. That is how strong they are made.

Sergeant Maija Johnson of the Army Reserves also gave some information about her experience with MREs, saying there is a myth between soldiers that the gum provided in the packs are laced with laxatives. This myth is actually true since xylitol (a natural laxative) is used to sweeten the mint gum. Some soldiers have to eat these heavily processed packs for every meal of the day for a year, which can cause

constipation. They do not have any "real", high-in-fiber food, so your body cannot pass them as easily as fruit or vegetables.

The meals and drinks can be heated in a plastic bag. The bag has a pack filled with magnesium, iron and sodium, activated by water, which heats up to around 110-degrees. Military personnel get their water from a water buffalo, which is just a 400-gallon tank of water on wheels. Once the water is put into the bag, a soldier places the entrée pack inside and shakes it around. Once the water is distributed evenly in the bag, soldiers place it between "a rock or something", as listed on the directions of an MRE heater. But, they need to be fast since it takes only 30 seconds for the mixture to react and can cause burns if not used properly. MRE's are not healthy or delicious, but their chemical compound is what keeps our nation's fighters alive.

Mrs. Adams' class learned much!

Careers are everywhere

Career opportunities were abundant as Cameron High School students visited the Barron County Career Fair held at the fairgrounds on September 27. CHSers visited booths by the police department, sheriff's department, Northwood College, Rice Lake Weighing, PUSH, and many others. Students were allowed to operate equipment, pound nails, and resuscitate a distressed patient. Additionally, by the time students boarded the bus to go back to school, their goodie bags were filled with candy and other fun gadgets. Junior



Siding on. Senior Hailey Mikolon learned how to side a house at the BUILD MY FUTURE event.



Patient saved. Junior Kahlia Evans was taught to intubate on a practice patient at the Barron County Career Day.



Yellow is your color. Students interested in building careers attended the BUILD MY FUTURE event and had a great time!

Devon Tasker said, "I learned a bit. I especially liked the fire trailer because it was actually burning!"

Not many days later, thirty-two students, along with Mr. Ladd and Mrs. Sanborn, attended the BUILD MY FUTURE event sponsored by the St. Croix Valley Home Builders Association held at the fairgrounds in Glenwood City. Students participated in hands-on activities sponsored by businesses and Northwood Technical College and Chippewa Valley Technical College. Activities included

siding, roofing, framing, welding, masonry, plumbing, electrical, truck driving simulation, bucket truck lifts and pole climbing, land surveying and excavating to name a few.

Approximately 600 students from 17 different schools were in attendance.

Thanks to all of the companies who shared their time and the sponsors who made these opportunities possible for students. Hopefully, these experiences will help our kids find interests to explore further as they look to find the perfect job.



Dig it. Freshman Wyatt Swan practiced on the excavator at the Barron County Career Day.

New kids on the block

by Ethan Gifford

Cameron welcomes new foreign friends every chance they get. Not only do these exchange students learn and experience American culture but they also create bonds with Cameron's wonderful student body. This year Cameron welcomed three foreign exchange students, Tom Oelhaf from Germany, Anna Thomas from Germany, and Mavi Carrescia from Italy. The welcoming families include The Kuffels, The Leschisns, and The Gilletts.

The three students arrived in Wisconsin in August. Early on, they started making an impact at Cameron by interacting in one traditional American activity . . . sports. When Tom first learned he was going to America, he started training for football. Anna and Mavi stuck together and joined cross country.

Junior Anna Thomas is from Frankfurt, Germany, and is staying with the Leschisin family. She has no siblings and she lives with her parents and grandparents. Anna wanted to come to America to improve her English, and to experience the American culture. The first difference she acknowledged



Ready to kick. Tom was this year's kicker and was a positive motivator on the team.

was that the size of her home city compared to the small village of Cameron is quite different. She came from a population of 800,000 into a population of just under 2,000. Another difference in school is the organized sports. "The biggest difference is in German schools is we generally don't have organized sports and most certainly we don't have as much school spirit. It is more focused on academics," said Anna. Her favorite American food is cheese curds. Anna is extremely excited to celebrate Halloween and Thanksgiving and experience the new culture.

Junior Tom Olheaf is from Berkheim, Wurttemberg, and lives with the Gillett family. He has one twin brother and two dogs, Aria and Amy. Tom wanted to come to America to meet new people and improve his English. The first difference Tom noticed in America is the size of things. Everything in America is bigger. The roads, stores, and, of course, food proportions. This one was thing that Tom wishes he could bring to Germany. Tom's favorite foods so far in America are burgers and steak. Tom loves the experience and hopes to see a NFL game in the near future.

Mavi Carrescia is from Turin, Italy, and is living with the Kuffel family. She has a younger brother. Mavi wanted to come to America to improve her English and experience our culture. She noticed a huge difference in America compared to Italy but she likes the difference and the new scenery. Mavi also noticed the distance is more spaced out compared to Italy as well as that public transportation is really non-existent here. Mavi really likes

the organized sporting events in school and wishes they could have something like that back in Italy. She can not wait to see what the future holds and is loving the American experience.

These foreign students are making a huge impact on school and our community, and will always be our foreign friends. We hope that our host families keep giving them an amazing experience and show them the culture in America. We also plan to learn as much from them as we hope they learn from us.

Welcome to America -- and welcome to Cameron, Wisconsin! We are so glad you chose to visit us.



Welcome to America. Mavi is welcomed by her host family, Alyssa and Lexi Kuffel, at the airport.



Say cheese. Anna and her host sisters, Sydney and Olivia Leschisn, greet one another at the airport when Anna flew in.