



# The Firelands Express



VOLUME 4 ISSUE 77

NOVEMBER 19, 2012

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The first snow soon will fall! Thanksgiving is a few weeks away and Christmas is right around the corner. Before we know it, the first semester will end!

The beginning of the school year provided many examples of the excellence we stress and achieve here in the Firelands Schools. For example, preliminary data from the Ohio Department of Education indicates that the Firelands Local Schools will receive a report card rating of "Excellent with Distinction." In fact, this recent accomplishment serves as a prime example that excellence is a state of being and striving, never something that simply occurs and remains static.

As the school year progresses, I believe that it is important for each of us to review our focus and goals, fine tuning our daily action plan and ensuring that we continue to grow individually and collectively. Each day brings new challenges and we must develop creative ways of consistently achieving the excellence we desire. Together we can and will experience and celebrate new successes each day.

In Robert Schuller's book, *Tough Times Never Last, But Tough People Do*, he speaks of the power of words. He states,

*Understand the power of this word, impossibility. When uttered aloud, this word is devastating in its effect. Thinking stops. Progress is halted. Doors slam shut. Research comes to a screeching halt. Further experimentation is torpedoed. Projects are*

*abandoned. Dreams are discarded. The brightest and the best of the creative brain cells turn off. In this defensive maneuver, the brain shelters itself against the painful sting of insulting disappointments, brutal rejections, and dashed hopes.*

*But let someone utter the magic words, it's possible. Buried dreams are resurrected. Sparks of fresh enthusiasm flicker. Tabled motions are brought back to the floor. Dusty files are reopened. Lights go on again in the darkened laboratories. Telephones start ringing. Typewriters make clattering music. Budgets are revised and adopted. "Help Wanted" signs are hung out. Factories are retooled and reopened. New products appear. New markets open. The recession has ended. A great new era of adventure, experimentation, expansion and prosperity is born.*

Anything is possible for the students, staff, and community of the Firelands Schools. As we continue down our path of excellence, I want to extend a warm and sincere thank you to the entire Firelands educational community. Without support from this important group of individuals, we could not continue to grow, nor challenge excellence on a daily basis.

Have a wonderful holiday season!  
Go Falcons!

Dr. Robert F. Hill  
Superintendent



"Firelands Coat Drive"  
sponsored by SAMS PTG and Student Council

Donations Accepted  
November 28th - December 7th

We are in need of new or gently used winter clothing  
ALL SIZES  
(infant to adult)

- ⊗ Winter Coats
- ⊗ Snow Pants
- ⊗ Mittens/Hats
- ⊗ Boots



.....  
Clothing should be packed in plastic shopping bags.  
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.....  
Clothing may be sent to school with your children or placed in the drop off box located at SAMS main entrance.  
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⊗ Distribution Day ⊗

⊗ **ANYONE** in need of winter clothing is welcome! ⊗

Saturday December 8th ⊗ SAMS Cafeteria ⊗ 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

## Scholastic Book Fair

SAMS Library is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair December 3-7th. All students will attend with their Reading or Language Arts class. A Parent Night Open House will be held Wednesday, December 5th from 4:40-6:30 pm. Credit cards will be accepted during Parent Night only. Please make checks payable to SAMS Library.

Join in the fun while shopping for great gifts and supporting the library also.



You may view this issue online at:  
[www.firelandsschools.org](http://www.firelandsschools.org)

The Communities we serve: Amherst, Amherst Twp, Birmingham, Brownhelm Twp, Camden Twp, Florence Twp, Henrietta Twp, Kipton Village, New Russia Twp, South Amherst Village, Vermilion and Vermilion Twp.

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**GUIDANCE CORNER**

**SOPHOMORES** - In late November, we will be focusing on career education with the Sophomore class to assist them in the major decisions they will have to make this year about their educational path. Students will explore college preparation, college options, college Tech Prep, and vocational training programs at the JVS. We will be using the PLAN test data to assist with career planning and scheduling for their Junior year. Listed below are the scheduled dates for information sessions about what is available at the LCJVS.

- ◆ JVS Presentation to Sophomores – November 30, 2012
- ◆ JVS Sophomore Tour – Thursday, January 24, 2013
- ◆ JVS Open House – Sunday, February 10, 2013– 1:30p.m. – 3:30p.m.

**JUNIORS** - We will be using the Practice ACT data for college and career planning. Students will receive their results in December, and we will use the data for Senior scheduling. Students should check out the [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) website. We recommend for students to take the ACT or SAT once during their Junior year, usually in the spring or early summer.

**ALL SENIORS** - We will start putting together a Career portfolio. This portfolio will include transcripts, recommendations, and resumes. This will be done in Government Classes in January.

A list of scholarships have already been posted on the Firelands website. You can subscribe to receive notifications when new scholarships/contests have been posted by going to the Firelands website under Firelands High School>Departments>Guidance>Financial Aid and College/Scholarship Resources. The list of local scholarships will be posted once they become available. The process for the local scholarships begins in January and runs until mid March. The information put together in the Career Portfolios can be used to fill out the scholarships.

Parents, have you had discussions about college with your high school student? Students, have you talked with your parents about your plans for after high school? If so, have these conversations raised more questions than they have answered?

The process of selecting a college to attend after high school can be daunting, from scheduling visits to completing the applications and securing the necessary financial aid.

There will be a lot of things to cover in the coming months, including applications, financial aid, and scholarships. While we are making every effort to help seniors with their college plans, we also encourage juniors and sophomores to develop a college plan by going on college visits, taking postsecondary exams such as the PSAT, PLAN, or Practice ACT and the ACT or SAT prior to the beginning of senior year.

**\*Note: You may also subscribe to keep updated with what's going on in the guidance department by going to the Firelands website under Firelands High School>Departments>Guidance>News.**

**A Big Year for the Firelands FFA at the Fair**

"Shattering records and setting new goals," is how one would describe the Firelands FFA chapter at the 2012 Lorain County Fair. Many ribbons, trophies, and plaques were awarded to all the dedicated showmen. The chapter's hard work definitely paid off and the title of being the largest exhibitor at the fair was held.

The 2012-2013 officer team showed their roles as leaders throughout the week with all of their success. President Abigail Miller won 1<sup>st</sup> place in her Lightweight Boer Market Goat Class and she also won Grand Champion Horticulture. Vice President Jessica Zurcher won Supreme FFA Exhibitor, Small Animal Sweepstakes, 1<sup>st</sup> place Senior Waterfowl Showmanship, 1<sup>st</sup> place Pigeon Showmanship, 1<sup>st</sup> place Senior Poultry Showmanship, and 1<sup>st</sup> place All Around FFA Vegetable. She also won: Grand Champion Goose, Bantam Cockerel, Cock, and Hen. Reserve Champion Bantam and Pigeon Pair, Overall Poultry, Waterfowl and Pigeon Showmanship. She was the Premier Fowl Exhibitor, 1<sup>st</sup> place beginner Turkey Showman, Grand Champion Open Class Turkey and Bantam, Grand Champion Open Class Poultry Overall, and she had the 1<sup>st</sup> place Sports Nutrition Project. Secretary Emma Ranney won Grand Champion Non-Dairy Market Goat, was the Boer Goat Showman of Showmen, had the Reserve Champion Boer Junior Doe and Reserve Champion Boer Yearling Doe. She won 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall Senior Market Steer Showmanship, had the Grand Champion SAE poster, won Grand Champion Large Animal Sweepstakes, and Grand Champion Senior Beef Skillathon. Student Advisor Callie Stevens won 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner up for Lorain County Horse Queen. Sentinel Tom Battig won Overall Pygmy Doe, Mature Pygmy Doe, Reserve Senior Pygmy Doe and Reserve Baby Pygmy Doe. Assistant Secretary Ali Butler won Reserve Champion Western Showmanship and Reserve Champion Western Horsemanship. Assistant Treasurer Christine Balint won Reserve Champion Halter Mare, Grand Champion Hen, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Senior Duck Showmanship, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Senior Goat Showmanship, Reserve Grand Champion Pack Goat Level IV, 1<sup>st</sup> place in Goat Skillathon, and Reserve Grand Champion Duck Showmanship. Finally, Assistant Reporter Cole Jones received Reserve Class Champion Boer Goat and Class Champion Modern Beef.

Dean Ortner won Class Champion Market Hog and Demi Dovin received Grand Champion Dairy Steer, Grand Champion BBR (Born, Bread, and Raised) Dairy Steer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Beef Showmanship, Class Champion Brown Swiss Senior Yearling, and Class Champion Dairy Winter Holstein Calf. Emily Pohorence was class champion showmen with her rabbit and Emily Staveski placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Intermediate Dog Showmanship and 1<sup>st</sup> in her Graduate Novice B Obedience Dog class. Jordan Penkava won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Senior Poultry Showmanship and Karley Krupp won 2<sup>nd</sup> place Senior Boer Showmanship. Rachel Johnson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Runner up for Lorain County Horse Queen, was the Grand Champion 14-18 age class Saddle Horse Showman, and Supreme Grand Champion 9-18 age Saddle Horse Showman. The Dostall sisters, Samantha and Stephanie also won many awards. Samantha was the Class Champion Pygmy Goat Showman and overall Showman of Showmen for Pygmy Goats. Her sister, Stephanie, had the Reserve Champion Baby Pygmy Wether, and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Pygmy Goat Showmanship.

Kyle Kudela had the Grand Champion Pen of Two Meat Chickens, and fellow class member Matt Gulish won Grand Champion Self-Determined Bird with his pheasants. Tristan Hildebrandt earned best FFA trophy award. Senior, Karlie Canfield had the Grand Champion Single Fryer Market Rabbit and she won Best in Breed for Dutch Rabbits. Jimmy Hozalski, a graduate, earned the best field crop exhibit with his field corn project. Finally, Tom Schuman was Grand Champion in FFA Engineering and won 2<sup>nd</sup> LaGrange Engine Club Large Restoration Project for his Allis Chalmers WD restoration.

A big congratulations goes out to all of the chapter members. Everyone's hard work deserves to be recognized. Many hours are spent carrying out all of the duties that the projects require and it takes a very responsible and diligent person to have projects at fair. The best of luck goes out to the members as they begin preparation for next year's projects.



Callie Stevens, 2nd runner-up to Horse Queen & Rachel Johnson, 3rd runner-up to Horse Queen



Tom Schuman and his restored Allis Chalmers WD which earned Grand Champion FFA Engineering and 2nd place LaGrange Engine Club Restoration

**2012 Fall Season Summaries****Cross Country**

The boys and girls cross country teams had strong years. At the Patriot Athletic Conference Championship meet both the boys and girls teams took home 4<sup>th</sup>. Both Brady Jeffers and Leslie Petersen were 1<sup>st</sup> team All-PAC and Regional Qualifiers in the State Tournament. Brennan Crawford and Tori Hritsko were both 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-PAC. Michael Adkins and Michaela Jeffers were both 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-PAC. The SAMS boys team finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place at the PAC meet. Both Matthew Brightbill and Ian Valerius finished in the top 10. The SAMS girls team did not have enough girls to field a team but Kerigan Borton, Grace Boucher, Kayla Phillips, and Kitana Maclean all ran hard at the conference meet.

**Golf**

The season got off to a slow start with the team struggling to play with consistency. Our focus this year was in two areas: course management and the mental aspect of the game. We really worked on knowing what shot to play when and how to visualize and have a plan for each hole. The golfers learned how the mental part of the game contributes to lower scores and consistent rounds. The team bought into these concepts, and, in time, they started to see the results from their efforts. Leading the team was senior Caleb Petersen, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All Conference and freshman Brandon Palmer, getting Honorable Mention. Also contributing to the team's success was Mitch Hildebrandt, Nick Gulish, and Dylan Newman. As spring approaches, be watching for information regarding the annual Firelands Golf outing and a new youth camp and family scramble.

**Volleyball  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

The 7th grade volleyball team only had 8 players, but they were the best 8 a coach could want. They were determined to improve their skills, learn the game of volleyball, and have the motto: "Never Give Up". I guess that's why our record was 18-2 this season.

As you can see, we had it all-great passing, great setting and great hitting. Serving was always our ace in the hole, getting on average 21 aces a match. It was a great season! GO FALCONS!!!!

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

The 8th grade volleyball team ended the season 8-7 in the conference and took 4th place in the conference. The girls really came together this year as a team and we all formed a special bond. The talent on the team was incredible and they all showed their athleticism as they improved more and more throughout the season. Half of the team had never played competitive volleyball before, but to watch them play together, one would never know. I hope to see the class of 2017 continue to shine and help grow the Firelands Athletic Program. As for my first year of coaching, I couldn't have asked for a better group of girls. They all have the drive and heart to be winners. I am very proud of the 8th grade Lady Falcons volleyball team this year, they all made my experience one I'll never forget.

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Freshman: Ended their season with a 14-5 overall record and were 10-1 in the conference ending as Co-champions with Buckeye!! The girls work hard all year and ended the season

playing as a team with lots of desire!!

**JV**

JV: Ended their season with a 19-1 overall record and 15-0 in the conference making them conference Champions! The girls played amazing all season long, and even when they had lost a game they would come back and never gave up!!

**Varsity**

Varsity: Ended their season with a 13-10 overall record and 9-7 in the conference! The girls went over 500 for the second year in a row and improved our record this year in the PAC. The girls worked hard this year, and we had some tough 5 game losses to Buckeye, but we improved every match we played in the conference this year!!

**Football  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Football team had a great season compiling an impressive 8-0 undefeated record. The team showed great growth as the season developed as well as good sportsmanship. The scores of each game were as follows:

Sheffield Middle School	48-0
Wellington	36-26
Fairview	44-0
Oberlin	36-16
Wellington	36-14
Keystone	28-12
Columbia	38-0
Black River	44-6

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade football team finished the season with a record of 5-3. Some highlights of the season were the hard hitting shutout victory over Oberlin and the exciting 16-14 win at Black River. Justin Studd led the team in passing yardage and passing touchdowns. Brad Soltis led the team in receptions and touchdown receptions. Colin Myers was the team leader in rushing and rushing touchdowns. On defense, Robbie Woods was the team leader in sacks and Nathan Kovach led the team in tackles. This team is filled with exciting players to watch out for in the years to come. Go Falcons!

**Varsity /JV**

Going into the season with only 2 starters returning on both sides of the ball and a senior class with little varsity experience. Between 33-35 players saw varsity action throughout the season. The Varsity football team ended its season with an overall record of 3-7. The players and coaches kept battling after a tough 0-5 start to the season, with their no quit attitude the team had back to back victories over Wellington and Keystone in weeks 6/7. After two tough losses the team rebounded on senior night to beat Brookside. Overall this is the first time in 22 years that the Firelands Football program has had back to back 3 wins or more in consecutive seasons. The JV team had an outstanding overall record of 8-2. They players did a great job of competing every week and the future of the program looks bright. The future of Firelands Football is very bright!

**Boys Soccer**

As a result of playing so many freshman a year ago, the boys soccer team continued to rebuild the Firelands Soccer Tradition by earning an 8-7-3 record. 16 out of the 20 man roster were freshmen or sophomores. Some of the high points from the Boys soccer season was handing Fairview their only defeat in boys soccer in the history of the conference as well as defeating Wellington for the first time in nearly a decade. The boys season ended with a 4-3 defeat to #4 seed Rocky River. The Falcons finished with a 3-1 record against 4 of the top 7

seeded teams in the Rocky River DII District. The team continues to improve through its hard work and commitment to soccer in the off-season. The team prides itself in the amount of time they spend working to get better through lifting, conditioning, open gyms, and indoor leagues.

Earning post-season awards for the boys were:

Nate Yorks: Lorain County DII Player of the Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-PAC, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Lorain

County, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Greater Cleveland  
James Keressi: 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-PAC, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Lorain County, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Greater Cleveland  
Gus Tapper: 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Lorain County, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-PAC, HM All-Greater Cleveland  
Tristan Clark: 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Lorain County, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-PAC, HM All-Greater Cleveland  
Jordan Ruffner: 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Lorain County, HM All-PAC  
Bryce Bartolotta: HM All-Lorain County  
Jack O'Keefe: HM All-Lorain County

**Girls Soccer**

The 2012 Firelands Girls' Soccer season was filled with a number of highs. After starting the season 1-2-1, the Falcons went on what would become a school record for consecutive matches without a loss (11) and consecutive match winning streak (8). The season included a number of highlights, such as beating Wellington 1-0 at their field and Jessica Zurcher breaking Rachel Melendez's school scoring mark by tallying 35 goals on the season and 108 goals for her career. The 2012 season also saw Falcon goalkeepers, Stephanie Dostall and Alex Willis combine for 6 shutouts. Alyssa Melendez, Brylee Jones, and Becca Jackson rounded out the leading scorers for the Falcons this season and late contributions by Val Riccardi and Kayla Unger showed the Falcons depth up top. The offensive explosion mid-season can be credited to the team's desire to work together and also due to the move of Jordan Yakunovich to the center midfield position. Her unselfish play ignited an offense that, during one stretch, scored 45 goals in 6 games. The defense, a strength of the Falcons, was anchored by senior, four-year letter winners Rachel Holowecky, Randi Bukovac, and Kayla Fowler. Their leadership, along with the growth of Brandi Holowecky, Jessie Beran, and Stephanie Wells, made the Falcons one of the strongest teams defensively in the area. The return of Jade Amanse from injury added a dimension of versatility to the Falcons which helped the team grow collectively. Also playing a large role in the team's success this season was Jordan Penkava, Nikki Crawford, and Tori Hritsko who filled a number of roles necessary to the team's success.

The Lady Falcons' season came to an end during tournament play against conference rival Fairview, losing 2-1 in double overtime. The match was over 105 minutes long and the effort and resilience displayed on that evening made everyone proud that these were the girls representing the Firelands' District. Their effort, along with the return of Natalie Crawford and Taylor Diar on defense should set the Falcons up for future success. While the loss of Randi, Kayla, Rachel, Jordan, and Jess will be difficult to replace, the Falcons return 14 letter winners to next year's team and promise to continue working hard and doing everything they can to represent our district well.

## Firelands High School Has A New Drama Club!

After learning that Firelands High School no longer had a drama club, Executive Director Linda Michalak, whose children attended school at Firelands, met with FHS Principal, Richard Reighley to explore the possibility of creating a new program with The MAD\* Factory's staff serving as instructors and producers. The initial meeting which took place on September 19<sup>th</sup> was attended by more than 80 students! The students were questioned about their specific interests and besides acting on stage, there was great interest in many of the technical aspects of theatre production. "You Can't Take It With You", with a cast of 19, will be the club's first production and will take place December 7-9 at SAMS. Tickets will be \$5 at the door. Seating will be first come/first served. Doors will open at 6:30. "You Can't Take It With You" is a classic comedy in three acts and is appropriate for all ages.

The MAD\* Factory which is also very heavily improv based meets with students on Tuesdays after school for comedy improv class and has a regular attendance of 15-20 students. There will be a dinner theatre performance with these students in January at the First Church in Oberlin.

The MAD\* Factory (\*MAD\* stands for Music, Art and Drama), now in its twenty third year, teaches theatre arts based classes for children ages 3-19 year round. Their professionally run productions afford teens the opportunity to work alongside adult professionals in a nurturing environment. For more information please visit [www.madfactory.org](http://www.madfactory.org) or call 440-774-7062.

## FIRELANDS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS SAY..... SAVE THE DATE!!

We all know how bored when the winter sports have ended, and we are waiting for spring to show up as well as the sports and other activities that come with it. Well.. Have no fear! FABC will help to cure your boredom for at least one evening in March. **On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Amherst Eagles** we will be hosting a **Steak Fry**. This fund raiser will come with a hearty meal, along with raffles and other drawings throughout the evening. And of course.... A 'Famous D.J.' will be joining us... our very own "TRAINER JOE"! Our planning committee is working on putting in a few twists to the norm to make the night a fun one for everybody.

The work of the Athletic Boosters benefit many athletes and their coaches. Our members are happy to do this. Please join us and help continue the ongoing great Firelands Athletic programs.

**For ticket information, please call Gerry @ 440-724-4198 or Becky @ 440-823-9633.**

Thank you!



**& Firelands High School Drama Club  
Proudly Present**

### "You Can't Take It With You"

A Comedy in Three Acts

By Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman  
"You Can't Take It With You" is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

**December 7-9 at South Amherst**

**Middle School**

152 West Main St., South Amherst, 44001

**Friday and Saturday at 7:00pm**

**Sunday at 2:00pm**

Tickets will be \$5 at the door. Doors will open at 6:30.

**Seating will be first come/first served.**

"You Can't Take It With You" is a classic comedy in three acts and is appropriate for all ages. For more information visit [www.madfactory.org](http://www.madfactory.org) or call 440-774-7062.



The Cast of "You Can't Take It With You"

### Student Council ~ Homecoming 2012

Since day one of the new school, Student Council representatives have been in full swing, predicting a bright future for 2012-2013. With exceeding amounts of time and effort put forth into the first event of the year, our annual Homecoming Week triumphed in success. Consisting of days filled with support for Volley for the Cure, clashing clothes, class colors, pajamas, and Falcon gear, true spirit was showcased throughout the entire school. During the week, events such as Deck the Halls and the Jersey Auction at the community tailgate were held, advocating tremendous amounts of falcon support by all who participated. In the time leading up to Homecoming Week, the students at FHS elected their Homecoming Court, consisting of the results as followed: freshman – Cole Ference and Michaela Jeffers, sophomores – Jordan Ruffner and Demi Dovin, juniors – Nate Birach and Grace Wells, with Homecoming King and Queen being Matt Metzger and Hannah Branz. A pep rally was held at the end of the school day on Friday to kick up excitement for the Homecoming Game. Before the game started, Homecoming Court was recognized, circling the track on their floats and walking across the field. To wrap up the week, we had our final homecoming celebration at the Homecoming Dance. All students who attended enjoyed an entertaining night of hanging with friends and dancing their hearts out. FHS Student Council has multiple upcoming events for the rest of the school year that we hope will be a great successes and gateway to a tremendous year!  
Abby Petrey & Katy Tuggle

## “BFF’s” Taylor Swift & Mrs. Neal

“BFF’s” Taylor Swift, popular music artist and Mrs. Neal, 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading teacher, have a lot of differences but in one area they agree 100% - Reading is a Life Skill! This past summer Mrs. Neal had the opportunity to hear Taylor Swift speak on the importance of literacy in our country; it was after that encounter Mrs. Neal knew her students needed to hear this message first hand. On October 24, 2012, Mrs. Neal’s seventh period class had the honor to get up close and personal with Taylor Swift via 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology located in SAMS’s library with the help of Mrs. Leimbach. During this thirty minute learning experience the students sat spell bound as Taylor Swift spoke of her new favorite color **RED**, which actually stands for Read Every Day! Taylor Swift did indeed perform for the students one of her famous songs, *We Are Never Getting Back Together*, but not before making reference to over 20 young adult novels that have made her who she is today. We are fully confident that many of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading students will be just as successful as Taylor Swift because the new favorite color at SAMS is **RED**, Read Every Day!



## Reading Cats & Dogs

What is 6,057 minutes worth? 202 TV shows? 135 Math Classes? 34 Friday night football games? 76 weeks worth of Reading Logs? - No, to all of the above. 6,057 is the total number of minutes that 16 different students in Mrs. Neal’s 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading class read



over 14 consecutive days so that 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls in poverty stricken Appalachian areas could receive free books to read from Scholastic. **A HUNGUOUS thank-you to Sarah Drury, who read for a total of 1,260 minutes followed by Zachary Baldwin, Marissa Beatty, Allison Crawford, Elizabeth Dempsey, Kaylyn Eary, Ky’ra Hall, Shana Kreider, Mark Molnar, Ryan Ortner, Taylor Ostrander, Peyton Phillips, Arianna Reyna, Isabel Solowiej, Hannah Temple and Na-**

**than Thompson.** Your reading was not in vain as you proved reading is not for the cats & dogs alone!

### Gimme 5 Trait of the Month: Empathy/Caring

#### Ideas for Teaching Empathy/Caring

- Point out to your children both similarities and differences between them and other children. Understanding the ways that others are like them can help children behave empathetically. Knowing that others are different helps children perceive that what helps one person feel better might not help another person.
- Create an open-door atmosphere in your home so that your children feel welcome to talk about their experiences, both positive and negative. As they talk to you, behave empathetically by working to understand their feelings, expressing that understanding to them, and giving them nonverbal cues—such as leaning in and nodding—that say you are actively listening.
- Teach your children about people who are models of empathy, such as Mother Teresa, Oscar Schindler, Clara Barton, and Mahatma Gandhi. *This information was excerpted from the online article by Sue Bergin in BYU’s Family Focus, Winter 2007*

## FCCLA Teen Leaders Class

Firelands High School FCCLA Teen Leaders class organized a Spirit Link drive in September during Homecoming Week. FCCLA Students sell links for 10 cents each and FHS students purchase the links in their graduating class colors. This year the class with the longest chain and most spirit, went to the Graduating Class of 2014, Junior Class. Profit is donated to an organization or family voted on in Mrs. Dodig's Teen Leaders class. The class this year voted to donate all profit to the Jim and Charlene Muth Family. The FCCLA students and FHS were able to DONATE \$600 to the Muth Family. Thanks to all who helped and participated. FCCLA Teen Leaders thank all of FHS for getting involved and donating.



## Firelands FFA Member Earns FFA Supreme Exhibitor at Wellington Fair



Each year numerous FFA members from around the county compete for the title of FFA Supreme Exhibitor. The Supreme Exhibitor candidates must exhibit shop, crop, and animal projects through their FFA chapter. The candidates are assigned point values for the projects that they show based on their grades and placing's on the projects. At least thirty-two students from Firelands, Lorain County JVS, and Wellington FFA Chapters qualified. Jessica Zurcher from the Firelands FFA Chapter took

the trophy for Supreme Exhibitor after all the points were tallied. Jess exhibited a total of 32 projects through the FFA at the Lorain County Fair. She showed one shop project, 22 crop projects, 7 animal projects, and 2 poster projects. She earned bonus points for the Supreme Exhibitor calculation by earning the following awards: Small Animal Sweepstakes, 1st place Senior Waterfowl Showmanship, 1st place Pigeon Showmanship, 1st place Senior Poultry Showmanship, and 1st place All Around FFA Vegetable. She also won: Grand Champion Goose, Bantam Cockerel, Cock, and Hen, Reserve Champion Bantam and Pigeon Pair, Overall Poultry, Waterfowl and Pigeon Showmanship's. She was the Premier Fowl Exhibitor, and 1st place beginner Turkey Showman. The Firelands FFA is very proud of Jess's accomplishments.



## Hungry for Holiday Pumpkin Roll ?



Delicious and perfect to have in the freezer for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The ladies from Grace Lutheran and Bethany Lutheran are taking orders for these rolls. The donations made will go to the support of their yearly outreach program - "Breath of Heaven" a walk-through Bethlehem.

Please order by calling Kathy @ 440-225-9775.

Thank you!

## Christmas Cabbage Rolls

Fresh/frozen and ready to bake. Many of you have ordered these in the past for your winter meals, or for you holiday parties. If you would like to enjoy these again, please call 440-935-3441. Thank you!



## "BREATH OF HEAVEN"



LIVE NATIVITY PRESENTATION

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
310 WEST LORAIN STREET - OBERLIN  
440-775-3271

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>  
AND SUNDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>  
FROM 4:00 THROUGH 8:00 PM.

WALK-THROUGH PRESENTATIONS  
APPOXIMATELY EVERY 15 MINUTES.

Please join our members as they share their 15<sup>th</sup> presentation of the Breath of Heaven. It is our honor to present to you a portrayal of that Holy Night when Jesus was born. Our presentation is **free to the public**. You may bring a non perishable food item that will be donated to the Oberlin Community Food Shelf.

Performances By:  
The Firelands High School  
Select Choir



**SAMS Fabulous Falcons Honored**

Students and parents attended a breakfast to spotlight many of SAMS students that demonstrated traits connected with character and responsibility throughout the first nine weeks of school. It was an absolute honor to be able to recognize our students that were “caught” doing something positive in the building. Themes from the staff nominations included many distinctive traits tied to good character and being responsible. Buzz words from the staff’s written nominations included leadership, positive role modeling, helping others, goal setting, caring, kindness, hard work, and doing the right thing the first time. To all the students that were honored as being Fabulous Falcons, thank you for being character leaders and making South Amherst Middle School a great place to learn! The students that were Fabulous Falcons are as following:

**6th Grade Students**

Zachary Baldwin  
Abigail Berry  
Marley Buckner  
Joseph Elswick  
Beau Grude  
Nathan Hammond  
Siera Hess  
Chad Hieb  
Christopher Hilton  
Matthew Kovach  
Halli Kromer  
Gavin Markel  
Ryan Ortner  
Emma Sherban  
Isabel Solowiej  
Sydney Wright

**7th Grade Students**

Kerigan Borton  
Grace Habeck  
Kaylee Kerby  
Madalyn Lyons  
Jacob Montgomery  
Olivia Novak  
Justin Ollis  
Richard Peters  
Hannah Reynolds  
Miles Robles  
Kassidy Stevens  
Aaron Turnbull  
Ian Valerius  
Joy Vaughn

**8th Grade Students**

Alexandria Adkins  
Hailey Blankenship  
Matthew Browning  
Samuel Dempsey  
Andrea DiAsio  
Jordan Dickel  
Sarah Gallo  
Lexie Holowenko  
Nickolas McCrary  
Sydney Novak  
Jordyn Phelps  
Grace Schmauch  
Justin Studd  
Lizzie Ward  
Michael Whitacre

The function of education is to teach one to think thoroughly and to think critically...

Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.

— Martin Luther King Jr., American civil rights leader (1929-1968)

**The Teen Leadership Corps Class**

The Teen Leadership Corps class at Firelands High school has been busy! The community service started back in September with some students volunteering for the Rev 3 Marathon, the new student luncheon, and then the “Keep Kids Warm” drive. The whole group worked together to help encourage the students to bring in hats, gloves, and socks for the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland. The school district collected over 250 articles of clothing. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, TLC hosted the first Kick It Kickball Tournament. We raised \$1005.00 to fund research for pediatric, adolescent, and young adult cancer. Thanks to all the students and staff for joining us in a fun activity to make a difference in the lives of others. Starting November 6<sup>t</sup>, the TLC students paired up with a student from the elementary school to help them with school work or to just be a positive friend to spend time with on a weekly basis. The group is off to a good start and is excited for future holiday projects.

## LUNCH MENUS

<b>FIRELANDS ELEMENTARY</b> Regular Lunch \$2.30—Ice Cold Milk served with all meals	<b>SOUTH AMHERST MIDDLE</b> Regular Lunch \$2.70—Ice Cold Milk served with all meals	<b>FIRELANDS HIGH</b> Regular Lunch \$2.70—Ice Cold Milk served with all meals
<p><b>NOVEMBER 19 - NOVEMBER 23</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Hot dog w/bun, Bbq Baked beans, Tomato Juice, Chilled peaches  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Domino's smart slice Or school peppro pizza, Green Beans, Baby Carrots, Fruit  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK  <b>THURSDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK  <b>FRIDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK</p> <p><b>NOVEMBER 26 - NOVEMBER 30</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Sausage links, French toast sticks, syrup cup, Hash-brown potatoes, Celery sticks, Orange juice cup  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned broc &amp; carrots, Fruit, Whole grain gripz  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Baked chicken fries, Baked sweet tots, Chilled pears, Whole grain roll, Dipping sauce  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Whole grain corn dog, Bbq baked beans, Fresh fruit  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Ravioli, Green beans, Chilled peaches, Whole grain roll</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 3 - DECEMBER 7</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Baked chicken nuggets, Black beans &amp; rice, Celery sticks, Chilled applesauce, Dipping sauce  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Domino's smart slice Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned peas, Baby carrots, Fruit, Goldfish grahams  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Baked chicken strips, Smiley fries, Chilled pears, Whole grain roll, Dipping sauce  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Spaghetti w/meat, Romaine &amp; spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Whole grain roll, Fresh fruit  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Fish trout treasures, Steamed cauliflower w/cheese, Chilled mandarin oranges, Whole grain roll</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 10 - DECEMBER 14</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Whole grain corn dog, Bbq baked beans, Steamed broccoli, Chilled peaches  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Domino's smart slice Or school peppro pizza, Seasoned corn, Baby carrots w/dip, Fruit  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Chicken patty sandwich, Romaine salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pineapple  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Taco Salad, Shredded lettuce &amp; cheese, Black bean &amp; corn salsa, Fresh fruit, Tortilla chips  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Macaroni &amp; cheese, Seasoned peas, Cucumber slices, Chilled pears, Whole grain roll</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 21</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Hamburger w/bun, Pickle slices, Bbq baked beans, Celery sticks, Chilled mandarin oranges  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Domino's smart slice Or school peppro pizza, Romaine spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Fruit  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Baked chicken nuggets, Sweet fries, Chilled applesauce, Whole grain roll, Dipping sauce  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Falcon chicken bowl, Seasoned corn, Whipped potatoes, Fresh fruit, Bug bites  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Cheesy bread, Seasoned broccoli, Chilled pineapple</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 1</b>  <b>NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p> <p><b>JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 4</b></p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Baked chicken strips, Smiley fries, Chilled pears, Whole grain roll, Dipping sauce  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Spaghetti w/meat, Romaine &amp; spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Whole grain roll, Fresh fruit  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Fish trout treasures, Steamed cauliflower w/cheese, Chilled mandarin oranges, Whole grain roll</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER 19 - NOVEMBER 23</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Chicken parm w/wg roll, or chicken patty/ bun, Spaghetti / sauce, Green beans, Chilled peaches  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Baby carrots, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pears  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK  <b>THURSDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK  <b>FRIDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK</p> <p><b>NOVEMBER 26 - NOVEMBER 30</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Bbq pulled pork wg bun, Whole grain corn dog, Baked beans, Celery sticks, Chilled peaches  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli, Baby carrots, Chilled pears  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Grilled chicken / bun or Chicken patty w/bun, Romaine spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled mandarin orgs  <b>THURSDAY</b> - General Tso's chicken, Stir fry vegetable, Seasoned rice w/black beans, Fresh fruit, Fortune Cookie  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Egg &amp; cheese on wg roll or pancake &amp; sausage stick, Hashbrown potato, Sweet potatoes, Orange juice cup</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 3 - DECEMBER 7</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Salisbury steak or breaded pork chop, Whipped potatoes, Seasoned corn, Chilled peaches, Whole grain roll  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli w/chez, Celery sticks, Fruit  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Chipotle day-Beef or Fajita chicken, Ultra grain wrap, Shredded iceberg, Black bean &amp; corn, salsa, Cilantro lime rice, Chilled mandarin orange  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Cheese quesadilla Or Chicken nuggets w/roll, Wg Baby carrots, Sliced red peppers, Fresh fruit  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Bosco cheese sticks or spaghetti w/ meat &amp; roll, Romaine spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pineapple</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 10 - DECEMBER 14</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Hot dog w/ bun Or steak um w/cheese, Bbq baked beans, Celery sticks, Chilled peaches, Graham crackers  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust, Baby carrots, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pears  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Taco salad or soft taco wrap, shredded iceberg cheese black bean &amp; corn salsa, Chilled applesauce, Tortilla chips  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Chicken strips w/roll, chicken patty w/bun, Parsley potatoes, Fresh fruit  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Macaroni &amp; cheese or rib a cue w/bun, Cucumber slices, Seasoned broccoli, Chilled pears</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 21</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Pepperoni calzone Or southwest pizza, Green bean &amp; carrots, Applesauce  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Romaine /spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled mandarin oranges  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Falcon single burger w/whole grain bun, w/ iceberg lettuce, cheese, 2T sauce, bbq baked beans, Sweet thing fries, Chilled pears  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Falcon chicken bowl w/gravy, Seasoned corn, Whipped potatoes, Fresh fruit, Whole grain roll  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Wg cheese breadstick Or beef ravioli w/Breadstick, Seasoned broccoli, Chilled pineapple</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 1</b>  <b>NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p> <p><b>JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 4</b></p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Grilled chicken / bun or Chicken patty w/bun, Romaine spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled mandarin orgs  <b>THURSDAY</b> - General Tso's chicken, Stir fry vegetable, Seasoned rice w/black beans, Fresh fruit, Fortune Cookie  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Egg &amp; cheese on wg roll or pancake &amp; sausage stick, Hashbrown potato, Sweet potatoes, Orange juice cup</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER 19 - NOVEMBER 23</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Chicken parm w/wg roll or chicken patty/ bun, Spaghetti / sauce, Green beans, Chilled peaches  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Baby carrots, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pears  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK  <b>THURSDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK  <b>FRIDAY</b> - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK</p> <p><b>NOVEMBER 26 - NOVEMBER 30</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Bbq pulled pork wg bun, Whole grain corn dog, Baked beans, Celery sticks, Chilled peaches  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli, Baby carrots, Chilled pears  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Grilled chicken / bun or Chicken patty w/bun, Romaine spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled mandarin orgs  <b>THURSDAY</b> - General Tso's chicken, Stir fry vegetable, Seasoned rice w/black beans, Fresh fruit, Fortune Cookie  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Egg &amp; cheese on wg roll or pancake &amp; sausage stick, Hashbrown potato, Sweet potatoes, Orange juice cup</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 3 - DECEMBER 7</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Salisbury steak or breaded pork chop, Whipped potatoes, Seasoned corn, Chilled peaches, Whole grain roll  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned broccoli w/chez, Celery sticks, Fruit  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Chipotle day-Beef or Fajita chicken, Ultra grain wrap, Shredded iceberg, Black bean &amp; corn, salsa, Cilantro lime rice, Chilled mandarin orange  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Cheese quesadilla Or Chicken nuggets w/roll, Wg Baby carrots, Sliced red peppers, Fresh fruit  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Deli sub bar w/ combo or turkey, cheese, lettuce, tomato, peppers, banana pepper, black olives, Chilled pineapple</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 10 - DECEMBER 14</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Hot dog w/ bun Or steak um w/cheese, Bbq baked beans, Chilled peaches, Graham crackers  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust, Baby carrots, Grape tomatoes, Chilled pears  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Taco salad or soft taco wrap, shredded iceberg cheese black bean &amp; corn salsa, Chilled applesauce, Tortilla chips  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Chicken strips w/roll, chicken patty w/bun, Parsley potatoes, Fresh fruit  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Macaroni &amp; cheese &amp; roll or rib a cue w/bun, Seasoned broccoli, Cucumber slices, Chilled pears</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 21</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> - Pepperoni calzone Or southwest pizza, Bbq baked beans, Tomato juice, Applesauce  <b>TUESDAY</b> - Dominoes smart slice or stuffed crust peppro, Seasoned green beans, Romaine /spinach salad, Chilled mandarin oranges  <b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Falcon double burger w/whole grain bun, w/ iceberg lettuce, cheese, 2T sauce, Sweet things fries, Chilled pears  <b>THURSDAY</b> - Falcon chicken bowl w/gravy, Seasoned corn, Whipped potatoes, Fresh fruit, Whole grain roll  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Wg cheese breadstick Or beef ravioli w/breadstick, Seasoned broccoli, Chilled pineapple</p> <p><b>DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 1</b>  <b>NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p> <p><b>JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 4</b></p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> - Grilled chicken / bun or Chicken patty w/bun, Romaine spinach salad, Grape tomatoes, Chilled mandarin orgs  <b>THURSDAY</b> - General Tso's chicken, Stir fry vegetable, Seasoned rice w/black beans, Fresh fruit, Fortune Cookie  <b>FRIDAY</b> - Egg &amp; cheese on wg roll or pancake &amp; sausage stick, Hashbrown potato, Sweet potatoes, Orange juice cup</p>

**The Firelands Schools Endowment Fund Thank You!**

The Firelands Schools Endowment Fund trustees would like to thank everyone who helped to make our Fourth Annual Wine Tasting such a success. We raised nearly \$5000 for the Endowment, our best effort yet. A huge thank you to Bob and Mary Beth Matus and Matus Winery for their generous help and advice. We hope to see everyone back again next year.

Donations of silent auctions items, food, and other help came from: Abraham Buick, Abraham Nissan, All Pro Automotive, American Electric, Bettcher Industries, Birmingham Country Store, Birmingham Mickey Mart, Born Implement, Denise Brooks, Tim and Ann Buchs, Computer Systems, Cork's & Stubby's, Country Breeze Carry Out, Decidedly Different, DeLuca's Place in the Park, DePalma Insurance, Dragon Ranch, Echo Valley Golf Course, Enger Service Center in Amherst, Farmyard Flowers, First Merit Bank, Forest Hills Golf Course, Fresh Baked Beads, German's Villa, Tim Gribben, Hamman's Bakery, Head Quarters Salon, Highpoint Outfitters, Hillcrest Orchards, Home Video Studio, Jamie's Flea Market, Kiedrowski's Simply Delicious Bakery, Kneaded Touch, Mike Leuszler (Mike the Art Guy), Laurel Run Cooking School, Liberty Ford, Lorenzo's Pizzeria, Scott & Joy Northeim, Oberlin College Rec, Off Broadway Florists, Olde Town Pizza, Perma Plate, Presti's of Oberlin, Dan & Bev Pycraft, Rebman Recreation, Rex Gees Orchards, Ryan's Auto Detailing, Norm & Tammy Schultz, Sliman's Chrysler Dodge, Sugar Ridge Stoneworks, The Feve, Tuffy, Vintage Pharmacy, Walmart, Watson Hardware, Watson Wellness, Inc./The Rub Club, Willow Creek Golf Course, Carol & Rich Volk, Ron and Lois VonGunten, Your Deli and Zilch Florists.

Thanks to everyone who turned out and helped out.

Firelands Schools Endowment Fund Trustees: Barb Bechtel, Jerry Born, Denise Brooks, Ann Buchs, JoLynn Marsh, Scott Northeim, Kristi Palmer, Dan Pycraft, Lois VonGunten, Kathy Whitmore.

**FHS Student Council gets in-  
to the Holiday Spirit**

Student Council is so good at keeping busy; there are already a few more events we have planned for the next two months. Last year, a well-known teacher at Firelands High School, Mr. Muth, was in a horrible car accident. Students all came together to have a prayer vigil for him the evening of the day right after the accident and also multiple fund raisers throughout the whole 2011-2012 school year to help their family financially. One of the ways Student Council got involved with this last year was a contest called Penny Wars. The way this works is each grade class has a contest against each other to see which grade can raise the most money in pennies only. The grades can sabotage one another by putting anything BUT pennies into the collection jars of that grade. It's a friendly competition and never fails to raise money for a good cause. Last year when we did this,

altogether the Penny Wars brought in over \$2,000.00 to donate to the Muth family! The popularity and success of this fundraiser has us taking this on again this year to continue helping him with his recovery.

Student Council also sometimes teams up with other great organizations in order to make a difference in our community. This year, we are working with Firelands FFA and their Harvest for America, where we collect nonperishable food items for a local food bank. Also, we come together with FCCLA at the high school to put on our annual FHS Tree Lighting. Tree Lighting is a big event that includes collecting hats, mittens, and scarves to donate locally to those families that need extra help this winter. Money can also be donated, and with that we purchase items for mothers at Birthright and the elderly at Golden Acres. This year is our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual and we expect it to be a big success.

~Abby Petrey & Taylor Odom

**OVI Simulated Crash & Mock Trial**

Throughout our country, teenage drinking and driving has become an important issue. Select students and staff at Firelands High School have decided to start small and bring awareness to this arising problem to the Firelands Local School District. On October 9<sup>th</sup>, FHS students gathered outside in the football stadium to witness an OVI (Operating a Vehicle while Intoxicated) simulated crash and experience the consequences of driving under the influence. Guest speaker Julie Leggett, from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.), narrated the event, providing students with shocking statistics and educational commentary. The OVI simulated crash pulled on the emotional chords of every observing student, even provoking tears at times. The Florence and S.A. Fire Departments, Mercy Allen Hospital E.M.S., Ohio State Highway Patrol, Sugar Ridge Auto & Truck, Lorain County Coroner's and Sheriff's Department, Metro and St. Vincent Life Flight, FCCLA Students, M.A.D.D., and Mrs. Szun-yogh all donated their time into making the OVI simulated crash a tremendous success. In relation to the mock crash, a casket was placed at one of Firelands' home football games (generously provided by Dovin and Reber Jones Funeral & Cremation Center), displaying teenage OVI statistics to all crowd members at the game. As an addition to both events, an Aggravated Vehicular Homicide Mock Trial was held in the FHS gym on October 31<sup>st</sup>, with doors open to any student or staff member whom wished to watch the trial. This provided an opportunity for all bystanders to experience first-hand the legal ramifications of operating a vehicle under the influence. The presiding judge, Judge Brian Hagan, was very constructive during the trial, providing explanations on what was happening during court procedures and answering all questions students or staff members had. For the trial, twelve students of Mr. Miller's college government class played the jury, Maison Mastellone was the defendant. Maison was defended by attorney Ken Ortner and the prosecutor was played by magistrate Chris Stallkamp. Bailiff Rob Bennet and Court Reporter Mary Hammond completed the court room setting, giving the procedure a realistic effect. A tremendous thank you goes out to all companies, groups, and individuals who donated their time and effort into making these events extremely successful! As well as helping to deliver the message of the dangers of drinking and driving. A movie is in the process of being created to be displayed to students before prom as the final awareness event for this important issue. A special thanks to Matt Metzger, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Miller for coordinating, assisting, and advising over all events. Without the three of them, none of this would have been possible. Katy Tuggle

# The Firelands Express

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

Nov-19 Freshmen Girls Basketball@ Midview High School 4:00pm  
 Nov-23 Varsity Girls Basketball@ Vermilion High School 7:30pm  
 Nov-23 Freshmen Girls Basketball@ Vermilion 4:30pm  
 Nov-24 Freshmen Girls Basketball(home)vs.Brookside 10:00am

### DECEMBER

Dec-01 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs.Fairview 2:30pm  
 Dec-01 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Mansfield Madison HS 10:00am  
 Dec-01 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Amherst 7:30pm  
 Dec-01 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Amherst 4:30pm  
**Dec-03 SAMS – Book Fair**  
**Dec-03 FES - Market Day Pickup - 5:30 – 6:30pm**  
**Dec-03 -07 SAMS – Student Council Gourmet Candy Sale**  
**Dec-03-14 FES - PTG Meeting – 7:00pm in Library**  
 Dec-04 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Vermilion 4:30pm  
 Dec-05 Varsity Girls Basketball@Lutheran 7:30pm  
 Dec-05 Freshmen Girls Basketball@Lutheran 4:30pm  
**Dec-05 SAMS Holiday Concert – 7:00pm**  
**Dec-06 Interim Reports**  
 Dec-07 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Fairview 7:30pm  
 Dec-07 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Fairview 4:30pm  
 Dec-08 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Buckeye 10:00am Lewis Invitational  
 Dec-08 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs.Oberlin 2:30pm  
**Dec-10 Board of Education Meeting - 7:00pm**  
 Dec-11 Varsity Boys Basketball@Lutheran 7:30pm  
 Dec-11 Freshmen Boys Basketball@Lutheran 4:30pm  
 Dec-12 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs.Keystone7:30pm  
**Dec-13 FHS - Band Holiday Concert at FHS - 7:00pm.**  
**Dec-14 FES - 4th Grade Vocal/5th Grade Band Concert – 6:00pm**  
 Dec-14 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Oberlin 4:30pm  
 Dec-14 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Oberlin 7:30pm  
 Dec-15 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ SJCC Fremont HS 10:00am  
 Dec-15 Varsity Girls Basketball@Buckeye 7:30pm  
 Dec-15 Freshmen Girls Basketball@Buckeye 4:30pm  
 Dec-18 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Keystone 7:30pm  
 Dec-18 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Keystone 4:30pm  
**Dec-19 SAMS - PTG Meeting - 7:00pm**  
 Dec-19 Varsity Girls Basketball@ Wellington 7:30pm  
 Dec-20 Freshmen Girls Basketball(home)vs St. Joe's 4:30pm  
 Dec-20 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs Norwalk 7:30pm  
**Dec-21 FES - Holiday Parties - 2:40pm**  
**Dec-21 SAMS – Talent Show**  
**Dec-24 CHRISTMAS VACATION BEGINS – NO SCHOOL**  
 Dec-28 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Vermilion 4:30pm  
 Dec-28 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Vermilion 4:00pm Holiday Classic  
 Dec-28 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Vermilion 7:30pm  
 Dec-29 Varsity Boys Basketball@ Edison 7:30pm  
 Dec-29 Freshmen Boys Basketball@ Edison 5:00pm  
 Dec-29 Freshmen Girls Basketball@ Midview 11:30am  
 Dec-29 Varsity Girls Basketball@ Midview 2:30pm  
 Dec-29 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Vermilion 10:00am Holiday Classic

### JANUARY

**Jan-02 School Resumes**  
 Jan-03 Varsity Girls Basketball@Laurel Shaker Gator Classic TBA  
 Jan-03 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Black River 6:00pm  
 Jan-04 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Woodmore JH/High 5:00pm  
 Jan-04 Varsity Girls Basketball@Laurel Shaker Gator Classic TBA  
 Jan-04 Freshmen Boys Basketball@ Buckeye 4:30pm  
 Jan-04 Varsity Boys Basketball@ Buckeye 7:30pm  
 Jan-05 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs.Black River TBA  
 Jan-05 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Woodmore JH/High 10:00am  
**Jan-07 FES - Market Day Pickup - 5:30–6:30pm**  
**Jan-07-18 SAMS – Student Council Braided Bread Sale**  
 Jan-08 Varsity Boys Basketball@ Wellington 7:30pm  
**Jan-08 FES - PTG Meeting – 7:00pm in Library**  
 Jan-09 Freshmen Girls Basketball(home)vs.Brookside 4:30pm  
 Jan-09 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs.Brookside 7:30pm  
 Jan-10 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Wellington 6:00pm PAC Tri w/Black River  
 Jan-11 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Black River 4:30pm  
 Jan-11 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Black River 7:30pm  
 Jan-12 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Open Door 4:30pm  
 Jan-12 Freshmen Girls Basketball(home)vs.St. Joe's 10:00am  
 Jan-12 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Open Door 7:30pm  
 Jan-12 Varsity Girls Basketball@ Brooklyn 7:30pm  
**Jan-14 Board of Education Meeting - 7:00pm**  
 Jan-15 Varsity Boys Basketball @ New London 7:30pm  
**Jan-16 SAMS - PTG Meeting - 7:00pm**  
 Jan-16 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs.Clearview 7:30pm  
 Jan-16 Freshmen Girls Basketball(home)vs.Clearview 4:30pm  
**Jan-17 \*\*\*\*\* End of 2nd Grading Period \*\*\*\*\***  
 Jan-17 Varsity Boys Wrestling(home)vs.PAC Tri w/Brooklyn, Fairview 6:00pm  
**Jan-18 TEACHER IN-SERVICE DAY – NO SCHOOL**  
 Jan-18 Varsity Boys Basketball@Brookside 7:30pm  
 Jan-18 Freshmen Boys Basketball@Brookside 4:30pm  
 Jan-10 Varsity Boys Wrestling(home) Falcon Invitational 10:00am  
 Jan-19 Varsity Girls Basketball@ Columbia 7:30pm  
**Jan-21 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY – NO SCHOOL**  
**Jan-22 FES - Report Cards Sent Home**  
 Jan-22 Varsity Boys Basketball@ Brooklyn High 7:30pm  
**Jan-23 SAMS - Fabulous Falcon Breakfast – 7:30am**  
 Jan-23 Varsity Girls Basketball(home)vs.Black River 7:30pm  
 Jan-23 Freshmen Girls Basketball(home)vs.Lutheran West 4:30pm  
 Jan-23 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ State Dual Tourn.-Regional Quarterfinals TBA  
 Jan-24 Varsity Boys Wrestling@ Lutheran West 6:00pm  
 Jan-25 Varsity Boys Basketball(home)vs.Clearview 7:30pm  
 Jan-25 Freshmen Boys Basketball(home)vs.Clearview 4:30pm  
 Jan-26 Varsity Girls Basketball@ Keystone 7:30pm  
 Jan-29 Freshmen Boys Basketball@ Columbia 4:30pm  
 Jan-29 Varsity Boys Basketball@ Columbia 7:30pm  
 Jan-30 Varsity Girls Basketball (home) vs. Buckeye 7:30pm  
 Jan-30 Freshmen Girls Basketball (home) vs. Buckeye 4:30pm



**Birmingham United Methodist Church**  
 15018 South Street  
 Birmingham  
 Church Office - 440-965-4653  
 "Where we enter to worship, and leave to serve!"  
 Worship Service: 10:45 AM  
 Sunday School: 10:45 AM

**AVON KITCHEN • CABINET OUTLET**  
 www.avonkitchencabinetoutlet.com  
 37313 Detroit Road  
 Avon, Ohio 44011

**COOKIE SALE**

The PTG will be selling cookie trays at the Band concert on November 14 and Choir concert on December 5. We need volunteers to help make and sell cookies. Any cookie donation will be accepted. Please drop off your cookies at the SAMS building on Wednesday, November 14. We will be assembling the trays on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

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## SAMS PTG NEWS

The South Amherst Parent Teacher Group has some great things planned for the next couple of months. We are once again selling cookie trays during the SAMS band and choir concerts. The money raised from the cookie sales will benefit a needy family (or families) during the holiday season. Please send cookies to the school either November 14<sup>th</sup> (for the band concert) or December 5<sup>th</sup> (for the choir concert). The SAM PTG is also having a coat drive, collecting gently used coats and winter apparel from November 28<sup>th</sup>-December 7<sup>th</sup> and then having a distribution day Saturday December 8<sup>th</sup> where anyone who needs coats, boots, etc. can come out to the school and pick out what they need. Donation containers will be placed at South Amherst Middle School. Please see flyer insert in the Express.

The SAMS PTG raises money by selling concessions at the boys and girls home basketball games. If anyone can help out or has questions about helping please contact Susan Fury (440) 865-0481 or Alisha Hilton (440) 522-1828.

Thank you to those parents and staff who helped with the Fabulous Falcon breakfast November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month during the school year except December. It was decided at the last PTG meeting to hold our meetings alternating between 2:45 & 7:00 to accommodate more people.

The next meeting 1/7/13 @ 2:45pm in the SAMS Library.

Look for us on the SAMS Webpage and also on FaceBook.

## Red Ribbon Week

South Amherst Middle School celebrate Red Ribbon week during the week of October 22-26. The student council provided items for the students and celebration themes that related to our daily topics. Monday was Hat Day, where we celebrated "Hat's Off to being Drug Free", Tuesday we focused on internet safety, Wednesday was the day we dedicated to an anti-bullying campaign, Thursday we encouraged believing in yourself as a key to success, and on Friday the related arts teachers created a team event to celebrate teamwork. Thanks to all those who were involved!

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Firelands Elementary PTG  
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South Amherst Middle School PTG Meetings held on the 1<sup>st</sup> MONDAY of the month  
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You may view this issue on line at:  
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