

Volume 11, Issue 94

April 2021

Serving the communities of Amherst, Amherst Twp., Birmingham, Brownhelm Twp., Camden Twp., Florence Twp, Henrietta Twp., Kipton Village, New Russia Twp., South Amherst Village, Vermilion and Vermilion Twp.

## **Beam Signing Ceremony & Construction Update**

Students, staff and community members were invited to sign a 56 foot long steel support beam that will be placed in the new high school. There were three opportunities to sign the beam in April and the turnout was great despite the weather.

The beam was painted white and permanent markers were provided. When the beam is ready for placement, it will go by the new stage and be visible from the east side of the auditorium.

From the Falcon Stadium it is easy to see how much has been completed on the new 106,630 square foot high school! Areas of recent concentrated work include:

- The concrete contractor has installed all of the perimeter footers.
- The elevator pit and foundation have been excavated.
- Plumbers and electricians are working to install sleeves in the footers and masonry walls as needed.
- The mason contractor has completed the installation of the foundation block in all areas.

Pictured below you can see that the walls of the high school gymnasium have been completed! The contractor is completing work on the auxiliary gymnasium and stage. The project continues to be on schedule for completion in summer 2022.



### You may view this issue online at: www.firelandsschools.org

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More beam signing photos on page 10.

Parents living in the Firelands school district with children who will be five years old by August 1, 2021 should plan on registering for 2021-2022 kindergarten NOW. Call 440-965-5821 x. 1010 for more information.

### **FHS Vocal Artists Earn Superior Ratings** South Amherst Middle School Musical to be Held May 18-19

The Firelands Choral Department has been very busy these past few months.

The Firelands High School Choirs participated virtually in Lorain County Solo and Ensemble with 22 solos and ensembles; over 60 students were involved, some performing in more than one group. We received 13 Superior Ratings, 8 Excellent Ratings and 1 Good Rating! I am so proud of all their hard work and extra effort to prepare more than their concert music! I also want to give Mrs. Lynn Fannin a huge shout out for coming in and working with the solos and ensembles!

Honors Choir also participated in OMEA Solo and Ensemble performing their accapella piece, *Ubi Caritas* by Ola Gjeilo. They received the highest rating – SUPERIOR!! The high school choirs just finished premiering their Festival Concert in March!

The middle school choirs just performed their winter concert last month and now they are busily preparing for the spring musical, *Through the Looking Glass.* Performance dates are **May 18 and 19 at 7:00 PM.** Tickets will go on sale to 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir members in May. Information has been sent home



has also been very busy with some community service projects. In December the Tri-M members sang carols and played their instruments and sent a recording to Kendal in Oberlin. January they made pet toys with fabric and collected food, blankets, and supplies for the local APL. February they made cards for the Veterans Home of Sandusky. March we participated in Music in Our Schools Month. Students dressed up each day during the week of March 29th. Special music genres were played over the announcements, and students matched the teacher or administrator with their musical backgrounds. Madison Jessel and Lauren Valeries won the gift cards for the most matches. submitted by Wendy Johnson Choral Director

Tri-M (Music Honor Society)

with choir students.

**Note:** Tickets for the musical are not available to the public this year, but the performance will be recorded and shared the following week.

### South Amherst Middle School Springs Forward The counselors have been From left to

In April, we continued with our "One School, One Book" project. I have been very impressed by the large number of students who have participated in our Google classroom. Even though these students do not have to participate, they are choosing to, and their responses have been awesome!

We began state testing and our students have been working very diligently. Most of the online students have come for the testing dates so far. We appreciate parents and staff so much for doing whatever is necessary to make this happen. We are planning our spring musical, band concerts, 8th grade bridging, high school tours, and end of year activities for each grade level. We are very excited to do more activities that bring us closer to the "old normal".

Our PBIS committee has been focusing on "respect". We had students submit their ideas of respect through Google classroom and we shared some with the student body. I love that so many of our students are participating when there are no grades associated with the participation. The counselors have been working to purchase items for the students for Social Emotional Learning that will be paid with the grant money. We have a speaker coming in November and we are purchasing a schoolwide license curriculum called "Second Step" that focuses on the SEL needs of every student.

I cannot say enough about our amazing staff, parents and most of all students that have been taking every day in stride and focusing on learning.

One Proud Principal, Cara M. Gomez From left to right: *Monster* by Maggie Tansey, Grade 6. *Value Fractal* by Victoria Turczyk, Grade 8. *Bedroom* by Charlee Polen, Grade 8. This will be the last issue of the 2020-2021 year with art due to the big final senior issue next month.



# Coach Januzzi Offers Basketball Camp in June

### **Camp Provides a Variety of Experiences for All Levels of Players**

Coach Januzzi is offering a four-day basketball camp in June for boys in grades 3 through 9 and girls in grades 3 to 6. It will be held from June 7<sup>th</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup> at the South Amherst Middle School.

The Falcon basketball camp is designed to teach young players the necessary fundamentals of the game. The skills learned at this camp combined with our skills development program can produce a successful player at the high school level. More importantly, the camp strives to teach discipline, teamwork, leadership, humility, toughness passion and compassion to help mold character and values in each camper.

The morning session from 9:00 to 12:00 will be for both boys and girls in grades 3-6. The afternoon session from 1:00 to 4:00 will be for boys only in grades 7-9.

## **Summer School Program**

We would like to express our appreciation to our staff for their commitment to provide excellent educational opportunities despite the challenges that we have endured this school year. Our school families have been valuable partners in this journey and together we have ensured that instruction continued during the pandemic.

With guidance from Governor DeWine, we are pleased to have the opportunity to offer summer school to our students beginning June 8th-June 25th. Our building administrators have worked with our teachers to prepare the best format for instruction based on the needs of the students. Principals from each building will be sending an invite to parents requesting student participation for the three weeks.

If you have any questions regarding summer school, please contact your child's principal via email or phone call. All campers will receive individual instruction from Firelands high school coaching staff; the Falcon Youth Skills Development Program, and a reversible practice jersey.

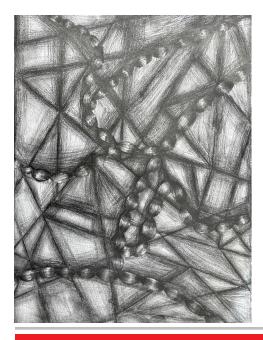
The afternoon session for boys in grades 7-9 will include daily sets of teaching stations where fundamental skills will be taught; one-on-one, shooting & free throw competitions & competitive team games; mini lectures that develop character and mental aspects for young players; and the camp awards ceremony during the last half hour of the last day of camp.

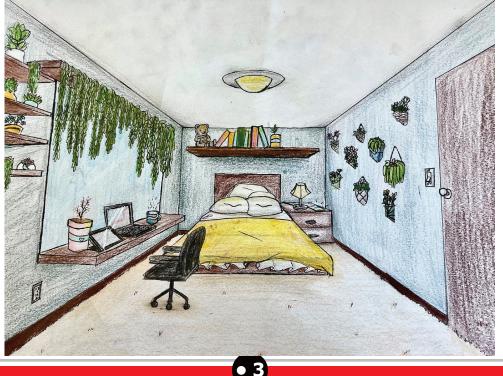
The registration fee is \$75 with an immediate family max of \$125. An early bird discount is offered for those registering by May 15<sup>th</sup>. That discount would bring the cost to \$65 with an immediate family max of \$100.

Contact Coach Januzzi at <u>coachjanuzzi@centurytel.net</u> for an application or for more information about the camp.

### **South Amherst Middle School Art Gallery**

A BIG thanks to Mrs. Kacie Szemplak for showcasing all of the great SAMS artists this year!





## Enrollment Timeline

Please share with anyone you know who may need this information. Registering now for kindergarten will ensure a smooth transition for the student.

#### Ongoing

- Kindergarten registration for district residents. All students must be registered prior to kindergarten screening in May.
- Registration for any new student in grades 1-12, whether moving into the district or open enrolling.
- The online open enrollment application is open for K-12 students with some waitlists.
  Out of district parents must complete this before registering.

#### May 19th

• Kindergarten Screening, required with an appointment.

### July 1st

• Open enrollment applications are closed and waitlisted families are notified of their final statuses.

### **Resources**

Website with additional links: https://www.firelandsschools.org/ \*Click on "Student Registration"\*

Open Enrollment or Registration Questions? Call Sue Schaefer at the BOE 440-965-5821 x. 1010 sschaefer@firelandsschools.org

Kindergarten Questions? Call Valerie Schuster School Counselor Firelands Elementary School 440-965-5381 x. 2503

## THE FIRELANDS EXPRESS Firelands High School News & End of Year Events

Graduation is scheduled for May 28th and will again be held in the stadium. Tickets are required to attend. We are rotating the stage to face south so that we can utilize both the home and visitor stands for our guests. This allows us to maximize the number of quests that are able to attend while still maintaining social distance. Many of our students have had siblings, parents, and grandparents that have graduated in Falcon Stadium and we are excited to be able to continue this tradition.

The Firelands High School Music Department is excited to announce upcoming spring concerts. The Mighty Falcon Marching Band will be holding their concert on May 19th at 7:00 in the large gym at South Amherst Middle School. The choir will be holding their concert on May 10th, beginning at 6:30 in the Firelands High School gymnasium. Additionally, Tri-M inductions will be held on May 3rd at 6:30 in the Firelands High School gym.

The Firelands Lions Club is proud to announce our students of the month for March, April, and May.



March: Renee Clippinger. Renee is involved in the National Honor Society, the College Credit Plus Program, serves as

the Student Council President, elected as Vice President of her Class, Varsity Football and Basketball Cheerleading. Last year she was in Teen Leadership Corps, with a focus on leading, serving, and inspiring the world. Outside of school, Renee is highly active in dance as an instructor and as a performing artist. After graduation, Renee plans to attend the University of Akron and major in Education with a minor in Dance.



April: Delaney Overstreet. Delaney has been a class officer (Secretary) all 4 years of high school. She is an accomplished artist - inducted in the National Art Honor Society, earning a blue ribbon for the Cleveland Clinic project in prior years, a Gold Key in the Scholastic exhibition this year and is finishing work on her AP Art & Design portfolio this spring. After graduation, Delaney plans to attend The Ohio State University and major in biology on the pre-med track. She would like to become a medical specialist in the area of pediatric cancer research

May: We have a tie for May Student of the Month! Caden Bomback & Samantha Novak.

**Caden** has been a leader in the school for all four years and has most recently been featured on FOX 8 news with his Falcons for Equality t-shirts. After



graduation, he plans to attend Baldwin Wallace University to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice with hopes of becoming a police officer or an FBI agent.

Samantha Novak is involved in the National Honor Society, Varsity Soccer, Varsity Basketball, Varsity Track, Marching Band, and Tri-M Society. In Soccer, she was the team captain and in Tri-M, she is the group historian. Sammie's effort has her on track to receive an honors diploma when she graduates. Last year



she was in Teen Leadership Corps, with a focus on leading, serving, and inspiring the world. She continues to serve her community as a steward of two little libraries that she created. After graduation, she plans to attend the University of Akron to study nursing.

#### IMPORTANT SENIOR DATES

**April 27, 6:00 pm**: Senior Awards Night. This is a special evening event to honor those seniors that are receiving awards and/or scholarships. The event will be held in the FHS gymnasium. Invitations will be sent out at a later date. Each senior attending will be able to have two guests.

**May 8, 7:00 pm**: Prom at New Russia Twp Hall. Prom will include a catered dinner and dancing!

**May 21**: All senior fees must be paid. After May 7th, only cash or money order will be accepted. Diplomas and final transcripts will be withheld until fees are paid in full.

**May 26 & 27**: Senior Exams. Exams will be given during regularly scheduled block periods. Any senior that misses a scheduled exam due to illness will need to complete the exam after graduation practice on the 28th.

May 28, 8:30 am: Senior Breakfast. The breakfast is optional and will be held in the FHS gymnasium. Students will be served breakfast and appropriate spacing will be followed. Students must wear a face covering when not actively eating. No outside guests are permitted to attend.

May 28, 10:00 am:

Graduation Practice. All students MUST participate in graduation practice in order to participate in commencement. Practice will begin immediately after the breakfast. Seniors not attending the breakfast are encouraged to arrive by 9:45 am in the FHS gymnasium in the event that we begin practice early.

**May 28, 7:00 pm**: Graduation at Falcon Stadium! This will look different than in past years. However, we plan to have graduation outdoors in the stadium with limited guests. We are working with LCPH to determine guidelines and will share them once they are finalized.

> submitted by Cathy Keener FHS Principal

### **Firelands Elementary School News & Updates**

#### Thank you to FES Custodial/ Cleaning Staff

FES is so grateful to our custodial and cleaning staff! This school year has brought on more challenges for everyone, including these wonderful individuals. Mr. Seeley, Mr. Humbel, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Spurlock work diligently to ensure that our space is clean and ready each and every day.

5<sup>th</sup> grader, Niko says: Thank you, Mr. Seeley, Mrs. Spurlock, Mr. Humbel, Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Thomas for being our school custodians and for cleaning our school this year. Even though Covid is going around you still sanitized F.E.S. and kept us safe. Thank you for everything you did this year.

5<sup>th</sup> grader, Kyrie says: *I would like to thank you for what you do for our school to make a better experience for us students at F.E.S. Not many people realize*  how hard you work, and they don't know how difficult it may be. So I would like to thank Mr. Seeley, Mrs. Spurlock, Mr. Humble, Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Thomas.

#### On-Going Literacy Professional Development

During the 2019-2020 school year, the first and second grade teachers at FES participated in on-going professional development in Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS). This year our focus has been providing coaching support around the practices learned through LETRS. The literacy consultant from the ESC has observed teachers and provided feedback to refine educational practices, as well as modeling of the evidence-based instructional strategies. We are excited that this learning has continued and



Mr. Chuck Seeley has been working for Firelands for ten years.

look forward to continuing this progress in the 2021-2022 school year. This will allow us to further refine our practices in order to ensure we are reaching all of our students.

#### PBIS Rewards

Students at FES continue to earn Class Dojo points when demonstrating positive behavior within the classroom. They earn various rewards for their points. Rewards are distributed monthly. We are very proud of our students as they continue to earn rewards. The upcoming Crazy Hair Days will be May 7 and June 3. Students are also beginning to earn a pajama day when they earn 350 Dojo points. Once students earn 400 points (and every 50 point increment after) they will be entered into a raffle for the opportunity to win a prize. If you know an FES Falcon, please ask them what rewards they have earned and what they are looking forward to.

#### Parent Teacher Group

Firelands Elementary is very lucky to have an active PTG (Parent Teacher Group). Parents of FES students are encouraged to become involved with this group. They meet monthly and find ways to further enrich the



Mrs. Patty Spurlock came on board to help with extra cleaning this year.

FES environment for all of our students. Their next meeting will be May 6 at 6:30 via Zoom. A link will be shared as the meeting date approaches. Feel free to reach out to them to see how you can assist and hear more about how you can be involved during the 2020-2021 school year! You can find them on Facebook (Firelands Elementary School PTG) or on Twitter (@FESPTG). *submitted by Laura Groboske FES Assistant Principal* 

### **Memorial Day Parade**

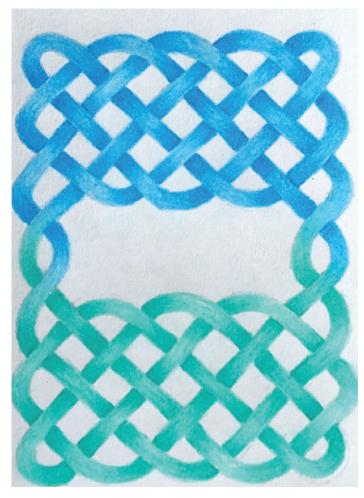
The Kipton-Camden-Henrietta parade and program will be Sunday May 30, 2021 in Kipton, by the monument. Line up is at 1:30 p.m. and the parade will start at 2:00 p.m. There will also be a program at 2:30 p.m.. For more information, please call 419-921-6523 or email kchmemorialcommittee@gmail.com.

submitted by Vicki Morris

The Firelands Local School District Schools District will be closed on Monday, May 31st.



## National Art Honor Society Inducts Eight New Members and Honors Three Senior Members





The FHS Chapter #2212 of the National Art Honor Society virtually inducted eight new members in April. NAHS offers opportunities for national recognition, exhibition, scholarships and connectivity to over 58,000 art students.

The Firelands High School chapter, founded in 2003, is the first chapter in Lorain County. It has been two years since our last induction as the ceremony was not held last spring because of remote learning.

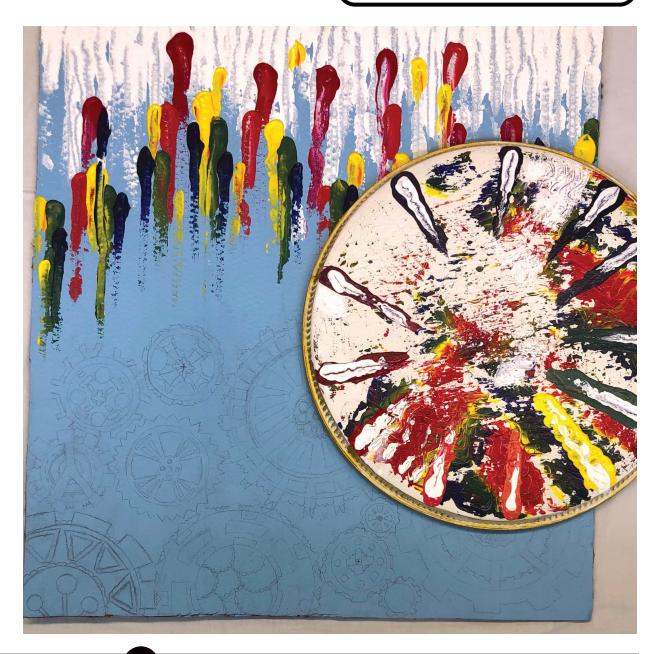
Criteria for induction are sophomore standing, enrollment in Art 3 or higher, an A average in all art classes, a 2.5 GPA overall, and no suspensions.

Congratulations to these new inductees who earned their pins; Alyssa Baker, Violet Daley, Lydia Dougan, Aidan Engel, Alex Krebs, Andria Mains, Amanda Mitchell and Larren Rounds.

Senior NAHS members were honored with receiving their rainbow honor cords to wear with their caps and gowns at graduation. Congratulations to Andria Mains, Delaney Overstreet and Dylan Taylor. A virtual induction ceremony slideshow was shared to inductees and their families.

> submitted by Laura Tawil FHS Art Teacher and NAHS Advisor

FHS Featured Art Below: Reagan Evans, grade 9, Art 1, hand-drawn Celtic Knot, colored pencil on paper. Lauren Valerius, grade 10, Art 1+, Dots, acrylic on paper. Gabby Smith, grade 10, Art 2, Color Wheel Time Running Out, acrylic on cardboard and a drumhead.





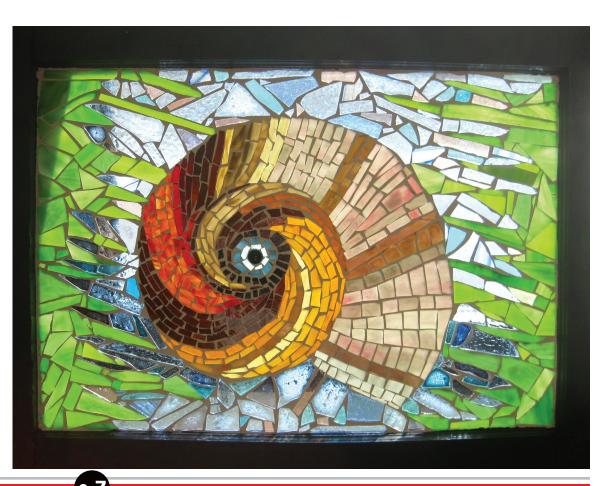
# **12th Annual Stained Glass Window Project**

The annual Art 3 stained glass window mosaic project returns for the 12th year. This year the department has crossed the 200-mark with our 201st window created among the group. The in-person Art 3 students spent the third grading period, about 50 hours, creating unique "paintings in light". These four students used salvaged windows and donated stained glass scraps to build their designs in a mosaic process. Local artists Sheree Ferrato of Verite Glass in downtown Oberlin and resident Mark Mazurak generously donate gallons of scrap stained glass regularly. Congratulations to these accomplished artists starting from left to right above:

Connor Pleban, Grade 11, *Lighthouse* Violet Daley, Grade 11, *Mushrooms on a Log* Alex Krebs, Grade 11, *Anchor* 

### Lydia Dougan, grade 10, Shark Eye Snail Shell

The exhibition is virtual this year, in the form of a slideshow, with no auction. The FHS art department is funded entirely on student fees and the generous support of the community. This project started in 2010 and the first auction and reception was held in 2011. 201 windows later, the students and art department have earned nearly \$5000. The sales fund the students directly, restocks tools (glass cutters) and supplies (glazing, grout, safety gloves, etc.) for next year's project and the art class field trip to Cleveland art museums, galleries and sites in September. To become a supporter contact Laura Tawil at <u>Itawil@firelandsschools.org</u>.



### South Amherst Alumni Board Cancels Banquet

Due to the coronavirus, the South Amherst Alumni Board announced the cancellation of this year's July 17th banquet. The board felt it needed to cancel for the safety of its alumni.

The classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972 will be honored on July 16th 2022.

The board is still accepting scholarship applications until June 30th 2021 for any eligible 2021 graduating senior. Any senior whose parents or grandparents have graduated from South Amherst may apply. Interested parties may contact Barbie Standen at 440-988-3505 for an application. Donations will also be accepted and can be mailed to her at 915 Milan Ave, Amherst, Ohio 44001.

Donations will also be accepted to help defray the cost of renting both sides of the New Russia Township Hall. They can be mailed to Pam Pollack at 10696 Quarry Rd., Oberlin, Ohio 44074.

Thank you for your understanding again this year! Thank you and be safe! submitted by Raynelle Bozicevich

### **Garden Club Plant Sale**

The Firelands Garden Club is announcing their plant sale to be held on Saturday, May 15th at Miller's Apple Hill Bulk Foods. It will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon. There will be a great selection of many perennials from members' gardens. COVID safety protocols will be held. Miller's is located at the corner of Vermilion Road and Rt. 113, at 50549 Telegraph Road, Amherst.

### **Volleyball Clinic Deadline May 7**

We are hosting our spring volleyball clinic next month! Each session is 5:00 to 6:30 pm at Firelands High School. This clinic is for students currently in grades 4, 5, and 6. **The deadline to sign-up is Friday, May 7th.** 

We will teach basic volleyball skills and allow time for players to practice these skills. There will be lots of fun contests and light competition. The dates for the clinics are: Tuesday, May 11, Tuesday, May 18, and Tuesday, May 25.

The total cost for all three clinics is \$30. Payment can be cash or check to Firelands Athletic Boosters Club (FABC). All the money raised goes to Firelands Volleyball to benefit our athletes (equipment, camps, etc.) Please bring the payment to the first session. If you have multiple children who would like to participate, there is a \$10 dollar discount for each additional child.

Please fill out a form for each child. Sessions will be run by Jordan Kolarik, varsity volleyball coach. High school players will be there to help/assist as well. Players must wear masks in and out of the building. They do have the option to remove mask during play. layers need to bring their own water bottle. Parents must wear masks if entering the building.

Please use the following link to sign-up: <u>https://forms.</u> <u>gle/1kGdoi6A7KbkL2u97</u> or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jordan Kolarik at jkolarik@ firelandsschools.org.

> submitted by Jordan Kolarik Firelands Head Volleyball Coach

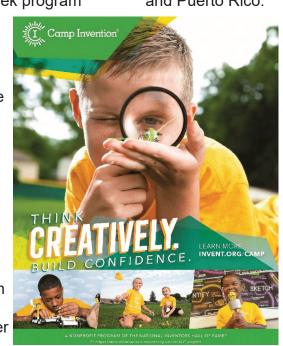
## **Camp Invention Offered at FES in June for Grades K to 6**

Camp Invention is a nonprofit program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame and has been offering camp to students for over 30 years.

This one week program

will be held at Firelands Elementary School from June 14 to June 18 at 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. The cost is \$235. Extended day hours (7:30 to 5:30) are available for an additional cost if childcare is an issue.

Each camper gets their own



SolarBot, Microphone, Road Rally Car and Duck Launcher! Camp Invention helps bring STEM activities to children across all 50 states plus D.C. and Puerto Rico.

> Campers will work on persistence by building and testing a device to launch rubber ducks, overcoming challenges to reach landmarks around the world while exploring the fun of physics.

> > 8

Imaginations will be stretched and creativity will grow as campers design a natureinspired, morphing vehicle that travels on land, and add protype elements to adapt it for air and water.

Confidence will grow as campers find their own unique voice and amplify their big ideas as they reverse engineer a wireless microphone and put design thinking into action.

Finally, problem solving skills will be honed as they develop helpful inventions for their very own SolarBot - a cool, robotic cricket inspired by real insects and powered by solar cells.

Want to sign up and save today, but not sure if you'll want an in-person or at-home experience this summer? No worries - with the new PEACE OF MIND PROMISE, you can sign up and SAVE today and finalize your experience format six weeks before your camp date!

Register at INVENT.ORG/ CAMP or 800-968-4332.

For more information contact Camp Director Nancy Mitchell at mitchell3206@ gmail.com or 216-407-6155.





## **Food Service Department & USDA Free Meal Program**

Free meals for all students The USDA continues to offer free breakfast and free lunch to all students regardless of need. This extended benefit for free meals is to help families financially during these difficult times.

This extension helps our families/students as well as the Food Service department. Our department gets Federal reimbursements for each meal that is sold, so please encourage your child/children to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Free meals for online students We continue to offer free meals to our online students. If you would like to sign up for meal pick up for the remainder of the school year, please contact Judy Baumann at 440-965-5821 ext. 1011 or jbaumann@ firelandsschools.org. I send a weekly reminder call and an email to those families that signed up. If you have missed a pick up and did not notify me, I will assume you would like to be removed from the list.

**Instructional fees** Instructional fees are only waived if you qualify for free meals based off the information provided on a meal application or if your child was approved through Direct Certification. If you received a Direct Certification notice at any time, please sign and return the form. A signed form must be received in order to waive the school fees. <u>Meal assistance</u>

**applications** At some point the USDA will no longer offer the free meals to all. If you feel your child will qualify for assistance, complete an online application so it is in place for the start of the school year: <u>www.</u> <u>payschoolscentral.com</u>

The approved meal status will roll over for the first month of the start of the school year. A <u>NEW APPLICATION</u> must be completed every school year. At this time USDA has not said if the free meals will be continued into the next school year.

> submitted by Judy Baumann Food Service Director

School Lunch Hero Day is Friday, May 7, 2021



Please join us in thanking the Firelands Food Service Staff for their dedication and hard work, especially this past year when they have gone above and beyond!

#### FRIENDS OF FIRELANDS

3rd Annual Golf Outing

Sunday August 1, 2021 Carlise Golf Course 39709 Slife Rd. Grafton Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m. Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

4 Man Scramble \$85 a person Includes donuts & coffee Lunch Catered dinner Beer, pop, water and 18 holes of golf w/ cart

50/50, Basket Raffles, Prizes and fun challenges on the course! \* Sponsorship Opportunities \*

Contact Mike O'keefe @ okeefe24@icloud.com or 440-670-6469 to register

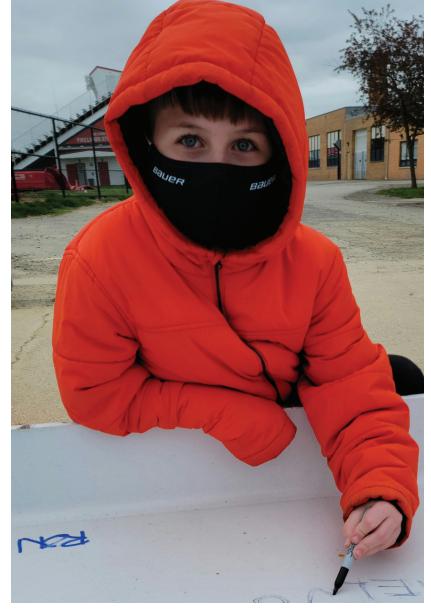


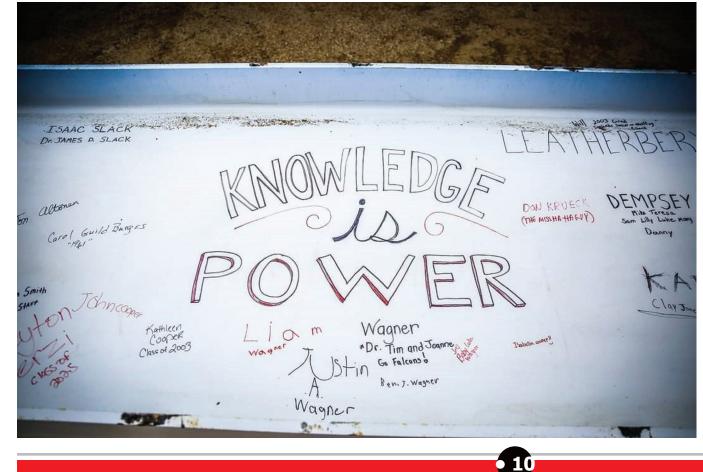
FES Featured Artist Andrew Brubaker Grade 1

Weaving

## **FHS Beam Signing**







Thank you to everyone who signed the beam that will be placed in the new high school! We had a great turn out that consisted of students, staff, community members and alumni. One Falcon alumni flew in from California to take part! This beam will eventually be placed above the new stage in the auxiliary gym.



### Student Assistance Program



Designed for youth, who are affected by a loved one's use of alcohol and/or other drugs. This free and confidential group provides education and support. Topics include coping skills, self esteem, resliliency training, decision making, healthy communication & relationships.



Monday's on ZOOM 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

For further details and/or a ZOOM invite contact Lisa Goodwin @ lgoodwin@thelcadaway.org or call (440) 989-5904 or Jose Flores @ jflores@thelcadaway.org

### **Firelands Band Boosters** General Membership Meetings

The Firelands Band Boosters' mission is to provide support for the Firelands Instrumental Music Programs in grades 5-12. We meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Currently, our program is meeting virtually through Zoom to conduct our monthly business meetings. If you are interested in attending, please email the boosters at firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com, and we will provide you with the appropriate link. The remaining dates for this school year are as May 18, 2021 and June 15, 2021.







Deanna Watts, LSW, LSSW is a full-time social worker for our district. She explains her role here:

My main goal is to provide as much support as possible for our families, students, and school staff. As your school Social Worker, I can help provide and/or assist with:

## **Help Available for Families**

 ☑ Mental Health Supports (Counseling services, individual, group, tele-therapy).

 ✓ Community Resources (Food pantries, financial assistance programs, COVID relief information).

 ✓ Kinship Care Resources (grandparent/guardian support systems).

☑ Liaison from home to school concerns (Online school issues, internet/hot spot help).

Please feel free to contact the school guidance counselor or me directly via email or phone to discuss any concerns or to schedule a face-to-face or virtual meeting. Confidentiality and safety are my highest priorities.

Email: watts@esclc.org or dwatts@firelandsschools.org Call or text: 440-334-8801

**COVID-19 Mental Health Care** 

Lorain County's COVID Care team is taking action! These teams are dispatching across the nation to help neighborhoods recover from the social and emotional health challenges of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The team of local familiar faces offers community-based outreach and education to

relieve stress, especially if those stresses are or may become health concerns.

To connect with a Care Counselor to learn about local resources, call 440-240-7025 or 440-322-6308. Other resources are the Crisis Text Line (text 4hope to 741741); the Ohio CareLine (call 1-800-720-9616); or visit mharslc.org/find-help.



IRS Help, LLC Sarah Wacker, President 30.865.7400 www.fixtaxproblemsnow.com HELPING INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES SETTLE THEIR IRS TAX DEBT SINCE 2010!

TO ADVERTISE IN THE EXPRESS, CALL 440-965-5821 X.1010



## FALCON STRONG