



The Firelands Express



JANUARY 18, 2016

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 77

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



**On behalf of the Firelands Local Schools,
Happy 2016!**

Firelands Bond Issue- March 16, 2016

The Firelands Board of Education voted unanimously to place a 5.7 mill bond issue on the March 15, 2016 ballot. The bond issue was recommended by a Building Advisory Committee consisting of community members, parents, and school employees.

Our middle and high schools are outdated, inefficient and need to be replaced.

- The State of Ohio inspected the Firelands school buildings in 2006 and 2014 and issued a report specifying the problems in each building
- Asbestos was encapsulated many years ago making renovations difficult
- Both buildings do not meet today's standards regarding school safety and security
- The waste water treatment facility needs to be replaced at SAMS and updated at FHS
- Science labs are not meeting 21st century learning requirements
- Technology is a struggle due to antiquated buildings
- Buildings are not ADA compliant
- In fact, the State of Ohio will pay for 19% of the cost of construction because they are so concerned about the condition of the middle and high schools

The plan is to replace the middle and high schools with a joined grade 6-12 building because it saves money. There will be separate wings for the middle and high school students with 2 shared heating system, cafeteria, and library.

The buildings will be cost effective, meet the learning needs for the 21st century, and prepare our students for a competitive world.

The following community meetings will be held in February to share information:

| <u>Time</u> | <u>Date</u> | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Firelands High School: | Tuesday, February 9 th | 7:00 pm |
| South Amherst Middle School: | Thursday, February 4 th | 7:00 pm |
| | Saturday, February 13 th | 9:00 am |

Safety and Security of Students

The safety of our students and staff members is our first priority. Over winter break, a new school day entrance was constructed at the elementary school. With the construction of this new entrance, visitors will only be able to access the building by going through the main office. In addition to a new entrance, security cameras at the elementary will be updated as well. The new cameras will substantially enhance the clarity and overall coverage of the building and will also allow our building administrators and safety personnel the ability to view the cameras from any web enabled device. At all buildings, a new electronic visitor badge system will be installed in the coming weeks. This will help us ensure that our buildings will continue to be open to visitors during the school day while also ensuring the safety of our students and staff members.

Charter Schools

On December 14th, a resolution demanding a change to how charter schools are funded was unanimously approved by the Board of Education. In addition, the resolution directed the treasurer to invoice the Ohio Department of Education for \$3,769,784.49, which represents the total amount of local tax dollars that have been diverted to the charter school industry. To read the full resolution, please visit the "District News" section on our website.

School Board Appreciation Month

As January is school board appreciation month, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the members of the Firelands Board of Education. The Board works diligently to ensure that the students in our district receive the best possible education while also ensuring that our district operates in a fiscally responsible manner.

Dr. Jane Battig - 14 years of service

Mr. Ben Gibson - 4 years of service

Mr. Tom Myers - Elected in November

Mr. Mike O'Keefe - 4 years of service

Mr. Dan Pycraft - 14 years of service

GO FALCONS!

Mike Von Gunten
Superintendent

FHS Class of 1995

mvongunten@firelandsschools.org
[@FLSDSuper](https://twitter.com/FLSDSuper)

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

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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.

GUIDANCE CORNER

Seniors:

- Seniors need to go onto FAFSA.gov to create their FSA ID as soon as possible.

Financial Aid Night Opportunity- LCCC's Financial Services will host College Goal Sunday from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, February 14, 2016 in the Bass Library/Community Resource Center. It is a community event where Financial Aid Professionals are on hand to help families complete the 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is the initial application to apply for federal grants, work study and student loans. To register visit www.ohiocollegegoalsunday.org or call (440) 366-4505.

CollegeNow Resource: College Now Representative, Jacquie Anderle, is available to schedule individual financial aid meetings each Tuesday at Firelands High School. She can also be reached through email at janderle@collegenowgc.org

Juniors:

- Scheduling for 2016-2017 school year will take place **February 2nd** and **February 5th** with Mrs. Zimmer and Ms. Goss in their English classes.
- ACT and SAT registration information and test dates are on their websites: www.actstudent.org and www.collegeboard.com. Information packets are available in the guidance office with dates of testing and how to register online. College bound juniors please register for the ACT this spring at actstudent.org. Test dates are listed below:

Test Date:

April 9th
June 11th

Register by:

March 4th
May 6th

Juniors are allowed 2 college visits to view colleges of their choice and ask questions of the college admission staff. A form is available in the guidance office. This form must be given to the main office **before the student can visit the college**. It counts as a day of attendance, but missed school work must be made up.

Sophomores:

- Scheduling for 2016-2017 school year

will take place **February 8th** and **February 12th** with Mrs. Zimmer and Ms. Goss in their English classes.

For those Sophomores who returned their permission slips for the **JVS Explore Sophomore Career Day**, the field trip to the JVS will take place **Thursday January 28th from 9am-11am**. Each sophomore participating in the event will have the opportunity to visit and explore two career technical programs. We encourage you to research program descriptions at lcjvs.com.

- Scheduling for 2016-2017 school year will take place **February 16th** and **February 19th** with Mrs. Zimmer and Ms. Goss in their English classes. In addition to scheduling, the freshmen will engage in another career exploration activity with their Naviance accounts.

-Career Prep Information-

Save the Date - JVS Open House is February 7

Mark your calendars for the JVS Open House on **Sunday, February 7th from 1:30pm-3:30pm**. The Open House is designed to give 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students and their parents an in-depth look at 24 career-technical program options available for the 2016-2017 school year. Program options for 9th and 10th grade students are being expanded for the next school year. Visitors can also learn about training options for adult students that offer valuable industry credentials.

-College Credit Plus Information-

Lorain County Community College Course Information Parent Meeting- will take place **February 25 at 7pm** in the Library. We will discuss the process of registering for these college classes and their benefits.

-Incoming Freshmen Parent Meeting- Current 8th grade students and parents are invited to the FHS Freshmen orientation on **Wednesday, February 25th at 5:45 p.m.** in the South Amherst Middle School Gym.

Firelands FFA Named Model of Innovation Winner at the 88th National FFA Convention & Expo

LOUISVILLE (Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015/National FFA Organization) – The Firelands FFA Chapter in Ohio has been named the 2015 National Model of Innovation Chapter Award winner in community development at the 88th National FFA Convention & Expo in Louisville, Ky.

The nation's top 10 three-star chapters in the community development division competed for the award. Firelands FFA was awarded a plaque in an onstage ceremony during the second general session on Thursday, Oct. 29. Top chapters were also selected from the middle school, student and chapter development divisions.

Firelands FFA crocheted winter items for community members in need. After hosting and participating in five crocheting workshops, 51 students crocheted a total of 71 blankets, hats, headbands and scarves that were donated to three families during the holidays as well as chapter sponsors. Crocheting for a Cause allowed members to creatively express themselves while helping those in need during the cold winter season.

The Models of Innovation awards are sponsored by John Deere as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. It is one of the many ways FFA members accomplish the FFA mission and succeed in making a difference in their communities and the lives of others.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 629,367 student members who belong to one of 7,757 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.



Dr. Brown, National FFA Advisor presents Mike Anadell & Katy Tuggle with the National Champion Model of Innovation Award.

Only 4 chapter awards are given to the 7,757 chapters in the United States and Firelands is proud to be one of those chapters!

FIRELANDS EXPRESS FOR DECEMBER, 2015

& JANUARY 2016

2016-17 SCHEDULING COMING SOON – Students will begin the process of scheduling their courses for the 2016-17 school year through their school counselors. The course catalog will be presented to the Board of Education for their approval at the January 2016 meeting, and will be available to students at school and on-line as soon as it is approved. FHS hopes to add more CCP (College Credit Plus) courses through LCCC on the FHS campus in 2016-17.

SEMESTER EXAMS IN LATE JANUARY – Students will be bringing home Semester Exam schedules for the end of January, as the first semester ends on Wednesday, January 27th. FHS will be on an exam schedule from Monday, January 25 – Wednesday, January 27th, so that our students may prepare and not be overburdened by too many exams on one day. The most exams a student will take on any one day is three, with two being the usual amount. Exam times will be 90 minutes long, and the school day is over at 12:30 on Monday, and at 11:45 on Tuesday and Wednesday of that week. Also, Tuesday and Wednesday exams begin at 8:30, with teacher tutoring each morning at 7:30 am. Lunch will be served after Exams have been completed, but students do not have to stay after each day has ended. For students who must ride the bus home, they will be provided a study hall in the cafeteria until their bus has arrived. Look for the students to bring home a schedule with period exams and times after winter break.

INTERIM REPORTS DISTRIBUTED ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH -

Interim Reports were distributed in FAST on Tuesday, December 8th. This will be the final time that FHS prints interim reports, as students and parents have 24/7 real-time access to grades through Power School Parent Access. Beginning in the third grading period, interim reports will only be printed upon request, and then given to the student for whom the report has been requested. Please contact our School Counseling Department for further information beginning in the third grading period. This initiative was recommended by parents, students, and staff as a way to cut down on paper consumption, since students and parents have anytime access to their grades. Report cards will be printed and distributed at the end of each grading period in the usual manner.

GRAMMY SIGNATURE SEMI-FINALIST—The Mighty Falcon Marching Band and Director Mr. Wiley on have been named a Grammy Signature School Semi-Finalist again this year. Only two other schools in Ohio have joined FHS for this prestigious honor. All GRAMMY Signature Schools selectees will receive monetary grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$6,000. Award winners are announced in March, 2016. Good luck and congrats to the MFMB.

MANDATORY SAFETY DRILL – Firelands High School conducted a mandatory safety drill on Tuesday, November 17th. The drill consisted of lock-down procedures for FHS. The drill took about 20 minutes and everyone was compliant under the Firelands Schools Safety procedures.

SENIOR CITIZEN CONCERT—FHS opened its doors to our Senior Citizens in the community on Thursday, December 3rd at 9:30 am in the FHS Gym. Our guests enjoyed performances from several people, including the Select Choir. The performance lasted just over an hour and our guests were thoroughly entertained. Next year, FHS is hoping to expand this special event to include even more musical acts.

MARCHING BAND REPRESENTS AT DISNEY—The Mighty Falcon Marching Band represented FHS very well just before Thanksgiving vacation. The MFMB departed for the Magic Kingdom on Thursday, November 19th for their 5-day trip to Orlando. The band enjoyed many of the attractions at the Disney Parks, but their trip was highlighted by marching in the daily parade at the Magic Kingdom on Saturday afternoon. Congratulations to the band, staff, and our parent chaperones for an outstanding experience for our students. Well done MFMB.

GREENHAND ASSEMBLY—Congratulations to several of our FFA students who have shown they are ready for the rigors of our FFA program, by being awarded their Greenhand Certificate on Monday, November 16th. Our FFA students continue to shine in one of the top FFA programs in the country.

MORE AWARDS—Three FHS football players earned state level awards this weekend from the Associated Press. Brad Thrasher, who was the Division IV District Offensive Player of the Year, earned first team All-Ohio honors as Quarterback. Aaron Miller earned first team All-Ohio defensive honors, and Jake Grasso captured a second team All-Ohio offensive lineman award. Congratulations to all three seniors on a fantastic year and FHS career.

SOCCKER AWARDS—Congratulations to Patrick Brightbill for being awarded 2nd team All-Ohio for Division II Soccer. Congratulations to Patrick on this outstanding award. Also, Head Girls Coach Morgan Ziegler was named the Lorain County Division II Coach of the Year, while her assistant, Kassie Davis, was named the Lorain County Assistant Coach of the Year. Finally, Assistant Boys Coach Brett Thompson was named the Lorain County Assistant Coach of the Year. Congratulations to our Soccer coaches on these prestigious honors.

FFA PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE RESULTS—The Firelands Parliamentary Procedure teams did a great job last week at the sub-district contest. The senior team and one novice team qualified for the District contest on Tuesday the 8th at the LCJVS 4:40 and 6:20. Good luck at District.

HOLIDAY CONCERT A HUGE SUCCESS – The FHS Band and Choir put on a fantastic show at their Holiday Concert on Thursday, December 17th. All of the students performed well, and as usual, the concert concluded with the Hallelujah Chorus, as Falcon Alums were invited to perform. This show is a Holiday classic, and the gym is always standing room only for this show. Congratulations to all of the students for kicking off the Holidays in a wonderful fashion.

MIGHTY FALCON MARCHING BAND BRINGS JOY TO THE HOLIDAYS – The Mighty Falcon Marching Band brought holiday cheer and music to a family in need over the Holidays. A local family lost a mother to a tragic accident, and the MFMB delivered holiday cheer in the form of music and gifts for the family. It was an outstanding show of community support by the Marching Band, led by Mr. Wiley.

Submitted by,

Robert Maver
FHS Principal

Firelands Artists Make School History Twice in the Cleveland Clinic eXpressions Art Competition

The FHS Art Department has doubled its representation in the esteemed Cleveland Clinic eXpressions competition this year. Once again senior **Victoria Krejci** earned a ribbon, this time white (3rd place) for her mixed media sculpture "Whatever Suits You" illustrating the treatment of chronic heart patients with depression. This is a Firelands first-ever two-time winner! Freshman **Cora Lynn Born** breaks into the field of winners with a blue ribbon (1st place) win for her mixed media sculpture "Ordering at a Restaurant". Her effort examining different demographics' perspectives of after-life plans beat out experienced upperclassmen. This is a Firelands first-ever blue ribbon in the art competition! Born and Krejci's works are *the only winners from Lorain County* and among only 54 selected for the exhibition from a field of 25 mostly AAA high schools.

The Cleveland Clinic Office of Civic Education hosts the annual *eXpressions: An Intersection of Art and Science*. Art students from high schools from around the country interpreted research conducted by Cleveland Clinic high school summer interns. Nearly 1,600 works were submitted this year and only . The process includes research and writing to gain understanding of the topic. All 47 Art 2, Art 3, Art 4 and Advanced Art students selected their own studies to illustrate from a list of over 125 summer projects. The art students read for understanding, orally presented, conceptually illustrated and composed brief artist statements for their entries. The students are very proud of their work and they are on display in the high school showcases for you to see.

A panel of art educators, medical researchers, medical illustrators, photographers, media and public health professionals evaluate each submission on interpretation, creativity, presentation, and initiative. The judges awarded four levels of special recognition. In descending order they are: Blue Ribbon, Red Ribbon, White Ribbon, and

Honorable Mention. Blue Ribbon winners receive \$100. Red Ribbon winners receive \$75; White Ribbon winners, \$50; and Honorable Mention winners, \$25. The Firelands Art Department will also receive a \$100 educational grant for producing a winning entry in art.

Exhibition and Catalog

All of the award-winning submissions, including Victoria's work, will be featured in a full-color *eXpressions* catalog of the exhibition, which will open with a reception and dedication on Thur. January, 28, 2016, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Global Center for Health Innovation (Medical Mart), Cleveland. The exhibition continues through mid-March. The exhibit is open to the public during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30am – 5pm.

For more information about the eXpressions program and to view the virtual gallery of past exhibits, visit: <http://civiceducation.clevelandclinic.org/Creative-Learning/Our-Programs/eXpressions-Home.aspx>

Victoria Krejci's artist's statement

"The purpose of my work is to explain the effects of individualized treatment on patients, specifically chronic heart patients, suffering with depression. Clay hearts are to represent heart patients and the surrounding black fabric is to represent depression. On the elevated heart, the fabric is being removed by figurines that are to represent the individualized treatment patients may take in order to lessen or alleviate their depression, while the lowered heart is cloaked in fabric. The effect I hope to create is to display the confinement of chronic depression and the resolution seen after taking the PHQ-9 survey."



"Whatever Suits You"

Victoria Krejci, grade 12, White Ribbon

(ceramic, acrylic paint, wire, fabric, cardboard tube and wood sculpture)

Cora Lynn Born's artist's statement

"My piece was inspired by the variety of end of life plans available. The stuffed animals symbolize different ethnicities and they are all choosing different plans on the "Life Plan Menu." They are seated around one table at a restaurant because even though the different ethnicities come from different places, they can sit together over one thing and what they want. Each animal has made a selection in crayon to demonstrate that this decision is primal. We all need to make choices regarding our end, for the benefit of ourselves and our loved ones as well."



"Ordering at a Restaurant"

Cora Lynn Born, grade 9, Blue Ribbon

Four mixed media sculpture

CURRICULUM NEWS

Welcome back! I hope that each of you enjoyed the winter holidays and had time to relax and rejuvenate with friends and family alike before beginning one of the busiest months of the school year. January is always a busy month for us too, as we prep curriculum and instruction for the second semester, begin planning for the next school year, and adjust to the presence of snow!

As mentioned in the previous curriculum column, state achievement data for the district will be released this month (in two parts) and will reflect student testing, thus lowering our overall ranking. Parent and guardian reports reflecting last year's students' results were mailed in December, fall Kindergarten Readiness results were distributed in November, and this year's fall third grade testing reports will be delivered at the end of the February. To help support your child, especially at the elementary grade levels, please check out our tips for parents section of the website as well as the various curriculum resources. I encourage you to also explore the online components of the *My Math* (Grades K-5), *Middle Grades Math* (Grades 6-8) and *Wonders* (K-2) series that the district has purchased to help support our students and teachers. The district website also has tools that you can use to help support the learning that is happening in the classroom.

Although we do not know the impact of last year's report card, financially or otherwise, we will continue to work as a district to ensure that all of our students meet the requisite skills to be college and career ready that these reports reflect. To support the implementation of Ohio's New Learning Standards, the district is embarking on a science adoption and our 3-5 language arts team will be working with its new curriculum map, starting third grading period. Our 3-5 math teachers will be beginning a similar process shortly and our physical education

teachers will be learning about their new standards, as well. As we continue our implementation as directed by the district's strategic plan (Goal 1), I promise that we will continue to meet local expectations while meeting the requirements set forth by the Ohio legislature, so that our students have the best education possible.

Please wish our high school students best of luck on their mid-year exams (January 25-27). These locally developed assessments count for 20% of their semester grades and are an important snapshot of what our students have learned this first semester. Shortly following the conclusion of the semester, report cards will be distributed to all students. Beginning next grading period, you will find that the district is no longer supplying a paper copy of your child's *interim* progress (report cards will still be distributed). This decision was made by the administrative team as the same information that was being mailed is reported in real-time via the Parent Access portal of PowerSchool, the district's Student Information System. Any parent or guardian who needs access to the system or who has forgotten to update their information should contact Ms. Jackie Swiers at 440-965-5821 x1024 to gain access. Hard copies of the interim report are only available upon request by contacting the building principal.

Lastly, I'd love to hear from you – if you want to know more about the curriculum and instruction initiatives happening around the district, please don't hesitate to write an e-mail or give a call (440-965-5821 x1019). It is only together that we can build the next generation of Falcons, educationally strong!

Dr. Bryan Drost

Director of Educational Services

FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL

\$1.50 – BREAKFAST \$0.30 – REDUCED BREAKFAST

\$2.85 – LUNCH \$0.40 – REDUCED LUNCH

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 Chicken parm w/wg roll or Chicken patty/bun Spaghetti / sauce Italian green beans Chilled peaches | 2 Domino's pizza or stuffed crust pepperoni Baby carrots Grape tomatoes Chilled pears Mini rice krispie treat | 3 Beef & cheese nachos Or Taco Fries w/cheese Refried beans w/cheese Romaine salad Chilled applesauce Whole grain roll | 4 Spicy chicken wrap w/cheese Chicken strips w/roll Shredded lettuce Seasoned corn Fresh fruit | 5 Toasted cheese Or cheesy bread /garlic Steamed broccoli Tomato soup Chilled mandarin oranges |
| 8 BBq pulled pork w/bun Or Philly steak & cheese w/roasted peppers & onions BBq baked beans Crispy tator rounds Chilled peaches | 9 Pizza hut pizza or stuffed crust pepperoni Seasoned broccoli Baby carrots Chilled pears 100% fruit smoothie | 10 Pasta Bar/marinara, alfredo or cheese sauce Or meatball sub Romaine salad Cucumber slices Chilled applesauce | 11 General Tso's chicken Stir fry vegetable Seasoned rice Fresh fruit Fortune Cookie | 12 Ham & Cheese calzone Or Fish fillet sandwich w/shredded lettuce Seasoned cauliflower / cheese Red pepper strips Chilled mandarin oranges |
| 15 NO SCHOOL PRESIDENT'S DAY | 16 Domino's pizza or stuffed crust pepperoni Seasoned broccoli Celery sticks Fruit Mini rice krispie treat | 17 Chipotle day-seasoned beef steak or fajita chicken Ultra grain wrap Shredded iceberg, Seasoned pinto beans, Seasoned rice mandarin oranges | 18 Wg Cheese quesadilla Or Chicken nuggets w/roll California blend vegetables Baby Carrots Grape tomatoes Fresh fruit | 19 Deli sub bar w/ combo or turkey, cheese, lettuce, tomato, peppers, banana pepper, black olives Italian vegetable blend Chilled pineapple |
| 22 Philly steak & cheese w/roasted peppers & onions Or Roasted hot dog w/bun BBq baked beans Celery sticks Chilled peaches | 23 Pizza hut pizza or stuffed crust pepperoni Baby carrots Grape tomatoes Chilled pears 100% fruit smoothie | 24 Taco salad lettuce, meat,cheese,chips or soft taco wrap w/cheese, iceberg lettuce Salsa cup, Seasoned corn Chilled applesauce Whole grain roll, sour cream | 25 Chicken strips w/roll Chicken patty w/bun Baked fries California blend veggie Fresh fruit Jello w/topping | 26 NO SCHOOL NON INSTRUCTIONAL DAY |
| 29 Pepperoni stuffed calzone Or French bread pizza BBq baked beans Seasoned carrots Applesauce | | | | |

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following local businesses and to our community members for making our 1st Annual 8th Grade Prize Calendar Fundraiser a success:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Republic Services | Ziggy's Pub & Restaurant |
| Jamie's Carpet Shop | Firelands Athletics Boosters |
| Jamie's Carpet Cleaning | Personal Stitch Sportswear |
| SAMS PTG | Amherst IGA |
| Mowry Photography | Country Breeze/Smokin' Joe's |
| Totally Floored Flooring America | Fultz Builders |
| Americut Coring & Sawing, Inc. | Sassy Chics Trading Post |
| Vermilion Land Clearing Services | Star Builders |
| Sliman's Sales & Services | Brown Bag Burgers |
| Gwen Lehman Scentsy Consultant | Cambridge Construction |
| Janet Latto Thirty-One Consultant | Sweets by Maggie |
| Ramsier's Stone & Countertops | Polanski's Market |
| Piggy's Main Street Market | Denny's: Amherst |
| Kneaded Touch | Dairy Queen: Amherst |
| Don Mould's Plantation | Your Deli |
| Stockyard Express | Convenient Food Mart: Amherst |
| Hot Dog Heaven | Koutrip Family |
| | and the Baldwin Family |

GO FALCONS!

SOUTH AMHERST MIDDLE SCHOOL

\$1.50 – BREAKFAST \$0.30 – REDUCED BREAKFAST
 \$2.85 – LUNCH \$0.40 – REDUCED LUNCH

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Chicken parm w/wg roll or chicken patty/bun Spaghetti / sauce Seasoned Green beans Chilled applesauce | 2 Domino's pizza or stuffed crust pepper Romaine salad Baby carrots w/dip Chilled Fruit or 100% fruit smoothie | 3 Taco salad or soft taco wrap, cheese Shredded iceberg lettuce Seasoned refried beans Grape tomatoes Chilled peaches Salsa / sour cream | 4 Spicy chicken wrap w/cheese Or Chicken strips w/roll Shredded lettuce Steamed broccoli Fresh fruit | 5 Toasted cheese Or Cheezy bread/garlic Seasoned peas Tomato soup Chilled mandarin oranges |
| 8 BBq pulled pork wg bun Whole grain corn dog Baked beans Celery sticks Chilled peaches | 9 Pizza hut pizza or stuffed crust pepper Seasoned broccoli Baby carrots w/dip Chilled Fruit Strawberry shortcake cookie | 10 Cheeseburger / bun Or Hamburger / bun Oven baked fries Romaine salad Chilled mandarin oranges | 11 General Tso's chicken Stir fry vegetable Seasoned rice Fresh fruit Fortune Cookie | 12 Egg & cheese on wg roll or pancake & sausage stick Hashbrown potato Sweet potatoes Orange juice cup Chilled mixed fruit |
| 15 NO SCHOOL PRESIDENT'S DAY | 16 Domino's pizza or stuffed crust pepper Seasoned broccoli Celery sticks w/dip Chilled Fruit Mini rice krispie treat | 17 Chipotle day Fajita chicken or steak beef Shredded iceberg Seasoned pinto beans Seasoned rice Chilled mandarin orange | 18 Cheese quesadilla Or Chicken nuggets w/roll Baby carrots Seasoned Green beans Fresh fruit | 19 2 Gilardi cheese breadsticks or Spaghetti w/ meat & roll Romaine salad Grape tomatoes Chilled pineapple |
| 22 Roasted hot dog w/ bun Or Philly steak & cheese w/roasted peppers & onions BBq baked beans Celery sticks w/pb Chilled peaches | 23 Pizza hut pizza or stuffed crust pizza Seasoned Broccoli Grape tomatoes Chilled Fruit or 100% fruit smoothie | 24 Taco salad or soft taco wrap, cheese Shredded iceberg lettuce Seasoned refried beans Chilled applesauce Tortilla chips Salsa / sour cream | 25 Spicy chicken patty/bun or chicken patty w/bun Parsley potatoes Fresh fruit Goldfish graham's | 26 NO SCHOOL NON INSTRUCTIONAL DAY |
| 29 Pepperoni calzone Or French bread pizza Seasoned cauliflower Celery sticks w/pb Chilled applesauce | | | | |

#iAmFirelands

www.iAmFirelands.com

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SAMS UGLY SWEATER CONTEST



Fine Art and Language Arts:

A DYNAMIC duo!!

Art students at South Amherst Middle School have started a new program to encourage middle schoolers to READ by advertising various book titles with clever bookmarks! The bookmarks were designed and created in Mrs. Chippi's art class and are beautifully illustrated with student designs of popular middle level books paired with a brief "hook" to entice the middle school reader. At S.A.M.S. we recognize that reading is a life skill and what better way to encourage reading than through the use of functional student art. Any student at S.A.M.S. can borrow these bookmarks found in the library for a week or two and then return them to the basket for a new swap.

Lyza Riccardi and Larren Rounds
(6th Graders) helped write this article.



A SOUP & SANDWICH Dinner

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INCLUDES DRINK AND
DESSERT

Wakeman Masonic Lodge

34 Pleasant St.

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Fundraiser for

**Rylan J. Andrews,
a 6 years old born with
serious medical issues.**

**Donations
ACCEPTED**

FIRELANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

\$1.50 – BREAKFAST \$0.30 – REDUCED BREAKFAST
 \$2.50 – LUNCH \$0.40 – REDUCED LUNCH

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| 1 Baked chicken nuggets Sweet tots Celery sticks Chilled applesauce Whole grain roll Dipping sauce | 2 Vendor pizza Or school pepperoni pizza Seasoned Corn Baby carrots Chilled fruit or 100% fruit smoothie | 3 Beef teriyaki dippers Seasoned rice Green beans Sliced cucumbers Chilled pineapple | 4 Taco salad Lettuce & cheese Seasoned refried beans Fresh fruit Salsa Tortilla chips | 5 Bosco sticks Romaine garden salad Grape tomatoes Chilled mandarin oranges Marinara sauce Tray treat |
| 8 Popcorn chicken Hashbrown patty Bbq baked beans Chilled peaches | 9 Vendor pizza Or school pepperoni pizza Seasoned mixed vegetables Sliced red peppers Chilled fruit Strawberry shortcake cookie | 10 Chicken strips Seasoned broccoli Baby carrots w/dip Chilled pineapple Chez it crackers | 11 Hamburger w/bun Smiley fries Coleslaw Chilled pears Sliced pickles | 12 Pizza Day Seasoned corn Sliced cucumbers Chilled applesauce |
| 15 NO SCHOOL PRESIDENT'S DAY | 16 Vendor pizza Or school pepperoni pizza Seasoned peas Celery sticks Chilled fruit or 100% fruit smoothie | 17 General Tso's Chicken Stir Fry Veggies Seasoned Rice Chilled pineapple tidbits Fortune cookie | 18 Soft beef taco Ultra grain wrap Shredded lettuce & cheese Seasoned corn Fresh fruit Salsa cup | 19 Cheesy bread Romaine garden salad Grape Tomatoes Chilled mandarin oranges |
| 22 Sausage links French toast sticks Hashbrown potatoes Celery sticks Orange juice cup Syrup cup | 23 Vendor pizza Or school pepperoni pizza Seasoned broccoli Baby carrots Chilled fruit Mini rice krispie square | 24 Baked chicken fries Seasoned french fries Bbq baked beans Chilled pears Dipping sauce | 25 Pepperoni Calzone Seasoned green beans Sliced cucumbers Fresh fruit | 26 NO SCHOOL NON INSTRUCTIONAL DAY |
| 29 Baked chicken nuggets Sweet tots Celery sticks Chilled applesauce Whole grain roll Dipping sauce | | | | |

Not Forgotten Box at FES



Thank you to everyone who sent in gifts for the Not Forgotten Box collection! Your gifts will help make this Christmas a very special one for many families!

ALL YOU CAN EAT



FRENCH TOAST, PANCAKE, & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

Wakeman Masonic Lodge
 34 Pleasant St.
 SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2016
 TIME 9:00 A.M.—1:30 P.M.
 DONATIONS ACCEPTED



Coming To

Firelands High School
 Sun: Jan. 17, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21

Advance registration required. See web site for deadline.

U.S. Baseball Academy's Spring Training 2016 is a unique concept that provides young players with advanced hitting, pitching, fielding/baserunning, catching training programs and instruction by some of the area's best coaches.

- ★ Sessions for grades 1 through 12 include six weeks of instruction for as low as \$99.
- ★ A national baseball training program operated locally by Site Director Dan Ransom, Head Coach, Firelands HS.
- ★ With a player-coach ratio of 6 to 1, each player gets plenty of individual attention in a small-group atmosphere. In addition to unbeatable instruction by the area's best coaches, players get a preseason tune-up that helps them enter team practice in mid-season form. With numerous age-specific sessions, instruction is specially tailored for each ability level.
- ★ Register now, pay later. What better way to get a jump on the upcoming season than a six-week Spring Training experience, featuring instruction from some of the area's best coaches?



For a complete description of the program and registration forms, visit

www.USBaseballAcademy.com

You can also call our office at 866-622-4487 to register by phone.

Firelands High School
Parents for a Safe After Prom Environment
(PSAPE) Class of 2016

"Night at the Races"

Saturday, February 27th, 2016

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; Racing Commences at 7:00 p.m.

New Russia Township Hall 46300 Butternut Ridge Road, Oberlin

Name/Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☆ PURCHASE A TABLE \$200.00 _____

Includes 8 admission tickets, dinner, beverages & dessert, horse,
advertisement in program & table advertisement

Name of Horse: _____

☆ PURCHASE A TICKET \$20.00: # _____ x \$20.00 \$ _____

Includes dinner, beverages & dessert

☆ PURCHASE A HORSE \$20.00 _____

Includes a chance to win \$50 Name of Horse: _____

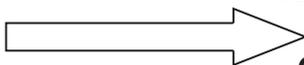
☆ PURCHASE AN AD IN PROGRAM ***Include a copy of your ad or
business card!

Full Page \$100.00 _____ Half Page \$50.00 _____ Business Card \$25.00 _____

☆ SPONSOR A RACE \$50.00 _____

Includes advertisement in program & recognition at the time of the race

Make Checks Payable to:



PSAPE
C/O Debbie Brightbill
2025 Claus Rd
Vermilion, OH 44089

Questions? Contact: Linda Nickles (440) 258-5902 or Amy Spiegelburg (440)
315-1453

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



It's Time!!!
Baseball, Softball and
T-ball signups!



South Amherst/Firelands Hot Stove, OGSO
Signups have begun and will continue until

MARCH 1st

The website to download and print
your registration forms is:

[http://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?
url=firelands](http://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=firelands)

The forms that you need are on the left hand
side. Sign up soon!

Community Celebration

"We Are Firelands!"

Saturday February 6, 2016

(Dinner served 6-8pm, games 6-9pm, dancing 9-11pm)



New Russia Township Hall
46300 Butternut Ridge Road
Oberlin, Ohio

Tickets \$25.00 per person (21yrs older only)

*\$5.00 of each ticket will automatically be entered into the 50/50 drawing

Steak Dinner, Beer, Refreshments, Snacks Provided
50/50, Door Prizes, Wine Raffle, Basket Raffles, Silent
Auction Items, Ladies (includes Coach Purse) and Men's
Raffles at \$700 value each & MORE!!!

Loads of FUN!!!

Contact: Ellen Gundersen

ellengundy@gmail.com

ALL CHECKS MADE OUT TO FEA

Buy 8 tickets, get reserved table, & win bottle of wine

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

STERKS CATERING
 All Occasion Parties
 Reservations:
(440) 775-0028
 www.sterks catering.com

HENRIETTA U.M.C.
 "Please! Pray For Our Children & Our Nation"
 52148 S.R. 113
 (Telegraph Rd)
 440-965-7781
Worship Services:
 9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45a.m.

Firelands Lions Club 
 "Serving the Community for over 50 years"
NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED
 Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's
 For more information call: Fritz Knoble, Membership Chairman at 440.965.4122

MATTHEW A. STEMPOWSKI
 FIRELANDS GRAD 1989



Apple Hill

Bulk Food, Spices, Baking Supplies, Candy, Nuts, Dried Fruit, Apples, Bulk Chocolate, Cider. Custom Made Gift & Fruit Baskets - School Tours - Sept. & October
440.965.7077

FIRELANDS COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL
 11970 Vermilion Road, Oberlin
440/965-7677
REGISTER NOW!
 Fall Pre-School & Summer Programs
 Ages: 18 months – 12 years
 Pre-School: 9:00am–11:45am
 Daycare 6:15am–5:30pm
 Monday thru Friday

Support the Firelands Board of Education and help us to maintain the Firelands Express!

ADS ARE ONLY \$200 A YEAR!

Contact the Firelands Board Office at 440.965.5821.

Please submit all articles and photos to:

Lseman@firelandsschools.org

GENERAL FAMILY DENISTRY
 Early morning & evening appointments
 New Patients Welcome!
(440) 233-4155
 1936 Cooper Foster Park Rd. W
 Lorain, OH 44053

HENRIETTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OPENS SHED TO COLLECT CLOTHING

Henrietta UMC, located at 52148 State Route 113 in Henrietta Township, has teamed up with St. Pauly Textile, Inc., a used clothing collection company that was founded 20 years ago in Rochester, New York and is an A+ rated member of the Better business Bureau. The company works with non-profit organizations to set up used clothing drop off sheds designed to give community members a clean, attractive, and well-monitored place to donate gently used textile items, which are then distributed both here in the U.S. and worldwide to people who need them.

Donors are asked to donate items in a plastic bag to protect against dirt and the elements. There is a small box on the shed that contains receipts to help donors take a tax deduction.

The church receives funding for clothing collected, and additionally has the option to use any of this clothing to serve community needs.

St. Pauly collects over 80,000 pounds of clothing every day and estimates that this clothing ends up in 44 different countries (including the United States) yearly. In 2014, St. Pauly was able to help keep over 68 million articles of clothing out of landfills.

For more information, visit St. Pauly's website at:

www.stpaulytextile.com.

Accepted Items Include

- ◆ Clothing
- ◆ Shoes
- ◆ Sneakers
- ◆ Belts
- ◆ Purses
- ◆ Blankets
- ◆ Sheets
- ◆ Drapes
- ◆ Linens
- ◆ Pillowcases
- ◆ Stuffed animals

YOU'RE BUSY. WE'RE READY.

We're specialists in comparing insurance companies and rates for busy people.

Call Brian Mastellone at **440.984.3463** or visit lighthouseinsuranceamherst.com



HOLKENBORG EQUIPMENT CO.
 9513 U.S. Hwy. 250 N.
 Milan, OH 44846

Toys, Clothing, Gifts, Tractors, Mowers, Gators
419-626-6640

"Your John Deere Destination"

Authorized John Deere Dealer



FIRELANDS FARM, INC.



All natural grain fed freezer beef
 Sold by half or quarter
 Ron Baumann, Owner
 440/653-7189

BETTCHER Industries, Inc.



An active member of the community

SPECIAL NOTICE

Firelands Local Schools Institutes
 A New "Safer Schools Tip Line"

Operated by the Ohio Department of Public Safety-
 Office of Homeland Security,
 844-SaferOH (844-723-3764) is an anonymous tip
 line that will accept both calls and texts 24 hours a
 day. This service allows both students and adults to
 share information regarding any safety concerns
 with school officials and law enforcement.

Mowers, Tractors, Ag Equipment, UTVs, Construction Equipment

Sales • Service • Parts • New & Used



POLEN IMPLEMENT

Keep Rollin' with Polen!
 42255 Oberlin Elyria Rd/Elyria, Ohio
 440-322-8821/www.polenimplement.com



Deichler's Tire & Service Center

48487 State Route 113 W.
 South Amherst, OH 44001
Phone 440-986-9701
Full Service Automotive Repair
 Serving Firelands Since 1953

TIM HOZALSKI, P.S. OWNER

CELL: 440-864-9058
 OFFICE: 440-865-8445
 FAX: 440-579-0209
 EMAIL: VECTORSURVEYING@YAHOO.COM



SERVING LORAIN, ERIE, HURON & SURROUNDING COUNTIES

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 440-774-2310

Piggy's Main Street Market



In Beautiful Downtown
 South Amherst
 136 East Main Street
 440.986.7482

LARRY'S DRIVING SCHOOL

Driver Education for Teens and Adults
 104 North Lake Street, Unit B
 South Amherst, OH 44001
 440-320-4131 or 440-965-5260



2015-2016 Board Meetings Meetings Begin at 7:00 pm

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Aug 10, 2015 | Feb 8, 2016 |
| Sept 14, 2015 | Mar 14, 2016 |
| Oct 12, 2015 | Apr 11, 2016 |
| Nov 4, 2015 | May 9, 2016 |
| Dec 14, 2015 | June 13, 2016 |
| Jan 11, 2016 | July 11, 2016 |

BROTHER'S CHEVROLET

46767 St. Rt. 18 W.
 Wellington, OH 44090
 www.brotherschevy.com



Cedarside Animal Hospital

12220 Gore-Orphanage Road
 Wakeman, OH
 Phone: 440/965-4660



Jane Bradford-Battig, D.V.M.
 Leonard R. Battig, D.V.M.

Ramsier's

Formerly known as DPR Stone

- Granite & Marble Countertops
- **New Product-** Headstones *Call for your FREE Estimate!*
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46485 Telegraph Rd. Amherst, OH 44001
 Phone: 440.984.8915 Fax: 440.986.2183
 Email: dramsier@hotmail.com Website: www.ramsiers.com

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

You may view this issue on line at:
www.firelandsschools.org