



The Firelands Express



VOLUME 10 ISSUE 77

JUNE 17, 2013

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Serving Others

“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

As we end the 2012-2013 school year, I feel compelled to highlight the many services that our schools and students engage in to help the community and to serve others. Throughout the year, various school organizations sponsor service-learning projects to support identified needs across the region and our nation. This year's activities include:

Firelands High School

Our Teen Leadership Corp, led by FHS counselor Diane Zimmer, engaged in the following service projects:

- ◆ Hat, Gloves and Mitten Drive for the Boys and Girls Club
- ◆ Kick It for Cancer Kickball Tournament & Food Drive
- ◆ Mentoring “the Little’s Program” at FES and with the MH Unit
- ◆ Holiday Week—kindergarten activity, door décor, toy drive, tacky sweater fund raiser
- ◆ Harvest for Hunger and worked at the food bank to prepare boxes for 300 needy families
- ◆ Pennies for Patients for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society raising \$1994.20
- ◆ Goodwill Drive, No Bull Challenge, Freshmen Fair, Muth Benefit Dance totaling \$1300.00
- ◆ Buckle Up Campaign, which we won for the first time in Lorain County.
- ◆ Special Olympics

Our FFA chapter, led by Shanna Finnegan, engaged in the following service projects :

- ◆ Students in the FFA participated in the Invest to Fight Hunger National FFA Grant program. Only 30 schools in the USA piloted the program. Firelands FFA gave presentations to leaders at FHS, FFA officers from neighboring schools, the Ashland FFA Leadership Night, and to FHS teachers. Students donated 28 hours to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

FFA members organized the Harvest for America Food Drive and collected canned goods at the high school. Over 2000 pounds of food were donated to the First United Methodist Church in South Amherst. This is the only food pantry that directly serves our school district.

◆ Firelands FFA members collected over \$1000 in pocket change to buy gifts for four Firelands families for our annual Christmas Family Community Service.

◆ FFA members donated over 1400 hours of community service in individual community service activities. Chrissy Balint logged the most hours at nearly 200 hours!

◆ FFA members, with members from Wellington and the LCJVS, planned and conducted the annual County Wide Food for America agricultural literacy event for inner city fourth graders at the Lorain County Fairgrounds.

South Amherst Middle School

◆ SAMS students provided 500 books during the book fair week that were donated to FES teachers for creating classroom libraries. Sponsorship of the project was through the PTG at SAMS and FES

◆ Donated clothing to the needy

◆ Thanksgiving meals for the needy (6th Grade Service Project)

SAMS Projects:

◆ The **eighth grade students** stopped at Shanksville, PA and dropped off funds that they have collected for victims and for memorial up-keep from the tragedy of September 11, 2001. The class also collaborated with the Village of South Amherst to work on beautifying the cemetery grounds. In addition, students filled milk jugs with toiletry and various other personal hygiene items that were given to a local homeless shelter.

◆ The **sixth grade students** added service time into their daily schedule while attending the sixth grade outdoor adventure. The students performed various tasks to help clean-up and prepare the campgrounds for the 2013 season. The students cleaned debris from the beach, cleared brush from walking paths, cleaned up trash that blew into the woods during the winter, cleaned up the wetland trails, and many other tasks asked of them by the camp administration. The Beulah Beach staff is appreciative of our

students and their efforts they look forward to our continued service.

Firelands Elementary

◆ In partnership with the Nord Center, our first grade teachers and students planted trees for Earth Day.

◆ Once again, hundreds of Firelands Elementary students brought in toys for the Chronicle’s Not Forgotten Box collection. This is a long-standing tradition in our community every December as a way to help area families. The Salvation Army then distributed toys.

◆ A large group of FES families and staff members also purchased toys and clothing to help some of our own Firelands families.

Through their efforts, our students, staff, and community have truly made a difference in the lives of many people. Thank you for your willingness to reach out and lend a hand to those in need. This is an important lesson that I hope our students will carry with them for their entire lives.

LCJVS Outstanding Senior Students

On Thursday, May 23, 2013, the following students received recognition as the “Outstanding Senior Student” in their respective programs at the Lorain County Joint Vocational School Honors Assembly: Jessica Butler (Welding and Fabrication), Zachary Jackson (Industrial Equipment Mechanics), Tyler Koptis (Industrial Electricity), Robert Pete (Commercial Truck Technology), Jacob Peters (Automotive Technology), and Candice Roig (Cosmetology). We are extremely proud of these students for demonstrating the meaning of Falcon Pride and for representing Firelands in the highest capacity!

Firelands High School Class of 2013

On Saturday, June 1, 2013, Firelands High School graduated 156 students. I want to personally congratulate our amazing students and wish each of you the best of luck in your future endeavors. You make us proud!

Go Falcons!

Yours in Education,
Dr. Robert F. Hill
Superintendent



You may view this issue online at:
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.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AMHERST, OH

PERMIT NO. 117
POSTAL PATRON

Firelands FFA Members Make School History at State FFA Convention Columbus, OH - On May 2nd and 3rd, four Firelands FFA members that were previously selected at state evaluation as the top four Proficiency Award finalists in the state, interviewed to determine final placings. The Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through their Supervised Agricultural Experience Project (SAE), have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers. An SAE program is the actual, hands-on application of concepts and principles learned in the agricultural education classroom. Students are supervised by agricultural education teachers in cooperation with parents, employers and other adults who assist them in the development and achievement of their educational and career goals.

Students can compete for awards in 47 areas covering everything from Agricultural Communications to Wildlife Management. Each award area has two categories, placement and entrepreneurship. Placement proficiency awards are given to those whose SAEs are related to employment, apprenticeships, or internships at an agribusiness or agriculture-related organization.

Entrepreneurship proficiency awards are given to those whose SAEs are related to ownership of an agribusiness or agriculture-related organization.

Proficiency awards are given out at the local, state and national levels.

Ten Firelands FFA members applied for eleven district awards categories in January. All ten applications placed either first or second in the district, all of the applications were ranked at the state level with five applications being selected as top four in state. The top four in state participants had to create displays for the Hall of Champions at the Ohio Expo Center in Columbus that were viewed by about 7,000 FFA members and guests of the State FFA Convention. They interviewed with judges and were placed. They crossed the stage and placings were announced.



Amanda Spears is a junior, the daughter of Jim and Margie Spears of Wellington, placed second in Diversified Horticultural Placement for her work at Hook's Greenhouse. Jessica Zurcher, a senior and the daughter of Chris and Robin Zurcher of Amherst, placed 4th in state in Outdoor Recreation Placement for her work at Common Grounds. Chrissy Balint a junior works at Dodd's Hillcrest Orchard and Emma Northeim a senior works at Rex Gee's Orchard and both applied for the Fruit Production Placement Proficiency. Chrissy is the daughter of Tom and Darlene Balint of Huron and she earned second in state. Emma, the daughter of Scott and Joy Northeim will move on to the national proficiency contest because she earned first in state! Jessica Zurcher also applied for a Poultry Production Proficiency because she raises fancy chickens, meat chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, pigeons, and owns a dove release business. Jessica earned first in state and will compete at nationals this summer! The accomplishments of these young ladies set a school record for the number of state finalists and state winners. Congratulations, ladies! The advisor of the Firelands FFA is Mrs. Shanna Finnegan.

ATHLETIC NEWS

Here are the Spring Sports Summaries as submitted by the coaches.

MS Girls Track

The girls finished 6th at the PAC meet. At the conference meet there were a couple top placers:

3rd Place:

Lynn Schmittle in the Long Jump
Mikayla Mains in the 400 Meter Dash

4th Place:

Mikayla Mains in the high jump
Madison Sims in the 200 Meter Dash
Liz Lewis in the Shot Put
4 x 100 Relay Team of Madison Sims, Lynn Schmittle, Bailey Rado, Grace Habeck

5th Place:

Madison Sims in the 100 Meter Dash

6th Place:

Sarah Slack in the Discus
4 x 200 Relay team of Andrea DiAsio, Kerigan Borton, Bailey Rado, Cheyenne Clark

MS Boys Track

The boys track team finished the

season with a 4-1 record in dual/tri/quad meets and won the PAC Championship. At the conference meet there were some top placers:

Conference Champions:

Patrick Brightbill in the 110 and 200 meter Hurdles

Trevor Stefabski in the Shot Put and Discus

Colin Myers in the High Jump

2nd Place:

Colin Myers in the 100 Meter dash
4 x 100 Meter Relay Team of Patrick Brightbill, Colin Myers, Ben Akoa, and Aaron Alston

Sean Lipscomb in the Shot Put

Jacob Campbell in the Discus

Andy Hasel in the Long Jump

3rd Place:

Matthew Brightbill in the 1600 Meter Run and 400 Meter Dash

4 x 200 Relay Team of Ben Akoa, Clayton Lucki, Michael Bansek,

John Gall

4th Place:

Aaron Alston 100 Meter and 200 Meter Dashes

Ian Valerius 1600 meter run

6th Place:

4 x 400 Relay Team of Ian Valerius,

Aaron Turnbull, Joey Tipple, and Austin Hall

Michael Bansek in the 100 Meter Hurdles

Clayton Lucki in the High Jump

7th Place:

Ben Akoa in the 200 Meter Dash

8th Place:

Matthew Brightbill in the 800 Meter Run

A special thanks to the following people for their help at the MS conference track meet:

Mr. Greg Grude, Mr. Donelson, Mr. Socha, Mrs. Wasem, Mrs. Stefanski, Mr. Kobal, Mrs. Copley, Mrs. Gundersen, Ms. Hartman, Erica Wasem, Allson Vilagi, Claire Vilagi, Cole Lewis, Cullen Grude, Beau Grude, Jacob Newman, Carter Grude, Madi Stanley, Emily Lipscomb, Noah Hammond, and Mr. Searight

Varsity Baseball

The varsity baseball team ended the season with a 17-12 record. After starting the season 2-3 in the PAC, the Falcons won 11 straight to finish 13-3 for second place. The record earned the team a second seed in our

twelve team district. After a first round bye, the team found itself down 11-4 to defending champion Padua in the bottom of the seventh. The Falcons then pulled out an eight run inning with contributions from all players in the lineup. The team was then knocked out by this year's district champion Holy Name 7-4. Brett Helton was named pitcher of the year, Joe San Felippo hitter of the year, Dylan Schramm and Justin Baumann won different sportsmanship awards, Dylan also won most improved and tough out awards. Brett Helton and Joe San Felippo both earned Chad Maley player of the year awards. Joe San Felippo also earned conference MVP and Lorain County DII player of the year awards. Brett, Joe, and Dylan were each first team conference selections, and cole Sklarek made second team. Brett and Joe played in the Lorain County all-star game, and Justin and Dylan played in the Greater Cleveland All Star Game. Brett and Dylan will play in the Northeast Ohio All Star Game at Progressive Field on June 25th, and Joe will play in the Mizuno All Ohio All Star Game in Columbus on June 14-15. Joe also raised money and encouraged 60 high school teams to donate autographed team hats to children with cancer. For his efforts Joe was honored with the Mike Garcia award from the Cleveland Indians Wahoo Club for community service.

JV Baseball

The JV baseball team enjoyed a successful season going 12-9 overall but finishing with an impressive 10-5 record in the conference. The team

faced some very tough competition early in the season. This helped the team improve to be prepared for conference play. Members of the team were Bryce Bartolotta, Brad Deremiah, Nick Harris, Mitch Hildebrandt, Garrett McKinney, Dean Ortner, Kyle Owens, Max Schmittle, Kaleb Abfall, Devin Dumke, Jack O'Keefe, Jeremy Simonovich, Aaron Stevanus, and Jacob Vaughn.

Varsity Track

The Boys and Girls Track season had a very successful ending. The Boys were the 2013 PAC Track Champions. They scored 114.5 points in defeating second place Buckeye. Buckeye had been the only Boys Champion until this year. The boys were led by many outstanding performances: Dakota Dodge won the 110 HH and Jordan Ruffner won the 400 Meter run. Brady Jeffers, Angel Alexander, Mike Adkins, Noah Larson, Colin Smith, Cullen Grude, Brennen Crawford were just some of the top performers. The girls finished a strong 3rd place led by Rachel Holowecky, Jess Zurcher, Erica Wasem, and Delany Rogala. The girls also had strong performances from other girls especially the freshmen. The regional qualifiers for this year was Brady Jeffers, District Champ in the 1600 M, Dakota Dodge in the 110 HH and 300 H. Mike Adkins, Derek Reynolds, Brady Jeffers, and Jordan Ruffner made it in the 4 x 400.

Varsity Softball

The Falcons Softball team finished their season 18-13 and completed the first ever season going to the Regional Semi-final game by winning their District,

first time EVER in school history. The lady Falcons beat the #1 seed, #2 seed & the #4 seed to get out of their District. The beat Vermilion 8-3, Keystone 1-0 & Clearview 4-1 to advance to the Regionals. They also finished in 2nd place in the PAC Conference. Thank you girls for giving me the best season ever and going out on a high note for my last career season. Love you ALL. - Coach Dostall

JV Softball

Firelands JV Softball team had one its best seasons in memory, finishing 15-3 and finishing first in the STARS Division and second in the PAC. Two of those losses were by a run with 2 outs in the last at bats, but 10 of their wins were by mercy rule. They also batted around 21 times averaging 14 runs per game in their 15 wins, finishing the season with a 20-0 win over Lutheran West. One of the stars was pitching and hitting sensation Hannah Hicks, who lead the team in strikeouts with 46, threw a no-hitter & a one hitter in posting a 6-1 record. She also led the team in triples with 3 and posted a .575 batting average and a .854 slugging percentage. The lead hitter was Sam Hribal with an incredible .654 average and an astounding .970 slugging percentage. Sam also lead the team in ERA and posted a 5-2 record. Right behind her was Rachel Minek with a powerful .893 slugging percentage and was the team leader in RBI's (39), doubles (9), triples (3), and home runs (3), as well as playing a dazzling shortstop. The speedy Tori Hritsko lead the team in runs scored with 33 and hits with 34. She also did a nice job in the very demanding position of catcher. With only 2 seniors on the varsity and 5 very talented 8th graders coming up, Firelands is looking to be a force to be reckoned with for the next several years.

STRIVE Club Students attend Oberlin Rotary Meeting on Friday, May 3rd. The Luncheon was chance for STRIVE Club students to interact with their sponsors members.

Scholarship winners were announced at the meeting.

Haley Strong won the John Cole Scholarship of \$1,000 Amy Kalizewski won the 2nd Scholarship of \$750.

2012-13 STRIVE CLUB MEMBERS

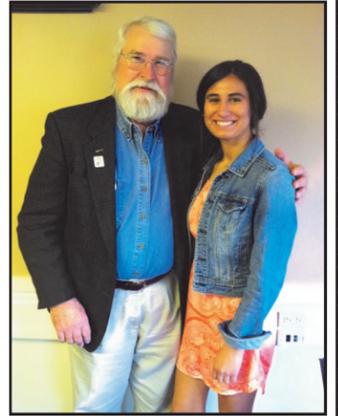
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Justin Baumann - 12 | Amy Kalizewski - 12 |
| Brianna Bunt - 12 | Matthew Metzger - 12 |
| Nicholas Foster - 12 | Kelsey Mullins - 12 |
| Keely Grude - 12 | Dalton Schmittle - 12 |
| Zackery Hofecker - 12 | Haley Strong - 12 |

STRIVE CLUB



STRIVE Club Scholarship Winner

Haley Strong (pictured with John D. Cole) is the 2013 recipient of the John D. Cole STRIVE scholarship of \$1000 presented by the Oberlin Rotary Club.



On May 11, 2013 Haley interview for and won a second STRIVE scholarship of \$1000 from Rotary District 6600 by placing 2nd for her outstanding efforts during her senior year for improving her grades, attendance, participation and attitude.

Haley will be continuing her education at Lorain County Community College following graduation. Congrats Haley.

Young Authors' Conference

On Monday and Tuesday, May 13th and 14th, students from Firelands Elementary and South Amherst Middle School had the opportunity to join nearly 900 Lorain County children in a celebration of writing and reading at the 31st Annual Young Authors' Conference. Eight teachers from Firelands Elementary School led their students through the entire writing process, enabling them to compose books based on this year's theme: Unstoppable!

Monday evening, nationally acclaimed author, attorney, and former NFL player, Tim Green spent time meeting children, browsing their books, and autographing copies of his own bestselling books. Parents, friends, and families had the opportunity to observe firsthand, all the hard work that the children and their teachers put in towards writing and publishing books.

Tuesday, children and teachers joined Tim Green for a conference, in which the children's books were celebrated. Tim Green spent time speaking to the children about what he feels it takes to become a successful, accomplished person. At FES, each teacher nominated 7 children from their classroom to attend the conference. Then, each grade level in each district nominated just *one* book for Best Illustrations, and *one* book for Best Author. I'm pleased to announce that at FES, we had TWO students win the award for Best Illustrator; Chayce Baldwin, grade 4, and Aramia Kuncel, grade 5 won top honors for their artwork.

Special thanks also go to the participating fourth and fifth grade teachers who made this all possible for our children, as well as Cara Proehl and Nancy Mitchell for taking them to the conference!

Once again, our students and their teachers have represented our schools in the best way-gaining wide recognition through their hard work and dedication. Way to go, Falcons!

IMPORTANT WATER NOTICE FOR THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH AMHERST RESIDENTS

On May 29th, 2013, the South Amherst Board of Public Affairs drained the water tower for scheduled maintenance. It will be down for approximately 40 days. During this time, we are asking all village residence to minimize water usage including filling swimming pools, washing cars, watering lawns and gardens. During this time, you may experience low water pressure or discolored water.



State of Ohio Immunization Requirements

Attention: Parents/Guardians of students entering school:

If your child will be entering school for the first time, or after attending school elsewhere, please be sure to check that he/she is in compliance with State of Ohio immunization requirements before the school year begins. **For the 2013-14 school year, this includes students entering grades 7, 8, 9 and 10 being required to have a diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis booster (DTP or Tdap).** Take your child's immunization records with you when you go to your regular healthcare provider, or to one of the health department walk-in child immunization clinics; check <http://www.loraincountyhealth.com/immunizations#children> for dates, times, locations, or call 440-322-6367. No one is turned away from a health department clinic because of inability to pay. Please send a copy of the updated immunization record to the school nurse in your child's building, being sure your child's name is on it. Don't forget to keep a copy for yourself!

Cafeteria News

Ipad / tablet give a-way



Congratulations to the following students for winning the ipad and tablet give a way.

- FHS-McKenna Casper**
- SAMS- Vjollca Amidi**
- FES-Jacob Meade**

Thanks to the Dominoes smart slice rewards program, we were able to give 2 ipads and a 7 in tablet away.



The Graduating Class of 2013 would like to thank the local businesses, for making our senior year and graduation the success we would expect it to be.

Thanks and appreciation to our Firelands Family and Community for supporting our fundraisers and throughout our years. The community support is very important to our senior year activities and future goals.

- Senior shirts are designed and printed at Lake Screen Printing, Inc., 1924 Broadway Ave. Lorain, OH
- Graduation programs are set up and printed by Elyria Print, LLC, 325 Lake Avenue, Elyria, OH
- Senior Breakfast served by Sterks Catering 4709 Liberty Avenue, Vermilion, Ohio
- Flowers presented to the class purchased from, Off Broadway Floral and Gift, 380 North Ridge Road Lorain, OH

On behalf of the class of 2013, senior class advisor, Mrs. Ruth Dodig, would like to thank them for their excellent products and service.

Senior class officers pictured: Michaela Weitzel, Samantha Dostall, Brooke Shupe, Hannah Branz

Buckle up Bowl

Firelands Teen Leadership Corp. is proud to say that our high school competed in the Buckle up Bowl. Firelands was surveyed once in April, which showed us that 89% of our high school students do use their seat belts. TLC then found ways to get the other students attention and convince them to be safe and use their seat belts by hanging posters, making announcement's, and asking for seat belt "selfies" in return for a draw string bag with book marks, air fresheners, temporary tattoos, and a paper book cover. After all of our work to get students to buckle up we were surveyed again in May. The number of students using their seat belts went up to an amazing 91% making us the number one school competing in the Buckle up Bowl. We also found that we use our seat belts 10% more than Lorain County.



SAMS Service Project

On May 20, 2013, the 8th grade students at South Amherst Middle School participated in a service day. Morning activities included lessons and group activities on why service is important, what students can do to perform service inside and outside of school, and writing activities on the "pay it forward" philosophy. After lunch, the students completed two service projects. Groups visited the Evergreen Cemetery across the street to ready the grounds for Memorial Day. Students were supervised by village volunteers to perform various tasks including trash and litter removal, flower planting, weed pulling, headstone sweeping, and brick moving. Back at SAMS students assembled disaster relief jugs which included necessities such as water, toiletries, first aid materials, matches and candles, and nonperishable food items. Jugs were donated to a homeless shelter in Lorain. Students truly learned the meaning of helping others and came away from the day with feelings of accomplishment and good will.

Lunch Price Increase

Firelands School Lunch prices will increase at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year as follows:

FHS - \$2.75

SAMS - \$2.75

FES - \$2.40

NAHS Inducts Ten to FHS Chapter

The Firelands High School chapter of the National Art Honor Society inducted 10 students on May 23. Eligible students must be a sophomore or greater, be enrolled in Art 3 or above with an "A" average among other qualifications. The new inductees are seniors Alex Adams, Elizabeth James, Courtney Klesta, Kelsey Mullins, John Sapienza and Mariah Watters, juniors Tara Brown, Chayce Hall, and Brenna Horwedel and sophomore Brad Midkiff. Induction was presided over by current members KayLynn Carver, Carlie Elek, Lauren Holcomb, Erika Hornyak, Lindsey Kasper, Daniel Truitt and advisor Mrs. Laura Tawil. (senior Hannah Branz was unable to attend.) Graduating seniors received their rainbow honor cords to wear for commencement.

FHS Artists Explore Art in Cleveland

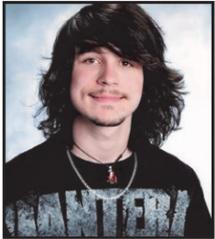
On May 22 the FHS Art 3, 4 and Advanced students explored downtown Cleveland Public Art, lunched at the West Side Market and spent the afternoon focused on the Cleveland Museum of Art. Our downtown walking tour included a stop at Oldenburg's "Free Stamp", Willard's "Spirit of '76" inside Cleveland City Hall and Scofield's "Soldiers and Sailor's Monument" in public square. Students were tasked with drawing figure sculptures in the galleries of the art museum, the armor court being the most popular subject. Chaperones Delaine Horwedel, Kathy Rovere, Denise Mullins and Zane Watters assisted with the adventure. The trip was paid for through a grant from the Cleveland Clinic expressions project and the FHS Art Society.



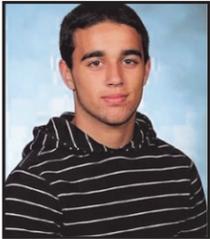
Firelands students and Oldenburg's "Free Stamp" , Cleveland



Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2013



Alexander Adams



Angel Alexander



Thomas Battig



Nicholas Bauer



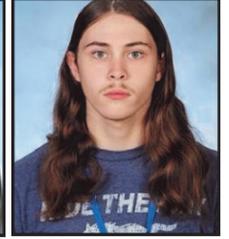
Justin Baumann



Kelsey Bentley



Thomas Biery, III



Stanley Bohl, Jr.



Nicholas Bonomolo



Ryan Born



Hannah Branz



Cheyenne Bray



Sarah Brennan



Gina Brunetto



Christine Budweg



Randi Bukovac



Brianna Bunt



Michayla Burke



Jesse Burkhammer



Dannin Butchko



Karlie Canfield



Alec Carron



Kaylynn Carver



Theodore Chambers



Maggie Clark



Karina Cloesmeyer



Lauren Colby



Derek Criss



Trevor Davis



Andrew Dempsey



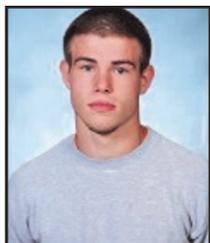
Kelsey Denney



Christopher DeWitt



Anna DiAsio



Dakota Dodge



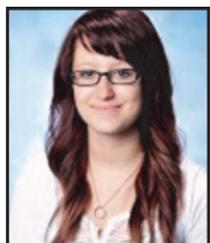
Raquel Dominico



Samantha Dostall



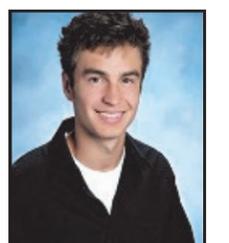
Codey Eicher



Carlie Elek



Connor Ference



Nicholas Foster

Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2013



Kayla Fowler



Jenna Fuhrman



Monica Gisondi



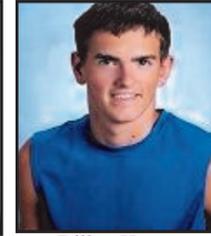
Stephanie Griffith



Keely Grude



Nicholas Gulish



Dillon Haas



Jeffrey Habeck



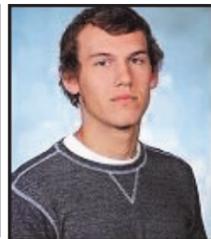
Cole Hall



Dylan Hancock



Kaylee Harmych



Brett Helton



Zachery Hofecker



Rachel Holowecky



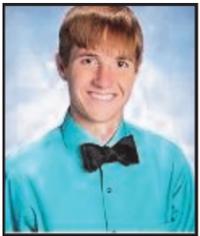
Joseph Hyster



Zachary Jackson



Elizabeth James



Brady Jeffers



Jesse Jones



Amy Kalizewski



Lindsey Kasper



Taylor Kasper



Andrew Keets



Courtney Klesta



Tyler Koptis



Tristan Kovacs



Kyle Kurtz



Tyler Kyer



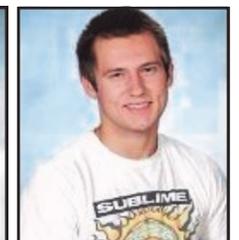
Dale Lapp



Kyle Lear



Rachel Leatherwood



Ronald Link



Terry Long



Brandon Lowder



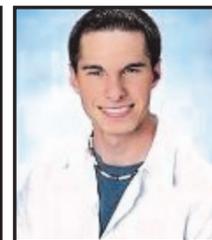
Bradley Markovich



Maison Mastellone



Erin McCarty



Matthew Metzger

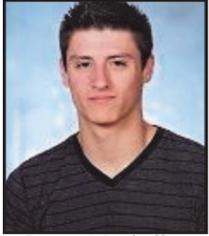


Kevin Migra



Abigail Miller

Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2013



Garrett Monhollen



Gabrielle Morrow



Kelsey Mullins



Emma Northeim



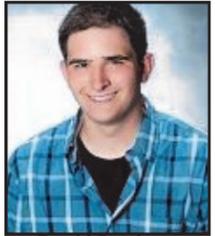
Brian O'Dell



Ray Ortiz



Cory Osborne



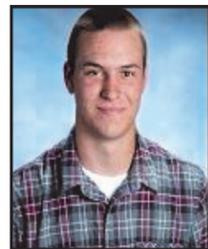
David Pataky



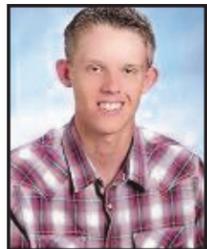
Tyler Paterchak



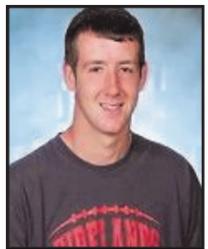
Hayley Pearson



Robert Pete



Caleb Petersen



Stephen Peterson



Jacqueline Phelps



Marissa Poling



Jessaline Poyle



Kaitlyn Proy



Logan Quester



Nicholas Rado



Clifford Rich



Erika Richardson



Drew Rogala



Lois Rotuno



Erika Ruffner



Adam Rutherford



Destiny Samples



James Sapienza



Dalton Schmittle



Dylan Schramm



Christopher Schworer



Katelynn Sherrard



Brooke Sherrill



Brooke Shupe



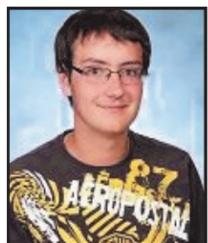
Kaitlyn Simmerman



Corey Sittinger



Cecilia Stark



David Stewart, III



Haley Strong



Tasia Tanner



Seth Tansey

Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2013

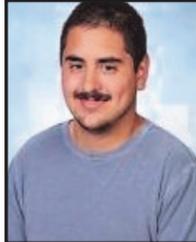
ir
S
d
L
to
S
so
S
S
w
re
F



Paige Teter



Elizabeth Turner



John Valderas-Vancs



Nicole Vietzen



Tyler Vrabel



Kate Ward



Michael Ward, II



Samantha Wargo



Mariah Watters



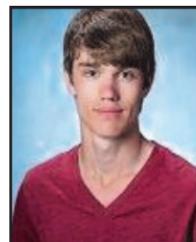
Michaela Weitzel



Hannah Williams



Caton Wilson



Kyle Wood



Dustin Woodrum



Jordan Yakunovich



Jessica Zurcher

FIRELANDS CLASS OF 2013

VALEDICTORIAN
ANNA DIASIO



Anna is the daughter of Mark and Theresa DiAsio and she attended the Firelands schools for all 13 years of her educational career. During her time in Fire-

lands, Anna exemplified Falcon Pride as she was associated with the following groups and activities: Teen Leadership Corp, Math tutoring for students in grades 5-8, Mentor for Firelands Elementary students, Member and Vice President of the National Honor Society, and Choir.

Anna plans to travel to Nicaragua in July with her youth group and in August, she will attend the Jesup Scot Honors College at the University of Toledo to major in mathematics.

SALUTATORIAN
HANNAH BRANZ



Hannah is the daughter of Robert and Marilyn Branz and she attended the Firelands Schools for all 13 years of her educational career. During

her time in Firelands, Hannah exemplified Falcon Pride as she was associated with the following groups and activities: Marching band, Track, Cross Country, Sportsman Club, National Honor Society, National Agricultural Honor Society, Girl Scouts, Art Society, and Class treasurer.

Hannah plans to attend Bowling Green State University in the fall to study environmental science. Upon graduation from BGSU, Hannah intends to complete Master's Degree at The Ohio State University and she hopes to pursue a career studying and researching the ecosystem of Lake Erie.

2013 SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT

Samantha is the daughter of Jim and Judy Dostall and she attended the Firelands schools for all 13 years of her educational career. During her time in Firelands, Sam exemplified Falcon Pride as she was associated with the following groups and activities: FFA, Softball, Teen Leadership Corp., National Honor Society, Senior Class President, and National Honor Society President. Sam plans to attend Baldwin Wallace University in the fall to major in special education with a math minor. She will also be a member of the BW softball team.



ART 3 STUDENTS
EXPERIENCE RAKU

The Art 3 class continued the tradition of raku firing under the stadium on May 30. Raku is a traditional Japanese method of low-firing wares used in a typical tea ceremony. The project began with a Young Audiences residency in 2007 when artist George Woideck brought all the equipment and materials for a raku firing. Along with teaching those students, he instructed art teacher Laura Tawil how to continue the project for years to come. The students prepared wheel-thrown bowls, applied custom-made raku glazes and participated in safe the transferring of work in and out of the kiln and chambers. They took advantage of the heat to make a little lunch, too.



2013 FHS Graduates Who Did Not Provide a Photograph

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Kennedy Carrier | Mitchell Rice |
| Michael Fury | Candice Roig |
| Patrick Gerhardinger | Joseph SanFelippo |
| Matthew Golden | Mary Sanders |
| Kevin Harris | Dakota Watson |
| Erika Hornyak | Joseph West |
| Nadine Luther | Devin Wray |
| Austin Miller | Chelsea Wright |
| Jacob Peters | Ashly Yakunovich |
| Alexander Rangel | Samantha Yakunovich |



junior Caitlin Rovere demonstrates how to properly roast a hot dog over our raku kiln

Firelands Elementary students recently participated in the Lorain County Elementary/Middle School Art Show at Midway Mall in Elyria. The following students had work displayed: Mya Braley (Kindergarten), Liliana Schmittle, Jolee Wissinger (First Grade), Weston Strader (Second Grade), Ella Meszaros, Leah Schmittle (Third Grade), Claire Boucher, Chris Jackson (Fifth Grade). Special congratulations go to Leah Schmittle, whose watercolor collage took the Best of Show, 4th Award. Also gaining special recognition were Ella Meszaros and Jolee Wissinger, who both received Blue Ribbon Excellence Awards. Great job, FES artists!



Fourth Grade students spent the day in Oberlin on May 22nd and 23rd. They toured the Oberlin Heritage Center complex and learned about Oberlin's role in abolitionism, women's activism and scientific history. Students then proceeded to the Allen Memorial Art Museum, where they received a guided tour and learned about the stories behind specific works of art and the techniques employed in making them. Students also offered up their own astute observations and opinions about the works that they viewed.

Congratulations to the Student Council 2013-2014 Officers!

President: Taylor Odom	Sergeant at Arms: Katie Fath
Vice President: Abby Petrey	Historian: Katie Cline
Treasurer: Emma Ranney	Communications Director: Katy Tuggle
Secretary: Katie Iwanek	Executive Deputy: Emily Rich

Student Council's 2013-2014 Class Representatives

Sophomores: Taylor Aslaksen, Shelly Shupe, Alyse Taddeo, Alex Willis,
Juniors: Bethany Anderson, Stephanie Dostall, Nikki Crawford, Ashton Gifford, Carrie Kubicki
Seniors: Rose Walther, Aaron Wickes

Student Council is looking forward to the upcoming year containing tremendous success. With many hard working officers and dedicated class representatives, our new council will exceed former expectations and create an exceptional school year for all the students of Firelands High School. Once again, a huge "Congratulations!" goes out to the newly elected Student Council officers and class representatives.

This summer, Student Council has planned their annual workshop for all officers and representatives on the council. In August, our organization will participate in a high-ropes course to learn the importance of team building and the ability to work well with one another. Student Council will also plan out all events and goals for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. We look forward to our workshop and to a tremendous school year!

Katy Tuggle

FIRELANDS HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL EARNS THE HONORARY OHIO FFA STATE DEGREE

Columbus, OH – Mr. Richard Reighley, Firelands High School Principal, earned the Honorary Ohio FFA State Degree on May 2nd at the Ohio FFA Convention. Mr. Reighley took the stage with 21 other inductees in front of over 6,000 convention attendees. The Honorary Degree Program is operated under policies and procedures approved by the Ohio FFA Board of Trustees and State Officers. The Honorary State FFA Degree is highest state honor an FFA supporter can earn. The purpose of the degree program is to recognize individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the agricultural education-FFA program.

Individuals nominated must have provided exceptional (outstanding) service to agriculture and/or the agricultural education/FFA program. Individuals nominated from a chapter must have the approval of the State FFA Executive Secretary.

Mr. Reighley's involvement in agricultural activities started early in life as he had the champion modern beef steer at the Lorain County Fair as a 4-Her. Mr. Reighley became the Firelands High School principal in 2004 and has been a tremendous supporter of the Firelands FFA Chapter ever since. He received an Honorary Chapter Degree in 2005 because of his exceptional support in just one year. He is always open to and supportive of the chapter's ideas and activities. He helps out whenever needed and has chaperoned livestock judging contests and a trip to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN in 2012. Mr. Reighley supports students that show animals at the Lorain County Fair by attending and watching shows.

Mr. Reighley's leadership is not limited to his support of the Firelands FFA. He is a strong and positive leader in the school and treats teachers and students with respect. He is a member of the School Leadership Committee, Health Care Committee, and is the chair of the Technology Committee to name a few of his leadership roles.

The Firelands FFA would like to express their gratitude for all that Mr. Reighley has done to help the FFA meet their goals and assist the chapter in being a positive influence in the school, community, and state.



On May 19th, Firelands High School's Student Council held their 9th Annual Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament. The day consisted of teams varying from students to staff battling against one another in a friendly competition. Student Council sends a huge "Thank you!" to all ten teams who partook in our tournament. Additionally, an extreme

"Congratulations!" goes out to our winning team, comprised of Jacob Rutkowski, Cole Sklarek, Casey Smith, Mikayla Walbom, Madison Widener and Katie Michener. Start preparing your teams for next year, as it will be Student's Council 10th Annual Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament. We already have a lot in store!



Katy Tuggle

SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVER'S NEEDED FOR FIRELANDS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



IF INTERESTED, CONTACT MILT SAYLER @ 440.965.4105 OR BY EMAIL: MSAYLER@FIRELANDSSCHOOLS.ORG



2013 Falcon Youth-Football Camp

WHO: All boys entering 3rd through 8th grade (2012-2013 school year).

WHEN: Monday, July 22nd through Wednesday, July 24th (10:00am-12:00pm)

WHERE: Firelands High School Practice Fields. Meet in front of Boy's locker room behind stadium.

COST: \$20 per camper (*early registration mail by July 15) \$25 day of camp.

ABOUT THE CAMP: This is the 3rd annual Falcon Youth Football Camp offered under the direction of Mike Passerello, Firelands High School Head Football Coach. The Firelands Varsity Staff and players will assist with the camp.

THIS IS A NON-CONTACT CAMP

Our main focus will be on teaching the fundamentals of the game of football, exposing each camper to all the different football positions and terminology.

We will utilize drills, activities and competitions that will make learning fun and rewarding.

The camp will take place on the Varsity Football practice fields.

WHAT THE FEE INCLUDES: In addition to 3 days of instruction, each camper will receive a Falcon Football T-Shirt.

HOW TO REGISTER: Complete the enclosed Falcon Youth Football Camp Application Form and mail it no later than Monday, July 15, 2013.

After the deadline pay \$25 the first day of camp.

Make check payable for \$20 to: TEAM FIRELANDS

Return Application and Check to: Falcon Youth Football Camp Attn: Coach Passerello 10643 Vermilion Road Oberlin, Ohio 44074

For more information contact Mike Passerello at: Pass_46@hotmail.com or call: 440-714-8158

YOU WILL LEARN

Offensive Skills

QB: Stance, Drops, Ball Handling, Throwing Mechanics, Center/QB Exchange

RB: Stance, Hand-Offs, Running Skills, Receiving, Blocking

Receiver: Stance, Catching, Running Routes, Blocking

Line: Stance, Drive Block, Combo Blocks, Pulling & Trapping, Pass Protection

Defensive Skills

Linebacker: Stance, Footwork, Tackling, Block Protection, Reads, Pass Coverage, Blitz Technique, Turnovers

Line: Stance, Tackling, Defeating a Blocker, Hand & Footwork, Pass Rush, Turnovers

Defensive Backs: Stance, Open Field Tackling, Coverage, Interception

Special Teams Skills

Place Kicking, Kick-Off, Punting, Long Snapping



Camp Application Form: July 22-24, 2013 (10:00am-12:00)

Application Deadline: Mail by Monday, July 15, 2013 (PLEASE PRINT)

Player's Name: _____

Entering Grade for 2012-13 school year: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Name

Phone:



T-Shirt Size (circle one)

Adult: S M L XL XXL

Child: S M L

Release Form

In consideration of your acceptance of the entry, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against Firelands Youth Football Camp, Firelands Local Schools or all sponsors, members of the camp staff, their representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in said camp. I further attest I am physically fit and my physical condition has been verified by a licensed medical doctor.

Participant Signature

Parent Signature

Date: _____

h F jc A c: le ei n g sj k fr n w F ai th Ji K Ji T R

We give
FARMERS CREDIT.

(440) 775-4028 e-farmcredit.com



530 South Main Street, Oberlin, OH 44074

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

DEICHLER'S TIRE AND SERVICE CENTER




440-986-9701

Having a party?

Call **C & T'S RENTAL**
440-985-9334
Dennis Stock
PICK UP OR DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Chairs, Tables & Tents
for Every Occasion!
Lowest Prices Guaranteed!

CHAIRS: .50 cents a chair
TABLES: \$5 each
TENTS: 20 x 20 = \$50,
20 x 30 = \$75,
20 x 40 = \$100
PACKAGE: 20 x 20 Tent, 64 Chairs,
8 Tables & 2 sides for Tent \$125
Tent Set Up Available \$35

THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Oberlin, OH - Each year the National FFA awards over \$2 million in scholarships made possible through donations to the National FFA Foundation. The Firelands FFA is pleased to announce that two members have been awarded National FFA Scholarships. Congratulations to Jessica Zurcher for earning the John Deere Dealers \$2000 scholarship. Jess is the daughter of Chris and Robin Zurcher. Abigail Miller, daughter of Roger and Jenny Miller, earned the \$1000 Monty's Seed Scholarship and a representative from the company recognized her with a certificate at Firelands High School. Scholarships are awarded based on grade point average, Supervised Agricultural Experience projects, FFA leadership, school and community leadership, community service, and recommendation.



Abigail Miller receiving her scholarship certificate from Monty's Seed Company

ARE YOU A BOOSTER ??

It doesn't matter how young or old you are, or if you have kids that currently participate in sports. If you are a **FALCON FAN** you can be a booster! We invite you to join our group this coming school year. **The Firelands Athletic Booster Club** is a non-profit organization dedicated to the well being of all student athletes in the Firelands school district. Our meetings are open to the general public and we encourage you to attend.

Our purpose is to unify and strengthen public awareness, enthusiasm and support of the various athletic programs in our school district. By looking around at our sporting events, we see many folks that may not have kids playing, as well as proud parents, and student fans. This is awesome! This is one of the things that makes Firelands the greatest school system in the world! Thank you to all who support our kids.

We have recently elected new board members to the **Firelands Athletic Booster Club**. These new members are honored to take part, and look forward to continuing the good works of the FABC.

The officers for the 2013 - 2014 year will be:

- Judy Dostall - President
- Kathy Sklarek - Vice President
- Jill Simonovich - Secretary
- Tammy Sigsworth - Treasurer
- Ruth Butts - Team Firelands

Before these ladies take the reigns, they would like to give a sincere thanks to Bob Danicki, Judy Baumann, and Steph Hyster for their dedication, as the "retired" board members. Thanks guys!! But remember - you're still Falcon Fans, and always a Booster!

Another thanks goes to Kellie Alston who has spent many hours stocking and managing our Football/Track concessions. A big thanks to George and Gerry McKinney who will be taking over this job. Please say YES, when the McKinney's or one of their team members are asking for your help.

Looking ahead... Before we know it summer will be over and our school and sports season will be upon us.

Here's some things to be looking forward to:

- *FABC Website
- *Legacy Lottery
- *Tailgate parties
- *Yard signs
- *Decals

Thank you in advance to all, as we gear up for a great 2013-2014 year.

Have a wonderful and safe summer.

And of course **GO RED!! GO FALCONS!!!**

South Amherst Alumni Association

It has been 25 years since South Amherst and Firelands School Districts were merged into one, but the South Amherst Alumni Association is still going strong with an annual banquet every year.

We have been offering scholarships to sons/daughters/grandchildren of South Amherst Alumni for over 20 years. Those applications are available by calling Pam at 775-7887 or Marilyn at 986-2642. All the information needed is on the application form.

Our annual banquet is scheduled for July 20, 2013 at the New Russia Township Hall and letters were mailed out then end of May. If you would like to be on the mailing list and have not received a letter, you can call either Pam or Marilyn or email Pam at: plp10696@yahoo.com.

FIRELANDS FARM, INC.



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

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

1979—2013
34 YEARS OF SERVICE
VAUGHN'S AUTO REPAIR & 24 Hour Towing
440/986-5125

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



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



Grange Insurance

STERKS CATERING

All Occasion Parties
Reservations:
(440) 967-0028
www.sterkscatering.com

Matthew A. Stempowski Firelands Grad 1989

GENERAL FAMILY DENTISTRY
Early morning & evening appointments
New Patients Welcome!
(440) 233-4155
5311 Leavitt Road, Suite 201, Lorain



SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVER'S NEEDED FOR FIRELANDS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



CONTACT MILT SAYLER @ 440.965.4105 OR EMAIL: MSAYLER@FIRELANDSSCHOOLS.ORG



POLEN JOHN DEERE
IMPLEMENT
Tractors • Mowers • Ag Equipment

Elyria, Ohio (440) 322-8821
Parts • Sales • Service

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 Elementary PTG
Meetings held on the 1st Tuesday of the Month.



"Working Hard for Our Kids"

South Amherst Middle School PTG Meetings held on the 1st MONDAY of the month
"Support Our Kids"

Piggy's
Main Street Market
Ohio Lottery Headquarters
136 East Main Street
South Amherst
440/986-7482

LARRY'S DRIVING SCHOOL
Driver Education for Teens and Adults
104 North Main Street, Unit B
South Amherst, OH 44001
440-320-4131 or 440-965-5260



Firelands Board of Education

PRESIDENT:
Jane Battig
440-965-5505

VICE PRESIDENT:
Dan Pvcraft:
440-774-2310

Dwayne Becker
440-965-7850

Ben Gibson
440-320-3427

Mike O'Keefe:
440-670-6469

BETTCHEr Industries, Inc.



An Active Member of the Community.

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



It's SUMMER!

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.

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