



The Firelands Express



VOLUME 9 ISSUE 77

JUNE 16, 2014

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



MONTHLY MESSAGE

After eight years as Principal of Firelands High School, Rick Reighley is retiring. It is my honor to recognize and thank Rick for his many years of leadership and successful contributions to the District. He is a valuable member of the Falcon Family and he will be missed.

As we honor the service of Mr. Reighley, it is also my pleasure to introduce the new Principal of Firelands High School, Robert Maver. Bob has been an educator for 23 years. During that time, he taught mathematics at Lakewood High School for 15 years and he has been at Midview High School for the previous eight years; 3.5 years as Athletic Director and 4.5 years as Assistant Principal.

Bob is a graduate of Ohio University and he holds a Master of Education Degree in Educational Administration from Bowling Green State University. He has been married to his wife Lisa for 23 years and he has two daughters; Rachel, who is graduating this year from Midview High School and will attend Kent next year, and Natalie, who will be entering the seventh grade next year. Bob currently resides with his family in Elyria.

Bob states, "I am really looking forward to starting the position at Firelands. I truly believe Firelands is a great place to learn and teach, and I am very excited to work with everybody on delivering excellent instruction to all of our students."

As the 2014-2015 school year starts, I encourage you to welcome Bob to the Falcon Family!

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 2013-2014 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

- ◆ Students in Jennifer Purcell's class baked cookies, brownies, and other treats for members of the community who utilize free meal services provided by Grace's Soup Kitchen.

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 :

- ◆ FFA members organized the Harvest for America Food Drive and collected canned goods at the high school during first period classes and during the school wide career day/service afternoon with a corn hole tournament. Over 2200 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 \$1200 in pocket change to buy gifts for four Firelands families for our annual Christmas Family Community Service.
- ◆ FFA members donated over 1600 hours of community service in individual community service activities. Claire Vilagi 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

- ◆ Donated clothing to the needy.
- ◆ Thanksgiving meals for the needy (Sixth Grade Service Project).
- ◆ Through donations, needy families provided Wal-Mart

- ◆ gift during the Christmas season for Firelands Families.

SAMS Projects:

- ◆ 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 2014 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.
- ◆ The eighth grade students participated in two service projects May 22, 2014. All eighth grade students did cleaning and landscaping duties at SAMS and at the Evergreen Cemetery across the street. SAMS teachers coordinate this project with the cemetery board of the Village of South Amherst and with the SAMS maintenance department. In the days leading up to the projects during their FIRE period, SAMS eighth graders learn about the importance of service and about different types of service.

Firelands Elementary

- ◆ The kindergarten classes made special card/pictures for Veteran's Day for distribution to the Veteran's Home.
- ◆ In the month of November, first grade students participated in Project Rudolph in conjunction with the Lorain County Grange. The students decorate lunch bags with a winter or Christmas theme and write a letter thanking members of the U.S. Army stationed in Germany.
- ◆ Approximately 500 toys were donated by FES students and given to the Salvation Army to distribute to area families in need through the Not Forgotten Box toy collection.
- ◆ Thirty FES children were matched with other FES families, the FFA, and local churches and businesses to shop for children at Christmas.

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.

(Continued on page 2)

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.

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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT (Cont'd)

LCJVS Outstanding Senior Students

On Thursday, May 22, 2014, the following students received recognition as the "Outstanding Senior Student" in their respective programs at the Lorain County Joint Vocational School Honors Assembly: Michael Henry Jr. (Carpentry), Amanda Spears (Allied Health Sciences), and Joseph Sosinski (Commercial Truck Technology). 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 2014

On Saturday, June 7, 2014, Firelands High School graduated 155 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

FIRELANDS FFA CELEBRATES A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Columbus, OH - Twenty three members of the Firelands FFA attended the Ohio FFA Convention on May 1st & 2nd. Jesse Jones, Tom Schuman, Patrick Stewart, Katy Tuggle, and Aaron Wickes all qualified and played for the Ohio FFA band. Congratulations to Chrissy Balint, Karlie Canfield, Demi Dovin, Jody Hanco, and Cole Lewis for earning the State FFA Degree, only about 2% of all FFA members will earn this degree. Mrs. Finnegan also was privileged to earn the Honorary State FFA Degree, the highest honor a supporter can earn in the state. Brandon Palmer received the Children's Hospital Key Donor Award on behalf of the chapter. Chrissy Balint and Emma Ranney represented the chapter as they received the Gold Rated Chapter Award; a first for Firelands. Chrissy Balint also was the first Firelands FFA member to make the state officer ballot. The following members were awarded a gold rating for their exceptional work while in office - Mikayla Haback - secretary, Cole Jones - treasurer, and Ali Butler - reporter. Five Firelands FFA members were identified as top-four-in-state for their outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience Projects prior to convention. Each of these students filled out a 20-30 page application, set up a display, and interviewed with judges to determine their final placings. Firelands tied two other Ohio schools for the most state wins! Congratulations to Alex Sabine - 4th place in Ohio for Fruit Production Placement and Demi Dovin earned 2nd place in state for Dairy Production Entrepreneurship. David Tipple won the Organic Agriculture Proficiency for his organic corn operation. Jessica Zurcher won Specialty Animal Production for her white dove release business. Amanda Spears, after placing second in state for the last two years, won the state in Diversified Horticultural Placement for her work at Hook's Greenhouse. Firelands FFA was also honored to receive second place in Ohio for fruit sales from the Florida Farm Bureau Fruit Marketing Association. \$579.50 was donated to the Ohio FFA Foundation on behalf of the Firelands FFA because of the excellent fruit sale.

The students that attended convention practiced leadership and developed relationships with students from all over the state of Ohio while listening to key note speakers, enjoying convention award sessions and doing activities between sessions like visiting a trade show, alpaca show, talent show, animal clinics, and team building activities. The attendance of convention was over 7,000 students, teachers, and supporters.

Each year the National FFA awards \$2.2 million in National FFA Scholarships. Christine Balint, former FFA vice president, earned the Earl "Doc" Kantner National FFA Scholarship. She will be attending The Ohio State University majoring in Food Science and Technology in the fall. Emma Ranney, former FFA president, earned the Bunge North America National FFA Scholarship she will be attending Ohio Northern to major in Pre-Veterinary Science.

Congratulations on a great year Firelands FFA members!

FHS Student Council

The FHS Student Council is pleased to announce that the 2013-2014 school year has been immensely successful and rewarding for not only the council, but the Firelands community. This past year, the council has held various events and activities throughout the high school as well as multiple different collections, drives and fundraisers.

We kicked off the 2013-2014 school year with Homecoming and Fall Senior Appreciation in September and October. Before winter break, we held our 11th Annual Tree Lighting which was comprised of a canned goods drive in accordance with the FFA, a toy drive in partnership with TLC, a change collection and a basket raffle. Proceeds from the events went to purchasing baby items that were donated to Birth Right in addition to gifts for the elderly which the council gave to the residents at Golden Acres

when they spent the day at the facility playing Bingo.

Once the school year resumed, Student Council held Winter Senior Appreciation in February and Spring Fling in March. The last major organized event for the year was our co-ed volleyball tournament in May. This year an adjustment was made to the tournament and it was re-named in honor of Mr. Muth. Additionally, the championship game was held during FAST on the following Monday in the FHS gymnasium, with the team "Scared Hitless" prevailing. Students and faculty were able to donate one dollar in order to watch the game, and, with additional money donated, the proceeds totaled up to \$772.25. With this, Student Council created a scholarship in honor of Mr. Muth. The Mr. Muth Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Becky Myers, a silent yet strong leader in the Firelands community.

Although the 2013-2014 school year is only now coming to a close, the council is already planning events for the upcoming school year. A workshop will be held over the summer to strengthen the leadership within the council and to begin coordinating events for the 2014-2015 year.

Student Council is very proud of the hard work and

dedication given forth from council officers and representatives and is extremely grateful to all of the individuals and organizations that have aided us throughout the year. We look forward to continuing on with a legacy of success.

Katy Tuggle,
Communications Director



"Scared Hitless"
Jimmy Willbond, Tristan Clark, Kevin Rollins
Casey Morrisette, Shaylin Canterbury,
Paige O'Connell

State Degree Winners: Demi Dovin, Karlie Canfield, Cole Lewis, Jody Hanco, Christine Balint and Mrs. Shanna Finnegan (Honorary Degree)



Proficiency Finalists: Jess Zurcher, Amanda Spears, Demi Dovin, David Tipple (not pictured - Alex Sabine)



New for Next School Year - BYOD

Firelands Local Schools is proud to announce a new technology initiative for students starting next fall. Beginning the 2014 – 2015 school year, students at South Amherst Middle School and Firelands High School will be allowed to bring their electronic devices to school and use them as part of the District's BYOD program. BYOD (*Bring Your Own Device*) is centered on students using devices not owned by the district such as smartphones, tablets, eReaders, and laptops for educational use.

Firelands Local Schools worked with MCPc, Inc to upgrade the core network infrastructure and establish wall-to-wall wireless coverage in the buildings in the summer of 2013 in preparation to support the BYOD initiative. The belief is that with students bringing their own devices to school that it will promote an exciting shift in how they use them. Typically, student-owned devices are used for social or entertainment purposes, but with BYOD their use expands to also become collaboration and learning tools that can be used to engage the student with the content in hopes of promoting lifelong learning habits.

KEY FACTS & GUIDELINES ABOUT THE FIRELANDS LOCAL SCHOOLS BYOD PROGRAM

- * **Do I need to purchase a device for my student?**
This initiative does not require the purchase of any device by our students or families. District devices will be available for students to meet curriculum and instructional expectations.
- * **Who is responsible for damage, loss, or theft of devices that students bring to school?**
Any device a student brings to school is their sole responsibility. Firelands Local Schools takes no responsibility to search for lost or stolen devices nor is there any assumption of financial responsibility by Firelands Schools for damaged, lost, or stolen personal devices.
- * **How will you monitor what my student is viewing on the Internet?**
Devices brought to school will only access the filtered, BYOD Wi-Fi network to prevent excess data fees to their personal accounts (no 3G, 4G, or mobile hotspot access will be permitted).
- * **When can my student use their device at school?**
Your student's teacher will determine when and how personal electronic devices may be used in his/her classroom. The student's electronic device must be turned off when not in use.
- * **Will my student need to have a signed form on file to use their device?**
Yes. In order for Firelands Local Schools to supervise student use of the district network and the Internet, the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) must be read and the BYOD form must be signed by the student and guardians for all students who want to bring and use their own technology.

Please see the Firelands Schools web site for further information and any updates.



**Start spreading the news...
Cause we're going to cruise...
Right to the very heart of it
New York, New York!!**



The Firelands Band Boosters are planning a day trip to New York City during the holiday season to see the sights, shop, dine in the fabulous restaurants or catch a Broadway show!



Preliminary Itinerary (*subject to change*)
 Friday, December 5th – Depart FHS around 11:00 pm / Drive through the night
 Saturday, December 6th – Arrive in NYC and spend the day doing what you want, return to the designated location and drive through the night to return to FHS
 Sunday, December 7th – Return to FHS early morning



This is an amazing opportunity to see the city all decked out for the holidays while you enjoy all NYC has to offer. What you see and do are up to you, no formal itinerary other than the scheduled bus times. All are welcome, so invite your friends to come along!

Seats are limited, cost is \$100.00 per person. Please complete the form below and return with your \$25.00 deposit on or before July 31, 2014 to secure your seat. Final payment of \$75.00 will be due on or before September 30, 2014.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the Firelands Band Boosters at firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com.

FIRELANDS BAND BOOSTERS NEW YORK CITY TRIP

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State:OH Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Best time to call: Day Evening
 Email: _____

Number of Seats	X	\$100.00	=	Total Due

A deposit of \$25.00 per seat is due on or before July 31, 2014 to secure all seats. The remaining balance is due on or before September 30, 2014. Checks should be made payable to the Firelands Band Boosters. *Please note that since we have to confirm the bus arrangements and send payment in advance, no cancellations will be accepted after October 1, 2014.*

Please return completed forms and deposits to the following address:
 Firelands Band Boosters - c/o Erin Hayes - 50338 Garfield Road - Oberlin, OH 44074

SAMS Service Projects

In accordance with the Firelands character education program, the eighth grade at SAMS participated in two service projects May 22, 2014. All eighth grade students did cleaning and landscaping duties at SAMS and at the Evergreen Cemetery across the street. SAMS teachers coordinate this project with the cemetery board of the Village of South Amherst and with the SAMS maintenance department. In the days leading up to the projects during their FIRE period, SAMS eighth graders learn about the importance of service and about different types of service. At SAMS faculty and staff are committed the formation of a student's character in addition to their academic success!



KEY NOTE SPEAKER FROM YOUNG AUTHOR CONFERENCE VISITS SAMS

This year the 6 graders had the opportunity once again to participate in Lorain County's Young Author Conference held at the Spitzer Center of LCCC. An exciting addition to this program was the 7th and 8th graders. In the past, Young Authors has only been made available for 3rd through 6th grade.

Due to the generous financial support of the National Association of College Stores, we were able to have the Key Note speaker for the Young Author conference come South Amherst Middle School! It proved to be a fantastic experience for all the 6th graders in attendance. The author, Carole Barrowman came to share her inspiration for writing fantasy novels by sharing various selections of artwork and reading passages from three of her books from the "Hollow Earth" series. The students really enjoyed listening to Barrowman's Scottish accent as she read. We send a cheerful "shout out" to Cindy Thompson, the Director at NACS for her involvement for making this experience happen for our students. It was a wonderful celebration of reading and writing!

Save The Date!

The Firelands Band Boosters will be hosting their second annual Band on The Run 5K

When? October 19th

Where? Starting point will be South Amherst Middle School

Questions: email: firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com

We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer from the Firelands Athletic Department. Here are the Spring Sports Summaries as submitted by the Coaches. Thanks, -Mr. Searight

MS TRACK

The boys track team finished up another exciting season. They finished the season with a 14-0 record in dual/tri/quad meets, and Won the PAC Championship for the 2nd year in a row. The girls had some impressive performances at the MS PAC Championship as well.

Conference Champions:

Faith Rico in the High Jump, 200 Meter Dash and 400 Meters, in a new school record time of 1:03.6

Michael Bansek -110 Meter Hurdles
Logan Strader- 200 Meter Dash

Beau Grude- High Jump

Jacob Campbell- Discus

Sean Lipscomb- Shot Put

4 x 100 Realy team- Logan Strader, Nick Denney, Austin Urban, and Tyler Miller

2nd Place:

Austin Urban- Long Jump

Spencer Street- Discus

Jacob Campbell- Shot Put

3rd Place:

Lexi McCrary in the 100 Meter Hurdles

Ian Valerius- 1600 Meter Run

Logan Strader- 200 Meter Hurdles

4th Place:

Tyler Miller- 110 Meter Hurdles

Evan Lacey - High Jump

5th Place:

Serena Hoffman 200 Meter Hurdles

Tyler Miller- 200 Meter Hurdles

4 x 400 Relay Team- Beau Grude, Carter Grude, Dylan Minek, Aaron Turnbull

6th Place:

Jacob Campbell-Long Jump

4 x 200 Relay team- Beau Grude, Aaron Myers, Dylan Minek, Jared Wray

7th Place:

Serena Hoffman 100 Meter Hurdles

4 x 200 Relay Team of Madison Alvarez, Cayla Riggs, Autumn Swiers, Carlie Wotton

8th Place:

Alex Brill- 400 Meter Dash

Ian Valerius- 800 Meter Run

9th Place:

Nick Denney- 100 Meter Dash

A big thank you goes out to the following people for helping to make the conference meet a success:

Jen Purcell (scoring), Ellen Gundersen(timing), Greg Grude(High Jump), Chad Grude(High Jump),

Jess Beran(announcing), Shari Wasem(awards), Erica Wasem(timing), Allison Vilagi(timing),

Claire Vilagi(timing), Jen Butchko(timing), Cole Lewis(timing), Cullen Grude (timing), Zadi Grude(runner to press box), Joe Menges, Bob Donelson(Long jump), Tristan Hildebrandt(Long Jump),

Mikayla Geyer(long Jump), Liz Lewis(timing), Jesse Campbell(throws), Heather Smyth(throws),

Adam Smyth(throws).

Thank you to Kennie Searight for helping out with awards and the exchange zones.

A big thank you goes out to my staff, Matt Kriger, Chelsey Copley, and Julene Woods for all the hardwork you did this season and on Saturday. Great job on the 2nd straight boys PAC championship. - Coach Grude

HS BOYS TRACK

The Boys Track Season had a very good ending. We were PAC Conference Champions for the second year in a row. We scored 129 points to win by 11 1/2 over second place Buckeye. There were many individual performances that deserve recognition. These young men qualified for the regional meet: 4 x 800 (Michael Adkins, Derek Reynolds, Cullen Grude, & Jordan Ruffner) 1600 M--- Cullen Grude, 800 M--- Derek Reynolds & Jordan Ruffner, 3200 M--- Brennan Crawford, High Jump--- Colin Myers, and the 4 x 400 (Michael Adkins, Derek Reynolds, Cole Lewis, & Jordan Ruffner). We also had many All Conference runners. I will list our Conference Champions: 4 x 800 (Michael Adkins, Cullen Grude, Patrick Brightbill, & Derek Reynolds) 4 x 400 (Michael Adkins, Derek Reynolds, Cole Lewis, & Jordan Ruffner) 110 HH---Cole Lewis, 800 M--- Derek Reynolds. Brennan Crawford, Cullen Grude, Rob Becker, Michael Adkins, Cole Lewis, Jordan Ruffner, Patrick Brightbill, Colin Myers, 4 x 200 (Colin Smith, Jeb Larson, Colin Myers, & Noah Larson) were all All Conference. The team has high aspirations for next season and will be working towards earning a trip to Columbus.

HS Girls Track

The Girls Track Season was one of ups and downs. We had some nice individ-

ual performances but lack of numbers in the running events and some key injuries reflected on the team score. We ended up 8th in the PAC Conference this year with 38 points. Our top individual performances were turned in by the 4 x 800 with a time of 10:50 (Tori Hritsko, Nikki Crawford, Jess Beran & Erica Wasem), 400 M---Erica Wasem 64.8, 3200 M---Jess Beran 12:45, 1600 M--- Jess Beran---5:57, High Jump---Dalanay Rogala---5'1", Long Jump---Dalanay Rogala---15'1", Discus---Summer Adkins---88', Shot Put--- Heather Smyth---27'1" There are very few seniors on the team and with a little luck the team should improve greatly.

SOFTBALL

The varsity softball team had a roller coaster season with winning streaks of 3 & 5 games, and losing streaks of 5 & 7 games, ending with a record of 11-15 (7-9 in conference). We played our best games against Wellington & Brookside, beating each team twice, and run ruling Oberlin & Avon Lake. Our most exciting win came against Trinity at the Akron Racers Spring Showcase Tournament where we were losing 11-5 in the 5th. Then our first 2 batters made outs before all 9 girls reached base safely scoring 7 runs to win 12-11, the highlight being Hailey Blankenship's home run. A great finish to a fun weekend in Akron. Other highlights were 2 players, Lexi Shick & Alex Willis, hitting home runs over our new fence. The fence, plus the new crushed brick infield gave us one of the nicest fields in the county & conference. Emma Ranney had a stellar season, leading the team in most hitting & pitching categories. Her batting average of .532 & slugging % of .706 made her a first team All-Lorain County selection. Second team selections were center fielder Casidi Kowalski (slugging % of .647) and "play anywhere" Alex Willis (slugging % of .510), who skillfully played 6 positions. All-County Honorable Mention was Sam Hribal, who pitched and batted cleanup the last half of the season and tied for team lead in RBI's with 22, and slugged at a .529 clip. Our emotional leader was infielder Amanda Spears who, along with Brittany Reising at short-stop, both made some nice plays defensively and had slugging % near .400. Nicole "Skinny" Rainey had a very solid year behind the plate and will be missed along with the rest of the seniors. We had fun playing once the rains stopped and hope to improve on those winning streaks next year.

The JV Softball team had a great season going 12-3 overall and 8-2 in the PAC. The team has shown improvements the entire season. Leading the team offensively were Taylor Emery and Tori Hritsko. Taylor Emery ended with a .489 with 17 RBI's. Tori Hritsko was right behind her with a .444 average. Claire Vilagi led the team defensively as their pitcher with a 3.65 ERA in 13 games pitched and 0 errors.

BASEBALL

The Firelands varsity baseball team compiled a 9-16 record overall, going 6-10 in the PAC. The young team, which was made up of 8 juniors and only 5 seniors, grew a lot of the course of year, with many players making big strides in their baseball abilities. After starting off the year with a pair of tough losses to Amherst and Avon Lake, the Falcons fought back, bringing their record to 2-2, with a pair of conference wins over Brookside and Fairview. This year saw the team win tough games against Valley Forge, Bellevue, Buckeye, and Black River. The varsity compiled close to 200 hits on the season, with 31 of them going for extra bases. 9 different pitchers combine for a 3.66 ERA in conference play, striking out almost one hitter per inning. The team worked hard all year and made big strides. The players are excited to work hard in the off-season to continue to improve, and make even more strides next year. At the end of the season, many of the Falcon players received honors. Tristan Clark was names first team all Lorain County, while Joel Lawson, Kevin Rollins, and Garrett McKinney all received honorable mentions. Kevin Rollins was selected to play in the Lorain County Senior All Star Game hosted at Vermilion High School. Both, Frank Johnson and Joel Lawson were selected to play in the Greater Cleveland Baseball Coaches Association Senior All Star Game at Berea Midpark High School. Tristan Clark was also named first team all PAC, while Mitch Hildebrandt and Kevin Rollins were named second team all PAC. Garrett McKinney received honorable all PAC.

The Firelands JV Baseball team put together an outstanding season this year, going 21-3, including a conference record of 15-1. With nine freshman and only four sophomores, this young team had a lot to prove on the field. Starting off the year with hard-work and determination, the team opened up at home with a win over Elyria Catholic. Great pitching and disciplined hitting over the next couple weeks helped the Falcons jump out to an 8-0 record, including a tough come-from-behind victory at Keystone.

The Falcons JV team suffered their first loss of the year to a strong Bellevue team, splitting a double-header with them to move to 9-1. It would be another five games until the team would lose again, falling to rival Vermilion by one run. The team continued to work hard throughout the year, really improving in many aspects of the game. The Falcons JV ended the season on a 7-game win streak, including a huge win over Amherst after being down by six late in the game to pick up win number 20. This group of players refused to accept losing, battling all year to put together a remarkable season and had plenty of fun. Expect big things out of each one of these boys in the future, they will do what it takes to be successful.

YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS

There are plenty of opportunities for middle school and elementary school students to participate in athletic camps this summer. Please go to <http://ffalcons.wordpress.com/2014/05/12/summer-sports-camps/> to check out the camps being offered this summer.

REQUIRED ATHLETIC FORMS

Before any students entering grades 7-12 next school year can participate in any tryouts or practices they are required to have an OHSAA Physical, Concussion Form, Emergency Medical Form, and Insurance Waiver turned in to the coach. No student will be allowed to participate until these requirements are met. You can access all forms at www.firelandsschools.org

HS & MS FALL SPORTS – Start Aug. 1st

All Fall sports start on August 1st. If you did not receive a packet of information for your sport at school please contact the head coach for specific tryout schedules.



Firelands Athletic Department 2nd Annual

Alumni & Friends Golf Outing

Chaired by the Football & Boys Basketball Teams

July 26 @ Willow Creek in Vermilion

\$70 per person

To Sponsor a Hole or Register to Participate

Email: bbartlett@firelandsschools.org

Spots Fill Up Quickly

Pre-Registration Accepted Through July 19th or Until All

Spots Are Filled

Young Authors 2014

Lorain County Educational Service Center's Gifted Consortium once again coordinated the Young Authors' Writers and Illustrators Contest and Conference. For the first time the contest and conference were open to gifted eighth grade students. The challenge was to write and/or illustrate books using the theme "A quest for Power." Eight eighth graders from Mrs. Post's Advanced Language Arts class participated in both the contest and the conference. Kaitlyn Fury was nominated for best illustrator, and Angelina Rivera was nominated for best author. Angelina was awarded best eighth grade young author in Lorain County at the conference on May 13th 2014. Her book was titled *Misconception* and was about a young girl learning what happens when she judges her peers. Before she received the award the following quote from her book was read aloud:

And right there, Sosana learned the most valuable lesson she will quite possibly learn. She learned the power of a misconception. Knowing someone well made her feel as if she was at an advantage. Her life was almost like a quest for power over someone, and that's how she liked it.

Angelina is the first student from SAMS to win the best author award. Congratulations Angelina! Everyone at SAMS is very proud of you!

Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2014



Kasandra Abfall Summer Adkins Travis Alexander Jade Amanse Briana Anadell Daniel Arnold Jr Alexis Ayala Christine Balint



Haleigh Bari Ashley Behnke Austin Beursken Diana Beursken Nathaniel Birach Brittany Bowyer Thomas Bramwell Tara Brown



Ryan Cairns Mariana Carreon Sarah Carter Zachary Carty Katie Cline Jacob Cole Kyle Collins Travis Collins



Kenneth Conrady Derek Dean Savannah Deidrick Kori Demyan Alexandra Denes Danielle Dudukovich Dylan Elkin Albert Fath V



Sharareh Feizkhah Paige Foster Hannah Galloway Amber Gasparini Ashley Gasparini Preston Grizzell Mikayla Habeck Brittany Hales

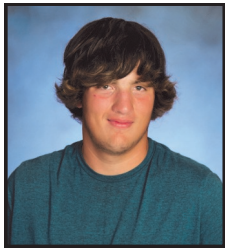
Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2014



Jessica Hall



Jeffrey Hembree Jr



Michael Henery



Lauren Holcomb



Brenna Horwedel



Franklin Johnson III



Cole Jones



Nicholas Jones



Nicolette Jordan



Madison Karnow



James Keressi



Satira King



Dakotah Klingshim



Tiffany Kopp



Emily Krieg



Nathan Kromer



Karley Krupp



Christopher Kubicki



Cody Lahetta



Alaina Lamar



Kayla Landuyt



Jeb Larson



Zachery Lawlis



Joel Lawson



Maya Leachman



Luke Lee



Katie Loeser



Taylor Marcum



Hunter Matus



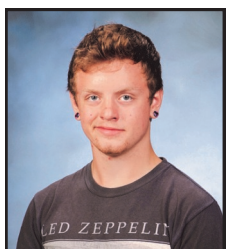
Alyssa Melendez



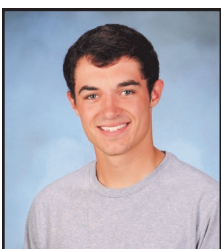
Fabian Melendez



Nathaniel Metzger



Lucien Mick



Samuel Miller



Cassandra Morrissette



Rebecca Myers



Dylan Newman



Matthew Novak



Paige O'Connell



Chelsea Otero

Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2014



Jacob Parker



Savannah Paskvan



Jordan Penkava



Cory Peters



Noah Pine



Nicole Rainey



Emma Ranney



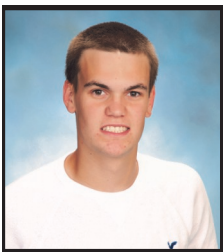
Constance Rehm



Kaitlyn Reichert



Kellie Rennie



Kevin Rollins



Kathryn Romano



Caitlin Rovere



Mark Schrader



Tom Schuman



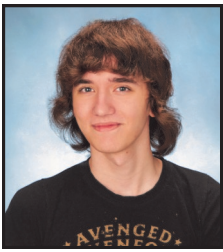
Austin Scott Richardson



Abigail Skolnik



Kayla Slattery



Anthony Smith



Dominic Smith



Tyler Smith



Michael Socha



Joseph Sosinski



Amanda Spears



Mackenzie Stammitti



Callie Stevens



Nicole Straus



Savannah Street



Christian Tague



Le Asia Taylor



Makiah Tillman



David Tomsco



Daniel Truitt



Thomas Urbansky



Spencer Urig



Michael Waleri



Gazelle Walther



Grace Wells



Cody Weston



Aaron Wickes

Firelands High School Graduating Class of 2014



Heidi Wiegand



Rachel Williams



Ethan Willis



Damian Wilson



Shannon Wilson



Breanna Wolford



Tiffany Woods



Breonna Wright



Megan Wyckoff



Nathan Yorks



Korey Zajicek



Kylee Ziegler

2014 FHS Graduates Who Did Not Provide a Photograph

Allison Danko
 Gregory Diederich
 Alexandria Galik
 Chayce Hall
 Trevor Marcum
 Eric McClintock
 Logan Sittinger

FIRELANDS CLASS OF 2014

VALEDICTORIAN DANIEL TRUITT



Daniel has lived in Northeast Ohio his entire life. He has attended Firelands School District since kindergarten. His parents, Rick and Kim Truitt, along with his little brother Bradley, all play a major role his life. He has stated that school has been the center of his life for the past four years and he has loved every second of it. In his free time he loves to engage in art, and recently he has been creating unique jewelry pieces.

His accomplishments include:

- * President of Art Society
- * A member of National Honors Society, National Art Honors Society, and the National Society of High School Scholars
- * Member of the Drama Club
- * Received the LCCC trustee scholarship and the College Now scholarship
- * Is a Phi Beta Kappa Award recipient

In the future, he plans to continue his academic studies through Bowling Green State University with a concentration in biology and chemistry as a pre-med major. His plans to one day become a doctor and spend his life using his love of science to help others.

SALUTATORIAN CHRISTINE BALINT



Christine is the daughter of Thomas and Darlene Balint of Florence Township and she attended the Firelands Schools since sixth grade. During her time in Firelands, Chrissy exemplified Falcon Pride, as she was associated with the following groups and activities:

- * 2013-14 Vice President of Firelands FFA
- * National Honors Society
- * Member of the Mighty Falcon Marching Band
- * 2014 Lorain County Junior Fair Board Vice President
- * President of the Four Leaf Clovers 4-H Club
- * 2013 Lorain County Junior Fair Queen
- * February Student of the Month
- * Firelands FFA 110% Award Winner
- * FFA State Degree

Chrissy plans to attend The Ohio State University in the fall to major in Food Science and Technology.

2014 SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT



Makiah is the daughter of Eric and Melissa Tillman and she attended the Firelands schools for the past six (6) years. During her time in Firelands, Makiah exemplified Falcon Pride, as she was associated with the following groups and activities:

- * Select Choir
- * TLC
- * Strive
- * Freshman class treasurer
- * Sophomore class treasurer
- * Junior class president

Makiah plans to participate in the partnership between Lorain County Community College and Youngstown State University to study Gerontology. Upon college graduation, she hopes to work with social services for the elderly.

Lorain County Young Authors Conference

Firelands Elementary School had TWO winners at the Lorain County Young Authors Conference. There were 15 different districts that participated in the program. Each grade level had the opportunity to submit books to be judged against others in the county to win "Best of Show" awards for writing or illustrating.

- ◆ Fourth grade student, Maggie Edwards from my Language Arts Class won Best in Show for Writing above all other fourth graders in all 15 districts.
- ◆ Fifth grade student, Chayce Baldwin from Kassie Davis' Language Arts Class won Best of Show for Illustrations for the second year in a row!
- ◆ Five third grade students, all fourth grade students, and about 25 fifth grade students at FES created books for the program. Of those, approximately 80 students were selected to attend the conference in which they got to listen to children's book author, Kathleen Pelley give talks about nurturing writing skills and becoming an author.
- ◆ One book per grade level at FES was nominated to be submitted for the top honor of Best of Show for each category.
- ◆ Winners are awarded with a medal, engraved trophy, enlarged poster of their book cover, and a professionally bound copy of their original book.

We're extremely proud of not only the students who won, but also each and every student who put their creative talents to work in authoring and illustrating their own unique book. Students will also be honored at a Board meeting presentation later on.

Also, FES was selected by the ESC to have a visit to our school by author Kathleen Pelley on Wednesday, May 14th. All fourth grade students gathered in the library to listen to her melodic Scottish accent as she shared stories she's written, talked about becoming a writer, and answered questions about herself and her stories.

THANK YOU

Wakeman Masonic Lodge and the Ladies of the Lodge would like to give a big THANK YOU to the local communities for their support of the spaghetti supper for Huron and Erie County Special Olympics held on April 5, 2014 at Townsend Fire Dept.

The supper was put on by the Ladies of Wakeman Masonic Lodge. A hearty thank you to Bettcher Industries, Sima Produce Company, Cedar Point, Gardners Super Valu, Krogers, Mercy-Willard Hospital, Pepperidge Farms, G.A. Pickworth Auctioneer, Shields IGA, Smiley Automotive, Smith Country Counter, Sterks Restaurant & Catering of Wakeman, Robson Farms LLC and numerous and anonymous community members for helping to make the spaghetti supper fundraiser possible and successful. Your generous support is greatly appreciated. A grand total of \$4,000.00 was collected from the sale of 100 pumpkin rolls made by Henrietta UMC and donated to Wakeman Masonic Lodge to sell and a spaghetti supper. Huron and Erie County each received \$2,000.00 to help support their program for the athletes.

Young Authors 2014



Lorain County Educational Service Center's Gifted Consortium once again coordinated the Young Authors' Writers and Illustrators Contest and Conference. For the first time the contest and conference were open to gifted eighth grade students. The challenge was to write and/or illustrate books using the theme "A quest for Power." Eight eighth graders from Mrs. Post's Advanced Language Arts class participated in both the contest and the conference. Kaitlyn Fury was nominated for best illustrator, and Angelina Rivera was nominated for best author. Angelina was awarded best eighth grade young author in Lorain County at the conference on May 13th 2014. Her book was titled Misconception and was about a young girl learning what happens when she judges her peers. Before she received the award the following quote from her book was read aloud:

And right there, Sosana learned the most valuable lesson she will quite possibly learn. She learned the power of a misconception. Knowing someone well made her feel as if she was at an advantage. Her life was almost like a quest for power over someone, and that's how she liked it.

Angelina is the first student from SAMS to win the best author award. Congratulations Angelina! Everyone at SAMS is very proud of you!

50th YEAR CLASS REUNION



Firelands class of "64" celebrated their 50th year class reunion on Saturday, May 17, 2014. The reunion was held at the Oberlin Inn.

1st row: Bruce Wasem, James Staveski, Betty Velasquez Roman, Jessie Livermore Speigelberg, Linda Watson Wilson.

2nd row: Ruth Ann Johannsen Emerick, Judy Coultrip Swaggerty, Joe Baatz, John Yakunovich, Jean Searles Beach, Marcia Lees Markworth, John Terschak, Dawn Buchs Cornwell, Gilbert Velasquez.

3rd row: Mr. Bill Ramseyer, Thomas Crawford, Richard Harris, Kenneth Bahl, Leonard Becker, Tom Beach, Louis Wilbur, Karen Blackwell Howell, Jeanne Fairchild Vanburen, Christine Weston Gerberick, Gayle Vincent Frederick.

MFMB

Calendar of Events

- June**
 11-13 Percussion Camp 8am-1pm
 12 & 13: Freshmen Camp 8am-1pm
 16-20: Entire Band at Camp 8am-1pm
 20: Band Picnic with students and family. 6 pm at FHS
- August**
 4-8: Band Camp 8am-4pm

Boosters Email
 Firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com

- Officers**
 President - Michele Jeffers
 Vice President - Laura Solnick
 Treasurer - Erin Hayes
 Secretary - Cinda Willis



Musical Moments

Welcome to our new freshmen! Alexander, Adam, Jessica, Owen, Riley, Serena, Ryan, Casey, Ariel, Aaron, Olivia, Justin, Josh, Grace, Cory, Caleb, Kassidy, Joy, Samuel, Jordan, Isaac, and Alyssa!!!!



SPECIAL LADIES, SPECIAL OLYMPIC

The Ladies of Wakeman Masonic Lodge held a spaghetti supper on April 5, 2014 at the East Townsend Fire Dept. to raise money for the Huron and Erie County Special Olympics. With the help of Henrietta United Methodist Church, making 100 pumpkin rolls as part of their mission for the Lodge to sell to help with the fundraising, the Ladies accepting donations from many in the community and several businesses. All proceeds benefited special Olympics.

Wakeman Masonic Lodge started this program in 2007 with a donation of \$400.00 each to Huron and Erie County. Every year the Ladies and the Lodge have worked hard to make the donation bigger each year. This year \$4,000.00 was raised. An awards ceremony was held at the Wakeman Masonic Lodge on April 29th, with Chairperson of the Ladies of the Lodge, Ruth Ann Emerick (center) presenting a check for \$2,000.00 each to Gary Miller (left) from Erie County Special Olympics and Jaimie Perry (right), activity coordinator from Christie Lane, Huron County Special Olympics. In attendance were members of the Lodge, Ladies of the Lodge, Henrietta UMC and the Special Olympians. After the presentation, refreshments were served with all enjoying the evening.



CAFETERIA NEWS

The last day for charging at South Amherst Middle School and Firelands Elementary School is May 16, 2014. Your child's account can still be used, but they must have money on their account or they must bring cash or a check to purchase a breakfast or lunch. All remaining money on your child's account the last day of school will remain in their account for the next school year.

2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

Your child's meal status will remain the same for the first month of the 2014-2015 school year or until a new form is received. An updated meal assistance form must be received the first month of school for continued benefits. Meal applications can be filled out anytime throughout the school year for those in need of assistance.

FOODSERVICE TAB ON SCHOOL WEBSITE

The foodservice tab on the school website has information that may be helpful to you. An email address is listed as well should you have any questions or concerns.

The Mighty Falcon Marching Band would like to **THANK YOU** for the support you provided our annual Pancake Breakfast!

The Florence Township Fire Department

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Hot Locks Salon | Quick Delicious |
| Miller's Ice Cream | Subway |
| Decidedly Different Gifts & Coffee | Tree Hugger's Café |
| Hammond's Bakery | Aladdin's Eatery |
| Discount Drug Mart | Bead Paradise |
| Giant Eagle-Amherst/Vermilion | Ace Hardware |
| Florence Township Fire | Monster Tan |
| Walmart-Lorain/Oberlin | Aboutique Hair |
| Velvet Turtle | Denny's |
| Electric Rays Tanning | Personal Stitch |
| Lake Erie Crushers | All Pro Automotive Service & Tire Center |
| A Beau Monde Salon | Encore Consignment |
| Dairy Queen | Martino's |
| Pat Catan's | Fantastic Sam's |
| Star Bucks | White House Springs |
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| Manuel's Barber | Brenda & Earl Gregory |
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| McDonalds-Amherst/Middle Ridge | Nicolaou family |
| Cuyahoga Vending | Vaughn's Towing |
| Steve Polansky Market | D & A Towing |
| Auto Zone | South Amherst Fire |
| O'Reilly Auto Parts | Thome Farms Greenhouse |
| Advance Auto Parts | Locke's Green Side Up |
| Puffer Floral | |

2014 MFMB Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, November 8th, 2014
 General Admission \$2.00
 9:00am-4:00pm
 At South Amherst Middle School

152 West Main St.

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Vendors Wanted!

Crafters, Direct Sales Reps, Artisans of any kind!

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Michele Reynolds:

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Laura Solnick: 440-935-0758

email [firelandsbandboosters](mailto:firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com)

[@gmail.com](mailto:firelandsbandboosters@gmail.com)

SOUTH AMHERST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Our annual banquet is scheduled for Saturday, July 19, 2014 at the New Russia Township Hall on Butternut Ridge Rd., Oberlin and letters were mailed out the end of May. If you would like to be on the mailing list and have not received a letter, you can call either Pam Pollack or Marilyn Wilhelm for further information.

We have been offering scholarships to sons/daughters/grandchildren or South Amherst graduates for over 20 years. Those applications are available by calling Pam at 440-775-7887 or Marilyn at 440-986-2642.

We will be honor the Class of 1964, and we are hoping for a great turnout.

Educational Service Center of Lorain County's Spelling Bee

On Sunday, May 4th five sixth grade students from South Amherst Middle School and five students from Firelands Elementary School participated in the Educational Service Center of Lorain County's Spelling Bee held at Nord Middle School in Amherst. Firelands was well represented in both divisions. Amaris Anderson-Bush finished 7th in the Division I Spelling Bee, which consisted of third and fourth graders from around the county. Savannah Leverknight, Daniel Ohle, Gemma Hager, and Madison Bragg did a nice job representing our school in Division I as well. In Division II, Lexy Coggins made it into the third round, Maribeth Petrey finished 9th, Vincent Morales 6th, and Danny Hager in 5th. After several intense rounds, Sierra Johnson was the lone speller standing winning the Bee. Unfortunately there isn't another Bee to move on to for 5th and 6th graders. They have reached the highest level that they can at this grade level. Congratulations to each student for a great effort and to Sierra for winning the County Spelling Bee!



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Brownhelm Perfection & BB 4-H Club


The Brownhelm Perfection & BB 4-H Club had its last meeting on May 19th, 2014. They have been meeting the first and third Mondays of every month.

For the past couple months, the club has been very busy and active in the community. On April 12th, the members went to clean and pick up litter along the bike trail in Kipton. On May 21st, 2014, members from the club participated in a pledge and creed contest at the Lorain County JVS. This contest measures how well members can recite the 4-H pledge or the creed, and tell about what these pledges mean. Five members from the club participated and did very well. On May 25th, the members took part in marching in the Memorial Day parade in Brownhelm Township. In addition, on May 31st, the club members made many baked goods and brought animals to Tractor Supply Co. in Amherst for TSC day. They also passed out information to get the word out about their 4-H club and all the great activities it has to offer.

Throughout the past meetings, the club also has had some wonderful speakers take the time to stop by and give important and informative information on certain jobs and careers. The club had Mrs. Keller, a flight nurse give a description of her job field and all the work that goes into her job. Also, Jana Wilson from the Lorain County Metro parks came in and talked to the club about amphibians and reptiles. The members learned many facts about the many varieties of animals in their own area and some of their history.

**4-H News Reporter
Brad Thrasher**

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Dwayne Becker
440-965-7850

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440-670-6469

Dan Pycraft:
440-774-2310

Firelands Local School District

2013-2014 Board Meetings
7:00 p.m.

August 12, 2013
September 9, 2013
October 14, 2013
November 6, 2013
December 9, 2013
January 13, 2014
February 10, 2014
March 10, 2014
April 14, 2014
May 12, 2014
June 10, 2014
July 7, 2014



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