

Northwest News

March 2014: Issue 28



Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

IN THIS ISSUE:

Treasurer's Report2

Senior Citizen Breakfast ... 3

Curriculum Update.....4

Upcoming Performances...5

Community Day..... 6-7

Fiscal Responsibility8

FAQ for Renewal.....9

Kosco Fifth at State.....10

ACC.....11

Interact Club.....12

One Heart. One Mind. Northwest Pride.



Justin Jeffers and his daughter, Olivia, who is a second-grader at Northwest Primary had a table at Community Day to promote "Pedal Out Cancer Open." Justin started the golf outing four years ago to raise funds for cancer research.

The Northwest Community is unique in its commitment to those in need. This commitment was obvious Sunday, March 2, when hundreds braved the cold and snow to join their neighbors in the Northwest Commons for food, conversation and fun. Volunteers from numerous local organizations and service clubs were also there to share their efforts to make our community a better place. This commitment is very obvious in our school organizations where students work to serve others, such as the young people who give back to their community through Interact, a high school club in which members seek to help those in need. This desire to put service above self and to unite for important causes makes Northwest a special place.

Public Forum on the Earned Income Tax Renewal

**Wednesday, March 19, at 7 p.m.
in Puffenberger Hall**

**Please join us as we answer your questions about the
Renewal of the *Earned* Income Tax on the
May 6th ballot. This issue is NOT a new tax. It is a
continuation of "Your Plan. Your Vote."**



Northwest News

Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

Board of Education



From left: Steve Jones, John Hexamer, Rita Gearhart, Vice-President Bruce Beadle and Board President Jim Gindlesberger.

Committed to an Open & Transparent District

jones.s@northwest.sparcc.org
hexamer.j@northwest.sparcc.org
gearhart.r@northwest.sparcc.org
beadle.b@northwest.sparcc.org
gindlesberger.j@northwest.sparcc.org

Treasurer’s Report

Dan Levengood, Northwest District Treasurer

Show Me the Money (and where it goes)--That line was a popular catch phrase from the 1996 movie “Jerry Maguire.” In the last issue of the *Northwest News* I examined where our revenues come from and the many outside factors that can affect them from year to year. In this issue, I will analyze the expenditures of the district. If any information that you may read raises additional questions, we encourage you to call the office and talk to us about it. The fiscal years that I will compare are fiscal year 2009, the school year before the federal government’s stimulus programs began and also the year before we originally passed the Earned Income Tax levy, and fiscal year 2013, a year with no federal stimulus effects and with a full year of income tax collections.

The table below itemizes our expenditures for the two years in the comparison.

	FY09	FY13
Personal Services	10,776,275	9,636,364
Employees’ Retirement/Insurance Benefits	3,671,110	3,736,037
Purchased Services	2,447,344	2,215,854
Supplies and Materials	459,648	606,332
Capital Outlay	44,150	252,503
Other Objects	288,031	290,039
Totals	17,686,558	16,737,129

The first item of expenditures is **Personal Services** or payroll costs. As with many service industry companies payroll is our largest single expenditure. Wages have gone down from fiscal year 09 to the present due to having fewer employees working on a full-time basis. Fiscal year 09 was the last year of operation before the staff reductions were made due to our being placed in Fiscal Caution by the Ohio Department of Education. For the sake of clarification, many of the employees that were laid off at that time have been brought back only to fill vacancies that were created by retirements or resignations. The amount of our personal services expenditure has remained low because those positions that were eliminated have not been brought back, and new positions are the result of redefining duties of positions already in place.

Employee retirement and insurance has been comparable in the two years, but that is not because our insurance costs have stayed the same. Northwest Local is fortunate to belong to the Stark ESC Council of Governments (COG) for our insurance coverages. The COG insures over 16,000 lives so we are able to achieve a greater negotiating stance with the insurance companies, benefiting us with lower premium increases than many companies receive. Also, our reduced full-time staff also generates a savings in that fewer people are covered by the insurance.

Purchased Services is mainly comprised of our utility costs and costs associated with educating students outside the Northwest School District. This expenditure category has experienced a cost reduction because our utility costs have declined significantly. In 2010 the district implemented an Energy Conservation program to specifically reduce our electric and natural gas consumption. Through this program we installed indoor and outdoor lighting retrofits, classroom occupancy sensors, airblade hand dryers and other measures. In fiscal year 09 we also were using Northwest Intermediate School and the costs to run that building, pre-renovations, were significant. With the Ohio School Facilities Commission renovations complete, what was Northwest Intermediate is now an energy-efficient portion of William S. Stinson Elementary.

The second large component of the **Purchased Services** line item is the cost of educating or providing services for students outside our buildings. These costs include money that goes to community or charter schools, alternative school fees, necessary physical therapy or other health-related services, and other individualized student needs. These costs increase annually, and we continue to review and evaluate the best ways to effectively provide these services for the benefit of the students.

Supplies and Materials is wide-ranging, and it contains major components from all the different operations of the school. Items included here consist of instructional supplies and software for the classroom, textbooks and workbooks, library or media center materials, school maintenance supplies, and diesel fuel and other transportation parts and supplies. As you might expect, the cost of diesel fuel has risen considerably. An adjustment that was made to help us get out of Fiscal Caution was to change the way we transport students. The change in our transportation strategy allowed us to take about seven buses off the road which reduced our fuel dependence and consequently saved money. The increase in the cost per gallon of diesel fuel over the years has eliminated much of that savings. Another increase in expenditures here is the cost of restocking the instructional supplies and technology purchases. For instance, science labs need to be replenished periodically with supplies and chemicals used in experiments and testing, while some current educational opportunities have required software upgrades or additions.

Included in **Capital Outlay** are big ticket items that are expected to provide a benefit for at least three years or longer. During our tough times this area was difficult to fund simply due to the need for the dollars in other urgent operating areas. With the passage of the income tax we have established a purchasing plan that will guide us as we replace old buses and maintenance equipment and look to add new equipment and technologies.

Finally, **Other Objects** includes fees charged to the district by County Auditors for collecting the real estate taxes, the State Department of Taxation for collecting the School District Income Tax and finally the State Auditor's Office for the cost of our annual audit. The fees for the collection of the taxes are a percentage of the total amount collected.

If you have any questions or would like a further explanation of the district's revenues or expenditures please contact me in the Treasurer's office at 330.854.6397 or email me at levengood.d@northwest.sparcc.org.

Senior Citizens' Breakfast scheduled for March 20

The Northwest Local School District will host a free breakfast for senior citizens in the high school commons Thursday, March 20, at 8:00 a.m. Please join us for a few hours of fellowship as we share the good news about our schools. There is no charge for this event, but reservations are appreciated. Please RSVP to Pat Chevrier by March 14, 2014, at 330-854-2291 or mail in this form with your name and phone number. We look forward to seeing you.

NORTHWEST SENIOR CITIZENS' BREAKFAST	
MARCH 20, 2014	
<hr/>	
<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Names of persons attending</i>	<i>Phone number</i>
<hr/>	
Return to: Northwest Local Schools, Attn: Pat Chevrier, 2309 Locust St., S. , Canal Fulton, OH 44614	



Curriculum News

Debora Clark, Director of Instruction

Ohio's New Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

The State of Ohio will be implementing a new kindergarten readiness assessment (KRA) during the upcoming school year. The new assessment includes various ways for teachers to measure a child's readiness for school. The test was built around Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards. The assessment tool measures the areas of social skills (social and emotional development and learning styles), mathematics, language and literacy, science, social studies, physical well-being, and motor development. All students entering kindergarten will be assessed using this tool during the assessment window, which begins the first day of school and continues through November 1. There are three ways that children can show what they know and can do:

1. The child answers a question that has only one correct answer.
2. The child completes an activity, such as sorting a set of objects in a specific way.
3. The teacher watches your child during everyday classroom activities and rates his or her particular skills and knowledge.

The results from the KRA will not be reported on a report card, and they will not prevent a child from entering kindergarten. The results of the KRA provide baseline data regarding a child's skill levels and will be used by classroom teachers to individualize learning experiences. The main goal of the readiness assessment is to increase a child's success in school.

Parents may be wondering what they should focus on to help their child prepare for kindergarten registration and the upcoming school year. The following activities would be beneficial:

- Reading with your child, including discussing the story
- Learning lower case and capital letters
- Learning letter sounds
- Learning numbers 0-10
- Sorting and classifying objects

Northwest Local Schools Calendar 2014-2015

August

19 Convocation Day
20 First Student Day
29 Building In-Service

September

1 Labor Day

October

13 In-Service Day (No school for students)
24 End of 9 Weeks (45 days)

November

10 Waiver Day (No school for students)
27-28 Thanksgiving Break

December

1 Teacher Exchange Day (No school for students)
22-31 Christmas Break

January

1-2 Christmas Break
9 End of 9 Weeks (43 days)
End of Semester (88 days)
19 Martin Luther King Day

February

13 Waiver Day (No school for students)
16 Presidents Day

March

20 End of 9 Weeks (48 days)
30-31 Spring Break

April

1-3 Spring Break
6 Teacher Exchange Day (No school for students)

May

25 Memorial Day
29 Last Student Day
End of 9 Weeks (44 days)
End of Semester (92 days)

June

1 In-Service Day (No school for students)

Calamity Day Make-Up Schedule:

1st Day – June 1, 2015 – consecutive weekdays as needed

Le Vent Du Nord to appear at Puffenberger Hall April 3

An opportunity to see the “Artists of the Year” of the North American Folk Alliance Gala is only a short drive away. Mark your calendar to see Le Vent Du Nord, an award-winning vibrant ensemble from Quebec, on Thursday, April 3, at 7 p.m. in Puffenberger Hall at Northwest High School. Le Vent Du Nord is on a multi-city tour through the Ohio Regional Music Arts Cultural Outreach. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets may also be purchased at Buehler’s Market or the Northwest Local School District office.



Northwest Alum returns in Irish Dance

Justin Boros will appear in “Rhythm in the Night: The Irish Dance Spectacular” Monday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the Canton Palace Theater. This performance is a part of a 20-city tour across the Eastern U.S. Justin toured with Michael Flatley’s “Lord of the Dance” for several years before creating, producing and performing in his own Irish dance show. Tickets for the March 17 performance are available through the Canton Palace Theater. For more information about the show, go to RhythmInthenight.com.

Northwest High School

presents

ROGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA

Puffenberger Hall
Entrance “F”
8580 Erie Ave. NW
Canal Fulton, Ohio

ADVANCE SALE
\$10.00 Adult
\$8.00 Student & Sr. Cit
Reserved Seating
ALL tickets \$10.00 at the door.

Get your tickets early for this Magical musical event.

Friday, April 11 ★ 7:30 pm
Saturday, April 12 ★ 7:30 pm
Sunday, April 13 ★ 2:00 pm

For full details, visit our school website: www.northwest.sparcc.org

Please visit the ticket booth in Puffenberger Hall, Saturday 4/5 from 10 AM to 2 PM or Thursdays 4/3 & 4/10 from 5 PM - 8 PM or call the theatre ticket office at 330-854-2205 ext PUFF(7833). Tickets may also be purchased at the door one hour before show times, based on availability.

“Just Like Me” shows Reality of Bullying

The assembly, “Just Like Me,” was sponsored through the North Canton Playhouse Spotlight on Youth. Spotlight on youth works to promote and increase the health, safety and well-being of young people. Using dramatic presentations, showing real life situations, Spotlight educates students relative to social issues and dangers affecting their lives and works to decrease violence, substance abuse and other issues facing them. It is an Educational Outreach of the North Canton Playhouse, organized through a grant from the Hoover Foundation. The assembly at Stinson showed how everyone is different.

Chairman of the Olweus Bullying Program, Mrs. Marcy McKendry, says the program was powerful: “The quote by Plato would best describe it, ‘Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.’ Students shared how they don’t quite fit in and therefore they get treated a certain way because they are different. Even the bully. Then at the end the bully said some very powerful things about how he wished he could go back and change how he had treated everyone, but it was too late to undo the damage he had done. He wanted to befriend those people he had hurt, but they didn’t want anything to do with him. He was then left feeling very much alone. All along he was seeking attention, too; he just went about it the wrong way. You could have heard a pin drop it was so good.”



Northwest News

Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

Northwest puts Community First

Here are a few of the volunteers and service organizations that participated.



Canal Fulton Public Library and the Prom Dress Project that raises money for a teen library program.



The Canal Fulton Lions Club serves the community and schools in a variety of ways.

The Canal Fulton Rotary Club is promoting a flag project to show patriotism throughout the district. The club is also sponsoring a 5k run on May 10.



Friends of the Library and Chell Rossi of the Canal Fulton Bicentennial, which is scheduled for August 3 from 1-11 p.m. at St. Helena Park



The YMCA of Central Stark County is continuing its study into a project that would bring a YMCA to the Northwest District.

Bountiful Gifts promotes service to others.



Face-painting was provided by the Northwest High School National Honor Society.



The Canal Fulton Players bring an appreciation of the performing arts to the community.



The Runners Club and many booster clubs including the ACC support our student-athletes.

The Ohio Regional Music, Arts and Cultural Outreach brings the arts to Ohio Schools. Le Vent Du Nord will be here April 3.



The Canal Fulton Police and Fire Departments serve us everyday, and Bishop, the K-9 cop, wears his badge proudly.



Members of the "Save Tomorrow" Committee were available to share facts about the renewal of the 1% earned income tax.



The Canal Fulton Area Chamber of Commerce improves the economic and civic vitality of our community.

The Stark County Hunger Task Force supports over two dozen food pantries across the county and provides food assistance to 25 thousand local citizens.



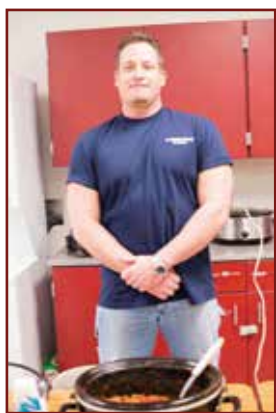
May
6

Promises Made Promises Kept

Northwest Schools

EARNED Income Tax

He did it again!



Monday Stark is Champion of the Community Day Chili Cook-off for the third year in a row.



John Barabasch
Second Place



Fire Chief Mark Stewart
Third Place



Dennis Muntean
Fourth Place

Of course, Community Day could not take place without the support of volunteers. Here are a few of them:



A special thanks to all our volunteers!

National Honor Society Students Serve their Community

Members of National Honor Society were contacted by Shelly Stephanoff at the Canal Fulton Library about the need for handmade Valentine cards to be distributed through Project KARE to children using the Visitation Center at Stark County Children Services. The Visitation Center is a safe place for children to visit with their biological parents and family members. Project KARE programs are designed to alleviate some of the needs that arise in situations of abuse and neglect. Between what NHS members made and what other students created during study hall time, Northwest students crafted over 200 Valentines.



The Hoops for Hunger Basketball Game was held at the Field House on Feb. 27th. Co-ed teams of freshmen played against sophomores, and juniors played against seniors. After some very intense play, the freshman and senior teams were victorious. The players and fans enjoyed the games, but the larger goal was feeding the hungry. Each player and spectator donated 5 cans of food or \$3 to participate. Students were also able to donate \$1 to participate in a half-court shot competition. According to NHS advisor, Heather Matoszkia, "The club collected over \$300 and 1000 food items. The food and money collected will be donated to the Community Cupboard and the SALT Box in Canal Fulton. So many of our students at NHS are eager to be involved in activities that help the community, and we must continue to provide the means for them to have that connection with the community."



Northwest News

Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

Innovation for Fiscal Responsibility

The challenging financial situation Northwest Local School District has faced over the past ten years has taught us to reallocate our resources in order to provide innovative programming at no additional cost. The district has worked diligently to be good stewards of the funds provided by the *earned* income tax that is up for renewal May 6. We have taken the slogan, "Promises Made. Promises Kept." very seriously. These are a few of the steps we have taken in order to keep our commitment to you, the community.

- After school tutoring is available for at-risk students, thanks to R.E.A.D., which is made possible by federal monies, specifically Title I funding.
- The swimming program for fourth-grade students has been reinstated, thanks to the generosity of the Paul and Carol David YMCA. Students pay a minimal fee to cover the cost of swimming lessons, and Stinson's Betterment League covers the costs for students unable to pay the fees. This is a program which is vital to keeping our children safe.
- By reallocating current funding, the middle school has been able to add Spanish I for eighth-graders.
- By rotating the semester or years that courses are offered, the high school has been able to expand course offerings for students.
- E-learning has become a valuable tool because it provides a number of cost-saving benefits. For example, we are offering summer school through online programming. This is an opportunity that will help students recover the credits they need to graduate on time. Previously we did not offer summer school, and students had to attend other local districts' programs. In addition, the high school is offering health to provide students with an online experience before they graduate, as many colleges and professions are utilizing this delivery method to provide coursework. Also, the high school will try to reconnect with students who have withdrawn and enrolled in a charter school. The online learning program is an opportunity to attract them back to Northwest.
- Instead of expensive field trips, the district is bringing arts programs to the individual buildings. Musicians from the Canton Symphony and Ohio Regional Music Arts Cultural Outreach have provided extraordinary programs for our students.
- The middle school now provides intervention for each student, made possible through a restructuring of our resources. Every teacher, aide, and tutor in the building is assigned during the first 30 minutes of each day to a small group of students. At the beginning of each day, students go to an intervention period designed specifically for them. Interventions may focus on reading, math, writing, organization, study skills, behavior, low motivation, or low work completion. In addition to receiving a prescriptive intervention, each child's progress is monitored closely to see if the intervention being implemented is having the desired effect. If a student is doing everything we ask and doing it well, those students will be receiving enrichment in science, math, reading, and writing.
- By restructuring the class periods at the middle school, teachers now have common planning time that allows them to share ideas for improved instruction.
- Through waiver days and funding from Race to the Top, we are offering quality professional development for our teachers.
- We are providing all-day, every day kindergarten for our students, preparing our children for a quality academic experience.



May 6 **Promises Made**
Promises Kept

Northwest Schools

EARNED Income Tax

Frequently Asked Questions for the Earned Income Tax Renewal

- 1. One of the promises made was to not rehire staff that had been laid off, but I know someone who was rehired?** We did bring back several laid off staff members but only to fill vacancies when existing staff members retired or resigned. The staff members brought back were on the RIF list and were qualified to fill the opening that occurred as the result of a retirement or resignation.
- 2. Class sizes were not to be reduced following passage of the earned income tax, but I know there are smaller classes?** We did not reduce class size because of finances, we did alter the number of classes at certain grade levels but it was based on enrollment numbers rather than finances. The average number of students in classes remains in the 26 – 32 range.
- 3. What is the status of student fees?** We didn't eliminate classroom fees; students are continuing to pay fees at all grade levels. We eliminated pay-to-participate and added the activity fees, which all students pay.
- 4. What would we need in a property tax to match the income from the earned income tax?** We would need approximately 9.75 mills to match the 1% earned income tax.
- 5. Is the earned income tax a permanent tax?** No, the earned income tax is a five-year renewal.
- 6. What is the school district's role in installing new turf on the stadium field? What would the district have done if the citizen group had not begun the turf project?** The turf project is a community-led project that is seeking funds from individuals and businesses. If the turf project had not been started, the district would have needed to install a new drainage system. The turf will be installed through **private** funds, not district funds.
- 7. How does Northwest compare to other school districts in Stark County in relation to per pupil expenditures?** Northwest is third from the bottom. Only Tuslaw and Minerva spend less.

Canton Local SD	\$11,403
Canton City SD	\$10,647
Massillon City SD	\$10,296
Alliance City SD	\$10,228
Marlington Local SD	\$9,897
North Canton City SD	\$9,528
Sandy Valley Local SD	\$9,422
Osnaburg Local SD	\$9,361
Fairless Local SD	\$9,115
Perry Local SD	\$8,991
Plain Local SD	\$8,848
Lake Local SD	\$8,824
Louisville City SD	\$8,701
Jackson Local SD	\$8,566
Northwest Local SD	\$7,959
Tuslaw Local SD	\$7,809
Minerva Local SD	\$7,566



Northwest News

Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

Kosco takes Fifth at State

Freshman Hunter Kosco capped his first season of high school wrestling with a fifth-place finish in the 106-pound weight class at the state wrestling tournament. He had a 41-6 record this year, which included a sectional championship and a district runner-up finish.

Coach Zach Meissner calls Hunter, "the leader every team desires, not because he's vocal and not because he gets others to work hard, but because of his work ethic and the way he portrays himself. He is first in his class academically, and he shows that same work ethic in the wrestling room. He has the desire to be the best."



Coach Meissner says Hunter always strives to be the best in everything he does. "I asked him what he thought of this past weekend after he had placed 5th at the state tournament, and he replied, 'Ehh. . . it was okay.' I asked if he was satisfied and he replied, 'Not even close coach! I should have placed higher.' That is the type of kid he is. Always striving to be the best and never satisfied with his accomplishments. He trained twice a day 3-4 times a week and that put him where he's at. It is a pretty awesome feat considering he is only the second freshman in the 52-year history of Northwest to make it to the state tournament and he is the first ever freshman at Northwest to place at the state tournament. Hunter will be chasing and breaking records of all sorts at Northwest over the next three years and I am thankful to coach such a young bright, hard-working student-athlete. He represents his school, his family, and his coaches well!"

Fennell to attend Walsh



Meredith Fennell has signed her letter of intent with Walsh University. She was joined by her mom, Diane Fennell; her dad, Kirk Fennell; and her hurdler coach, Mike Calcei.

Meredith currently owns two school records: 100 M Hurdles in 14.97, which she set last year at the Salem Districts, and the 4 X 100 M Relay in 49.13 at Bedford Regional Finals in 2014 with teammates Clara Beadle, Kaitlyn Thompson, and Amanda Crites. She was leading the regional finals last year before hitting the last hurdle and losing out on a trip to the state track meet. Meredith is very determined this year to make it to the state meet.

Smith to Notre Dame College

Jordan Smith, daughter of Lisa and Ernie Smith, recently signed her letter of intent to attend Notre Dame College in the fall where she will play soccer and major in nursing. When she graduates this May, she will have earned a total of fourteen varsity letters, 4 in soccer, 4 in track, 2 as a mat stat for wrestling and her 4 letters in basketball. In soccer, she literally rewrote nearly all of the offensive school records over her career. In her senior season, she was selected Stark County Player of the Year and became Northwest's first-ever girls soccer All-Ohioan.



High School Teachers Run Together for Support

Five Northwest High School teachers formed a running club last November with the goal of running the Hall of Fame half-marathon April 27. "Even though running can be seen as a solitary sport, we have found great value in coming together as a community of runners. We offer support, encouragement, and often share resources to help each other," says Heather Matoszka, an English teacher. The club is led by Margaret Crawford, a veteran runner of 11 years and 6 marathons. The teachers follow a training program from NEOhiofit.com, calling for 3 shorter runs and one longer run each week. Running together brings mental toughness, health benefits and camaraderie. Running has also built connections with their students, who are very proud of their teachers' commitment. The teachers ran in the Frosty Frolic 5k run, and plan to run in the Canal Fulton "Mother of all Races" 5k and 10k in May as well as the Kevin Peck Memorial Run in July.



Stephanie Pound, Margaret Crawford, Heather Matoszka, Shannon Stacy and Mary Nelson.

Together United: Rebuild our Field

The T.U.R.F. Committee, headed by John Barabasch, is nearly half-way toward the goal of raising 6 hundred thousand dollars to install turf at the stadium. The field has become unplayable at times and frequently unsafe because of dangerous field conditions related to rain and poor drainage. This project is privately funded and will not depend on taxpayers' dollars. Barabasch has also announced a "graduating class challenge" where alumni will see who can raise the most in donations by May 1. For more information about the project, go to Northwest TURF Project on Facebook.



All contributions are tax deductible under Section 170 of the IRS code and in conjunction with the Athletic Charitable Committee, EIN number 26-2392955, a section 501 (c) (3) organization. You can make your donation by check and mail it to T.U.R.F., P.O. Box 222, Canal Fulton, OH 44614. You can also charge the donation to your credit card by clicking on the T.U.R.F. link on the project website: www.nwturfproject.org.

Seventh-grade Girls win Lady Rams Tournament



(L-R): Coach Rick Prinkey, Jr., Keely Fightmaster, Morgan Manns, Meghan Badger, Shaye Foutty, Lauren Spradling, Payton Harris, Taylor Badger, Jessica Smith, and Emma Kurtz and Duane Worden.

The seventh-grade girls basketball team finished the year 12-5 and won the Lady Rams Tournament this season. The girls defeated St. Paul's, Barberton and Massillon to clinch the championship.

ACC News

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Don't forget Monte Carlo Night Saturday, March 22, from 7-11 p.m. at the Massillon Eagles. Tickets are \$15. All proceeds go to the Athletic Charitable Committee to support Northwest athletes. For more information contact John Markus at 330-801-0252 or John Schley at 330-217-7041.

Boys Soccer:

Boys Soccer Boosters meet the first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. at Peace, Love and Little Doughnuts. For more information, please contact Laura Kalail, President, at 330-388-5445 lkalail67@gmail.com or Tracy Jenkins, Vice President, at 330-819-3689 tjenkins@hubbell.com.


Girls Soccer:

Our next booster club meeting will be held March 20th at 6:30pm in the high school commons. We are kicking off a new fundraiser, designing and selling stadium cushions that are designed for all NW sports, not just soccer. We are looking for 9 area businesses to support and advertise on the back side of the cushion. Anyone interested should contact Mandy Farkas at 330-705-0113.

We are also having an in-store Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A on March 31st from 5-8 at the Dressler Rd location. All proceeds raised will help offset cost of girls going to summer soccer camp

Diamond Club:

Scotch Doubles bowling fundraiser on May 10th at Charger Lanes in Norton. Contact John Markus at 330-801-0252 for details.

**CANAL FULTON YMCA**
FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
ymcastark.org
330-830-6275

WHERE SUMMER COMES TO LIFE



Y FUN DAYS

- Summer Program for children grades K-5th grade.
- Come make friends, have fun and get active with weekly themes, arts & crafts, playground fun, field trips and more!
- 2 days a week from 9am-2pm at Stinson Elementary School
- Look for dates, themes and prices available April 1st

Before and After School Child Care

- Children grades K-5th enrolled in Northwest Schools
- NW Schools transport Stinson students between buildings. Program site is NW Primary School's Library
- Hours: 7:00 am - 8:55 am, 3:20 pm - 6:30 pm
- Care available only on scheduled school days

Contact Lyndsay Gatto for more information:
330-830-6275 or lgatto@ymcastark.org

IT'S NOT JUST KIDS STUFF



Adult Group Exercise Programs

- Held at SALT BOX Ministry building
- Come to any or all classes for one low fee
- Call for session dates
- Yoga and Cardio Combo

SilverSneakers Exercise Classes

- Held at Northwest Stark Senior Center
- Classes on Monday & Friday mornings from 9:15-10:15am

Contact Pam Leddon for more info:
330-830-6275 or pledton@ymcastark.org

Although, the kids stuff is awesome, too!

Financial assistance available.



Northwest News

Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

Interact Students serve our Community

The Interact Club of Northwest High School is an organization of young people Driven to SERVE in lasting and meaningful ways. . . .



Abigail Siegenthaler

Interact President, Abigail calls our community “connected.” She says, “Helping others has always been a passion for me.” Her two favorite activities are the duffle bag project and supplying Christmas gifts to families at the Massillon Family Living Center. She says “the feeling of helping foster youth and misplaced families is indescribable.”



Clayton Dills

Clayton joined Interact because it was the best way for him to become involved in helping others. His favorite project was the duffle bag project, which was an effort to provide comfort bags with necessities for displaced persons. Clayton feels the Northwest community is “wonderful.”



Alyssa Hanes

Alyssa describes our community as “involved.” She says, “I decided to join Interact because it is a wonderful opportunity to give back and support our community.” Alyssa also believes the Christmas at the Massillon Family Living Center was very meaningful, and she enjoys the Senior Spa Days because they are an opportunity to brighten the lives of residents at St. Luke’s Nursing Home.



Kelley Smith

Kelley, the Vice-President of Interact, says her life-goal is “to make a difference in someone’s life,” and this group helped her start on that path. She enjoyed going to a senior home, painting the ladies’ nails and hearing their life stories. Kelly says Interact is also valuable in bringing students together for a common goal. She loves “how even though the members of Interact may be from different groups, when we do a project we unite as one to help others.”



Celsie Channell

Celsie calls the Northwest community “together.” She wanted to “get involved in serving others and helping my community,” and Interact was a great way to become involved. She chose the Christmas project at the Massillon Living Center as her most meaningful project.



Madison Pollard

Madison joined the group in order to make an impact on where she lives: “I aspire to help people and make a positive difference, and I can achieve that in Interact.” She enjoyed helping with Community Day and the Daddy-Daughter Dance as well as gathering presents for the Massillon Family Living Center. How does Madison describe our community? “Unified.”

Some Interact Activities:

“**Comfort bags**” are quality duffel bags packed with necessities and items to bring comfort to displaced individuals. Bags have been distributed to: Pathway Caring for Children; Department of Job & Family Services; Christian Children’s Home; Massillon Family Living Center; Victims of fire, poverty, illness; and other displaced families and individuals

FAMILIES IN CRISIS

NHS Interact reaches out to families met with hardships like life-threatening or taxing illnesses, loss and grief and provides service in an attempt to bring some measure of comfort. Initiatives have been designed to raise funds, awareness and support for these families.

MASSILLON FAMILY LIVING CENTER

The Massillon Family Living Center provides shelter and support for displaced families and individuals. The NHS Interact Club provides assistance to these individuals by providing the center with “Comfort Bags” from our duffel bag project, Christmas gifts and hygiene items.

SENIOR PORTRAITS Residents at St. Luke Lutheran Community are provided with a free photo session and portrait package. Interact members help process orders, entertain children and provide refreshments all as a service to the families.

Mr. Rick Woods is a teacher for special needs students at Northwest High School as well as the advisor to and founder of the Interact Club. His enthusiasm for community service is overwhelming, and he embraces the opportunity to serve others:

“In short, I’m blessed. I have a great love for the Northwest community. I’ve always seen it as somewhat magical. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to work here and to act in the lives of the members of this community. The students, teachers and administration are all of the highest caliber, and the community is a huge part of that.”



“I believe that we all have a responsibility to each other, and that we are called to use the gifts that we’ve been given to the betterment of others. This belief is the driving influence in what Interact does. We give of our time, talent and resources wherever and whenever we are called upon to do so. When service opportunities are presented, the kids sign on without batting an eye – they’re hungry for it! To find high school students who are self-sacrificing, compassionate, and caring is a true blessing. These kids inspire me daily to be and do more; they are my hope for the future. It really is immensely rewarding.”

