

Northwest News

Northwest Local Schools
8614 Erie Ave. N
Canal Fulton, OH 44614

April 2010:: Issue 5



Fiscally Responsible...Quality Academic Education

Northwest Forum:
You have questions;
we have answers.
www.northwest.sparcc.org

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**MAY
4**

**YOUR PLAN
YOUR VOTE**

NORTHWEST
SCHOOLS

EARNED Income Tax



Northwest News

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Academic Challenge Team Continues Winning Ways

The Northwest High School academic challenge team enjoyed yet another extraordinarily successful season, finishing undefeated in their league and also winning the league tournament. The league includes most of the NBC schools along with several others, including Fairless, Tusky Valley and Tuslaw.

Northwest has won the league title six of the last seven years. In fact, the team is undefeated in league play for the last three years, racking up 33 league wins in a row!



The team has qualified to the regional tournament on April 18 with the state tournament held the first weekend in May.

The advisor to the academic challenge team is Mr. John Johnson.

Joey Smith, Justin Mengon, Matt Varga, Nathan Floro, Ben Riggs, Mike Moore, Joey Hillegas(front), John Steiner (back), Anna Gensimore, Kristen Johnson, Jessica Baker.

Not pictured: Elizabeth Casto and Cassidy Patterson

Lions Club and Rotary Club Join Forces for Community Service Project

My name is Rick White. I am the 1st vice president of the Canal Fulton Lions Club.

In September of 2009, I received a letter from the Canal Fulton library. The library had to reduce its material budget by \$50,000 and are seeking donations from service organizations. We are now in the position to help. The Lions Club and the Rotary have joined forces, and we have asked the Knights of Columbus as well as local restaurants to join us to pool our efforts to help our library. The Lions and Rotary are hosting a pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 15th from 8 a.m. - 11a.m. at the Community Building with all the proceeds going to the Canal Fulton Library.

We are asking local restaurants to donate a portion of their breakfast sales on May 15th or 16th to help support our library and make this a real community effort.

Where:	Community Building
When:	Saturday, May 15th
Why:	Support our local library
How:	Pancake breakfast
Menu:	Pancakes (all you can eat) sausage orange juice coffee or tea
Cost:	\$5.00 per breakfast \$15.00 maximum per family

For more information call: Rick White 330-612-1993

Thank You for Participating in Open and Honest Two-Way Communication

The Northwest Local School District would like to thank the community for participating in the open and honest dialogue set forth by the district. You came to community meetings, responded to our newsletters and e-mails, and contacted us with questions and concerns you had. This discussion had a lot on the line.

This is our eleventh try. Our supporters are exhausted, and everyone is tired of the process. However, we cannot change the system by starving our children.

Whether for or against the school issue, everyone participated and acted like true Americans by having an open and frank dialogue. No one had to hide his or her viewpoint or identity. The plan we are following was developed by the community, for the

community. Everyone was invited, and we have respected the opinions of everyone. No one has to be afraid of sharing his or her views because no one can understand unless we all are willing to listen and share with each other.

We know times are tough, and we thank you for participating in the process and telling us how to move forward with the schools. Thank you for listening to the concerns of others in the community, all in an attempt to save our community and help our boys and girls.

The schools are the only service for children in the community. Let's protect our schools. Let's keep our boys and girls away from government control.

Elementary Teachers Kiss the Pig

As students chanted, "Kiss the Pig," teachers walked up and planted a kiss on two-month-old Wilbur as the final phase of Northwest Elementary's most recent fundraiser. These teachers won the honor by raising the largest amounts of money for the Airfare Assistance Fund, which helps finance the purchase of plane tickets for members of the military. The total raised was \$1,600, and Pastor Dick Griffith of the New Covenant Church, the driving force behind the Airfare Assistance Fund, was on hand to present certificates to the teachers and to offer a kiss to Wilbur. A special recognition went to Larry Powers and his son, Joey, who raised more than \$360 for the fund.



Pastor Griffith and Principal Jim LaRiccia



Mr. LaRiccia with Larry Powers and his son, Joey



Donna Hanic and Jenelle Vargas who holds Wilbur



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WHAT DOES A

SAVING THE NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL

If the community would approve a
it would mean the Northwest School District...

- **WILL** keep the Northwest Local School District intact
- **WILL** begin the replacement of outdated textbooks
- **WILL** begin the upgrade of outdated technology
- **WILL** reinstate extra-curricular, curricular and co-curricular activities in 2011-2012
- **WILL** continue present pay-to-participate fees
- **WILL** have professional development for our staff
- **WILL** have all-day, every-day kindergarten for all children in 2012-2013
- **WILL** eliminate debt in 2012
- **WILL** mean a continuation of the existing 1992 levy which must be passed before November of 2012 in order to remain solvent in the future
- **WILL** mean we stop staff reductions
- **WILL** mean we have highly qualified teachers in every classroom

Yes **VOTE MEAN?**

DISTRICT WILL REQUIRE A TWO-STEP PLAN.

1% EARNED income tax issue now,

- **WILL NOT** restore high school busing
- **WILL NOT** reduce class sizes
- **WILL NOT** have field trips
- **WILL NOT** rehire employees who were laid-off due to the financial crisis
- **WILL NOT** eliminate pay-to-participate fees
- **WILL NOT** reduce student school fees
- **WILL NOT** guarantee league affiliation or a full football schedule in the fall of 2011
- **WILL NOT** subsidize summer school
- **WILL NOT** have middle school concept programming or exploratory classes
- **WILL NOT** increase the reduced graduation requirements
- **WILL NOT** reinstate vocational programs or electives lost through reductions

In order to maintain fiscal responsibility, the Northwest Local School District will not be able to bring everything back.

**For more information, visit
www.northwest.sparcc.org**



Northwest News

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HOW WILL THE 1% EARNED INCOME TAX

If the issue passes:

- Retirees and unemployed residents will not pay.
- Only those residents actively EARNING a paycheck will pay.
- Your pensions, income from retirement savings, rental property income and social security WILL NOT BE TOUCHED. Only earned income.
- Residents concerned about losing their jobs would not pay if the unfortunate job loss occurs.
- The school district will be able to provide the minimum services required to operate.

Who Pays:

- Farmers do not pay this tax on their land.
- The tax will not affect retired community members.
- The tax will not affect the unemployed.
- Only people who live in the district pay the tax.
- A person who loses his or her job will not pay the tax.

Go to www.northwest.sparcc.org

to learn what a “For” vote and an “Against” vote means on May 4.

AFFECT NORTHWEST'S RESIDENTS?

Earned Income Tax Taxes the Following:

- Wages and Tips
- Self-employed
- Partnership Income

Earned Income Tax DOES NOT Tax the Following:

- Interest
- Dividends
- Capital Gains
- Pensions
- Annuity Income
- Rental Income
- Lottery Winnings
- Unemployment
- Income from Estates
- Social Security Benefits
- Incorporated Businesses

**KNOW THE
FACTS**

Visit
www.northwest.sparcc.org
for more information

**MAY
4**

**NORTHWEST
SCHOOLS**

**EARNED
INCOME TAX**

Solution recommended by
Independent Finance Committee



Northwest News

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Seniors Appreciate the Lessons Taught by their Teachers

Carl Jung said, "One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child."

Teacher Appreciation Week is celebrated across the nation on May 3-7, and 10 Northwest seniors warmly reflected on the teachers and experiences that positively affected them during their schooling.

Audrey Ellinwood

(Daughter of Janet and Todd Ellinwood)



Audrey plans to become a dietician after earning a degree from Kent State. While attending Northwest, Audrey has enjoyed being a part of the softball team because she had the opportunity to become close with her teammates and to learn how to interact with other people. She says that Mr. Stump has had the biggest impact on her: "He's a very caring and upbeat person to be around."

Brianna Johnson

(Daughter of Jeff and Dana Johnson)



Brianna plans to attend Oklahoma State University to study animal science. In the spring of her sophomore year, Brianna threw the shot and discus on the track team. She enjoyed the experience of trying something new as well as making new friends. The teacher who had the biggest impact on her was Mr. Coates. She describes him as "a very down to earth, fun person. . . . someone students can learn a lot from."

Ali Kapper

(Daughter of Keith and Terri Kapper)

Ali plans to join the United States Navy, specifically their art and photography program.



She has enjoyed the arts program at Northwest, and she hopes to make a career of this passion. The teacher who has had the greatest impact on her is Mr. Woods: "he's always encouraged me to keep my head up and to always look on the bright side."

Miranda Kassinger

(Daughter of Chuck and Terry Kassinger)



The University of Findlay will be Miranda's choice with a major in pre-veterinary and equestrian studies. Miranda's participation in the high school musical helped her become more outgoing and gain self-confidence. She feels that "Mrs. Rice and her class helped not be so shy. I learned you can be open in class and nobody really cares if you make a fool of yourself."

Marissa Lybarger

(Daughter of Beth Stoltz and Steve Lybarger)



Marissa plans to attend Walsh College for pediatric oncology. She credits choir and the high school musical for allowing her to develop her love of singing and to meet people I would never have known before. She also feels that Mrs. Rice had a great impact on her: "She was so fun, helpful and always encouraging everyone to do your best and push yourself. She has always been there to help me out even though she is not my teacher anymore."

Sara Milosan

(Daughter of Mary Dodson)



Sara plans to attend college to either become a pastry chef or a sports trainer. Working as a sports trainer in high school allowed her to learn what the job involves and also gave her a chance to learn how to interact with people. Mr. Orr had the greatest impact on her because “he is just straight forward and will tell you how it is. He is a great teacher, and he gets you prepared for the real life.”

Erin Stewart

(Daughter of Nancy Stewart and Steve Stewart)



Erin will pursue a degree in theater and the performing arts at Kent State University. She feels that high school musicals have been a great experience, and she considers them “a bonding technique, a way to befriend underclassmen and practice for the big leagues.” Her English teachers have had the greatest impact on her: Mrs. Rice, Mr. Rafailedes, Mrs. Stacy and Mrs. Crawford. “They helped me understand and appreciate

literature I might have never picked up. Mr. Balas also had a huge impact on me, always offering a word of advice.”

Jimmy Pribonic

(Son of Peter and Susan Pribonic)



Jimmy will work for Skipco Auto Auction after graduation, and he will attend college for law enforcement and wildlife management. He played baseball for one year and felt that it was the best time of his high school career. The teacher who had the biggest impact on Jimmy was Mr. Nettle: “He knew how to have a good time and was just an all-around great guy.”

Keri Yarosius

(Daughter of Kevin and Denise Yarosius)



Keri plans to work for a year or two before moving to North Carolina where she will attend college and major in marine biology. The teacher who has had the biggest impact on her is Mr. Johnson: “he is always willing to teach us and he treats us as adults and helps guide us for what to expect in college. He’s always willing to help us if we need someone to talk to.”

John Steiner

(Son of Jim and Cindy Steiner)



John will work this summer before heading off to Bowling Green State University where he will major in psychology. The high school musicals have been a big influence on John because they have helped him break out of his shell. They have also taught him “that hard work and perseverance can lead to awesome experiences.” He calls Mr. Hayward, the choir director, “the most influential and inspirational teacher that I’ve ever met.”




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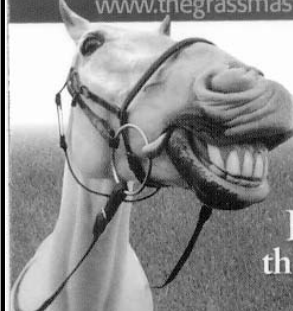
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Northwest News

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Board of Education



Bruce Beadle, Rita Gearhart, Steve Jones, Nikki Metzger, and Jim Gindlesberger

Committed to an Open & Transparent District

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Mr. Staats Receives Special Recognition

Mr. Dan Staats had been selected as a “Terrific Teacher” of Northeast Ohio. As a result, Mr. Staats was the subject of a story on Channel 5 News in Cleveland. In addition, the producers of the show, “Jeopardy,” will be sending a crew here on the same day to provide Mr. Staats with a classroom “Jeopardy” console.

Northwest Local School District Receives Clean Audit from Auditor of State’s Office

Northwest Local School District received a clean audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009. The Ohio Auditor of State’s office found no errors in the way the district is conducting school business. This means the district is in good standing with guidelines put in place with the state of Ohio and that it operates under the fiscal guidelines of the Auditor of State.

The auditor makes sure the proper procedures are being followed and that all transactions are recorded correctly.

Regardless of the standing given, the Auditor of State’s office always provides best practices and recommendations for how the district can improve its fiscal responsibility.

The yearly audit looks at cash handling procedures in the following areas:

- Revenue and expenditures
- Payroll
- Fixed assets
- Federal grants
- Student activities
- Cafeteria fund

Northwest Bands Earn District Competition Ratings

The Northwest Symphonic and Concert Bands performed at the Ohio Music Educators Association District Eight band contest on Friday, March 5, 2010, at North Canton Hoover High School. The Symphonic Band earned “Superior” (I) and the Concert Band “Excellent” (II) ratings. A panel of four judges heard the bands perform and then rated them accordingly. Judges’ comments included statements such

as: “. . . Many talented students, nice attention to details.”..... “Good performance tonight. This was an outstanding sight-reading performance.” Northwest Bands are directed by Kim Good and Garry Masowich. The bands’ next local performance is May 8 in the Puffenberger Hall for the Performing Arts/High School Commons during the Northwest District-Wide Spaghetti Dinner/Band Concert.

Dear Residents of the Northwest Local School District,

As some of you may know, I am one of the newly elected members of the Northwest Local School District Board of Education. What you might not know is that I am a strong conservative evangelical Christian who actually home schooled our son through eighth grade and our daughter through the sixth grade.

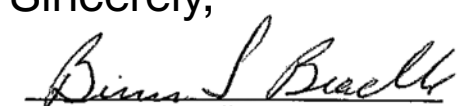
For the past few years, many of us have been voting no on local school tax issues to send a message to our elected officials in Columbus and Washington, D.C. Our message is that we want and need more local control of our schools. We don't want the government running our schools.

Unfortunately, our government officials are not listening to us. In fact, voting against our local schools is doing the opposite of what we want it to do. By starving our schools of local funding, we are opening the door to more government control.

At this point, I think many of us realize that we are going to have to replace many of our state and federal officials if we want to save our schools. However, accomplishing this will not happen overnight.

In the meantime, we need to do whatever we can to protect our local schools until we can fix the real problem. So I am asking you to join my family and vote on May 4th, and to vote "YES" for the earned income tax for the Northwest Local School District.

Sincerely,



Bruce Beadle

MAY 4	EARNED INCOME TAX
NORTHWEST SCHOOLS	<i>Solution</i> recommended by Independent Finance Committee



Northwest News

Fiscally Responsible...Quality Academic Education

COSI Visits Northwest Elementary

The Center of Science and Industry, more commonly known as COSI, recently made a trip to Northwest Elementary to provide students with an assembly that made science fun for the students. Northwest Elementary received \$1000 in grants from LifeShare Community Blood Services as a result of money earned by staff and parents who donated blood last year. The faculty and staff decided to use the money for an event that would have an educational and positive impact on all of their students. Mrs. Val Szekely coordinated the efforts to secure COSI.



Levi Tholl helps conduct a chemistry experiment



Levi Tholl assists the COSI speaker

Kindergarten Literacy Bingo Night

Northwest Elementary recently held Kindergarten Literacy Bingo Night. The program was designed to make learning family fun. Kindergarten students played bingo as they sounded out words, recognized letters and symbols and recited words learned earlier in the school year. Children enjoyed winning prizes and spending time with their families as they worked on literacy skills.



Sue and Colin Sokolowski



Terri and Lauren Sigrist



Kelly and Mason Carmany

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Elementary Carnival was a Success

The PTO of Northwest Elementary puts on an annual carnival to provide inexpensive family fun on a Saturday during the doldrums of winter. The event is more of a community service than a fundraiser because the PTO recognizes a need to serve the community. The turnout was spectacular while the weather outside was not!



Nicole McKinney adds a little sparkle to Reagan Fincher's hair



Riley Niem swings the bat as Jordan West and Zach Shuttleworth supervise



Nikki Metzger advises Maddie and Luke on the finer points of the duck pond



Kayla McKinney tries the limbo under the guidance of Amber Wolf and Nicole Vaught



Junior Nick Noble helps Devin Miller in the football toss

Summer Programs for Northwest Students

Northwest students will enjoy special summer programs this year, thanks to efforts by the Paul and Carol David YMCA and the United Way. High school students will have an opportunity to participate in summer gym during two sessions: June 7-24 and July 5-22. Both sessions run from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Monday through Thursday. One exception is the week of July 5 when the program will run from Tuesday through Friday.

The activities will include a variety of group exercises, such as cardio boxing, yoga, Pilates and total body toning; physical activities from "Minute to Win It" and "The Amazing Race"; and lessons in the principles of exercise, wellness and nutrition. Students will also receive training in CPR/AED. Interested high school students should contact the high school guidance office for additional information.

Students going into grades 1-5 may participate in Monday Fun Day at St. Helena Heritage Park from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The program, which runs through eight Mondays, begins June 14 and ends August 9. Children may participate in one or all of the sessions. The cost is \$5 for one Monday or \$35 for all eight Mondays. Themes include "Nature Day," "Art Day," "Diamond Sports Day" and "Water Games Day." For more information, contact the Paul and Carol David YMCA at 330-830-6275 or your child's building principal.