

Northwest News

June 2013: Issue 23



Fiscally Responsible...Quality Academic Education

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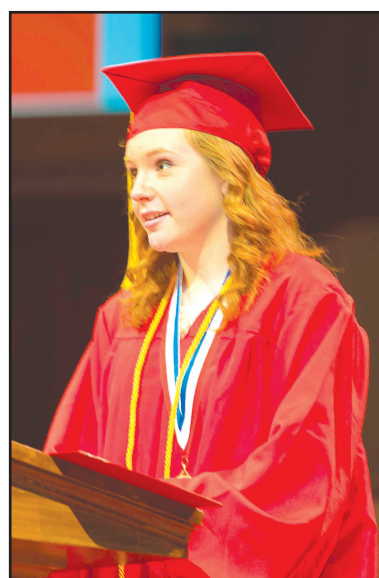
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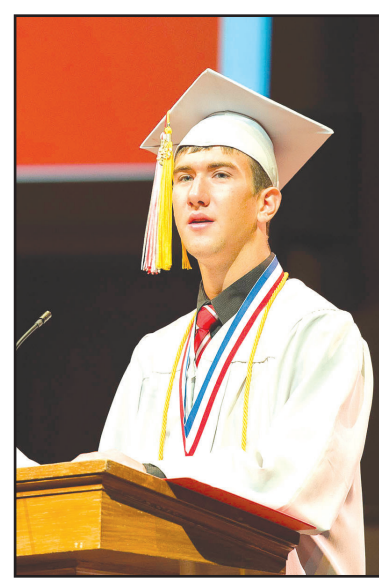
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Sarah Lavery



Ellie Stockert



Joseph Hillegass

“Set high goals. Dream crazy things...and then make them happen. Become part of something that is bigger than you.”
Co-Valedictorian Ellie Stockert

Northwest High School Holds 59th Commencement Ceremony

Northwest High School held its annual commencement at Akron Baptist Temple Saturday, May 25. Co-valedictorians Sarah Lavery and Ellie Stockert and Salutatorian Joseph Hillegass addressed the class of 175 graduating seniors. The high school band and choir performed for the ceremony with Band Director Garry Masowich directing the Alma Mater for a final time since he is retiring after 35 years in education.



Mr. Garry Masowich leads the Northwest High School band.



Northwest News

Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

Board of Education



Committed to an Open & Transparent District

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

A Message from our Superintendent, Dr. Mike Shreffler

Northwest Local Schools and the Northwest Community have a great partnership with the YMCA of Stark County. For the second year, the YMCA sponsored a before and after school childcare program held at Northwest Primary, and they will host a day camp at Stinson this summer. In addition, the Y partnered with the school district to bring back fourth-grade swimming lessons at the David YMCA in Jackson Township. Our community center in Northwest hosts “Silver Sneakers,” an exercise program for senior citizens offered by the YMCA. We are lucky to have these strong partnerships with such a great organization.

Many people do not know that our community has its own charter, The Canal Fulton YMCA. This charter is set up to serve citizens who live in the areas covered by the Northwest Local School district. At this time, the Canal Fulton YMCA does not own or operate a building. However, many people living in and around our community have been working hard to change that situation. The Canal Fulton YMCA has a great vision for the area, a vision that would include a facility as well as additional partnerships with the school district and other area businesses or entities. As you can imagine, the biggest challenge is to determine exactly what kind of facility is right for our community. As a result, the residents of our community will be asked to participate in an extensive survey on what they feel are our greatest needs. I encourage you to take some time to respond to this survey.

I read an article in *National Geographic* this month on the prospects of modern Americans living well past their 100th birthday. We all want our family members and friends to have a long and healthy life, and we know that exercise is an important aspect of good health. Since its inception, the YMCA has been promoting health and wellness, and a local facility would be a valuable resource for our families. I am very excited about the YMCA growing and prospering in our area.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at the board office. The number is 330-854-2291. If you have any questions about the current Canal Fulton YMCA program, please contact Pam Leddon at pleddon@ymcastark.org or call her at 330-830-6275.

All the best,

Dr. Mike Shreffler

“Gary Dial Way” marks Entrance to Football Stadium

Members of the Northwest board of education unveiled the sign marking Gary Dial Way April 30. Dial, who passed away in December, was a teacher, football coach and administrator in the district. Board member Steve Jones called him “a beloved person and community member.” Board member John Hexamer spoke fondly of Mr. Dial: “He cared about the kids. He had a tough job of disciplining students, but they knew he cared about them.” By naming the driveway leading to the high school and football stadium, board members honor his memory.



Student Fee to Replace Pay-to-Participate for the 2013-14 School Year

At the May board of education meeting, board members voted to eliminate the pay-to-participate fees which were instituted in the 2008-2009 school year because of the district’s financial troubles. For the 2011-12 school year the pay to participate fee was reduced nearly fifty percent in a number of the activities. During the 2012-13 school year, high school students paid 50 to 200 dollars for activities or sports with a cap set at 300 dollars per family. Middle school students paid 50-100 dollars for activities or sports with a cap of 150 dollars.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Mike Shreffler and Treasurer Dan Levengood, board members replaced pay-to-participate with an activity fee for the 2013-14 school year. This fee will fund all playgrounds, athletic facilities and Puffenberger Hall, which are used by all students during their school years. Students in grades kindergarten through fifth-grade would be charged 15 dollars, and students in grades six through twelve would be charged 40 dollars. Families who cannot afford the activity fee would be offered financial aid.

The amount of money generated by the student fees will be nearly comparable to the revenue from pay-to-participate.

Board President Jim Gindlesberger says the change is being made “to give every child a chance to participate.” In the past year students have paid up to 300 dollars a year in order to participate in school activities.

Northwest High School Students Qualify to State Science Fair

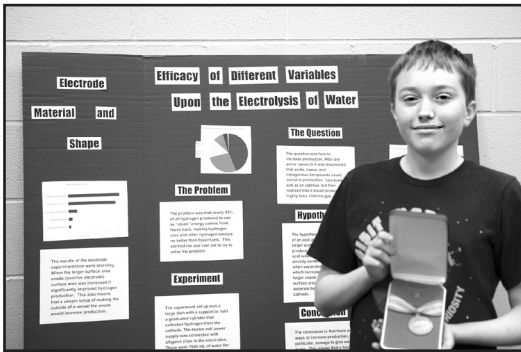
Freshman Cora Underwood and Sophomore Matt Campbell earned prestigious awards as well as invitations to participate in the state science fair at the Ohio State University May 11. Cora received a first place trophy from the Air Force for best presentation, best research project and best understanding of the material with her project, entitled “Analysis of SRAP Expression during Regeneration in Chocolate Chip Starfish.” Her project attempted to detect a certain protein that is present in starfish as they regrow limbs, a protein also present in humans. At the state science fair, Cora received an excellent rating on her project. Cora plans to attend Walsh University where she will major in microbiology and physiology with plans to become a veterinarian or military researcher.

Matt’s project, “Efficacy of Different Variables on the Electrolysis of Water,” attempted to produce hydrogen through electrolysis that could be used as clean energy fuel from many substances, including urine, which produced more hydrogen than any other material. Matt received the Governor’s Thomas Edison Award for Environmental Science and the Army Award for Environmental Engineering. At the state science fair, Matt received an excellent rating on his project. He also was awarded \$300 for second place for the Ohio Water Environment Award. Matt plans to attend Case Western University or the Ohio State University to major in chemical engineering or biochemical engineering.

Science teacher Ms. Rachel Metzger supported Cora and Matt in their participation in the science fair.



Cora Underwood



Matt Campbell



Curriculum News

Debora Clark, Director of Instruction

Race to the Top Update

Northwest Local completed the work outlined in year three of its Race to the Top Grant. The district

- provided staff members with professional development in the areas of curricular alignment and instructional resources.
- revised local curricula to align with the new state standards in English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.
- provided staff members with professional development on formative and summative assessments for implementation in their classrooms.
- piloted the new teacher evaluation system and determined an implementation process for the 2013-2014 school year.
- distributed and utilized annual value-added reports for principals and teachers to inform professional development and areas of performance improvement.
- developed Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) which will be implemented during the 2013-2014 school year.
- assessed effectiveness of other identified measures of student growth used to supplement value-added data, such as growth in literacy levels, grade gains on supplemental tests, end-of-course exams, and performance-based assessments.
- implemented student growth measures for teachers in subjects or grade levels that do not have statewide standardized tests.
- implemented year two of the Resident Educator Program for new teachers and trained additional mentors.

The district is currently on track to meet its identified RttT goals and performance measures.

What Parents Should Know about Ohio's New Report Cards

The new report cards will be phased in during the next several years, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. The grades for measures will be combined into six broad categories, called components, which will also be assigned a grade. Finally, the component grades will be combined into an overall grade for each building and the school district. There will be no component or overall grade for the district until August 2015.

The six components that will be on the new report card are:

- 1. Achievement:** This component measures absolute academic achievement compared to national standards of success.
- 2. Progress:** This component measures the average annual improvement for each student.
- 3. Gap Closing:** This component measures how well a school or district is doing in narrowing the gaps in reading, math and graduation among students according to their socioeconomic, racial, ethnic or disability status.
- 4. Graduation Rate:** This component measures the percentage of students who entered the 9th grade and graduated in four or five years.
- 5. K-3 Literacy:** This component measures the improvement in reading for students in kindergarten through grade three.
- 6. Prepared for Success:** This component measures whether students who graduate are prepared for college or a career.

Differentiation Summer Institute

Northwest Local School District was awarded a Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant in the amount of \$17,620.00. The focus of the grant involves **Thinking and Learning for the 21st Century**, emphasizing engaging, rigorous curriculum that is delivered through authentic differentiated instructional practices.

A core team of teachers attended training on Differentiated Instructional practices and 21st century skills. This team hosted a summer institute for thirty-eight kindergarten through fifth-grade staff members. Participating staff members analyzed their instructional materials for 21st century attributes, applied principles of differentiation into their curriculum and scaffold their lessons to meet the needs of the diverse learners in their classrooms. The differentiated lessons and assessments will be implemented in the fall of 2013.



Jessica Wade and Regina McCulligan

Stinson Fifth-Graders Learn about Haiti

Stinson fifth graders were recently given the chance to experience an interactive storytelling by Lindsay Bonilla, founder and director of World of Difference, LTD., thanks to a grant from Arts in Stark. She presented a Haitian folktale based on themes about responsibility and sharing. Students were given the opportunity to participate



in the program by taking on the role of certain characters and by making sound effects. Prior to the performance, students learned about the Haitian culture in class and about some of the struggles children face in Haiti. They raised money to help build wells for clean water or to help send a child to school for a few months. The entire fifth grade raised \$442. That sum will have a great impact as it costs \$58 to send a child to school for 2 months. Mrs. Amy Lower's class raised \$257.82 of that total. It was a wonderful way for our students to understand the importance of clean water in our daily lives and make them aware of the global water crisis which affects many people.

To thank the fifth-graders of Stinson Elementary, John Engle from the Children's Academy in Haiti posted a video on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDolTB1eN4k&feature=youtu.be>. You can also go to the Northwest District homepage to click the link to watch the video.

Northwest Students Score Big Against Hunger

Students across the school district teamed up with Northwest High School Student Council; Interact Club; National Honor Society; St. John Lutheran Church, home to S.A.L.T. Box Ministries; and two other area churches to drive hunger out of Stark County. Through student lead initiatives like the Freshman vs. Sophomore and Junior vs. Senior charity basketball games, donations were collected for the Akron/Canton Regional Food Bank. In total, the combined efforts of these organizations were able to collect more than 2,085 pounds of food and were able to provide 2,536 meals. Northwest High School students alone collected 900 pounds of food; contributing almost as much to the effort as all other buildings and organizations combined.

Congratulations to all involved in this tremendous effort to address this very real need in our community. The Northwest community takes much pride in the caring students and community members who make such initiatives a success.



Madeline Shaw and Rachel Horrell



Northwest News

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CLASS OF 2013



Jordan Bowman, Alyssa Bair, Sierra Arp, Rachel Amos, and Viviano Albino



Corban Aaron, Kevin Ake, Jacob Aronson, Eric Ball and Mark Bell

“Today represents both a beginning and an end and the only difference between the two is Perspective.”
--Joseph Hillegass



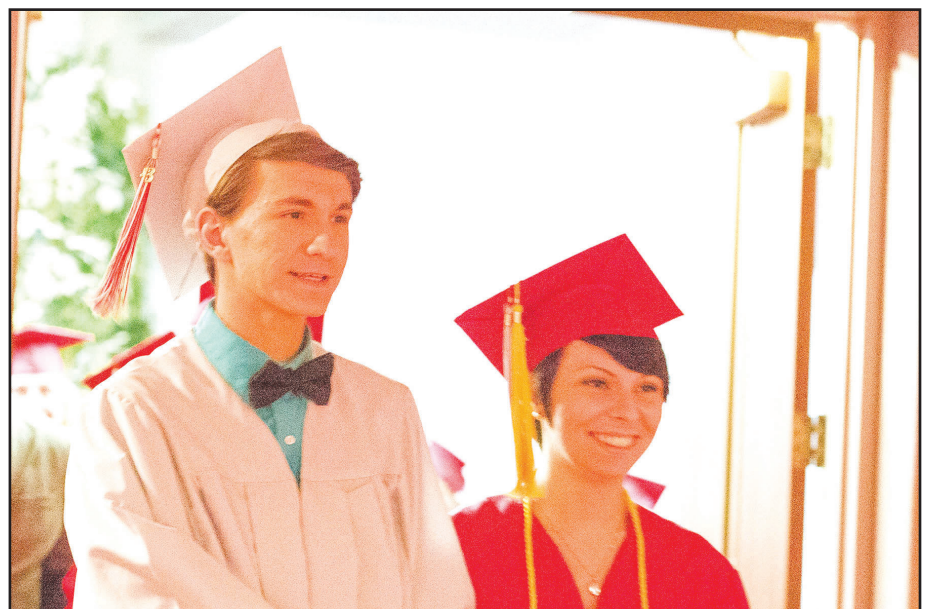
Mack Ferrell, Alex Earnsberger and Andrea Dotson



Joe Prochaska, J.J. Polkabila and Samantha Patterson

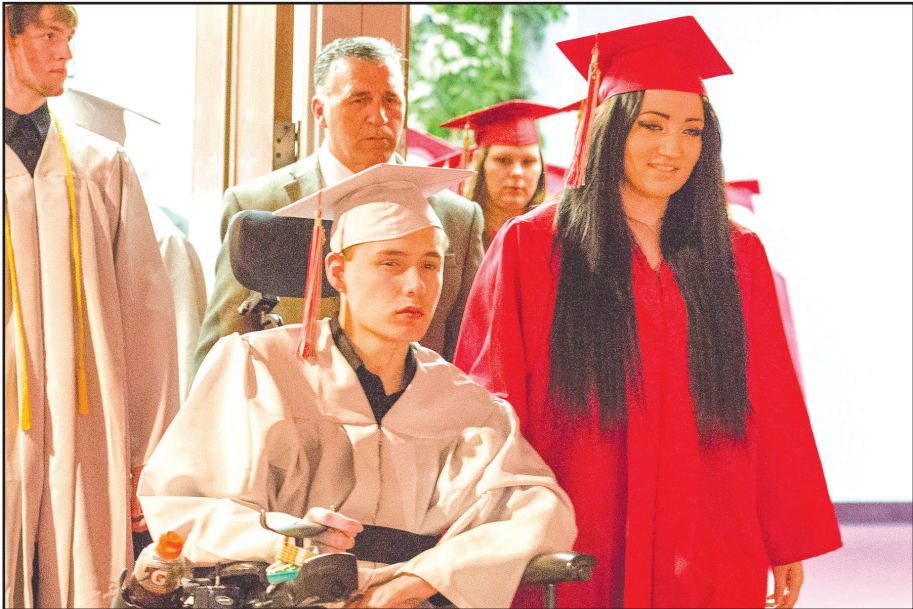


Farrah Graves and Dr. Shreffler



Brandon Nemet and Katherine Nypaver

“Some people think of high school as the “bloom” on a plant, but for many of us high school was a time for us to strengthen our roots so we can bloom later.”--Sarah Lavery



Chris Stull and Haley Stemple



Ellie Stockert and Dr. Shreffler

“I could . . . say some witty comments about the letter people, embarrassing moments in middle school, or how cool we thought we were freshman year, but I’d rather not. Sure, remembering all of those great or maybe not so great times can be fun, but I don’t think today should be a day of reflection; it is a day of anticipation.”--Ellie Stockert



Senior members of the high school choir



Commencement at the Akron Baptist Temple



Heidi Knight and Nate Johnston



Graduates turning their tassels

“There is a big world outside of tiny Northwest and I know that we are all ready to dive in. “--Sarah Lavery



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SWORD: Seniors Work Out Reach Day

Under the direction of Coordinator Dave Orr, members of the senior class volunteered to give back to the community during their annual SWORD program Thursday, May 23.



SWORD Seniors



SWORD Seniors

ENTER TO LEARN

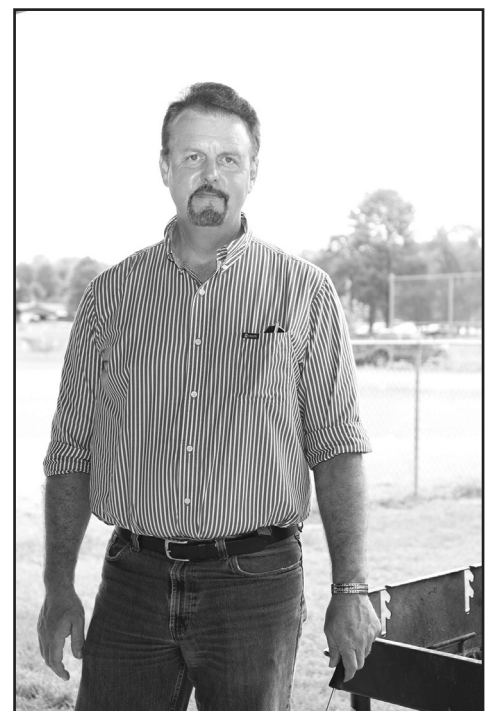


Jen Shaner and Jordan Bowman



Farrah Graves and Mr. Rick Woods

LEAVE TO SERVE



SWORD Coordinator Dave Orr

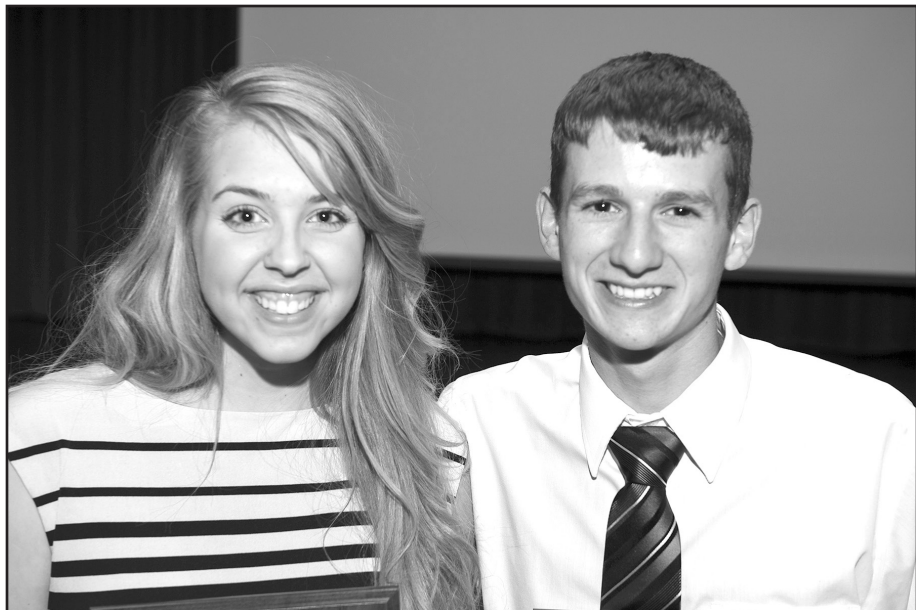


J.J. Polkabra, Mark Bell and Joey Hillegass



Josh Waddle, Robbie Meismer and Tyler Hinkle

Spring 2013 Student Recognition



Miss Northwest Hannah Millard and Mr. Northwest Mark Bell



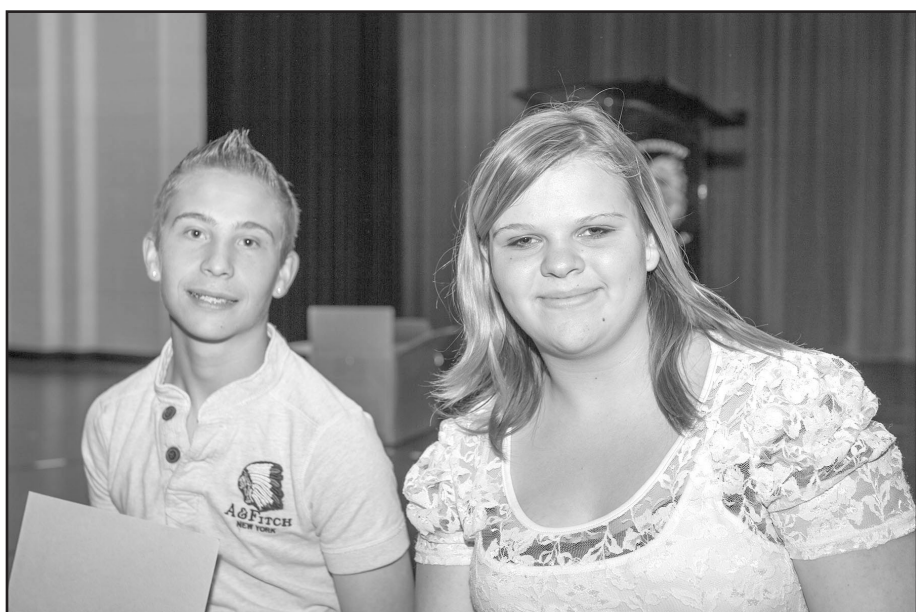
Lions Club Award for Character Recipients: Mark Bell and Ellie Stockert joined by Paul Bagocius



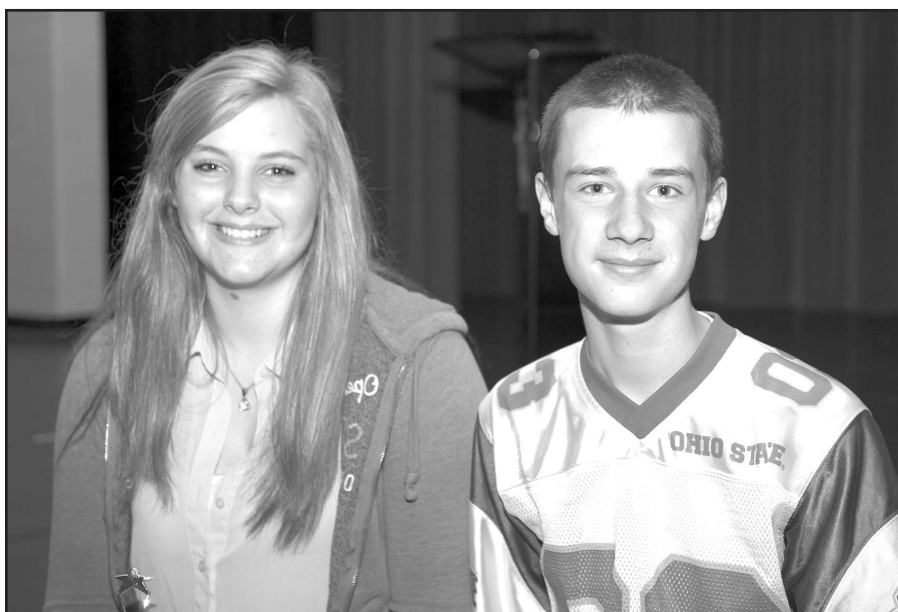
Joan Cogan, Cogan Character Scholarship Recipient
Marissa Crasi and Amy Lower



Middle School Archie Griffin Award Winners
Maggie Bell and Brian Hull



Middle School Lions Club Award Winners
Greg Geiger and Delaney Tillman



Outstanding Eighth-graders Kim Zickefoose and George Workinger



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Northwest Primary Students read over One Million Minutes



Mr. LaRiccia and
Evan Cannon

The students of Northwest Primary School met their goal of reading 1,020,000 minutes during the school year, and Principal Jim LaRiccia paid up on his bet to wear his pajamas the last day of school if they met their goal. Dressed in his Green Bay Packers jammies, Mr. LaRiccia honored students at the annual assembly. Over 250 students reached their goal of 24 hundred minutes.

During the morning assembly, the Lions Club Citizenship Awards were given to the following students: Evan Schmeltzer and Kamryn Golden, Luke Metzger and Gianna Kuhn, Natalie Bailey and Maxwell Wood, Dylan Rouse and Torie Strong, Brennen Armstead and Rylee Wittman, and Caleb Holliday and Mallory Hester.



Top Readers at Northwest Primary

Meredith Fennell a Three-time Champion at District Competition

Junior Meredith Fennell won three events in the Division II district track meet at Salem High School. Meredith finished with her season bests in the long jump at 17 feet 3 inches and in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.97 seconds. She also ran on the winning 400-meter relay team with Clara Beadle, Kaitlyn Thompson and Amanda Crites, clocking in at 50.13 seconds to secure a championship finish.



Meredith Fennell

Annual May Fiesta: Hollywood Hits



Mark your calendars with these important dates for the 2013-2014 school year:

August 15	Open houses
	Northwest Primary 5:30 - 6:30
	Stinson Elementary 6:00 - 7:00
	Northwest Middle 6:30 - 7:30
August 19	First day of school for students
Nov. 28-29	Thanksgiving break
Dec. 23-Jan. 3	Christmas break
March 24-28	Spring break
May 29	Last student day



the

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

TRY NEW THINGS Y FUN DAYS

At the Canal Fulton YMCA Y Fun Days summer program, kids have the opportunity to make friends, have fun, get active and discover who they are and what they can achieve. Our staff incorporate the Character Values of Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship as well as empower children to make lasting social changes.

Ages

Students going into grades K-5

When

Tuesday and Thursday between 9am-2pm
June 4-August 8 (No program week of July 1st)

Where Great New Location!
Stinson Elementary School

Contact

Lyndsay Gatto, Paul and Carol David YMCA Child Care Director
E-mail: Lgatto@ymcastark.org phone: 330-830-6275 X 1106

Program Fee

Central Stark Y Members \$20 a week
Non-Members \$24 a week
*Financial assistance available

Themes

June 4 & 6 Backyard Games days	July 9 & 11: Water Games/Thurs. swimming trip to David Y
June 11 & 13: Track and Field Day	July 16 & 18: Indoor Games
June 18 & 20: Sports days	July 23 & 25: America Week
June 25 & 27: Science days	July 30 & Aug 1: Diamond Sports
	August 6 & 8: International Week

Registration

Complete reverse side and submit with payment to David YMCA

Additional Information

Program run by Canal Fulton YMCA Staff
Pack a lunch and water bottle (program will provide morning snack)
Class size is limited and will fill up quickly



PAUL AND CAROL DAVID YMCA
7389 Caritas Circle NW
Massillon, Ohio 44646
P 330-830-6275
F 330-837-9287
ymcastark.org

***If you need all day child care during the summer, check out David YMCA Summer Day Camps!**

Athletic Charitable Committee Hits it out of the Park

History has shown that whenever Northwest student athletes need support, the Athletic Charitable Committee (ACC) steps up to meet the challenge. Thanks to the fundraising efforts of the ACC, the baseball team will have a new field to call home for the 2014 season after two years of playing all of their games on the road.

The ACC and the athletic department turned to AG Design of Lodi for help in designing and constructing the field. The firm specializes in athletic fields, having completed projects for the Ohio State Buckeyes, Cincinnati Bengals and Cleveland Browns. Upon their recommendation, the field has been moved to the space previously used by the soccer teams. Located near the Northwest Primary School, the field will have drainage and irrigation systems installed that will keep the field dry during spring rains and will keep it watered during the hot summer days. The soccer teams will move to the previous baseball field which is more spacious and more suitable for play during the fall.



The field will have a grass infield with crushed red brick base paths. The outfield has been skinned and laser graded to eliminate the “washboard” surface that it possessed. It will be reseeded and have a crushed brick warning track installed around the field. The field dimensions will be 315 feet down the foul lines and 365 feet straight away to center field which is adequate yet reachable for the high school player. Two new dugouts are being constructed of cement block that will help to protect the players from Northeast Ohio spring weather.

The field is being completed at a cost of nearly 150 thousand dollars with the majority of the amount being paid through private donations from the ACC.

Once completed, the field will be available for community use upon request.

Athletic Director Gary Woods said, “The ACC has taken this project on because it has been needed. This proves to the community that the ACC is more than just a football club. They’re addressing the needs of all our sports.”

The student athletes and the athletic department greatly appreciate the efforts of the ACC, led by President Larry Murgatroyd, Vice President Aaron Schley, Treasurer Lane Knore, Secretary Adrey Schley and Special Projects Coordinator Jason King

ACC

WHAT’S NEW?

Recycling – Don’t forget to take your cans to the recycling center at the bus garage! Not only is it good for the environment, it also raises money for Northwest Athletics!

Don’t forget to stop by the ACC Booth (in front of State Farm) at Old Canal Days to try to luck at the Dice Wheel or Instant BINGO. It may be your lucky day! And all of the proceeds go to benefit Northwest Athletics. Thanks for your support!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

June 15 - Girls Soccer Car Wash @ Giant Eagle from 10:00 a.m. -12:00p.m.

June 15 – Girls Soccer Yard Sale @ Bus Garage from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

July 28 – Touchdown Club Car Wash @ Senior Center from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

- ACC – First Sunday of each month, 5:00 p.m. at HS Commons
- Runners Club – First Sunday of each month @ 4:00 p.m. at HS in room 107
- Touchdown Club –First Monday of each month @ 7:00 p.m. at VFW
- Takedown Club – First Tuesday of each month @ 7:00 p.m. at VFW
- Northwest Cheer Association – First Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. in Home Ec @ HS
- Lady Indians Basketball Boosters – Second Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m. @ Middle School Library
- Lady Indians Soccer – Second Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m. @ Middle School Library
- Girls Softball Boosters – Third Wednesday of each month @ 6:00 at Grayce Ann’s Family Restaurant
- Diamond Club – First Sunday of each month, 6:00 p.m. at HS Commons (www.nwindiansbaseball.com)



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Spring Athletic Teams 2013



Varsity Baseball

Front Row (L-R): Beau Workman, Cole Rearick, Mark Bell, Blake Fuller, Matt Heitger, Tyler Borotkanics, Ryan Fuller, John Markus, and Michael Greene.

Back Row (L-R): Head Coach Brian Ries, Tyler Dillon, Tyler Devenport, Cory Earnsberger, Jake Marty, TD Culp, Adam Gabriel, Johnny Masters, Jason Cheshire, Matthew Fennell, and Assistant Coach John Johnson.



Varsity Softball

Front Row (L-R): Anna Sharier and Madelaine Magazzeni.

Middle Row (L-R): Caitlyn Hamrick, Hannah Gordon, and Abby Siegenthaler.

Back Row (L-R): Jalyn Goddard, Erika Juersivich, Jordan Bowman, Ashley Sees, and Regen Morgan.



Junior Varsity Baseball

Front Row (L-R): Spencer McCulligan, Carter Antal, Brian Stevenson, Corey Kyler, Chris Jackson, Brandon Rolinson, Zach Serb, Andrew Colon, and Jacob Hyrne. Back Row (L-R): Coach Chris Marcum, Zach Earnsberger, Tyler Devenport, Matt Ries, Evan Petty, Matt Fennell, Will Stevenson, Tristen Lindeman, and Nate Booth.



Junior Varsity Softball

Front Row (L-R): Ashley Kittinger and Madison Culp. Middle Row (L-R): Mayson Stroh, Morgan Bass, Victoria Howell, Cevanah McCoury, and Jenna Worden. Back Row (L-R): Kelsey Milinkovich, Lacey Marinaro, Katie Joyce, Melanie Grady, Sarah Kosa, Stacie Houser, and Coach Megan Levensgood.



Varsity Track

First Row (L-R): Joey Hillegass, Jacob Hare, Sean Green, David Casalinova, Justin Smith, Tyler Bowman, Matt Schley, Travis Coughlin, Tyler Coughlin, and Jordan West

Second Row (L-R): Macy Hamad, Olivia Kulp, Austin Romansky, Angelo Kolinoff, Alex Earnsberger, Kyle Harris, Jerrad Cox, Colton Hershberger, and Zacary Winans.

Third Row (L-R): Maurine Speight, Lauren Stover, Vanessa Tudor, Haley Pullen, Brooke West, Mackenzie Schley, Courtney Ridenour, Hannah Pullen, Mike Bechtel, and Holly Knight.

Fourth Row (L-R): Amanda Crites, Jordan Smith, Cierra Snyder, Angela Casalinova, Jordan Snelick, Kyle Lott, Nathan Weaver, James Nicholson, Burke Kepley, and Dale Hazzard.

Fifth Row (L-R): Meredith Fennell, Austin Slusser, Kelsey Kincaid, Clara Beadle, Jordyn Fye, Matt Oakes, Trace Mollet, Alex Vales, Patrick Wells, Justin Hinkle, and John Elliott.

Sixth Row (L-R): Kaitlyn Thompson, Kirsten Mitchen, Abby Bonnot, Grace Stockert, Madison Pollard, Emily Casto, Sarah Butti, Lindsay Thompson, Chuma Roberts, and Tristan Mullane. Seventh Row (L-R): Head Coach Brian Armstrong, Sprint Coach Mike Calcei, Throws Coach Dave Maculaitis, and Jumps Coach Mike Bechtel.