

Northwest News

February 2013: Issue 21



Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

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“One Heart, One Mind”

Northwest Community Pride Day 2013



Chance Harvey



Rebecca Shaub



Drake Dudnikoff

We had chili, music, pancakes and princesses at this year’s Winter Carnival, but more importantly, we enjoyed the fun and fellowship found in our special community. Hundreds of local residents gathered at Northwest High School commons on January 27 to participate in this annual event. For more photos and a list of winners from the chili cook-off and pancake-eating contest, see page 12.



Winter Fairy Princess Cora Schwing
and her parents, Meghan Eddy and
Adam Reed.



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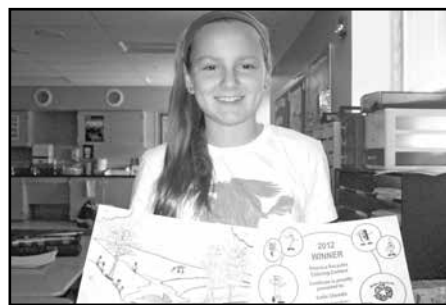
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From left: Steve Jones, John Hexamer, Rita Gearhart, Vice-President Bruce Beadle and Board President Jim Gindlesberger.

Stinson Students win Haiku Contest

The Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne (STW) Recycling District celebrated America Recycles Day in November by sponsoring student contests. Students were encouraged to submit their illustrated Haiku poems. The STW District staff selected the winning entries based on neatness, creativity, color and haiku message. The four Stark County winners were all from Stinson Elementary. Each winning student was awarded a tote bag of recycled fun materials.

The winning students are Emily Ellison, Marina Foulk and Klaye Gauder from Mrs. Pellikan's fourth-grade class and Cailin Chumita, a fifth-grade student from Mrs. Lower's class.



Cailin Chumita



Emily Ellison, Marina Foulk and Klaye Gauder

Modular Tech Lab Teaches Middle School Students Practical Math and Science

Northwest Middle School is now offering a Modular Tech Lab for eighth-graders, and only three such labs currently serve students in Stark County. The lab is designed to teach students to become responsible learners and to work cooperatively with others. The semester class teaches students the practical application of the skills and principles they have learned in their math and science classes.



Mr. Brian Ries

The class, taught by Mr. Brian Ries, offers 15 different Modular Tech workstations, including Chemical Math, CNC Manufacturing, Engineering Bridges, Environmental Issues, and Rocketry and Space. Every student's learning style is accommodated in each of these modules. Whether a student is a kinesthetic or visual learner, or even a nonreader, he or she will be ensured success through a combination of text, graphics, video, and hands-on activities.

Middle School Gym Nears Completion

Work on the middle school gym is nearly 90 percent completed, and the results are amazing. Anyone who remembers the old gym as dark and crowded is in for quite a surprise. The duct work was upgraded and moved from the center of the gym to the sides. Windows were added and translucent shades cover the windows. T-5 high bay light fixtures were added to improve the lighting. Occupancy sensors were installed so the lights shut off after 20 minutes if no one is in the gym, serving as a cost-saving measure.

The old floor was pulled up and asbestos removed before a new competition-grade floor was installed. Bleachers were replaced and two new scoreboards were added. Both the proscenium and stage floor were sanded and refinished. Sound panels must still be hung around the ceiling, and these tiles will absorb sound and provide insulation. The locker room was also totally redone. The renovation includes new showers, lockers, lights, heating and ventilation.



Building Principal Mr. Larry Tausch stands in the renovated middle school gym.

Northwest Schools Kindergarten Registration

Our district-wide kindergarten registration will be held this year at Northwest Primary School on Friday, March 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please remember to *bring your child, your child's birth certificate, immunization record, social security number and any court documents* regarding your child. Our transportation director, school nurse, principal, kindergarten teachers, and building secretary will be available to answer your questions.

Please note that there will be a "Parents Only" informational meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Northwest Primary School gymnasium.

Northwest Primary Held annual Multicultural Day

On Friday, January 11, Northwest Primary School students explored cultures around the world through a variety of activities. From Scotland to Greece and beyond, student experienced new cultures.



Mary McCoy Scotland



Ms. Radwa Elmoneer Egypt



Sogbety Diomande and Dan Susany Africa

Arts in Stark Grant funds New Music Program for Middle School Students

Northwest Middle School was recently awarded a grant from Arts in Stark that will provide music lessons to students. The terms of the grant allowed Program Coordinator Kim Good to purchase 13 guitars. Guitar lessons will be provided after school by a professor and a student from the music department at the University of Akron. Dr. Mike Shreffler says he hopes to make the program ongoing, "We hope to be able to sustain the program and even grow it in the future with a guitar club at the high school."

This five thousand dollar grant is a partnership grant between Arts in Stark, Northwest Local Schools and ORMACO (Ohio Regional Music Arts and Cultural Outreach).



Front Row (L-R): Ben Finefrock, Slade Shiplett

Second Row (L-R): William Johnson, Kathryn Fager, Maelynn Norton, Hannah Adams

Third Row (L-R): Andrew Colant, Lesley Newbury, Brooke Armstrong, George Beckum, T.J. Knight, Micayla Smith, Donovan Prater and Program Coordinator Kim Good

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Martha Holden Jennings Grant awarded to Northwest District

Northwest Local School District has been 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 will be trained in differentiated instructional practices and 21st century skills. This team will host a summer institute for kindergarten through fifth-grade staff members. Participating staff members will analyze their instructional materials for 21st century attributes, apply 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.

The projected outcomes for this grant include:

- Classroom environments, which are student-centered, promoting a sense of satisfaction in the learner.
- An opportunity to meet the diverse learning needs of all our students, encouraging them to understand and practice life-long learning.
- Implementation of differentiated instructional practice in our classrooms.
- Embedded 21st century skills in classroom lessons providing students with the tools, skills and processes necessary for learning.
- Ongoing, embedded professional development for teachers as they implement differentiated instructional practices.



Front Row (L-R) Debora Clark and Amy Lower.

Back Row (L-R) Becca Wirfel, Pam Kurz and Heidi Cowley.

These five Northwest educators will attend an ASCD (formerly the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development) conference in Chicago in mid-March. Director of Instruction Debora Clark, the recipient of the Jennings Grant, believes, “The opportunity to attend the ASCD Differentiation Conference will enable a core team of teachers to be trained on the principles of differentiation. Their training will allow them to assist other Northwest teachers in developing student-centered classrooms, places where teachers meet individual student needs.”

We wish to express our condolences to the family of Mr. Gary Dial, who passed away in December. For over 30 years, Mr. Dial was a beloved Northwest High School teacher, assistant principal and football coach. Northwest High School is a better place because of Mr. Dial. His family will continue his legacy with a scholarship to be given annually in his name. Retired high school principal Steve Jones, a colleague and close friend, said, “Gary’s influence was far-reaching because he touched the lives of students from all backgrounds, and he consistently treated them with respect. In turn, they liked him but respected him more.”

State Mandates Curriculum Changes

The math department of Northwest High School has implemented some changes as a result of mandates from the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Core. One change means that this year’s freshman class will be the last to take the Ohio Graduation Test, which will be administered in the spring of 2014. End of course exams will be administered in its place. In addition, beginning in 2014, high school students will be required to take four years of math. Also, all high school students are required to pass Algebra II.



Math Teacher Mrs. Gina Huscusson

At Northwest High School students will be able to follow one of three tracks in the math department:

- *Algebra I—Geometry—Algebra II—Advanced Math*
- *Integrated Math I—Integrated Math II—Integrated Math III—Integrated Math IV*
- *Eighth Grade Algebra I—Geometry—Algebra II—Advanced Math—AP Calculus*

Northwest High School Principal Eric Bornstine explains, “To compete in today’s global economy, having basic algebra and geometry skills are not enough. Students need to be able to use algebraic skills and reasoning to solve complex, real-world problems, which is why the Ohio Department of Education added a fourth year mathematics graduation requirement for the Class of 2014 and beyond to ensure students complete Algebra II or an equivalent course.

Race to the Top Update

Northwest Local is currently focusing on the work outlined in year three of its Race to the Top Grant. The Student Learning Objectives (SLO) Committee has created a district plan for assisting teachers in developing student growth measures. The growth measures will be utilized to monitor the academic progress of our students, and the data gathered from the SLO’s will be used as part of the teacher evaluation system beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. The district is piloting Ohio’s teacher and principal evaluation systems with a focus on full implementation during the 2013-2014 school year. The district continues to focus on implementing the Formative Instructional Practices (FIP) initiative. Grade level and department level teams are working collaboratively to identifying clear learning targets for each content area, and developing and deploying common assessment practices that promote student engagement and learning.

The Race to the Top (RttT) transformation team met recently to focus on the upcoming StockTake meeting, which will be held with the RttT Regional Coordinator. The StockTake meeting will examine the district’s progress towards meeting the district’s identified goals and performance measures. The team also worked on the district’s implementation procedures for the new teacher and principal evaluation system and student growth measures. The district is currently on track to meet its identified RttT goals and performance measures. Members of the transformation team include Dr. Mike Shreffler, Debora Clark, Eric Bornstine, Larry Tausch, Lori Mariani, Jim LaRiccia, Jemmi Boso, Rick Woods, Tom Johnsen, Becca Wirfel, Pam Kurz and Tiffany Cocklin.



Northwest Buildings Kick off Olweus Anti-Bullying Campaign to the Tune of “Count on Me”

What is Bullying?

“Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself.”

Olweus Anti-Bullying Program

The district-wide campaign to end bullying in our schools was kicked off in January as each building taught students about the dangers of bullying, stressing the theme of “Count on Me.”



Chester Raccoon is escorted around the primary school gym by guidance counselor, Mrs. Stephanie Fox.

Northwest Primary School held an assembly that featured a story about Chester Raccoon and his efforts to end bullying in his school. The primary school students were delighted with a special guest appearance by Chester who greeted the students and encouraged them to be kind to other students. Students sang “Count on Me” to end the assembly.

Stop. Walk. Stand Up. Talk.

Stinson Elementary held an assembly entitled “Stop. Walk. Stand Up. Talk.” Colleen Clark, a choreographer, performer and teacher of dance and movement, presented a program using dance to explore four strategies for dealing with bullies and other conflicts at school. The movement-based assembly demonstrates the power of posture, attitude and speaking up when students themselves are a target of bullying or when they see others being bullied. The assembly was funded by a SmARTS grant received through Arts in Stark.

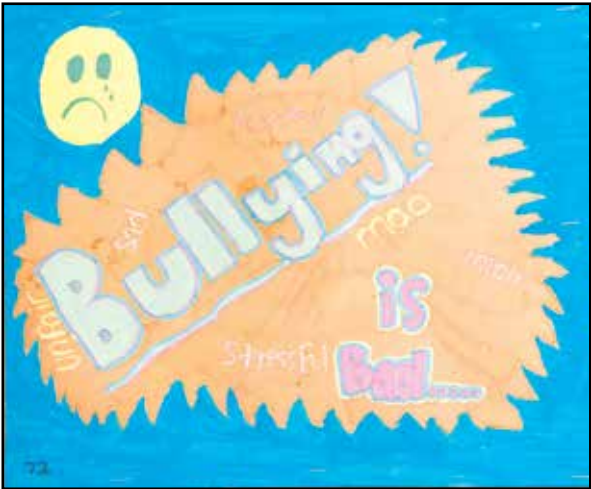


Colleen Clark of Young Audiences: Arts for Learning used dance to teach third, fourth and fifth grade students strategies to deal with conflict.



Members of the Northwest Middle School staff wore “Count on Me” t-shirts in support of the district’s antibullying theme.

At **Northwest Middle School**, Guidance Counselor Jessica Cogar shared the results of a survey about bullying taken by middle school students. Canal Fulton Patrolman John Barabasch discussed cyber-bullying, and Junior Teen Institute members presented a short play about bullying. Principal Larry Tausch spoke about personal responsibility, and middle school choir students ended the program by singing “Count on Me.” Other activities included “Mix it Up” during lunch and an anti-bullying poster contest.



Northwest High School kicked off its anti-bullying campaign with a week devoted to defining bullying and offering four pledges over the week to deter the problem.

Pledge #1: We will not bully others.

Pledge #2: We will help students who are being bullied.

Pledge #3: We will include students who are left out.

Pledge #4: If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.

The anti-bullying campaign at the high school will continue on through class meetings in the next few weeks.



Patrolman John Barabasch speaks to middle school students about bullying.

Ohio Law Prohibits Bullying in Schools

Ohio Revised Code, section 3313.666 prohibits bullying in schools. In addition, the law defines harassment, intimidation and bullying as a repeated action that is written, electronic, verbal or physical exhibited toward another student.



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Mark Your Calendar to see “Willy Wonka”!

Northwest High School will present “Willy Wonka: The Musical” on three dates this April in Puffenberger Hall. The performances are scheduled for April 12 and April 13 at 7:30 p.m. and April 14 at 2:00 p.m. All tickets are assigned seating with ticket prices set at \$6 for students and senior citizens and \$8 for adults. Tickets will go on sale starting April 1, 2013.

Please visit the ticket booth in Puffenberger Hall (Entrance F) Saturday, April 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or Thursday, April 4 or April 11, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. You may also call the ticket booth at 330-854-2205, extension PUFF(7833). Tickets may also be purchased at the door one hour before show times depending upon availability.

Ads are being sold for the program for “Willy Wonka: The Musical.” Prices are \$75 for a full-page ad, \$50 for a half-page and \$25 for a quarter-page. The price is \$10 to be a tribute sponsor. Those individuals or companies who purchase ad space or make a donation to be a tribute sponsor will be permitted to purchase tickets in advance, beginning March 25. The deadline for submitting ads to the program is Monday, April 1. If you wish to place an ad in the please contact Mrs. Leslie Haynam, Director, at 330-854-2205 or at haynam.l@northwest.sparcc.org.

Six Northwest Students in District 8 Honors Choir

On Saturday, January 12, six students represented Northwest High School at the District 8 Honors Choir. This event was held at Dover High School and included high schools from five surrounding counties. The day began with rehearsals under the direction of Dr. Grant Cook, Director of Choral Activities at the University of Mount Union, and culminated in an afternoon concert.



The participating students pictured from left to right are Josh Waddle, Jeff Shimko, Jennifer Shimko, Mike Zervos, Heidi Knight and Justin Zeh.

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Northwest will host Division II Wrestling Sectional Feb. 15-16

Northwest High School will host the Division II wrestling sectional February 15-16. Northwest was chosen because of its new gymnasium and proximity to the 12 participating schools. Athletic Director Gary Woods is excited about the opportunity to show off the new facility and show Northwest hospitality to visiting wrestling teams and their fans.

Take Down Club inducts Seven into Hall of Fame



(L-R) Scott Weber, Bill Stump, Sam Martin, Bruce Jacobs, Bob Harold, Drew Kapper and Aaron Griffin.

The Northwest Take Down Club inducted seven new members into its Hall of Fame January 26, 2013, prior to the wrestling match with Coventry High School. The new members are Aaron Griffin, Bob Harold, Bruce Jacobs, Drew Kapper, Sam Martin, Bill Stump and Scott Weber.

What's New with the ACC?

- The Athletic Charitable Committee (ACC) is actively seeking new officers to fill open board positions this spring. The ACC is a committee of volunteers dedicated to improving our local Northwest sporting facilities in order to continue our commitment to excellence for future generations. If you are interested or know someone that would be a good candidate, please contact Eric Bornstine (bornstine.e@northwest.sparcc.org) or Larry Murgatroyd (larrymurgatroyd@att.net) for more information. Get started, get involved, start now!
- The ACC will hold a Night at the Races on February 16 at Elm Ridge Party Center. Tickets are \$30 per person and include dinner, dessert and drinks. There will be basket raffles, dice wheel, 50/50 and of course, lots of fun with the horse races! All proceeds will go towards installation and construction of the new NW Indians Baseball Field. Please contact Adrey Schley (330-715-7776 or aschley@sssn.net) for tickets to the event, to purchase a horse or donate a basket. Thank you for your support! Go Indians!

Upcoming Events

- Feb 16: ACC Night at the Races at Elm Ridge Party Center 5:30 – 11:00 p.m.
- Feb 21-28: Runner's Club Pampered Chef Fundraiser (www.pamperedchef.biz/suehewitt)
- March 2: Runner's Club fundraiser at Grayce Ann's Restaurant 8:00 a.m. – noon
- April 6: Diamond Club – Steak Fry at Portage Lakes Eagle Club
- April 27: Touchdown Club Spring Drawdown @ Hillside
- May 4: Diamond Club – Scotch Doubles bowling fundraiser at Charger Lanes in Norton

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 Room@ HS
- Lady Indians Basketball Boosters – Second Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m. @ Middle School Library
- Boys Soccer Boosters – Second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. @ NW High School
- 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 @ 7:00 p.m. in Commons. (www.nwindiansbaseball.com)



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NORTHWEST COMMUNITY PRIDE DAY 2013

Winter Fairy Princess: Cora Schwing, daughter of Meghan Eddy and Adam Reed

Pancake Eating Contest

3 way tie--15 pancakes consumed
Madison Hornsby, sixth-grader
Chance Harvey, sophomore
Chuck King, boys' soccer coach

Chili Cook-Off

People's Choice: Drake Dudnikoff
Mean Chili Award went to #10, Monday Stark
Meaner Chili went to #1, Lori Lake
Meanest Chili went to #11, Chris Langenfeld



Girls Scouts pictured from left to right: Caroline Kuhn, Gianna Kuhn, Alex Hapstak, Riley Cudnik (behind in white) and Brooke Hapstak.

Canal Land Girl Scouts Give Back

The Canal Fulton Land Girl Scout Troop 61052 worked at the Northwest Community Day because they wish to give back to their community. Members of the troop collected donations that would allow them to purchase Girl Scout cookies that would be delivered to local community pantries. In addition, a portion of their earnings would be donated to Akron Children's Hospital. The leader of Troop 61052 is Tracy Hapstak.

Northwest Youth Football and Cheerleading

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Northwest High School Softball Boosters

Meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at Grayce Ann's Restaurant

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