

THE SONIC SOUND

Franklin Monroe High School

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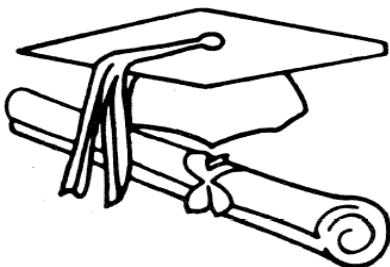
Generations Gather to Celebrate Our Graduates

By: Amy Besecker

The generations of Franklin Monroe met Saturday April 6 to celebrate the graduated classes-both old and new at the 66th annual Alumni Banquet. The Franklin Monroe Alumni Association hosted the ceremony in the High School's cafetorium, and featured everything from a meal for the guests, to announcements of the awarded scholarships.

Following the buffet-style meal was a speech given by the evening's guest speaker-Mr. Jim Gish. Mr. Gish, a psychology teacher at Franklin Monroe High School is known and loved by many students of Franklin Monroe, both young and old. This made him the perfect candidate for a speech that brought the students of Franklin Monroe together. He delivered his speech focusing on optimism of life and what we should all focus on as human beings, and shared his life lessons that everyone can learn from.

The awarded scholarships, which followed Gish's speech, awarded \$1,000 to ten deserving high school seniors. This included basic scholarships provided by the association, as well as other scholarships awarded for more specialized reasons. In order to be awarded a scholarship, seniors had to apply and give an interview in front of the Alumni Association. The scholarship award ceremony ended the evening on a positive note, and sent the seniors off on their way.



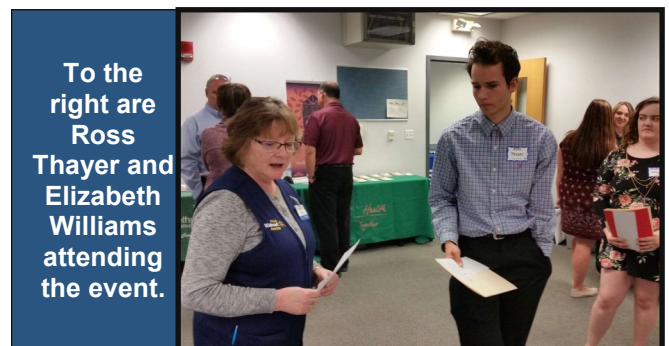
Seniors Hit the Road for New Networking Opportunities

By: Nicole Brocious

On Friday, April 5th, seniors took a field trip to Edison State Community College for a senior networking event. This is the second year that Franklin Monroe has attended the event, which works to help students practice interview skills through mock interviews or even line up jobs for future employment. The networking event consisted of an introductory session where students were given the chance to sign up for Hometown Opportunity, a job site, followed by a session where they were able to engage with all of the businesses present. The event finished with three fifteen minute interviews with businesses that fit each student's individual career interests. Several Franklin Monroe students attended this event, including Jaden Butler, Meredith Cook, Jonathan Chen, Ross Thayer, Elisabeth Williams, Ting Hao Zheng and Nicole Brocious.

Various companies that students could engage with and interview include the following: Brethren Retirement Company, Greenville National Bank, Walmart and many more.

Mrs. Ayres says of the day, "Last year they did speed interviews that lasted three minutes each, located at Greenville High School. This year they changed it up with longer interviews. That's good because it gave seniors great practice for the future. Your first interview probably won't be for your dream job."



To the right are Ross Thayer and Elisabeth Williams attending the event.



Above is a picture of the Book Fair.

Elementary Holds Book Fair in a Dinosaur Jungle

By: Nicole Brocious

This year, Franklin Monroe's Business Professionals of America students roared up to the challenge of working an elementary book fair in accordance with PTO on April 1st-5th in the cafetorium. The theme of the book fair was dinosaurs, so students worked together to create a "rawrsome" time for the kids.

Before the beginning of the book fair, high school BPA students worked outside of the elementary office to create a dinosaur jungle full of leaves, trees and dinosaurs. They also decorated the stage on the cafetorium with dinosaur tracks, posters, and activities like guessing how many dinosaur "bones" there are.

Students, their parents, and teachers alike filtered into the cafetorium on the stage to choose any kind of book or toy they wanted. The book fair offered books from every genre and age group, including picture books for the kindergartners and chapter books and series' for the older kids. Nonfiction books about topics such as dinosaurs or United States history were big sellers, while fiction books such as *The Magic Tree House* series and *Geronimo Stilton* were also big hits. The book fair also offered toys such as chocolate calculators, erasers, and sets of pens to the kids that wanted to enjoy them. This is the first fair that Franklin Monroe has offered a "visitor's week", where parents can come in with their kids and buy them books.

During the week of the book fair, a total of \$4865.80 was sold, with \$2432.90 being made in scholastic dollars profit. There were over 350 books sold. Tiffany Stebbins, junior class advisor and in charge of the book fair, states, "For our first visitors week, we did really well. We were only about \$500 less than our fall book fair expenses."

Senior Center:

Seniors are in the home stretch of the year! As tempting as it may be to let 'senioritis' overtake us, there are still a few more things to do in order to wrap up the year. High school counselor, Mrs. Ayres, has shared what all we need to complete:

- Check on housing contracts for your university. They are often mailed or found on the university's website.
- Let Mrs. Ayres know your plans for after high school! She still wants to put a pennant up for each senior -even if they are going straight to the workforce.
- Keep your eyes open for exit surveys. Mrs. Ayres will be in contact with all seniors to make sure they fill them out.
- Finish strong and keep your grades up- universities do look for final transcripts!

We're getting very close to the end of the year, so keep in mind everything that is still left to do. As always, if you have any more questions about what you need to get done or how to accomplish it, you can ask Mrs. Ayres. She is available by email, or just walk into her office!

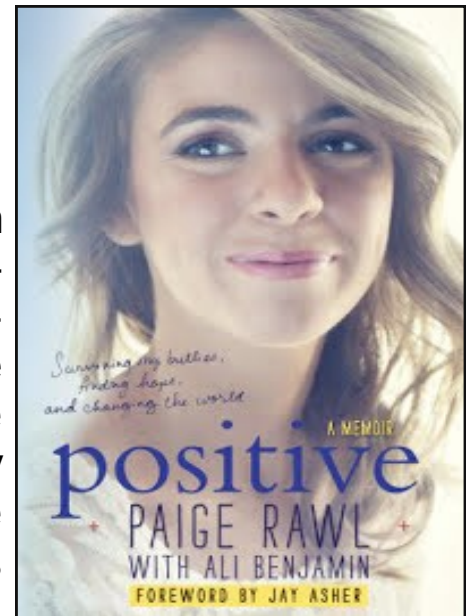
Read With Zest in Book Club

By: Olivia Graves

At Franklin Monroe high school, during high school homeroom, you can find Mrs. Coomer, the librarian, in the library hosting book club. The gathering started when Mrs. Coomer started working at the school and has grown in numbers since then. At the moment, the club is reading the book, *Positive* by Paige Rawl. Mrs. Coomer has said, "I try to choose books that pass on positive messages and have tools for a happier, more successful life." This book, along with others that they have read in the past, give these messages to the students who read them. There is more to book club than just reading. When the students come to the library there are snacks for them to enjoy, while they talk about the book and about their personal lives.

Before they get started with their book talks, they all share about what's going on in their lives, if they want to, "the good, the bad, and the ugly," as Mrs. Coomer says. Then after all of the students share and get food, they start with the book. The books that Mrs. Coomer chooses are more inspirational. She explains, "I feel like there are so many struggles these days, that students have tricky lives; and that it's nice to have something positive to look forward to." She believes that book club can help students through the tough times that could be troubling them. Mrs. Coomer has also stated that "Hopefully, it gives the members a soft and safe place to relax and enjoy fun, snacks, and great book chats."

Not only has the club changed the students' lives, but the librarian's too. Mrs. Coomer has offered this club for four years, five if you count this current year. There have been other book clubs, but Mrs. Coomer wanted to bring it back because there hadn't been one in a long time. This way she could find yet another method to introduce great books to students willing to read them. She has also stated that "It gives me joy and energy [to see] students show up and participate, it's my happy place." As you can see this club isn't just a club. It's a place where everyone is welcome to read an inspirational book, enjoy the company of friends, eat delectable snacks, and to just have fun. For more information, contact Mrs. Coomer at ami.coomer@fmlsd.org.



Suicide Warning and Prevention

By: MacKenzie Rock
and Sonic Sound Staff

Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in America, according to the Cleveland Clinic. FM students can help others considering suicide by knowing the warning signs and prevention methods. The Cleveland Clinic notes that some people considering suicide may become very angry quickly, may feel depressed, or may become too happy suddenly. Some people may become withdrawn or make preparations for their loved ones after they are gone. Sudden trauma or life crisis can cause someone to want to harm themselves. Others will change the way they look or how they act, or a sudden calmness will come over them. Some may threaten suicide, will use alcohol, or start using more drugs to try and help make harming themselves easier. Others contemplating ending their life may sleep too much or talk about having no reason to live.

According to the Cleveland Clinic, some ways to prevent suicide are talking to a friend, a trusted adult, or a mental health facility. If there is someone you know who may be suicidal, encourage them to talk to you about how they are feeling, ask if there is anything they would use in anything in their line of sight that they would use to hurt themselves. You can help keep a peaceful environment with the help of friends and family and try to not give them a reason to try and harm themselves if someone is showing signs of suicidal tendencies. You can have a trusted friend take them to the hospital or call the 911 dispatcher for help in case they do try to hurt themselves. If at any time you see someone threatening or attempting suicide, you should call the suicide hotline. The number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 1-800-273-8255.

Student Council Members Help Those in Need

By: Grace Gilmore

On Wednesday, April 3, Franklin Monroe Student Council members served food to those in need at the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. The students brought in two dozen cookies each to give with the lunch offered. After the students served the meals, some were able to eat lunch with the people they served. Ethan Fee, one of the students that went, stated, "It was really cool to have the opportunity to give back to the community through acts of kindness and service."



What to Do about Senior Blues

By: Amy Besecker

We've all heard the term *senioritis*. What is it? Is it even real? The answer is that yes, it is very real and many are at a risk. In fact, the Merriam-Webster dictionary defines senioritis as "an ebbing of motivation and effort by school seniors as evidenced by tardiness, absences, and lower grades." So what is there to do about this diagnoses? Several of the Franklin Monroe seniors share their ideas:

- Nicole Brocious says "Work on things on several days, so you still get it done, but you don't have to dwell on it as long."
- Amy Besecker says "Make a list of everything that you need to get done. Make sure it's a physical list on paper so you can scratch off items as you accomplish them."
- Ting Hao Zheng says "Keep in mind that the reason for high school is to prepare you for college. Perseverance is important."
- Kevin Bancroft says "Eat cookies."

Remember seniors, you're almost there. All of these seniors have offered tips that have helped them get by. Keep in mind that colleges do look at senior year transcripts, which means that finishing strong is important. Look forward to summer, but don't become blind to the responsibilities you still have left to accomplish.

Juniors Tour IU East

By: Audrey Cable

On April 17th, the Franklin Monroe Junior Class payed a visit to the Indiana University East campus in Richmond, Indiana to get a good idea about what the college has to offer, the various opportunities available, and what campus life is all about. Each student was able to ask various professors about the major they want to pursue, take a tour around campus, and get genuine opinions from college students attending IU East. But perhaps the most valuable experience the students had on the field trip was the discussions about what career path they should follow.

Many students know the job they desire, but find themselves clueless about what major to pursue. This is a common problem among those nearing graduation, along with the stress of simply having no idea what career to take on. Throughout the day, the Juniors received advice on these subjects from college professors, college students, and IU East Admissions Staff. Following the field trip, many Juniors reported now having better understanding of the major they should persist. Students also say they now have a better idea of the job they should obtain based on their personalities, various skills, and the opportunities available in the workforce.

It was a fun day full of talks, listening, and laughs. Indiana University East provided the class with a fun day full of opportunities and valuable information on college, careers, and the university itself. It was a fantastic experience for all who attended!

Sonic Sound Staff -

Production Editor:

- Kevin Bancroft (12th)

Writers and Staff:

- Nicole Brocious (12th)
- Amy Besecker (12th)
- Jonathan Chen (12th)
- Selene Weaver (11th)
- MacKenzie Rock (11th)
- Grace Gilmore (10th)
- Olivia Graves (9th)

Adviser:

- Mrs. Keiser
kerry.keiser@fmlsd.org

Corrections

By: Sonic Sound Staff

November (Issue 3) - 'Just One' FFA Story was written by Mikayla Knipp, not Morgan Hissong

Jan/Feb. (Issue 5) - 'Greenhand and Dessert Banquet for FFA' was written by Mikayla Knipp.

March (Issue 6) - The FFA article was still the same headline as the previous month. Rather, it should have said 'FFA Holds Annual Banquet.' This was also written by Mikayla Knipp.

March (Issue 6) - In the 'Coffee House' article the sound booth was run by not only Daniel Nottingham, but also Hunter Mills who was left out on accident.

We are all sorry for these errors.

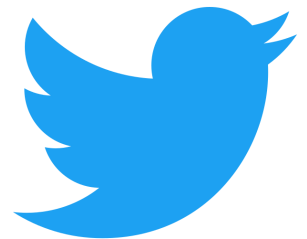
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Franklin Monroe Local Schools

8591 Oakes Road

Arcanum, Ohio 45304