



The

# Fort Site Journal

December 2009

Patron  
Fort Recovery Local Schools  
Fort Recovery, OH 45846  
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
FORT RECOVERY, OH 45846  
Permit #15

## Dan Jutte Honored

### by Board of Education



For the past eight and one half years, Mr. Dan Jutte has been a member of the Fort Recovery Local Board of Education. At the school board meeting on Tuesday, December 8, Mr. Jutte was recognized for those years of service. He was presented with a plaque from Mr. Pat Niekamp.

When asked what was one of the biggest accomplishments while serving on the board Mr. Jutte said, "For me the biggest accomplishment that occurred was keeping the Excellent Rating. Very few schools get that award, for Fort Recovery Schools to receive that award as long as we have; it has been an accomplishment of the entire district."

Finances vs. education has been one of the hardest decision that Mr. Jutte and the Board have had to deal with during Mr. Jutte's tenure on the board. He stated, "With budget cuts, students' learning has never taken a backseat. In the real world technology advances on a daily basis, the students learning should follow that example. Learning a variety of topics, including technology, should be a part of every student's schedule. That is why the board has been working so vigorously, putting more technology in the classrooms and updating the systems. Every child has the right to succeed and with all the knowledge the students gain at our school, it would be impossible for them not to."

The Fort Recovery administration, staff, and community thank Dan Jutte for his dedication and involvement in our school system for the past eight and one half years.

## FREA and Board Prepare For Future, Agree to New Contract

Jack Staugler, Board President

The Fort Recovery Board of Education and the Fort Recovery Education Association recently completed work on ratifying a new two-year contract for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years. The process exemplifies the professionalism of our staff, the commitment of the Board, and the respectful relationship between the two parties.

The FREA entered the process with a commitment to the students and taxpayers of Fort Recovery and the Fort Recovery Board of Education was dedicated to finding a contract that was prudent concerning our current finances, yet supportive of the needs of one of the finest staffs in the state.

The end result was a two-year contract with a 0% increase in year one and a modest 1.2% increase in year two. The Board made some concessions in areas that support teachers' needs regarding time away with sick loved ones, personal time, and some language issues. Health insurance concessions were made by both parties as we continue to try to find ways of providing this very important benefit in an economically responsible manner.

This process, as with many other positive things that happen in our school system, is one of the things that make our school, our staff, our administrators, and our community something special!

## Teachers Recognized As "Master Teachers"

*"A master teacher demonstrates excellence inside and outside of the classroom through consistent leadership and focused collaboration to maximize student learning. A master teacher strives for distinguished teaching and continued professional growth."*

Mrs. Michelle Stammen- 1st grade, and high school science teachers - Mrs. Robyn Armstrong, and Mrs. Kathy Schwieterman, were recognized by the Fort Recovery School Board for reaching Master Teacher status.

The Master Teacher is a program through the Ohio Department of Education. It focuses on five areas: 1. Consistent Leadership, 2. Focused Collaboration, 3. Distinguished Teaching - Focus on Students and Environment, 4. Distinguished Teaching - Focus on Content, Instruction and Assessment, and 5. Continued Professional Growth. Countless hours are spent on writing and implementing these five concepts. Ten pieces of evidence that have been carefully selected to support the written narratives. Any teacher who applies must be exemplary in 4 of the 5 areas to be considered a Master Teacher.

Mrs. Armstrong is proud to have successfully completed the Master Teacher designation and knows that it was possible because of the great things that are accomplished here in Fort Recovery. "Other schools go through the motions of teaching, but we are encouraged to look for ways to help kids be successful and to continue to grow and flourish ourselves as teachers," she said.

Mrs. Stamen said, "It is a privilege and an honor to be recognized as an Ohio Master Teacher." Mrs. Schwieterman feels the master teacher program has simply helped her reflect on what she is doing inside and outside of the classroom to help prepare her students for the next level.



Pictured from L to R: Mrs. Michelle Stammen, Mrs. Robyn Armstrong, and Mrs. Kathy Schwieterman with their awards.

## FFA Parliamentary Team Contest Finishings

Fort Recovery's FFA senior parliamentary procedure team placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Sub-District Contest held at St. Henry High School and 4<sup>th</sup> in the District Contest held at Fairlawn High School. The Sub-District competition included 3 other area FFA Chapters, which were Coldwater, New Bremen, and St. Henry. The parliamentary procedure team had to demonstrate their ability to participate effectively in a business meeting using proper parliamentary law. Senior parliamentary procedure team members pictured front left to right: Natalie Lennartz, Shelby Westgerdes, Andrea Lennartz, Michelle Brackman, and Riggs Florence. Back left to right: Nicole Hart, Caitlin Gehret, Nathan Fortkamp, Stacy Will, and Zach Guggenbiller. Congratulations on a job well done!

## National FCCLA Convention Held in Kentucky

Students from the Fort Recovery chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) recently participated in a weekend leadership conference held November 20-22, in Louisville, Kentucky. Fort Recovery's FCCLA chapter adviser, Cheryl Perkeybile, accompanied members Janel Hein, Jessica Heitkamp, Nicole Kaiser, Jill Post and Holly Thien to the meeting.

Attendees participated in a weekend of trainings and sessions that challenged, informed, and motivated members and their advisers to become leaders through FCCLA. Along with more than 2,900 other members and chapter advisers.

The "Grasp Greatness" theme was reinforced in the Opening General Session by guest speaker, Heather Schultz, who inspired attendees with her motivational message, "Attitude is Everything" and encouraged attendees to possess a positive attitude and understand that decisions are critical in every day life.

Saturday's agenda included training in FCCLA national programs and competitive events. Keynote speaker Paul Vitale closed out the meeting by addressing how to respect diversity and encourage individuals through positive actions

All of the Fort Recovery members attending this national conference are 2009-2010 chapter officers. This weekend allowed them to further their leadership skills and FCCLA knowledge so that they can help their local chapter implement projects that will benefit our school and community," Perkeybile stated.

Louisville is one of three nationally sponsored training conferences this fall. The National Cluster Meetings are designed to allow local students and teachers to take advantage of high-quality leadership training opportunities. Meetings will also be held in Washington, D.C., and Salt Lake City, Utah.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.



## Gingerbread Houses Galore!

Tuesday, December 8th, Mrs. Cheryl Perkeybile's FCCLA organization hosted 125 children, ranging in age of preschool - 5th grade, who made their own gingerbread houses. Parents accompanied their children in the high school Commons and each child was given a "gingerbread house" made of graham crackers and milk cartons. They were also given a bag of icing, and many different choices of candies to use to decorate their houses. The variety of candies included gum drops, animal crackers, coconut, Skittles, and large and small marshmallows, just to name a few. After the houses were completed, each child was allowed to take his/her house home. Pictured above is Rhonda Hull with her son Andy. Andy's brother, Lane, also helped with the gingerbread house. Mrs. Perkeybile wants to thank all of the students who helped, and all of the children and parents who participated. The activity was enjoyed by those who attended.

## Choir Concert Benefits the Community

On Sunday, December 6th, the Fort Recovery high school and middle school show choirs had their annual winter Christmas concert in the middle school Auditoria. In light of the holiday spirit, choir director Mrs. Tracy Hein-Evers decided that the concert could be used as an opportunity to help those in need in our community. In lieu of paying an admission fee to the concert, attendees were asked to donate canned goods, paper products, or make a cash donation to the local Fort Recovery food pantry at Mary Help of Christians Church.

Overall, more than 550 canned goods and paper products were collected at the door, as well as over \$210 in cash donations!

Fort Recovery  
Education Association  
Annual Scholarship  
F R E A

All You Can Eat  
Chili Supper



Friday, January 8th  
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

**\$5.00 - Adults**  
**\$3.00 - 12 and Under**  
Fort Recovery vs. Versailles  
Boys' Basketball Game

All profit goes toward  
2010 Scholarships

2009 Scholarship Winners  
Kelly Sudhoff and Rachel Tobe





## FORT RECOVERY FACTS

Fort Recovery Local Schools

Board of Education Meeting Summary

December 8, 2009, Regular Meeting

### Board Recognition

The Board recognized and thanked Dan Jutte for his eight years of service as a Board of Education member.

Also recognized were teachers Robyn Armstrong, Kathy Schwieterman, and Michelle Stammen for reaching Master Teacher status. They were presented a plaque by Jeff Tuneberg of the Mercer County Educational Service Center.

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### Staff Report

Marcia Weigel and students presented information to the Board about the planned upcoming Gr 5 Gifted students' trip to Chicago.

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### Administrative Reports

#### Mrs. Koch:

\* Updated the Board on compliance with 403(b) regulations.

\* Reviewed the recent staff insurance meetings and new rates for insurance coverage. Several employees have switched to the Alternate PPO.

#### Mrs. Vaughn:

\* Explained that the State funding for STEM is uncertain. Engineering is Elementary (EIE) curriculum is being used at the Elementary this year.

\* Michelle Stammen distributed a handout and discussed the differentiated instruction being used in Math and Spelling.

#### Mr. Triplett:

\* Informed the Board of the MS Student Council's recent trip to St. Henry to meet with their student council members, advisors, and principal. They came back with many new ideas for projects.

\* The Middle School is participating in a canned food drive in cooperation with Hastings Auto Sales in Fort Recovery.

#### Mr. Hobbs:

\* Distributed the forms students will use to log service hours and activities to qualify for the FRHS Outstanding Service Awards.

\* Reviewed the semester exam schedule with exams being given from January 13 through January 15.

#### Mr. Niekamp:

\* The superintendent search topic will be revisited at the January BOE meeting.

### Mr. Niekamp-continued

\* Discussed plans for the two announced retiree positions of Jeff Brown, elementary teacher and Kathy Thobe, superintendent's secretary. In keeping with the ongoing cost-cutting measures and in an effort to deal with the difficult budget, we will plan to cover both positions by re-assigning people already in the district. Mrs. Kim Grube will be assigned to the superintendent's secretary position so she can begin a transition period with Kathy Thobe.

\* Discussed asking people from different groups and organizations in town to discuss the OSFC options. A work session will be scheduled sometime in January to further discuss this.

\* Announced that Camp Inquire will be held this summer at Fort Recovery Schools in conjunction with New Bremen and St. Henry Schools.

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### Consent Agenda

1. Approved minutes of prior November 17 meeting.

2. Approved November financial reports and payment of bills.

3. Accepted and thanked The Psi Iota Xi Sorority for their donation to the HS/MS Drama Club.

4. Accepted and thanked Ron Shoemaker for his donations to the Band Boosters, Show Choir Boosters, Cross Country, CNC, and the FFA Alumni group.

5. Accepted the resignation for retirement of Kathy Thobe, effective August 1, 2010.

6. Approved the Grade 5 Gifted students' trip to Chicago from May 6, 2010, through May 7, 2010.

7. Approved Jarret Tobin as a Volunteer Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach pending completion of all requirements.

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### Agenda Action Items

1. Set the Board Organizational Meeting for Tuesday, January 12, 2010, at 7:15 PM, with the regular Board meeting to follow at 7:30 PM.

2. Elected Jack Staugler President Pro-Tem for the Organizational Meeting.

3. Approved the Tri Star Advisory Referral #107 as presented.

4. Executive Session.

5. Approved the Master Contract with the FREA for a period of two years.

## A Christmas List

Pat Niekamp, Interim Superintendent

If a school had a Christmas list, this is what it would look like:

1. Ten years running as an "Excellent" rated School by ODE.
2. Rigorous academic curriculum and excellent co-curricular, clubs, and extracurricular activities.
3. Blessed by exceptional family support and students with great values.
4. District is innovative and faithfully works for "Continuous Improvement."
5. The commitment of the community, businesses, organizations, and parents make success possible.
6. District support of STEM, science, technology, engineering, and math skills at all levels.
7. The teaching staff care about the students and know them both academically and personally.
8. The district is committed to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning and the technology required.
9. Excellent support staff- janitors, bus drivers, cooks, aides, librarians, and secretaries.
10. Well-mannered and hard-working students that make us excited to see what their futures hold.

That looks suspiciously like our own Fort Recovery Schools!



Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year

from Mrs. Kathy Jutte  
and the Fort Site Journal Staff

(pictured: front l-r: Julie Knapke, Tami Link, & Natalie Rohrer. back l-r: Marissa Brunswick, Alexis Sutter, & Hilary Pottkotter. Not pictured is Nichole Sheffer)



## Santa's Little Helpers

By Alexis Sutter

The Student Council and FCCLA have been working together to help bring Christmas to some struggling families in Fort Recovery. Over Thanksgiving break the club members sold poinsettias to raise money to buy gifts for these families. Together the two clubs raised over \$1000. Private donors helped the cause by giving \$2100 and the FFA helped by donating food.

This money raised was used to purchase Christmas gifts. On December 14<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Kaiser and Mrs. Perkeybile, along with seven students, made a trip to Wal-Mart to purchase gifts. Gifts for fourteen families were bought on the shopping trip, shopping to help out the local families. Six students met on December 15<sup>th</sup> to wrap the gifts before they were given to the families.

St. Paul's Parish also helped with the cause by choosing four families to provide gifts for. Parish members donated gifts to certain unknown children. The gifts were wrapped by the eighth grade and high school students during their religion classes on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to everyone that helped the twenty local families will have a wonderful Christmas this year. Hopefully with the help of more businesses, parishes, and local individuals, more families can be helped.

## From the Desk of Mr. Hobbs

December has been a great month here at Fort Recovery High School. Our vocal music department lead by Tracy Hein-Evers had their annual Christmas Concert. The show featured students from all grades and included choreographed numbers from the Show Choir. Fort Recovery High School Band Director Megan Beavers lead her students in their winter bandconcert. The performance was very well received by the standing room only crowd. December also saw the Fort Recovery High School Scholastic Bowl team, under the direction of Marge Dilworth competing in the MAC championship. The team had a tremendous year winning most of their dual meets and finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in the league tournament. As well, recently our FCCLA chapter and leader Cheryl Perkybile hosted their annual Gingerbread House night. Over one hundred and thirty youngsters and their families created works of art and memories to last a lifetime.

Winter athletics are also off to a very nice start. The boy's varsity basketball team finds itself at 3-0 with good wins over St. Marys, Wapakaneta and Tri-Village. The girls varsity has begun its campaign at 3-1 gaining victories over St. Marys, Greenville, New Bremen. Our club sports teams are seeing excellent participation as well. Swimming, bowling and CYO basketball are excellent outlets for our students to remain active in sports and represent their high school and parish.

Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> is the last day of school before Christmas Break. School will resume after the holiday on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Today the weather is hovering around 50 degrees, but as you know Ohio winter weather can change in an instant. The one-call warning system is a very nice feature the district recently put in place to let families know about delays and cancellations. As well, if/when your child misses school, we ask that you call in their absence to the high school office. I truly hope you and your family enjoy what is left of 2009 and look forward to an unbelievable 2010!

Enjoy the holiday season,

Jeff Hobbs

## SADD "Locks In" to a Great Beginning

By Marissa Brunswick

SADD is a club based on *Students Against Destructive Decisions*. The members have been working on numerous projects this year, one being Red Ribbon Week. During this week in November, each student received a ribbon to wear. Each ribbon had a number on it for a chance to win a prize. Tuesday was "Hats Off to No Drugs." Students wore their favorite hats to school. Wednesday was "Shade Out Drugs" and the students wore sunglasses. Thursday everyone "dressed their best" due to the National Honor Society induction ceremony. On Friday, the students showed their "Purple Pride" by decking out in purple.

SADD wrapped up Red Ribbon Week with the lock-in. At the lock-in, students played games, ate food, and hung out from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., the next morning. Many parents and teachers were at the lock-in along with the students. SADD Advisor, Sara Bruns said, "We had a great turnout and it was a lot of fun. I think it was a great way to keep kids out of trouble and in a fun, carefree environment."

SADD is advised by Mrs. Sara Bruns. The officers are Emily Bauer as President, Rose Roessner as Vice President, Perry Hull as Secretary, and Marissa Brunswick as Treasurer.

*The Fort Site Journal is published monthly during the 2009-2010 school year. These issues are sponsored by the Fort Recovery Local Board of Education and are coordinated by the creative writing class at Fort Recovery High School.*

*Community clubs and organizations are encouraged to submit articles for publication. These articles may contain news for club activities or notices of upcoming events. If you have any information that you would like to have placed in the Fort Site Journal, contact the high school by the first Friday of every month.*

*The advisory committee for this paper includes the Fort Recovery Local Schools Board of Education, Superintendent Pat Niekamp, High School Principal Jeff Hobbs, Middle School Principal Matt Triplett, Elementary Principal Shelly Vaughn, and Advisor Kathy Jutte.*

*Staff:*

*Editor Natalie Rohrer*

*Marissa Brunswick*

*Julie Knapke*

*Tami Link*

*Hilary Pottkotter*

*Nichole Sheffer*

*Alexis Sutter*

**Lions Club-Psi Iota Xi**  
**\$5000 New Years Eve Dance**  
 Thursday, December 31st  
 Fort Recovery American Legion  
 Doors open - 7 PM  
 Comedian - 8 PM  
 DJ - 9 PM

\*  \*      \*  \*

Door Prizes & Snacks  
throughout the evening  
Traditional  
New Year's Eve Meal  
11:30 PM

**\$75 per couple**  
 Call Jodi Staugler for tickets  
 1-419-554-0000

## 7th Grade Published Writers

On November 20th, Mrs. Kaup, middle school language arts teacher, received notice that 25 of her 7<sup>th</sup> grade students had qualified to have their essays published in a national publication, *Celebrating What is Important to Me*, published by Creative Communications. This is not a contest where every entry is published. Only the BEST essays submitted, nationwide, are published. Less than 50% of submitted essays are selected to be published. Fort Recovery 7th grade authors include: Derek Backs, Shawna Dugger, Karla Eichenauer, Michaela Fullenkamp, Monica Fullenkamp, Makayla Grover, Katie Homan, Karalee Jutte, Brad Jutte, Samantha Kaiser, Jennifer Klenke, Melissa Knapke, Haley Knapke, Debra Link, Paige McCain, Dustin Overman, Diane Post, Rachel Pugh, Cassidy Rammel, Seth Riegle, Sara Rohrer, Emilie Sheridan, Taylor Siegrist, Zachary Tobe, and Cole Wendel.



### November Pride Winners

Rachel Kaup - 6th grade (left) and Erin Koester - 7th grade (right).  
Congratulations girls!

*The 2nd grade and 4th grade articles were accidentally mixed up in our last publication. Below are the articles with their correct pictures. We apologize for the mistake.*



## Last Minute Christmas Idea!

**2010 CHANT Yearbook**  
\$40.00 until December 31, 2009  
Call (419)375-4111  
to place your order.

Next CHANT sales at school...  
January 4-14, 2010  
Cost \$42.00

## A Visit to Aullwood

Meghan Jutte, Drew Muhlenkamp, Cole Schmitt, Keaton Metzger, Shawn Dues, Josh Muhlenkamp (pictured right) were some of the second graders who went to Aullwood Audubon Center in Dayton. They studied Ohio animals and plants in Science this year. During their study, they were able to visit Aullwood and the nature center and to see many Ohio plants and animals on their hike.



Congratulations and Happy Writing!



## 5th Graders Thanksgiving

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, the fifth graders presented colonial job demonstrations to the second graders. Mrs. Walter's social studies classes picked different colonial jobs and did research to learn what tools were used and how the colonists did their jobs. They made some of their props and brought other props from home. Pictured are Brooke Gower, Tracy Fortkamp, Conner Lennartz, and Whitney Will explaining to the second graders how colonial chandlers made candles.

## A Mound of History

On Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, the fourth grade class went to Piqua Historical Area. While there, the students toured the Johnston's farmhouse. Here, students learned about the Johnston family and about life in the 1820's. The Johnston family traded and negotiated with the Woodland Indians. The students learned about the various Indian tribes, what they looked like, and how they traded. Also, close to the Johnston house is an Adena Indian Mound from thousands of years ago. The students enjoyed learning about the mound and thought the "donut shape" was really neat. Finally, the fourth graders ended the day by taking a trip down the canal on a canal boat, after learning how the canals were dug by immigrants over a 20 year time span. The mules pulling the canal boat at 4 miles per hour fascinated the students. Overall, the fourth graders had a great time!



## Honored Talents

By Julie Knapke



Honors Choir is a group of auditioned students from different schools in the OMEA (Ohio Musical Education Association) District III. These schools range from the Fort Recovery area to Findlay.

To qualify for Honors Choir, students must rehearse a prepared solo and sing it before a judge at Van Wert High School. They must also be able to sight read a selection of music. Students are expected to prepare for their audition piece to the best of their ability and, if the student is selected for the group, they will then need to rehearse their pieces on their own and be prepared for their rehearsals. The students are also expected to represent their schools in a positive way through their behavior and preparedness. The judge then selects who qualifies for Honors Choir. Generally, about 375-400 choir students audition and 100 are selected. They rehearse on Saturdays in December and two Saturdays in January for about six hours each rehearsal. Students who qualify for Honors Choir will perform on January 17, 2010, at the Lima Civic Center.

Talented Fort Recovery students that were selected for this year's Honors Choir include Colt Metzger —tenor, Nathan Fullenkamp —bass, Erika Muhlenkamp —alto, Carly Staugler —alto, Andrea Sutter —alto, Kelsey Faller —alto, Emily Bauer —soprano, and Alison Koch —soprano.

"We are very proud to have so many students that were selected this year for the OMEA District III Honors group. We know they will look and sound professional," says choir director, Mrs. Tracy Hein-Evers.

## Playing for Honors

By Julie Knapke

Honors Band is a select group of students from OMEA (Ohio Musical Education Association) District III, which is made up of schools from: Mercer, Auglaize, Van Wert, Paulding, Putnam, Hancock, Allen, and Hardin Counties. The High School honors band is by audition and acceptance only. Each student must prepare a solo and perform it for a judge. The students are then ranked and the top performers are chosen to play in the Honors Band.

The final concert will be at the Lima Civic Center on January 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The Fort Recovery students, pictured below, who will be performing at this year's concert include: Ryan Gaerke —trumpet, Gage Retz —baritone saxophone, and Brian Bauer —trumpet. These students are expected to participate in all rehearsals, be appropriately prepared, and represent Fort Recovery well.

"It is quite an accomplishment that these three gentlemen made it! Many students auditioned so to be selected to participate is an honor", says band director Megan Beavers.

*Pictured from  
L to R: Ryan  
Gaerke, Gage  
Retz, and  
Brian Bauer*



## Four FRHS Alumni Inducted Into Athletic Hall of Fame

By Natalie Rohrer

On December 5th, four graduates of Fort Recovery High School were inducted into the Fort Recovery Athletic Hall of Fame during a special ceremony before the boy's varsity basketball game against Wapakoneta. The outstanding athletes who were recognized as inductees were Dale Metzger, Jim Schoen, Dave Williams, and Sara (Heitkamp) Dick. Each of these inductees were selected for excelling in athletics during their high school years at FRHS. Some of them also went on to play sports at the collegiate level. The plaques honoring these inductees, as well as past inductees, can be found in the gym lobby. Congratulations to the inductees for their excellent accomplishments!

## Pumping Up the Excitement!

By Julie Knapke

There are 39 students participating in pep band under the direction of Ms. Beavers this basketball season. These students are expected to help the fans and team generate school spirit and energy! *Hang on Sloopy*, *Long Train Running*, *Hey Baby*, *Zombie Nation*, and other songs will be featured at seven of the nine home games this year. The fans really enjoy the music and dedication of the pep band. One fan was heard saying, "It felt so good to hear the music, its volume, and the energy of the pep band. Ms. Beavers has really given the band a boost."

Pep band students rehearse primarily in class; however students are required to come early before the basketball games for a quick review of the songs.

Good luck pep band and Fort Recovery High School basketball teams!

## Moodle?

By Nichole Sheffer

Interacting in a new way to improve their writing, response and, networking skills fourth graders are using a new site called *Moodle*. The students participate in the online literature discussion centered on books that the fourth grade teachers think are of high quality.

Each week the students are assigned a set number of chapters to read in the book of their choice, and then they're expected to respond to a particular question and the questions of at least two other students. The students are expected to follow their grade level guidelines for writing responses.

The teachers use *Moodle* not only for a literature circle, but as an activity that allows them to instruct the students in small groups. While the students are being instructed, other students are rotating among various literature stations working on their *Moodle* assignments. Every student gets a direct instruction that goes along with current reading research that prioritizes small group instruction for the age level.

One student is even developing a series of questions for a book she is reading so that other students will be able to participate with her in a discussion that she will lead. Mr. Heitkamp said that the students have taken a lot of initiative in this process and have improved their responses.



## Spelling Bee Winners

Fort Recovery Local Schools had their elementary/middle school spelling bee on December 10, 2009. There were twenty-five participants in grades 4-8. The top five winners were Jesse Buckley, son of Chris and Michelle Buckley, Joey Gonzalez, son of Tony and Kathy Gonzalez, Logan Ranly, daughter of Dan and Jill Ranly, Derek Sutter, son of Dale and Sharon Sutter, and Kyle Timmerman, son of Abe and Karen Timmerman. The champion was Logan Ranly (pictured center). These five will move on to the county spelling bee which will be held on Monday evening, February 1, 2010, at Wright State University-Lake Campus.

## Fourth Graders Becoming the Next Engineers

By Nichole Sheffer

Four elementary students went to the Columbus Achievement Fair on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. The students who attended were Curtis Grube, Heather Klenke, Rachel Moorman, and Trevor Vaughn.

The fair was based upon the new STEM program. The students were chosen from Mrs. Neitkamp's class who just finished their engineering EIE unit, which means Engineering is Elementary. Fourth grader, Trevor Vaughn said that he liked making the play dough to help explain the design process. While asked about her experience Mrs. Neitkamp said "It was great and neat to see the kids get excited about their learning and explaining about what all they had learned."

Both students Rachel Moorman and Heather Klenke agreed that explaining the project was their favorite thing about going to the achievement fair and they said they would really like to go back again.

## January Events

### DISTRICT

- 1-3 Christmas Break
- 15 - End of the nine weeks
- 18 - NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day

### HIGH SCHOOL

- 20 - Financial Aid Night - 6 - 7:30 PM  
HS Commons
- 26- Sophomores Visit Tri-Star (AM)

### ELEMENTARY

- 19 - Book Club 3:30 PM
- 21 - Student Council 3:30 PM

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

- 12- Organizational Meeting 7:15 PM
- Regular Meeting 7:30 PM

## End of the Year Sports

### Girls' Basketball

- 12/28 - Freshmen - Coldwater - (A)

### Boys' Basketball

- 12/22 - Waynesfield Goshen - H
- 12/29-30 - Varsity Only - Coldwater Classic (A)
- 12/29-30 - JV - Fort Loramie

### Financial Aid Night

Wednesday, January 20, 2010  
6-7:30 PM

In the FRHS Commons

*Parents and students are invited for a presentation on the college financial aid process. A presenter from the Ohio Northern Financial Aid Office will be here to present LOTS of useful information about grants, loans, and the FAFSA.*

*(In the event of inclement weather, listen to WCSM or PG14 for cancellation information. This presentation will take place as long as the speaker is able to make it to FRHS, regardless if there is school or not)*

### College Goal Sunday

Sunday, February 14, 2010  
2 PM

Wright State University-Lake Campus  
Get help filling out your FAFSA!



## Acting For A Cause

By Tami Link

The High/Middle School Play, Mystery at Shady Acres, was held on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Middle School Auditoria. The proceeds from the play went to Camp BEARable of Mercer County to benefit children that have experienced some type of grief. The cast's donation was approximately \$700.

The main characters this year were Chief Dover Wickfield - played by Jacob Backs, Basil - played by Katelyn Jutte, Mr. Henry Clifford - played by David Tobe, Detective Philip Thornton - played by Colt Metzger, Edward Fairfax - played by Isaac Keller, Lt. Theodore Dorrit - played by Adam Fullenkamp, and Emma Reid - played by Alison Koch. The other students who participated were Brook Acheson, Emily Alig, Abby Backs, Monica Fullenkamp, Sam Garke, Courtney Gladdis, Abbie Grube, Joey Gonzalez, Mallory Hull, Rachel Kaup, Melissa Knapke, Shantel Leon, Brenda Link, Jodi Pottkotter, Gage Retz, Emilie Sheridan, Brandon Stammen, Tori Vaughn, and Courtney Wilker.

The directors for the play were Mrs. Angelika Schade Hein, Mrs. Bonnie Coffel, Mrs. Cathy Etzler, and Mrs. Jodi Staugler. The student director was senior, Emily Bauer. "The students who participated in this performance have many talents. They worked together and made the play a success," says director Schade Hein.

## January Sports

### High School Girls' Basketball

- 2 - V/JV - Franklin Monroe - (H) 1:00 PM
- 4 - Freshman - Versailles (A) 7 PM
- 7 - V/JV - Versailles - (H)
- 9 - Freshman - Coldwater - (H) 10:00 AM
- 11 - Freshman - Lima CC (A) 6:00 PM
- 14 - V/JV - Coldwater - (H) 6:00 PM
- 16 - Freshman - St. Mary's (H) 10:00 AM
- 16 - V/JV - Riverside (H) - 1:00 PM
- 18 - Freshman - Minster (A) 7:30 PM
- 19 - V/JV - Arcanum (A) 5:30 PM
- 21 - V/JV - Minster (A) 6:00 PM
- 25 - Freshman - Celina (H) 6:00 PM
- 28 - V/JV - New Knoxville (H) 6:00 PM
- 30 - Freshman - Minster (H) 10:00 AM
- 30 - V/JV - Ansonia (H) 1:00 PM

### High School Boys' Basketball

- 8 - V/JV - Versailles - (H) 6:30 PM
- 9 - Ansonia (A) 6:30 PM
- Freshmen - Coldwater (H) - 6:00 PM
- 15 - Coldwater (A) 6:30 PM
- 16 - Franklin Monroe (A) 6:30 PM
- 18 - Freshman - Minster (A) 6:00 PM
- 22 - V/JV Minster - (H) 6:30 PM
- 29 - V/JV - St. Henry (H) 6:30 PM

### Junior High Girls' Basketball

- 5 - Versailles (A) 5:30 PM
- 11 - Greenville - (H) 5:00 PM
- 12 - Coldwater - (H) 5:00 PM
- 19 - Minster (A) 5:00 PM
- 21 - Marion Local (A) 5:00 PM
- 26 - New Knoxville - (H) 5:00 PM
- 28 - Union City (A) 5:00 PM

### Junior High Boys' Basketball

- 5 - Union City - (H) 5:00 PM
- 7 - Versailles - (H) 5:00 PM
- 14 - Coldwater (A) 5:00 PM
- 16 - Arcanum (A) 10:00 AM
- 21 - Minster (A) 5:00 PM
- 23 - St. Marys - (H) 10:00 AM
- 28 - New Knoxville - (H) 5:00 PM

### High School Boys' & Girls' Swimming

- 9th - LCC 10:00 AM
- 16th - Celina-Wapak Inv. 8 AM
- 21st - Wapak 5:30 PM
- 23rd - Greenville & Piqua 5:30 PM
- 26th - Holiday Invitational - Lima - 8 AM
- 30th - New Bremen 5:45 PM

### Boys' Varsity Bowling

- 2 - Parkway - Varsity Lanes - St. Marys 10 AM
- 2 - New Bremen - Varsity Lanes -SM- 12:30 PM
- 9 - Minster -Speedway Lanes -New Brem. 1 PM
- 16 - St. Henry -Woodcrest /Union City 10 AM
- 16 - St. Marys -Woodcrest/Union City 12:30 PM
- 23 - Mississinawa - Ottawa Lanes 10:00 AM
- 30 - Ottawa-Glandorf -Pla-Mor Lanes/ CW 1 PM

### Girls' Varsity Bowling

- 2 - St. Henry - Miracle Lanes/FR 1PM
- 9 - Wapka - Speedway Lanes/ New Brem. 10 AM
- 23 - Marion Local - Varsity Lanes - SM 10 AM
- 23 - Greenville - Varsity Lanes - SM 12:30 PM
- 30 - Versailles - Pla-Mar Lanes/CW 10 AM

## Indian Cheerleaders Jump Into Season

By Natalie Rohrer

The Fort Recovery High School basketball cheerleaders have been busy preparing for the '09-'10 season. Aside from practicing after school, all of the girls have been working on coming up with some fresh, new ideas to make the games fun and exciting for spectators.

A total of twelve basketball cheerleaders will be showing their spirit for the Indians this season. Six freshmen, Jasmine Bechtol, Maleia Fullenkamp, Tana Hart, Jessica Kaiser, Emily Metzger, and Taylor Wendel, make up the junior varsity squad. Juniors Shelby Alig, Natalie Rohrer, Kelly Wendel, and Andrea Zumstein, along with sophomores Alison Koch and Nicole Siefiring, form the six-member varsity squad. Both the varsity and JV squads are supervised this season by advisor Rhonda Hull. Join the cheerleaders in supporting the Indians as the varsity team takes on competitors at the upcoming Coldwater Classic tournament!



Varsity Squad



JV Squad

## Diving Deep

By Alexis Sutter



The swim team traveled to Wapakoneta on December 10<sup>th</sup> to begin their season. The team is hoping to send at least five swimmers to districts and two to state this season.

The boys' team has three seniors Perry Hull, Ryan Gray, and Tyler May, who will lead the team. The rest of the team consists of freshmen Andy Gray, Lane Hull, and Marshall Hull. Regarding the senior boys Coach Jill Hull says, "They want this to be a great year!" The boys' strongest event will probably be the medley relay, which they are hoping to qualify for Districts.

The girls' team is very young. Kelly Hull and Mikayla Westgerdes, both tenth graders, and Mallory Kinder, a ninth grader, make up the girls' team. Although the team is young, they have all swam on the summer team for many years and this experience will add a lot to the team.

The teams have been working hard at practice to achieve their goals this season. Good luck to the teams and may their hard work pay off.

## Sports Updates

(As of December 18, 2009)

### High School Boys Basketball

JV: 0-3

Varsity: 3-0

Freshman: 1-1

### High School Girls Basketball

JV: 4-0

Varsity: 4-1

Freshman: 3-0

### Junior High Boys Basketball

7<sup>th</sup> grade: 0-3

8<sup>th</sup> grade: 3-0

### Junior High Girls Basketball

7<sup>th</sup> grade: 3-0

8<sup>th</sup> grade: 1-2

### High School Boys Bowling

Varsity: 0-2

### High School Girls Bowling

Varsity: 0-2

### High School Boys Swimming

Greenville Meet: 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 5

Versailles Meet: 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 6

### High School Girls Swimming

Greenville Meet: 5<sup>th</sup> out of 5

Versailles Meet: 5<sup>th</sup> out of 6