



CONNECTION

FEBRUARY 3, 2011

“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.”

— Albert Einstein



SCHOOL NEWS

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

- **Amelia High School is now completing its fourth year as a competitor in Battlebots.** For the first time this year, the Dayton Tool and Manufacturing Association Battlebots Competition will be held in Cincinnati. At the suggestion of Amelia High School Project Lead the Way teacher **Doug Paul**, the spring competition has been moved to the Scarlet Oaks campus in Sharonville on April 16, 2011. The public is welcome to attend the event, which features radio controlled “bots” from over 30 schools in the Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus and Toledo areas, to see who can “outlast, outwit, and outdrive.” Flying “bot-guts” inside the protective cage is the norm for the day.



Spencer Burton watches as Sabrina Halkiu works on her “radio controlled bot.”

Project Lead the Way is a nationally syndicated High School Engineering program which has now touched over 300,000 students in 2500 schools nationwide, employing 10,000 specially trained teachers, many of whom (like

Mr. Paul and Mr. Larrick at Amelia High School) have been drawn from practical experience in the world of industry. Since the number of engineers in America is decreasing, the need for them is increasing and the salaries of many first year college graduates are among the best in the business world. Amelia High School is in its fifth year partnering with Great Oaks to present this program which has been recognized as a wave of the future in education. Amelia High School is proud to have been the first school in the Cincinnati area to achieve National Certification with the Project Lead the Way organization, based out of New York State. The Amelia High School Project Lead the Way classes are open to all students, freshman and above, in the entire West Clermont School District.

Glen Este High School Drama Proudly Presents **The Matchmaker.**

PNC Bank’s traveling planetarium visits Brantner Elementary.



Business Professionals of America awards ceremony

- **The Amelia chapter of Business Professionals of America (BPA), within the Business and Technology School, competed in various software and skill competitions during January.** On January 28, BPA region 13 held their awards ceremony in the Amelia High School Performing Arts Center. Amelia students did a great job with 83 placing in contests and twenty students going on to BPA state competitions in Columbus, OH in March.
- **Support the Amelia High School BPA program Sunday, March 6.** They will be sponsoring their first annual mattress sale. Profits go directly to the BPA program. Name brand (Restonic and Southerland) mattress sets 30%-50% off retail. Top quality mattress sets with full manufacturer warranties. All sizes, price ranges, delivery and layaway available. Floor models will be on display at Amelia High School from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on March 6. If you or anyone you know is in the market for a new mattress, please check out this fundraiser!! For additional information contact Debbie Harbin of Ultimate Fundraising Solutions at dharbin65@yahoo.com. All sales will benefit Amelia's BPA program!!
- **Glen Este High School Drama Proudly Presents "The Matchmaker" by Thornton Wilder.** The performances will be on Thursday, March 3 at 7p.m and Saturday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in the Glen Este Performing Arts Center. Tickets will be \$5 at the door. Thornton Wilder's play *The Matchmaker* is a farce in the old-fashioned sense. It uses such time-honored conventions as characters hidden under tables and in closets, men disguised as women, a complex conspiracy to bring young lovers together, and a happy ending in which three couples are united with plans to marry. The Matchmaker was itself adapted as *Hello, Dolly!* in 1963 and ran for years, ranking as one of Broadway's longest-running musicals. We hope you can make plans to attend.
- **The Glen Este High School Thespian Troupe #6512 will be attending the Ohio State Theatre Conference on March 25-27 at Dublin Scioto High School.** Students will participate in a wide variety of Theatre Arts workshops and shows. They will also have the opportunity to watch the All-Ohio Show Good News which features students from across the state. Several students will also participate in individual events which are judged for competition and performance at the National Thespian Conference in Nebraska. The following WECIPA students will be competing: **Derek Daniel** – Monologue; **Nicole Brunner and Olivia Dennis** – Duet Acting; **Sam Farese** – Solo Musical; **Sarah Lindsey** – Solo Musical Dance; **Brittany Evans**-Costume Design. **Sarah Lindsey, Haley Lane, and Derek Daniel** also will participate in college auditions. **Sam Farese** will be competing for the Bob Fosse Thespian Scholarship which is awarded to a high school senior who exemplifies the character and leadership of a student involved in Theater.
- **The Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park Outreach Tour** will visit the Glen Este High School Campus on February 16. The touring company will perform the play *Dis/Troy* for the middle school at 8:45 a.m. and for all WECIPA students at 12:45 p.m. Each performance will be followed by a

question and answer period conducted by the professional company. The play is an adaptation written by Yokanaan Kearns. It focuses on the core events of the Greek writer Homer's *The Iliad*, contrasting the serious impact of the Trojan War on the humans with the silly bickering of the gods. Four actors play all the parts: Greeks, Trojans, and Olympic gods.

- **The Glen Este High School Boosters would like to invite you to our Annual Fundraising Event on Saturday, March 12.** "The Luck of The Trojans" event will be held at Royal Oak Country Club from 7p.m.-12a.m. Tickets for the event are \$45/couple or \$25 per person. The price includes the following: appetizers, two drink tickets, unlimited soft drinks, five raffle tickets and entertainment. Amnesia Lane is the band providing the musical entertainment. They are a local band with members who are educators in the West Clermont School District. A silent auction and raffle will take place at the event. All proceeds will go directly to The Glen Este High School Athletic Boosters. To purchase tickets, please contact **Michele Delaney** at 513-703-2189 or delanaysoccer@fuse.net.

**Glen Este High School
Athletic Boosters**

Presents

***"Luck of the Trojans
Fundraiser Event"***

Saturday, March 12, 2011
7:00pm-12:00am
Royal Oak Country Club

\$45.00 per couple or \$25.00 per single
(Price includes: Appetizers, 2 drink tickets, silent auction, raffle, cash bar & entertainment)

Entertainment Provided by "Amnesia Lane"
All Proceed to Benefit Glen Este Athletics
Tickets on Sale Now During All GEHS Home Men's Basketball Games
or Contact Michele Delaney at 513-703-2189

- **The West Clermont Institute for Performing Arts Dance Company will present Dancing with the Teachers on February 12 at 7 p.m.** For the first time ever, the live performance will be open to the public! The performance/competition will feature staff from Glen Este High School paired with dancers from the Dance Company who will compete live in three different styles of dance. Kathy Lach, Mike Hall, Jake Riordan, Joel Ward, Michael Williamson, Julie McNeal, Amy Meiser, Angela Walters, Kim Ziebold, Scott Reveal and George Sturgeon will each give their all to become the next top dancing teacher at Glen Este High School.

Students can begin voting on a fan favorite on February 7. Dancing with the Teachers is a fundraiser for the Dance Company, so students will vote by donating money for their favorite teacher. On February 12, a panel of four celebrity judges, John Spieser, Nathan Baughman, Joan Stear and Joe Evans, will eliminate dancing duos after each performance until there are four teams left, plus the fan favorite voted on by students. Then, members of the audience can donate money to cast their votes to decide the winner in the competition. The February 12 performance is open to the public and will be located at the Glen Este High School Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$2 for students and \$4 for adults.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

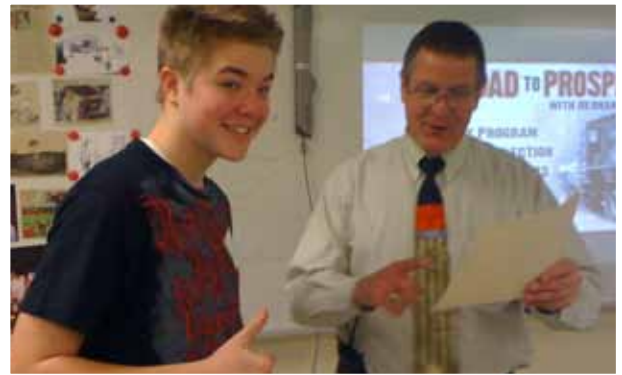
- In January, Amelia Middle School held a Geography Bee for all the students.** They started the bee competing in their individual classes and then against the other members of their grade. Three finalists from each grade competed against one another. The top finishers were: 1st place – **Sam Roll** (eighth grade); 2nd place – **Mason Black** (sixth grade); 3rd place – **Carter Hounshell** (eighth grade). Sam Roll went on to take the test to compete at the state level. Congratulations to all the contestants!!
- On January 19 Glen Este Middle School honored their November and December Students of the Month** with a breakfast in the library. Parents and students were invited to breakfast where Mr. Thacker presented each student with a Student of the Month certificate. Breakfast is provided by Everything Bagel.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

- After completing the Reading Street lesson on the five senses, Amelia Elementary third grade students** started to read individual books on each of the specific senses. In addition to reading about the five senses, students explored as well. Pictured are some of the items the students used while exploring the sense of touch – cotton, sandpaper and ribbon. The students were very excited to end the lesson using ALL 5 senses with popcorn!
- During the 2010-11 school year, Amelia Elementary teachers Miss Van Eman and Mrs. Evans started a technology club called Tiger Tech.** Students in 5th grade meet once a week in order to learn about technology and eventually will provide support for classroom teachers. During the past month, students have created Voki's. A Voki is a free service that allows students and teachers to create personalized speaking avatars to be used on classroom blogs. Tiger Tech students invite you to see their Voki creations at the Tiger Tech blog site: <http://tigertechclub.blogspot.com/>



- The PNC Bank traveling planetarium called One World One Sky was at Brantner Elementary** on January 27. The exhibit about the sun, earth, moon and stars was shown to preschool, kindergarten and first grade students. We are grateful to PNC Bank for making this wonderful exhibit available to us!



Sam Roll, eighth grade student, is congratulated by AMS principal, Mr. Mack.



Students of the Month honored at breakfast event.



Kurtis Craig, Luke Mentzel and Nathan Blakely explore the sense of touch.



Lynn Niergarth's preschool class in their "space helmets."

- **Clough Pike Elementary has just not been the same without our wonderful Head Custodian Mr. Johnson, even though his sub, Mr. Green, is doing a great job!** The students have increasingly missed Mr. Johnson as the year has progressed, prompting a Penny War to cheer him up. The results speak volumes of the LOVE our kids, families, and staff feel for Mr. Johnson. In Clough Pike's history, there has never been a bigger response and excitement about having the chance to win lunch with Mr. Crahan and to cheer up Mr. Johnson. Students raised more than \$2,300! THANK YOU to the wonderful Clough students, their families, and our staff for the great support of the Penny War and Mr. Johnson. How exciting to see Mr. Johnson at the Penny War assembly! He and his family were very touched.



Mr. Johnson, with students, Rie Voyt and Chloe Seckman at the Penny War assembly.

- **Jason Statt, Statman on the B-105 morning show, visited Beth Testa's fifth grade class at Clough Pike Elementary.** He shared stories about his struggle with learning to read and how he was able to overcome this and become successful. He told students how important reading is in his job as a Disc Jockey and how finding books you like and a happy place to read can help you become a better reader. Ben Applegate, a student in the class, and his mother Jessica set up the visit.



B-105 morning show host visits Beth Testa's fifth grade class.

- **An educational program designed to teach children about energy efficiency, called The Power in Energy, was presented at Holly Hill Elementary in January.** Materials created by Scholastic and sponsored by Duke Energy feature characters from The Magic School Bus book series. Handouts contained at-home activities and energy saving tips. The program shows students the wise uses of electricity with no waste to reduce our nation's need for energy, promote a clean environment, and save energy resources. **Michelle White** from Duke Energy presented the Power in Energy program. She used a variety of methods – such as juggling balls, showing a generator and diagrams – to help the children understand about electricity. For one lesson she had eight students get into a circle and hold hands. She produced an electrical ball that flashed when the students held hands. When the circle was broken, when the students stopped holding hands, the flashing light stopped. Ms. White was showing the students that electricity can pass through our bodies.



Michelle White from Duke Energy presented the Power in Energy program to Holly Hill students.

- **Merwin Elementary second grader Kory Kaiser has been selected as the February Student of the Month by SRO Jason Doermann.** Kory spent time learning about police work and working with Dougie the police dog. Kory was selected because he is an outstanding school citizen and always puts forth his best effort.



Kory with police dog Dougie.

- **Merwin Elementary received a thank you note today from the Ronald McDonald House** for donating pop tabs. The donation weighed 17.5 pounds which was incredible! Because the students saved so many tabs, the Ronald McDonald House is able to meet the needs of 78 families at once!
- **Summerside Elementary held its Winter Wonderland Father and Daughter Dance** on January 28. The Summerside gym was transformed into a beautiful blue, white, and silver winter scene. Music was provided by Crystal Clear Entertainment for fathers and daughters to dance the night away. Lifetouch was present to take photos to preserve the memory of the fun evening. Door prizes and snacks were provided to make the evening complete! A great time was had by all.
- **At Summerside we LOVE SCIENCE!** So does Duke Energy. On January 26, Mrs. White, a former science teacher, presented fun and fast paced science lessons that included amazing science demonstrations for the students and their teachers. Students in grades K, 1, 3, & 4 received take home energy kits to share with their families compliments of Duke Energy. This assembly, Power in Energy, was provided free of charge to our school and was paid for by Duke Energy. Thanks to Mrs. McGregor from our Teaching & Learning department for sharing this terrific learning resource with our school.
- **After-school enrichment is a specialty at Summerside Elementary School.** The students have a wide variety of after-school classes and clubs to choose from each week. Students can take karate lessons, dance lessons, play chess, use computers, become young authors or further develop their artistic skills at school for little or no cost to our families. Summerside's PTO supports student enrichment programming by subsidizing the cost of the supplies, materials and instructors for all of our SEEC classes. Thanks PTO and other community members who teach after school at Summerside!
- **Students in Ms. Hanke's third grade math classes at Willowville Elementary** are learning about symmetry. After participating in a Smart Board lesson, students practiced making symmetrical designs with a partner. They used a ruler as their line of symmetry and pattern blocks to create the design.



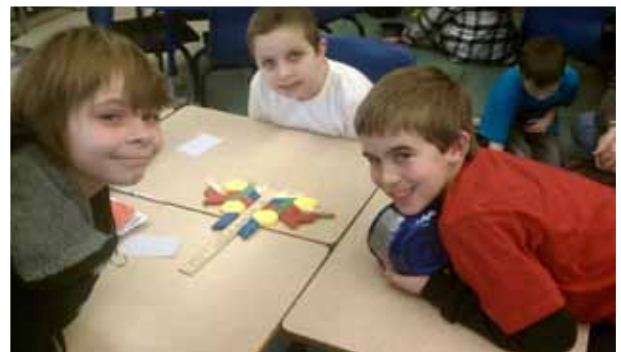
Winter Wonderland Father and Daughter Dance.



Mrs. White performs amazing science demonstrations for Summerside students.



Summerside students enjoy a karate demonstration thanks to the PTO.



Willowville Elementary third grade students in Ms. Hanke's math class, Aiden Phillips, Dylan Heuberger and Cory Hendricks, proudly display their symmetrical designs.