



CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

“The larger the island of knowledge,
the longer the shoreline of wonder.”

— Ralph Sockman



DISTRICT NEWS

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- **At the September 27 meeting of the West Clermont Board of Education, Amelia High School senior John Hart was recognized.** John has been named a 2011 National Merit Semifinalist.



John Hart, accompanied by his parents, Derek and Donna Hart, received a Certificate of Recognition from Board President Dan Krueger and Superintendent Dr. Gary Brooks.

Glen Este
Homecoming
Parade October 1

AHS student
Matthew Bradley
named a National
Merit Commended
Student

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

- **Matthew Bradley, senior at Amelia High School, has been named a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship Program.** Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2011 competition by taking the 2009 PSAT/NMSQT Test.
- **The Freshman Transition Team at Glen Este High School recently hosted a late summer snow cone “snowcial” for the incoming ninth graders.** The “ice-breaker” was designed to get the students socializing and building team spirit. According to new **Glen Este High School Principal John Spieser**, the first year of high school can be full of challenges, and this was simply a fun way to make them feel welcome. “My message from day one is that we are very proud of our small schools, but we are all Trojans,” said Spieser.



Glen Este freshmen enjoyed a cool treat on a hot day, while spending a little time getting to know their classmates.

At right: Chris White, AMS sixth grader, answers questions during a game of vocabulary “Password.”

- **The GEHS Homecoming Parade is scheduled for October 1 at 6:30 p.m. starting from Bigg’s parking lot to east on Clepper Lane, right on Glen Este-Withamsville Rd to GEHS Campus.**

Participants to date include:

- Banner – freshmen
- Chick-fil-a
- Floats – sophomore, junior and senior class
- GEHS Cheerleaders
- GEHS Homecoming Court
- GEHS Marching Band
- GEMS Cheerleaders
- Little Caesar’s (GEHS Cheer sponsors)
- Sign Language Club
- Sonic
- Thespian Troupe
- Union Township Fire Department
- US Marines
- West Clermont Dance Company
- Yellow Ribbon Support Center

Enjoy the Homecoming activities and game as the Amelia Barons take on Clermont Northeastern at 7:30 p.m.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

- **In Mr. Cornett’s sixth grade science class at Amelia Middle School, students**



learned vocabulary words by playing an interactive game called "Password," which was created in PowerPoint with the help of Mrs. Ford.

Students were broken up into groups of four to create hints on each vocabulary word after reading the word's definition. Once the hints were created, a student was randomly selected to become the first contestant. With the student sitting in a chair in front of the classroom facing their peers, the science term was displayed on the mimo board. The students revealed their hints until the contestant answered correctly or the buzzer made a sound to indicate time was up. This interactive activity made learning vocabulary words fun and exciting. Everyone wanted to participate. The student from each class that answered the most correctly received a Baron Buck and a piece of candy.

- **The Glen Este Middle School Counseling Department created a website for discussing topics that are relevant to middle school students and parents.**

Updates about the Counseling Department are also included at the site. Please visit www.gemscounseling.weebly.com.

- **The eighth grade students at Glen Este Middle School took the EXPLORE test on September 28. The EXPLORE test is a practice ACT that:**

- : lets you know if you are on track for college
- : helps you choose high school courses that will get you ready for college
- : helps you find careers that match your interests
- : shows you the subjects in which you need to improve
- : helps you see which subjects are most important for certain careers

For more information on the EXPLORE, as well as other upcoming career activities, please visit the GEMS Counseling website at www.gemscounseling.weebly.com.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

- **Mr. McFarland's fourth grade students at Amelia Elementary conducted an experiment last week**

as an opportunity to put into practice the science process skills they had been learning. The students worked through the scientific method when designing this experiment. They thought of a question, shared what they knew would happen, developed a process (experiment), carried out the experiment, and then drew conclusions. A few minor mistakes during the experiment provided a great learning opportunity for everyone involved. It was a great afternoon of science at Amelia Elementary.



Mr. McFarland conducts a learning experiment for his students.

- **Amelia Elementary parents went "back to school" on September 22 as they attended parent technology night.** Parents had the opportunity to "sign-in" using the Smart Board and then took a test using the student response system (clickers). MOST questions were answered correctly. Amelia parents had a great time and enjoyed learning about Amelia's 21st. Century Classrooms.



Amelia Elementary parents participate in a technology night.

- **Brantner Elementary is using a new technology in their preschool called a "Tap It" board.** The children love it and it allows the teachers to implement curriculum in a new way.
- **Holly Hill Elementary kindergarten students were excited to see a very special visitor at their school.** On September 22, Andy the Armadillo, from Texas Roadhouse in Milford, visited Holly Hill Elementary. Andy read to the kindergarten classes and visited the classrooms. When was the last time you were read to by an armadillo?



Stacey Swift from Texas Roadhouse read to the students with help from Andy the Armadillo



Sydney Bloom works on colors, size and shapes.

NEWS FROM MERWIN ELEMENTARY

- **On October 1, Merwin students will participate in the PTO Walk-a-thon.** There are great prizes this year from magic shows to Beach Water Park Season Passes. This fundraiser is used to support projects all year!
- **September 30 will be the first Dessert with the Principal for the school year.** Students are selected for this honor for being respectful, responsible and good school citizens. Frisch's Cherry Grove sponsors this event each month.
- **The first week of October, Merwin second and fourth grader students will take the Stanford Achievement Test.** Student schedules will be slightly changed to accommodate the testing minutes. It is important for students to be at school on time, eat a good breakfast, and have a good night's sleep!
- **Merwin third grade students will take the fall Reading Ohio Achievement Assessment (OAA) on Wednesday, October 6.** The state allows third graders to take the test in the fall and then again in the spring. Information from the fall will help teachers adjust instruction to meet the needs of their students. Students need to be at school on time, eat a good breakfast, and have a good night's sleep!

- **Summerside Elementary is very excited to have adopted the Reading Street literacy series this year.** The school received hundreds of materials that had to be checked-in and hand stamped with the school's stamp before being distributed to teachers for student use. A local youth group volunteered their time to complete this task under the direction of **Mrs. Karen Fields** (SE office assistant) in early August. Below are listed all of the kids and adults from the Lifestream Christian Church Youth Group who helped complete the book stamping project. Summerside staff truly thanks this volunteer group, their adult leaders **Mr. and Mrs. Stockton** (SE parents) for their help on this huge project. These students should be commended for their involvement in community service and we believe it to be a very valuable part of our lives for many reasons.

August 13: Terrie Stockton, Diana Taylor, Zach Newcomb, Kaitlyn and Jordan Patterson, Hali Dingo and Lauren Turner

August 16: Mark Elliott, Molly Stockton, Cassie Hali, Cleo Dingo, Maggie Menke, Carter Higgins and Taylor Newcomb

- **It's time for Summerside's largest fundraiser of the school year, the annual Walk-A-Thon!!** The walk-a thon a great way to spend time with friends and family walking on the beautiful school campus, as well as a way for each student to raise money for the school through the PTO. The money raised goes directly into supporting student activities such as COSI visits, special programs like field trips and after-school intramurals and SSEC classes. Students can earn exciting prizes such as being a guest gym, music, or art teacher, or having extra recess, having breakfast with Glen Este football and cheerleaders or even being principal for half of the day. Mark your calendars! Summerside's Walk-A-Thon will be held rain or shine on Friday, October 15. Plan to support and attend this terrific event this year. Everyone is encouraged to help in enriching the students education experience at Summerside. Any contribution is appreciated and no contribution is too small. Summerside PTO is looking for volunteers to help with this event.

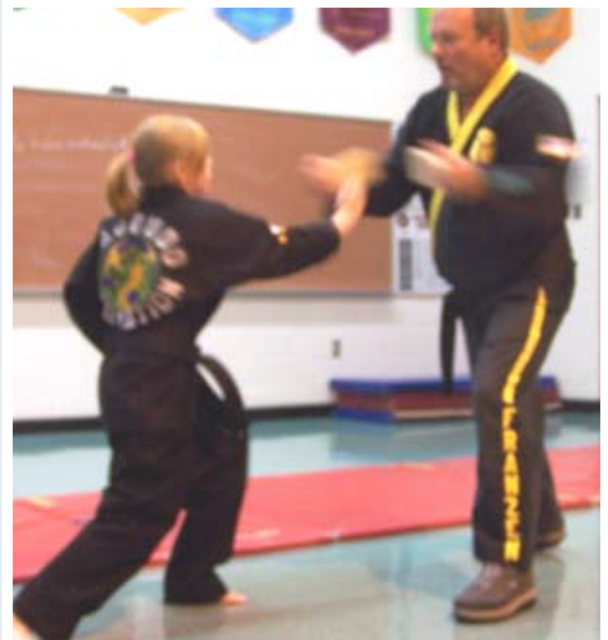
- **The students at Willowville Elementary enjoyed a Martial Arts demonstration from fifth grade student Coralyn Brown** who has already earned her black belt. Karate instructor Mr. Mike Franzen talked to the students about respect, concentration, confidence, and perseverance which correlates with Willowville's routines, procedures, and expectations. Coralyn and principal **Michelle Kennedy** broke boards for the student body.



The Lifestream Christian Church Youth Group helped complete the book stamping project.



Summerside students prepare for Walk-A-Thon.



Coralyn Brown, fifth grade student at Willowville Elementary, breaks a board with her hand at the Martial Arts assembly.



Withamsville-Tobasco Elementary students and staff gather outside their new building for a group photo.