



North Elementary Holds Benefit for Hounds' Haven

Students at Buckeye North Elementary are sharing the love with some furry friends by conducting an annual benefit for Hounds' Haven Inc.

The school will collect money and items for the no-kill animal shelter in Dillonvale and hold a different animal-themed activity each day from Feb. 10-14. Principal Susan Nolan said it all begins that Monday when students pay to vote for their favorite animal.

"All of the money goes to Hounds' Haven," she added. "Donations of old blankets, toys, cat and dog food, treats and cat litter are being accepted. The top two classes in grades PreK-2 and 3-6 with the most weight in donations will get an ice cream party."

Kids will also complete a coloring activity and their artwork will be posted in the building, while they get to dress as their favorite animal that Tuesday. On Wednesday, they may bring in their favorite stuffed animal with paws and Thursday they bring a book to become a "PAWS-itively good" reader throughout the day. Events close on Friday with the collection of items and money for donation to the shelter.

Hounds' Haven, which is located at 22 Township Road 150, is a "quality of life" shelter for homeless and abused animals around the Ohio Valley and provides food, care and love while actively seeking adoptive homes.

For more information about the organization, call (740) 733-8546. or go to the Fans of Hounds' Haven Facebook page.



Nailers Visit South for PBIS Day

Members of the Wheeling Nailers hockey team made their first visit to Buckeye South Elementary on Jan. 30 as part of the school's Positive Behavior Supports and Intervention (PBIS) initiative for the second nine weeks. An estimated 250 students in grades K-6 met with players Aaron Titcomb, Spencer Trapp and Justin Almeida and pupils Austin Carothers and Logan Dougherty also got to wear some of the gear.



Buckeye West Elementary fifth-grader Shaylee Bezak poses with her entry for the school science fair on Jan. 23. She gained an honorable mention for her display.

West Hosts Science Fair

Buckeye West Elementary students showed off their skills during the annual Science Fair on Jan. 23.

Fifth- and sixth-graders exhibited displays about planets, volcanoes and more for judging. Organizer Allison Bartek, a fifth-grade teacher at the school, said the top three winners plus honorable mention recipients from each grade level were officially awarded during an Honors Club assembly.

Among the recipients were sixth-grade winners Kamden Kinyo, Pierce Sobleski and Jack Newell with classmates Tucker McVicker and McKenna Halicky earning honorable mention, as well as fifth-graders Brandon Keller, Shawn Jordan and Jacob Porter winning top spots and Shaylee Bezak, Madison Krzys and Joseph Greene gaining honorable mention. Judges for the event included school nurse Dolores Spragg, teachers Jamie Traczyk and Melissa Sobleski and Principal Jim Rocchi.

BLHS Student Council Creates School Pantry

Food Available for All Students for School or to Take Home

Students can quell their hunger with a new food pantry available at Buckeye Local High School.

The student council began operating the program on Jan. 21 and members are spreading the word that it benefits everyone. A variety of treats are stocked in a space near the second-floor media center to help students curb their appetite at school, plus they may take items home. The pantry is open before first and second period—or respectively from 7:25-7:34 a.m. and 8:20-8:30 a.m.—as well as before departure at the end of the school day.

Advisor Mike DiCenzo, who shares duties with fellow teacher Jenny Lowry, said the idea was to give students access to snacks as well as to help feed their families, and there was an obvious need



The Buckeye Local High School Student Council formed a free food pantry for students near the second-floor media center. Items are offered to eat in school and to take home. Pictured with a few of the goods are student council co-presidents Kya DeMeter and Conrad Schuetz

to fill.

Members of the student council's executive committee created a student-based survey to determine what items to include and requests ranged from fruit snacks and granola bars to soup and macaroni and cheese. The organization was also inspired by a successful program at Indian Creek High School and reviewed their project to obtain ideas.

BLHS Student Council Co-Presidents Kya DeMeter and Conrad Schuetz said local churches have donated food for the pantry to help keep it replenished. The goal now is to ensure students know it is available so they can take advantage.

"It's everything they can easily make here or take home," said DeMeter. "It's for everyone and it's free food."

"There are Pop Tarts, macaroni and cheese and Ramen noodles," added Schuetz. "It's open to anybody, whether you got up late and didn't eat breakfast or need to take something home. The local churches donate items or money and we purchase items."

International Culture Fair on Feb. 27

Buckeye Local High School students will give a global retrospective during the 15th Annual International Culture Fair on Feb. 27.

Foreign Language Club students will have exhibits boasting food and information from countries around the world and the public is invited to participate from 5-8 p.m. Club advisor Bonnie Soos said this year's theme is "Legends from Yesterday" and the event will include international food tasting, live music from Rick Pastre, cultural displays, children's activities, raffles, theatrical performances such as singing and dancing and a Parade of Nations. Admission is free but food tasting tickets are 25 cents each with 50-50 raffle tickets sold for \$1 each or six for \$5. Proceeds from the fair will fund the club's spring field trip and other cultural opportunities.

"Our Foreign Language Club consists of 100 members and a large number of them will be participating in one way or another," Soos said. "Members are representing countries, selling food and raffle tickets, serving refreshments, helping with decorations and children's activities, dancing,

singing, setting up for the event and cleaning up afterwards."

Among the 20 countries being spotlighted are Russia, Italy, Bahamas, Latvia, Romania, Brazil, Japan, Hungary, United Kingdom, Puerto Rico, Peru, Jamaica, France, China, Ireland, Poland, Bolivia, Mexico, Nicaragua and Spain. Soos continued that more fun interaction is planned for kids who attend with passports and characters from foreign fairy tales and legends. Members will dress in costume as a character from the country they represent while children may take pictures with their favorites.

She commented that the fair has been successful due in large part to the student and public participation.

"We are extremely proud of the success of our culture fair. We are celebrating our 15th one, which is amazing," she concluded. "We hope it will be the biggest and best fair ever. I am so proud of our club members and their hard work and dedication to making this event so successful year after year. I also want to thank the community for being so supportive over the years. We hope to see everyone there!"



BMC Champs

The Buckeye Local Jr. High School wrestling team won top honors as the Buckeye Mountaineer Conference Small School Champs during tournament action on Jan. 11 at Beaver Local. Members Chase McFadden, Noah Kourim and Dallas Sproull won their individual 150-lb., 142-lb. and 128-lb. weight classes, respectively while Aydin Lawson placed third in the 160-lb. weight class.

Coach Ryan Morrow said the team also received fifth place overall and was among 12 schools participating, including Oak Glen, Edison, Beaver Local, Toronto, Linsly and Indian Creek. Pictured with their trophy are, from left, Seth Driscoll, Jacob Rinkes, Chase McFadden, Noah Kourim, Aydin Lawson, Denver Nelson and Dallas Sproull while Aiden Dentz was absent from the photo.