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Wooster City School District

Inspiring World-Class Academic Achievement

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STATE CHAMPS!

Wooster High School's Speech and Debate team took first place at the Ohio Speech and Debate State Finals on Saturday, March 7. The team finished first place in the Team Sweepstakes and Ben Snoddy and Gaelan Gatz were named state champions in Policy Debate, the same category Snoddy was named best speaker. Taylor Bennington was also named state champion in Congressional Debate. Alli Wigham finished sixth

in Oratorical Interpretation.

"Coming off of this weekend, I still can't stop smiling," said Coach William Franck. "These young people have worked so hard and are incredibly talented. To win as many contests as they have and then be the best team in Ohio is something special!"

Leading Wooster to success, 18 students finished as finalists in the competition. Octafinalists in-

cluded Han Mahle, Kenny Kalikasingh, Alexander Thompson and Drosos Kardulias. Quarterfinalists were Patrick Carmel, Eric Belcik, Rachel Wood, Drew Arbogast, Paige Clayton, Jared Cassarly and Lee Morris. Semifinalists were Nick Lee, Storm and Scott Nicholson, Pierre Paul, Alex Hasapis and Mary Grace Gorman. Nate Steiner and Katie Mount also made it to the semifinal round in Congress-

Continued on page 8

Wooster High School
STATE CHAMPIONS
SPEECH & Debate
2001, 2002, 2006, 2015



Wooster City School District

Financial Update

BY: BONNIE WEST, TREASURER/CFO

Governor Kasich recently introduced his state biennium budget proposal, which will allocate funds to various agencies throughout the state including the education community. As this proposal makes its way to the state legislature for consideration, there are two parts of this recommendation that directly impact the finances of the Wooster City School District.

First, the subject of continued phase out of Tangible Personal Property (TPP) reimbursement is once again on the table. In prior years, the district has seen what was an annual funding source of nearly \$8 million be reduced to \$5.3 million. The Governor's budget proposal calls for further reduction of TPP reimbursement resulting in new and additional losses of \$743,000 to Wooster City Schools in each year of the budget. Conversation once again is centered on the eventual and

complete elimination of this funding source to occur over the next several years. This situation by itself is problematic for the district.

The second part concerns core state funding to Wooster City Schools. This is commonly referred to as per pupil or formula basic aid. Estimates of how current student and community demographics impact the funding formula would cause an increase in per pupil funding of approximately \$850,000 the first year and \$940,000 the second year of the proposed budget.

Overall, as the draft budget stands, the proposed loss of TPP reimbursement when coupled with the proposed increase in per-pupil funding would allow the district to break even and possibly see a slight revenue gain in each of the next two years. However, when looking forward to future state budgets, will the per-pupil funding formula have the ability

to continue to provide revenue increases to the Wooster City Schools at the same rate as the future scheduled losses in TPP funding?

For more information on this topic or other school funding questions, please contact me at wstr_bwest@woostercityschools.org.

Symphonic Band and Concert Choir Received Superior Ratings

The Wooster High School Symphonic Band, led by Instrumental Music Teacher Dan Adams, and the Concert Choir, led by Vocal Music Teacher Emily Patterson, both received superior ratings at the recent Ohio Music Education Association Large Group Contest.

Congratulations to both groups on receiving this high honor! This achievement indicates much hard work, practice and effort from the students and directors.



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Students Finding Success in Power of the Pen, Spelling and Geography Bees



Henry Gamble



Tyler Keating



Kaitlynn Lake



Clara Lee



Lucas Lindenmuth

Wooster students have been performing well in recent competitions.

The Power of the Pen seventh grade team won first place at the regional tournament at Norway Middle School on March 14. The team previously competed and won first place at the district tournament at Black River Middle School on Saturday, Feb. 7.

The seventh grade district and regional winning team consisted of Anna Nacci, Rheanna Velasquez, Tyler Keating, Clara Lee, Bryn Savidge and Henry Gamble. In addition, Rheanna won best of round and me-

daled and eighth graders Lexi Nolletti took home a medal and Kaitlynn Lake received a trophy

on Saturday, March 2, at the Akron-Summit County Public Library.

Congratulations to all of our competitors! You make Wooster proud.

for finishing fourth at regionals.

Eighth grade student Lucas Lindenmuth of Wooster High School placed second in the Akron Regional Spelling Bee held

Altogether, Lindenmuth has competed in nine spelling bees, including two regional, school and county bees. Of the nine spelling bees, this is the best he

has ever done.

Edgewood Middle School seventh grader Sophia VanSickle placed in the top 10 in the 2015 Ohio National Geographic Geography Bee. The state bee was held on Friday, March 27, at the Ohio Dominican University in Columbus.

The state bee is the second level of the National Geographic Geography Bee. Students compete at a school, state, then national level.

Congratulations to all of our competitors! You make Wooster proud.



Anna Nacci



Lexi Nolletti



Rheanna Velasquez



Bryn Savidge



Sophia VanSickle



Wooster City School District

Spring 2015 Calendar of Events

All district events may be seen at www.woostercityschools.org

Thursday, April 16

Kean: Spring Program - Kdg-Gr. 1 - 7:00 pm
Parkview: Spring Picture Day

Saturday, April 18

WHS: ACT Testing

Wednesday, April 22

OAA Grade 3 Reading Test

Thursday, April 23

WHS: Drama Club Induction - 6:30 pm

Saturday, April 25

Big Band Dance: WHS Commons - 8:30-11 pm

Monday, April 27

WHS Academic Awards: WHS PAC - 7 pm

Tuesday, April 28

WHS: ACT On-Site

Saturday, May 2

WHS: SAT Testing

Tuesday, May 5

All-City Spring Orchestra Concert - WHS PAC - 7:30 pm

Wednesday, May 6

WHS: Gr. 8-12 Bands Spring Concert - PAC - 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 7

All-City Choir Concert - WHS PAC - 7:30 pm

Saturday, May 9

WHS: Prom

Sunday, May 10

Mother's Day

Wednesday, May 13

All Grade 4: Reach Out and Dance, WHS PAC - 12:30 pm

Thursday, May 14

WHS: Drama Club Celebration - 6:30 pm
Edgewood: Gr. 6-7 Orchestra Concert, Gr. 7 Band Concert - 7:30 pm

Friday, May 15

Kean: PTO Family Night - Talent Show - 6:30 - 8 pm

Monday, May 18

WHS: Music Awards - PAC - 7 pm

Monday, May 18 - Thursday May 21

Parkview: Scholastic Book Fair

Monday, May 18 - Friday May 22

Parkview: Right to Read Week

Wednesday, May 20

WHS: Senior Give-Back Day

Wednesday, May 20 - Thursday, May 21

Edgewood: Ronald McDonald Care Mobile

Thursday, May 21

Parkview: PTO Ice Cream Social

Monday, May 25

Memorial Day - NO SCHOOL

WHS: Marching Band - Memorial Day Parade

and Services - 9 am

Thursday, May 28

Parkview: Gr. 3-4 Awards Assembly - 9:30 am
Gr. K-3 Awards Assembly - 11 am

Friday, May 29

Last Day of School for Students
Kean: Gr. K-4 Awards Assembly - 2 pm
Melrose: Awards Assembly - 10 am
Cornerstone: Gr. 4 Assembly - 10 am

Thursday, June 4

WHS: Senior Awards - 7 pm

Sunday, June 7

WHS: Graduation - Follis Field - 2 pm

Sunday, June 14

Flag Day

Sunday, June 21

Father's Day

Shelmar Tennis & Fitness Club

330-262-8100
Open 7 days a week

Monday — Thursday

8:30 am – 9:00 pm

Saturday

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Friday

8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday

11:00 am – 3:00 pm



Shelmar Tennis & Fitness Club offers tennis year-round to players of all ages and skill levels on the club's four indoor tennis courts.

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- Drills for Kids & Adults — Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced
- Private & Group Lessons for Kids & Adults of All Skill Levels
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- Member & Non-Member Court Times Available
- Racquet Stringing

Vicki Nelson-Dunbar; world class tennis player and Shelmar's Tennis Director/Pro



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- New Selectorize Weight Machines
- Full Free Weight Area

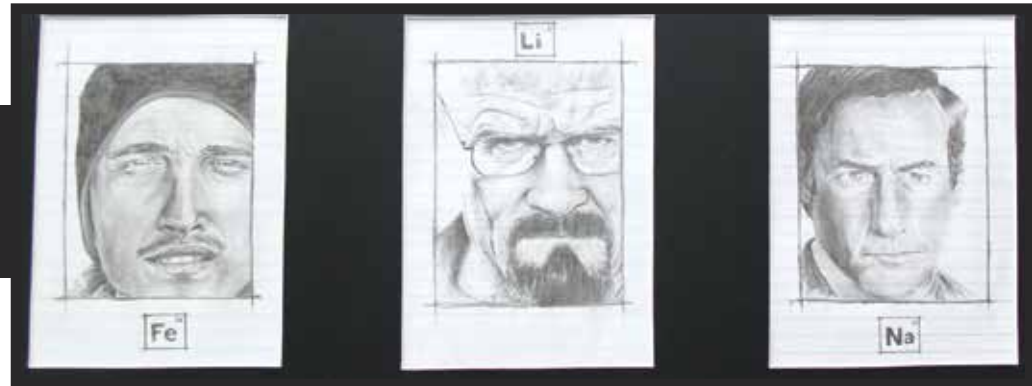
For more information on our variety of programs for tennis and fitness, call 330-262-8100.

Shelmar Tennis & Fitness Club | 1578 Mechanicsburg Road, Wooster OH 44691 | 330-262-8100 | www.shelmartennis.com

2015 Fine Arts Festival

The Wooster City School District recently held its 17th Annual Fine Arts Festival on Saturday, March 17. The event, which was free to the public, included visual, instrumental and vocal arts performances by students from all of Wooster's elementary schools, Edgewood Middle School and Wooster High School.

**People's Choice -
Dakota Hull**



2D

**Best of Show
Dakota Hull**



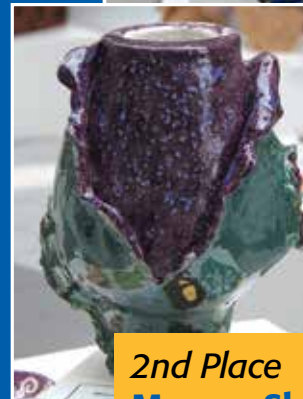
**2nd Place
Tom Myers**



**3rd Place
Hannah Taylor**

3D

**Best of Show
Tionna Mosley**



**2nd Place
Maycee Sherrill**



**3rd Place
Colton Morgan**



Melrose Elementary Celebrates Right to Read Week

Melrose Elementary School celebrated Right to Read Week from April 6-10. The theme of the week was "Once Upon A Time." Students read classic and new "fractured" fairy tales, dressed up as book characters and had a classroom door-decorating contest.

Every day of the week had a specific fairy tale theme. On Monday, students dressed up as characters from "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." They also watched a performance of "The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales"

from the Magical Theatre Company. On Tuesday students dressed up as characters from "Rapunzel," on Wednesday the theme was "The Three Little Pigs" and on Thursday the theme was "Cinderella." The week ended with "Little Red Riding Hood" and a presentation of the movie "Hoodwinked."

The students had a lot of fun during Right to Read Week and enjoyed learning about fairy tales old and new. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped to make the week possible.



Wooster Schools Participate in Heart Health Awareness Month in February



The Wooster City School District partnered again with the American Heart Association (AHA) during the month of February to promote National Heart Health Month.

During the week of Feb. 2-6, Wooster promoted a district-wide

spirit week featuring daily announcements with heart-healthy tips. Students dressed up each day of the week, supporting specific themes.

Themes included "Team Up Against Heart Disease" where stu-

2015 Kindergarten Registration

The Wooster City School District is currently registering children who will turn five by Sept. 30 for kindergarten.

Registration appointments are recommended.

To make an appointment, parents please call 330.988.1111 ext. 1241.

Parents must bring:

- a completed and signed registration packet,
- the child's original birth

certificate,

- social security number,
- immunization record,
- proof of residence in the Wooster City School District and, if applicable
- proof of custody or guardianship

Kindergarten registration packets can be found on the district's website, www.woostercityschools.org, are available at each elementary school or are available at the Board of Education office, 144 N. Market St.

dents wore their favorite team's apparel; "White Out Heart Disease" where everyone wore white; "Put a Lid on Heart Disease" by wearing hats; "Warm Up Your Heart" by wearing flannel clothing and everyone sported blue and gold for "Generals Against Heart Disease."

The district held "Black Out Heart Disease" by having students and staff wear black to school and then to the basketball game that night as the Generals hosted West Holmes. At half time there were jump rope and hoop shoot competitions, as well as blood pressure screenings in the Commons.

Two-Tier Busing To Begin in August

After careful deliberation, Wooster City Schools has determined it will implement a two-tiered busing system in August. Three goals led to this change as the school system desired to create a:

1. Later school start time for their adolescent and young adult learners;
2. An earlier dismissal time for their elementary school children; and
3. Reduction of current walk zones, specifically the two-mile walk zone for high school students.

Moving to a two-tiered transportation system enables the

“We are really pleased to announce that this change has also reduced our walk zones”

– SUPERINTENDENT DR. MICHAEL TEFS

school district to accomplish the above three goals. “We are excited to announce that switching to two-tier busing will allow for all of our goals to be met,” said Superintendent Dr. Michael Tefs. “We are pleased that Wooster will now have one of the latest start

times for our high school students in the Tri-County area. The

American Academy of Pediatrics released a policy statement saying that middle and high schools should begin class around 8:30 a.m. Though we have not met this recommendation perfectly, we are much closer.”

The new tentative schedule will

place the high school and Edgewood Middle School’s seventh grade on roughly the same start and end times of 8:00 a.m. Grades K-6 will begin school around 9:00 a.m. Specific times and schedules will be released in early August.

“We are really pleased to announce that this change has also reduced our high school walk zone from two miles down to one mile while kindergarten – sixth grade student walk zones will be reduced from one mile to .75 miles”, said Dr. Tefs.



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Speech and Debate Team Wins State Championship - continued from page 1

sional Debate.

While they impressed the judges on stage for their performance, many people took notice of the character each student displayed throughout the competition.

"The coaching staff was given several compliments on how our students comported themselves," said Franck. "The hotel staff loved our kids and said our group acted better than any high school or college team that they have ever hosted. The other coaches at the tournament also commented on how professional our students were and how well they supported each other and their fellow competitors."

Even with the state championship under their belts, there are still a

few events the team will be participating in over the next several months, including the NSDA National Championship Tournament on June 14-19 in Dallas. Qualifiers for the event include:

Matt Friedhoff, *Dramatic Interpretation*

Scott Nicholson and Storm Nicholson, *Duo Interpretation*

Pierre Paul, *Original Oratory*

Mary Grace Gorman, *United States Extemporaneous*

Taylor Bennington, *Congressional Debate*

Alex Hasapis, *Congressional Debate*

Katie Mount, *Congressional Debate*



Ben Snoddy, Galean Gatz and Taylor Bennington

The program plans to promote speech and debate at the middle school by creating the Wooster City Middle School Speech and Debate Tournament. Upperclassman will coach and train middle school students in different events and then middle school students will be asked to compete at a small tournament hosted by the high school team. Practices will begin in April and the tournament will be in mid May.

"With such an impressive performance at the state tournament, we are incredibly proud of these young men and women and how well they represent our district," said Superintendent Dr. Michael Tefs. "I am pleased with their performances on stage and in the world, exhibiting the world-class academic achievements we have in Wooster."

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