

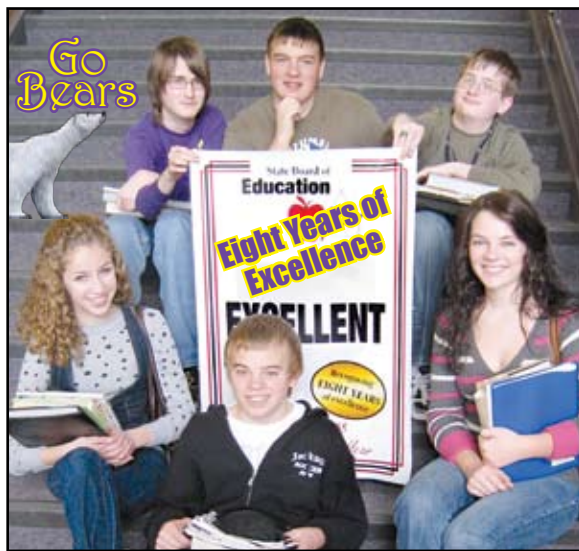
# Wishing you a new year filled with the excitement of learning



January 2009

A Periodical of the Jackson Local Schools

Circulation 22,000



## Ranked Highest in Stark County

For the eighth consecutive year, Jackson Local has received the state's highest ranking of excellent and continues to rank highest among all Stark County schools, followed closely by North Canton. Jackson is truly a school district that residents and local businesses can be proud of. Showing off the excellence banner are: Allison Antram, Joey Hallworth, and Steph Douglas. Back from left are: Aaron Sutherland, Ryan Prosis, and Andy Sutherland.

## Unity saves the day!

This year, when our Maintenance Department placed its order for highway salt, they found the prices had tripled and that a salt shortage could not guarantee that Jackson Local would get enough, even at the higher price. Jackson Local's Director of Support Services, Chris Diloreto, contacted township trustee John Pzzino who worked with his fellow trustees and Highway Superintendent Ralph Boger to come to our aid. Because the township has a place to store salt, it can buy in bulk at a lower rate, and because trustees had the good sense to purchase extra when prices were low, they were in agreement about making some available to the schools at a fair price.

Mr. Diloreto is now working on a project to build a salt bin that will enable your schools to get bulk pricing. He praised the trustees and Mr. Boger for being true examples of what *Unity in Our Community* really means.

"The township and the schools have a great working relationship, and when government entities work together, residents are the big winners," Mr. Pizzino said.

## Taxpayers to see a 1.6 mill school tax reduction in '09

Based on the Stark County Auditor's collection adjustments, Jackson taxpayers will see a 1.6 mill reduction in their school taxes in 2009.

Ohio law (House Bill 920) states that levy and bond issues are voted for a set dollar amount. When additional homes are built, or property values increase, the taxpayers win. Tax rates are rolled back so that the total school tax collected never exceeds the original dollar amount voted by the taxpayers. Even though the cost of doing business escalates, school funds are frozen unless taxpayers choose to grant an increase. This is why schools continually need to pass levies.

## JHS in top 3% of America's 21,069 public high schools

In December, *U.S. News and World Report* awarded JHS a silver medal, ranking it in the top tier of U.S. Schools. JHS is one of 504 schools nationwide to achieve this ranking and one of 37 in Ohio. This means that JHS is ranked in the top 3% nationwide. Only 100 Gold Medals were awarded. The three-step selection process used to determine the nation's top high schools was developed by School Evaluation Services, a K-12 education data research business run by Standard & Poor's. State proficiency tests were used to determine whether each school's students were performing better than statistically expected for the average student in the state, then they determined how well the school serves all students, not just those bound for college. The third step assessed the degree to which schools prepare students for college, using Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate test data as the benchmarks for success.

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2009-2010 school year will be held Monday, Feb. 2 to Friday, Feb. 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at all four elementaries. There will also be evening registration on Feb. 5 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. If you have a first grade child new to the Jackson Local School District, you may also register him/her. You are not required to bring your children with you to registration. To be eligible for the 2009-2010 kindergarten classes, a child must be five-years-old on or before Sept. 30, 2009.

**More on page 14**



## Cable kids honor vets

To learn about Veteran's Day and honor those who served, Lake Cable students invited 55 veterans to a school-wide assembly. The festivities began with Student Council members escorting veterans to the stage, immediately followed by the presentation of flags by Boy Scouts of America Troop No. 265, Den 7.

**See VETERANS, page 11**

## Unity in our community brings Christmas to 63 families

Each year, the JHS Student Council organizes a drive to help student families district-wide who are down on their luck. This year, the number of families willing to receive help more than doubled. Monetary donations from students and staff, including two anonymous donations from Santa Claus in the amounts of \$1,000 and \$3,000, allowed each family to receive one or two laundry baskets filled with a ham, groceries, an outfit for each child, a specifically asked-for gift for each child, and a \$100 family gift card to various area stores.

"I thought people might worry more about their own families this year and donate less, but I am overwhelmed by the generosity of our staff and students. It is truly unity in our community," said Student Council advisor Gretchen Hull.

Students shopped for, and lovingly wrapped, each gift then packed and helped deliver the baskets.

"The process bonded everyone involved," said teacher Susie Gardner. "People gave despite these hard times and shopped as if it were their own families. I guess it's true that when things are at their worst, people are at their best."



**Have you been to the Jackson Local Web site lately? It's full of life and constantly changing.**

**Check it out at – <http://jackson.stark.k12.oh.us> – where you'll find:**

- Athletic Schedules
- RSS Feeds
- Customized Calendars
- Blogs
- Reunion Dates
- Downloadable Forms
- Pinnacle Grade Viewer
- School Finances
- Athletic Standings
- Lunch Menus
- District-wide Calendar
- Photos
- Alumni News
- School Board Minutes
- Library Links
- Transportation Notes
- Directions to Games
- Bear's Den Menu
- Public Events at JCPA
- Breaking News
- Alumni Directory
- Staff Directory
- Community Education Classes
- Employment Opportunities

Complete Nursing Care - "The Terrace"  
Assisted Living - "The Promenade"



**Amherst Meadows**  
A Senior Care Community

1610 First Street NE  
Massillon, Ohio 44646  
Ph: 330-830-8500  
Fax: 330-830-8555

**Today's Polar Bears  
Are Tomorrow's Business Leaders!**

The Jackson-Belden Chamber of Commerce is proud to support the future leaders of Jackson Township!




**www.JBCC.org**  
**330-833-4400**  
The Pulse of Jackson Township  
5735 Wales Avenue NW  
Jackson Township, OH 44646










**CANTON MEDIA WORKS**  
PUBLISHING, LLC

For advertising information,  
call Sandy Hina at Canton Media Works  
**330.456.9811**

# Did You Know?



-  A teacher retiring from Jackson, after 30 years of service, has likely taught over 32,000 lessons, spent about 2,700 hours grading papers after school, and touched the lives of 750 children (elementary teachers) to 3,750 children (middle school or high school teachers).
-  In 1930, Jackson Local Schools served a total of 492 students. Today, Jackson Local serves over 5,700 students.
-  Jackson Local Schools has a graduation rate of 99.8% with more than 87% of our graduates seeking higher education.
-  JHS graduating seniors collectively earn over \$1 million in academic scholarships for higher education.
-  Jackson Local Schools has achieved the lowest per-pupil spending rate among the 20 Ohio districts most similar to Jackson.
-  Jackson saves tax dollars by being a collaborative partner with North Canton, Canton, Lake, and Plain to provide some course offerings without duplication of services.

## Pink Lady Bears raise \$2,500 *The Cure*

In early October the JHS Varsity Girls' Volleyball Team faced visiting league rivals, the Perry Panthers, to help "ACE" breast cancer in the second annual *Volley for the Cure* state-wide campaign.

To aid the effort, Superintendent Haschak declared game day *Polar Pink Day* and encouraged students and staff to wear pink in support of the national cause.

With over 800 in attendance, the match went five games with the bears pulling out a victory and raising \$2500 for the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Players honored breast cancer survivors by forming a human chain on the gym floor in the pink ribbon symbol of the breast cancer survivor. Players then escorted the survivors to center court to be introduced and presented with a pink carnations.

Also lending a dose of school spirit and some contributions were Sauder students (pictured below) who bought *Volley for the Cure* t-shirts to help raise funds for the cause. The entire Amherst teaching staff, cooks, custodians, secretaries and principal bought and wore the shirts on Polar Pink Day.





**Unity in Our Community – It's an attitude, not a slogan**

## Pancake Breakfast / Health Fair to combine in 2009

To kick off the Unity in Our Community spirit, Jackson Local Schools held a Health Fair at the high school last August hosting approximately 40 vendors. The fair was so well received that a group of 25 Jackson women organized the first annual, all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast at JHS.

"It was a loaves and fishes story," said volunteer Janell Winkhart. "We prepared for 1,000 people and served 2,200. We even had some left over which were donated to a local shelter."

The unexpected crowd sent the volunteers scrambling for more griddles and two extra kitchens (the Bear's Den kitchen and Buehler's kitchen).

The event involved over 400 volunteers, including 200 teachers, 116 students, and 84 community friends. Donations were received from Beuhlers, Bordner's, Chick-Fil-A, CrossCountry Marketing, Food 4 Less, Smith Dairy, Rita's Italian Ice, Smuckers, Sysco Foods, Young Chef's Academy, Matt Thiel DDS, the Bentivegna family, and former Jackson teacher Marilyn Jones.

## Get involved with this year's event

It has been decided to combine the two events this year. If you are interested in helping with the pancake breakfast and health fair, please attend a February 12 meeting at 4 p.m. in the Bear's Den at Jackson High.



A · M · A · D · E · U · S



**Canton's  
Relaxation Destination**

Gift Certificates Available On-Line  
[www.amadeusspacanton.com](http://www.amadeusspacanton.com)

S · P · A


4465 Hills and Dales Rd. N.W. • 330-479-SPAS (7727)




**JoAnn Grisak, REALTOR®**  
EXPERIENCE • HONESTY • DEDICATION


*Specializing in Jackson Township  
Home of the Polar Bears!*

**DeHOFF REALTORS®**  
Bus: 330-499-8153 x137  
Cell: 330-495-9701  
Web site: [www.dehoff.com/jgrisak](http://www.dehoff.com/jgrisak)





**STARK** Federal Credit Union

Helping protect your greatest assets.



Savings Plans      Low-Interest Loans  
Checking Accounts      24-Hour Access  
Federally Insured      Free Bill Pay

Jackson Twp. - 4100 Dressler Rd.      [www.starkcu.org](http://www.starkcu.org)  
Canton - 3426 Cleveland Ave. NW      330.493.8325  
Alliance - 310 Johnson Ave. N.      

PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVES PARTNERSHIP, INC.



MARY KATHLEEN PROSPERO, Ph.D.  
PSYCHOLOGIST SPECIALIZING IN COUNSELING FOR ADULTS

"CARING AND CONFIDENTIAL"

DAY • EVE • SAT • MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED

4801 DRESSLER RD NW STE. 170 (ASTON PARK)

330.492.8494

Wall-to-Wall Ideas for Your Home!



February 27-March 1, 2009

John S. Knight Center • Downtown Akron

Show Features...Ultimate Basement Giveaway valued at over \$25,000 in products and services • More gardens and flowers • Exciting stage presentations with cooking demos, gardening seminars and more • Hundreds of Home Improvement Exhibits & much more!



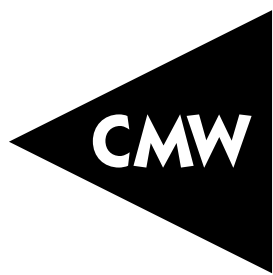
Ed Begley, Jr. on Saturday with tips on going green!



Matt Fox & Shari Hiller, Hosts of HGTV's "Room by Room" - all 3 days!

Special offer for Polar Bear Pride readers! Present this ad at the box office for \$1 off admission (up to 2 people)

For complete details, visit [www.akronhomeandflowershow.com](http://www.akronhomeandflowershow.com)



CANTON MEDIA WORKS

PUBLISHING, LLC

For advertising information, call Sandy Hina at Canton Media Works 330.456.9811

Stark County High School Seniors – Think you can't afford college

The Paul & Carol David Foundation is a not-for-profit private foundation whose primary mission is to improve education, community, and health opportunities for disadvantaged children in Stark County, Ohio. The David Scholar Program awards a \$5,500 scholarship, renewable for up to four years, to eligible students attending an accredited college or university in the continental U.S.

For more information about the David Scholar Program and How to Apply, contact Becky Duplain at the Paul & Carol David Foundation at 330.479.0200, or visit online at [www.DavidScholar.org](http://www.DavidScholar.org).



Think again! David Scholar Program

\$5,500 four-year renewable scholarship



WWW.DAVIDSCHOLAR.ORG

HIGH SCHOOL

JHS Homecoming

This year's homecoming king and queen pictured with their court are: (front from left) freshmen Alexis Kroah and Brad Frohman, junior Jordan Ayers and sophomore Kelsey Hazen; (middle from left) seniors Brooke Barley and Dustin Muesser, sophomore Jack Sypek, and seniors Victoria Gilbride and LaBriant McCullough; and (back) junior Mark Henniger, Queen Karee Anderson and King Jordan Robinson-Williams, both seniors. The homecoming theme was *Dance-A Night in Hollywood*.



At the JHS Spanish Honor Society induction ceremony, Spanish students perform *Guantanamera*, a song adapted from the poem *Versos Sencillos* by José Martí, a famous writer from Cuba. Steve Winick plays the guitar to accompany the cantantes (singers) who are, from left: Ethan Ash, Kyle Longworth, Gabrielle McAndrew, Stephanie Schneider, and Melanie Bagnola. All were among those inducted that evening.

Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica inducts new class

Family and friends gathered in the JHS Center for Performing Arts to witness 78 select students be inducted into The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (Spanish Honor Society). The society is similar to National Honor Society in that members are invited to join based on their good character and academic achievement in Spanish. After induction, members participate in various community service programs and serve on committees. For example, the officers and JHS Spanish teacher Parthena Draggett are currently creating a Spanish language tutoring program for elementary students. Throughout the year, members are also expected to maintain a 3.3 GPA in Spanish and display constant good character, with no instances of cheating, plagiarizing, or detention.



Spanish Honor Society inductees pose for a group picture.

"Our members are very proud to be a part of this society because it shows their dedication to the Spanish language and culture as well as their good character," Mrs. Draggett said.

The entire ceremony was conducted in Spanish with a meticulously prepared PowerPoint presentation which allowed guests to follow along in English. The guests demonstrated their appreciation by appropriate applause and glowing comments following the ceremony.

Society officers read poems in Spanish, Mr. Eversdyke's Men's Chorus performed a Spanish song, *Riu, Riu, Chiu* from the sixteenth century, and students sang *Guantanamera* (pictured above). Also, Ms. Patricia Robinson, mother of student Jordan Robinson-Williams spoke about the importance of languages in today's business world. She works in International Business (Human Resources) at Diebold, Inc.

## HIGH SCHOOL

### JHS visits with Irish peacemaker

When Jackson students visit the Paul and Carol David YMCA, they never think of being searched by the army or dodging a pipe bomb. The same is not so for students in Lurgan, Ireland where the explosion of sectarian violence is normal. The Lurgan YMCA is a small block building that evenly straddles a political dividing line in the middle of the city, making it somewhat neutral turf for Catholics and Protestants.

While Hugao Dale, the CEO of the Lurgan YMCA visited his sister YMCA here in Jackson, he also took some time to visit students at JHS to share how hatred and sectarianism affects the teens in his town and what he is doing to minimize it. He invites young people from each sect to enter his YMCA and make the journey that he made years ago – from fearing and hating Catholics and nearly joining a terror group – to constantly putting himself in situations that caused him to face, question, and evaporate his prejudice. "I used to see Catholics as the cause of all the problems; now I just think of myself as a Christian and see Catholics and Protestants as equals," Mr. Dale said.

He shared a story of two girls who attend his YMCA, one Catholic, the other Protestant. They are best friends inside the YMCA but cry bitterly when they leave. Each lives on opposite sides of a "peace wall" that divides their city and prevents them from doing little more than seeing the tops of each other's home over the wall.

Mr. Dale warned against substandard education, saying the most divided communities in Northern Ireland are the most poor and uneducated. "Education is the way forward and the way to peace," he assured our students.



Chelsea Booty discusses teen life with Hugo Dale, CEO of the Lurgan YMCA.

**TIRESOURCE**  
COMPLETE TIRE & AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE  
Belden Village • Canton • North Canton  
Medina • Montrose

Chad Parkison Jim Jobe Brian Mark

The people you trust, the service you expect!

Oil, Lube & Filter With 4-Tire Rotation **\$18<sup>99</sup>**

See us every 3,000 miles!

**\$10 OFF**  
Any Service Over \$100.00

Excludes tires & tire services.

**TIRESOURCE** Must present coupon to get this offer. No other discounts apply. Redeem at a participating Tire Source location. Fluid filter disposal fees may apply. See a participating Tire Source for complete details. Offer ends 03/31/09. 09M001

**TIRESOURCE** Must present coupon to get this offer. No other discounts apply. Redeem at participating Tire Source location. See participating Tire Source for complete details. Offer ends 03/31/09. 09M001

**Belden Village**  
**330-497-8200**  
[www.yourtiresource.com](http://www.yourtiresource.com)



### Remembering Sept. 11

The freshmen of Mr. Dye's math and Mr. Dria's science classes partnered for a tower-building contest to commemorate 9/11. Students were given five pieces of newspaper, a meter of string, a meter of tape, and five paperclips to build a tower with a minimum height of 0.5 meters. The winning tower, built by Brittany Wohlheter, Derrick Mallard, and Brooke Henkel supported 850 grams of mass.



Katey Krusel (left) and Jenny Kerr (right) experiment with the action that ball bearings have on friction while Timken engineer Michael Meditz and classmates watch.

### Timken engineers get students thinking

The JHS Physics Department welcomed Timken Research engineers into the classroom to demonstrate and discuss advanced technology and aspects of engineering in real-life scenarios. The Timken representatives set up various hands-on stations such as the one pictured above where students could experiment with bearings and another where students could experiment with gears and how they actually work inside an engine. Students also got a peek at some of Timken's recent technology, a small, orange computer box that measures vibrational and thermal changes that affect the performance of bearings.

**POLAR BEAR PRIDE** is published five times each year under the auspices of the Jackson Local Board of Education with advertising support from area businesses. It is printed and mailed to Jackson homes and businesses at no cost to the school district. Polar Bear Pride is not a public forum. Its purpose is to keep the community informed of life and learning in the Jackson Local Schools.

**YOUR INPUT IS WELCOMED:** Send comments to Paula Blangger, Jackson Middle School, 7355 Mudbrook NW, Massillon, OH 44646, or [pblangger@neo.rr.com](mailto:pblangger@neo.rr.com)

**Elyse's Boutique**  
Prom, Wedding, Evening & Formal Apparel  
Gowns, Dresses, Shoes & Accessories

**330-899-8505**

767 E. Turkeyfoot Lake Rd, Akron, OH 44319. (near Rt 619 and Arlington St, in Green)  
M-F 1-8PM, SAT 10-6PM, SUN 1-6PM

<http://www.myspace.com/elysesboutique>

**Guaranteed Lowest Price:** If you find the exact same gown/dress for less, we'll match the price & give you an additional 10% off. No on-line stores or consignment shops, and purchased within the last 12 months. Gift Certificates Available



**ELITE GRANITE & MARBLE RESTORATION, LLC**  
Fully Insured • 18 Years Experience in Natural Stone

**NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL:** CLEAN, SEAL & POLISH UP TO 80 SQ.FT. OF KITCHEN COUNTERS - \$125.00  
Refer a friend and receive an additional discount of 10%!

801 21<sup>st</sup> St. NE, Canton, Oh 44714  
elitegranite@sbcglobal.net

330-546-7394  
www.elitegraniteohio.com

**Tutoring Club of Belden Village**

Two **FREE** hours of tutoring\*  
\*Subject to Schedule Availability for Desired Subject & Day

Tutoring Club  
4462 Belden Village Street, Canton, Ohio 44718  
New or Returning customers **(330) 492-3000** Valid Until 2/28/09



For advertising information,  
call **Sandy Hina** at **Canton Media Works**  
**330.456.9811**

**NEW** state-of-the-art office

**FLEMING ORTHODONTICS LTD**

discover your **smile...**  
stop in or call to begin your journey!

**330 433.1000**

conveniently located near "The Strip"  
6529 FRANK AVE. NW | N. CANTON

**DAVID A. FLEMING**  
dmd | ms  
Specialist in Orthodontics

## MIDDLE SCHOOL



Conducting a flag ceremony to retire the JMMS tattered flag are (from left): JMMS teacher Ben Hartley, Tom Garncarz, Trevor Wendt, Mitchell Wendt, and Cody McDaniel.

### JMMS student conducts ceremony to replace schoolyard flag

Mitchell Wendt, a JMMS 6th grader and member of Boy Scout Troop 935, needed help to earn a Boy Scout badge that involves the United States flag. When Principal Monica Myers granted him permission to conduct a flag ceremony at school, Mitch rounded up fellow scouts Cody McDaniel, Tom Garncarz, his brother Trevor, and teacher Ben Hartley who is a US Army Veteran.

On Veteran's Day, the group assembled at the flag pole and respectfully lowered the three-year-old, tattered flag. The team folded it then replaced it with a new one provided to Mitch by the VFW Post 9795 Ladies Auxiliary in Canal Fulton.

"I wanted to serve my country, and I feel that by properly retiring this flag I am doing what's right for the country," said Mitch who is a first-year scout with an eye on making the rank of Eagle.

Mitch explained that the proper thing to do with the old flag would be to burn it and respectfully bury the grommets, but instead, he gave the flag to his friend Tom Garncarz who is working on his Eagle. Tom is planning a county-wide flag retirement project, complete with color guard, and hopes to begin it sometime this year.

"Eagle Scouts make a great difference," Mitch concluded.

On hand to view the ceremony were principal Monica Myers, school resource officer Dave Trubisky, and JMMS custodian/Boy Scout leader Karl Tallman.



JMMS students display their colorful, animated Power Point presentations.

### JMMS students animate self-written adventure stories

JMMS 7th graders in Andrew Robitaille's technology classes created animated PowerPoint projects. Students began by writing an adventure story, then used image editing programs and royalty-free music to design some very creative and entertaining animated cartoons. Some even used images of their friends and teachers as main characters.

Many people do not know that you can use PowerPoint to animate a presentation, and the students' results are truly remarkable," Mr. Robitaille said.

When the presentations were complete, students converted the computer lab into a movie theater and opened the doors to staff and students throughout the day.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL



### Campaigning kids follow historic election

Sixth graders in Sarah Michel's social studies classes followed the election coverage and learned about the American voting process by recreating it at JMMS. Each of Mrs. Michel's six classes formed parties, selected candidates, formed a corps of reporters who grilled the candidates, researched the issues, gave speeches, made campaign posters, and finally put it all to a vote. On election day, five republicans won and one democrat. The winners were: Alex Paisley, Tyler Deagan, CJ Davis, Tricia Hart, Carlisle Redpath, and Kelly Hedquist.

**NOTE:** 7th graders followed the national election and cast their votes. John McCain took 53.79% of the vote over Barack Obama with 46.21%.



### Get your golden ticket to Willy Wonka

This year's JMMS musical, *Willy Wonka Junior*, will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, January 30- 31 and 3 p.m. Sunday February 1 at the high school's Center for Performing Arts. Presale tickets are \$6 each. Tickets sold at the door are \$7.

### Three middle school girls locate missing boy

At the end of summer, JMMS students Marissa George, Melanie Stoll, and Alli Howell were riding bikes together on the Lake Cable playground when they noticed a little boy walking down Echodell. He seemed too young to be walking on the street alone so they approached him to see if he needed help. They quickly discovered that although he looked to be about four-years-old, he was not able to communicate with them. The girls said he didn't seem afraid, but he did seem confused, which intensified their fears.

"We were afraid he might get hit by a car," said Marissa.

"We didn't want to scare him or seem like kidnappers," said Alli.

"We know that kids should not talk to strangers, and we were strangers to him," said Melanie.

The girls decided to stay with him to

help keep him safe. Eventually Mrs. Dana Durr and her daughter Hannah approached, walking their dog. The little boy became very interested in the dog, and Mrs. Durr phoned the police who were already aware that the child was missing. His mother, Sherry Crews, had been frantically searching for him for quite some time and was greatly relieved to find him safe among the kind strangers.

"His mom was so glad to see him. She held her arms out and ran to him," said Melanie.

"I was beyond panic," said Mrs. Crews.

Zack is autistic and had wandered several miles from his home. Mrs. Crews said that he had been watching TV and 15 minutes later he was gone.

"I am so grateful to these girls and



Marissa George (front), Melanie Stoll (left), and Alli Howell

to the woman who called the police. They went out of their way to help us."

"Helping out made me feel like a million bucks," said Alli as Melanie and Marissa nodded in agreement.

### Quality Education is a Community Commitment

For more information visit [www.jacksonunity.org](http://www.jacksonunity.org)

### JMMS and Amherst add to JHS generosity

In addition to the JHS drive to care for 63 families, the Middle School Student Activities Council gave nine families at Thanksgiving, and nine other families at Christmas, a large box of non-perishable food items and \$20 Fishers Foods gift cards. They also provide six middle school students with \$100 gift cards to Old Navy so they could purchase new clothes for Christmas. In the 11th hour, it was learned that three additional families needed care in the Amherst area, so the Amherst staff rose to the challenge, leaving no child behind and making the holiday season a little brighter.

**Budget Blinds** a style for every point of view®

6414 Market Ave. North Canton, Ohio 44721  
(330) 456-6644  
[www.budgetblinds.com](http://www.budgetblinds.com)

Keep your kids safe by installing cordless blinds!

**FREE** Cordless Upgrade on Honeycomb Shades

Valid with coupon only. Coupon Expires 3/31/09. Not valid with any other offers.

[www.oakparkps.com](http://www.oakparkps.com)

**Oak Park Preschool**  
Developmental Learning Center

Locally owned and operated. Serving the community since 1989.

**Jackson Township**  
3775 Wales Road NW  
330-833-1555

**Massillon Village Center**  
2446 Lincoln Way East  
330-830-1400

**Waynesburg Centre**  
8648 Waynesburg Drive SE  
330-866-3550

Bring this coupon in for \$25.00 in Free Tuition  
Valid on new enrollment only  
Expires 3/31/09

**We Provide:**

- Infant Stimulation
- Toddler Programs
- Preschool Programs
- Before & After School Care
- Nutritional meals and snack provided
- Bus Service to Sauder and Amherst
- Yoga for all ages
- ELI - Early Learning Initiative

**Network Solutions And Optimization**  
"More BANG for your buck!"

At Network Solutions And Optimization, we understand that your business can't afford to play "hurry up and wait" with your network. That's why your goal is to take your network from slow to go, while getting "More BANG for your buck!" When you choose NSAO, you'll get over 40 years of combined LAN/WAN network infrastructure experience, PLUS:

- Network Design, Construction and Optimization
- Same-day and Next-day Service and Repair
- Authorized Dell Reseller
- Microsoft Certified Professionals
- Managed Services

4105 Strausser St., NW Suite B  
North Canton, Ohio 44720  
Ph: 800-966-8097  
Fax: 330-526-0116  
[www.nsa.com](http://www.nsa.com)

Let NSAO put the "work" back into your network.

**CMW CANTON MEDIA WORKS PUBLISHING, LLC**

For advertising information, call Sandy Hina at Canton Media Works  
**330.456.9811**

# SCHOOL CALENDAR

<b>JAN</b>	5	Mon	Classes Resume (K-12)	
	16	Fri	Teacher In-service – No School (K-12)	
			End 2nd Nine Weeks	
	19	Mon	Martin Luther King Day – No School (K-12)	
<b>FEB</b>	5	Th	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12)	4:30 – 7:30 PM
	11	Wed	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12)	4:30 – 7:30 PM
	13	Fri	No School (K-12)	
	16	Mon	President's Day – No School (K-12)	
<b>MAR</b>	20	Fri	End 3rd Nine Weeks.	
	23	Mon	Spring Recess Begins No School (K-12)	
	30	Mon	Classes Resume	
<b>APR</b>	10	Fri	Good Friday – No School (K-12)	
<b>MAY</b>	15	Fri	No School (K-12)	
	25	Mon	Memorial Day – No School (K-12)	
<b>JUNE</b>	5	Fri	Last Day of School	

Visit Jackson Local at <http://jackson.stark.k12.oh.us>

# Sadly, Jackson Local loses two beloved teachers



**Bruce L. Shelley on the marching field**

**Brian Keith Richardson** age 44, passed away Friday, Sept. 26, 2008. Upon graduating from The Ohio State University in 1987 he joined the family business, Richardson Construction, where he worked until teaching construction at Indian River. In 2001, he began teaching Construction Technologies at JHS, elevating the program to the College Tech Prep level. Brian's carpentry skills and those of his students can be found in all of the Jackson Local Schools as well as the community. He aimed to give his students the knowledge and skills to be successful not just in the trade, but in life. Brian also coached 7/8th grade football in 2001 and 7/8th grade wrestling 2001-2007.



The JHS staff and student body held a memorial service at Jackson Park on October 12. Here are some of their comments: Brian was a committed husband, a loving and caring father, brother, and son. He was dedicated to a trade that has been in his family for three generations, always taking pride in his work - a perfectionist. He would do a job over and over until it was done right. He was passionate, and enjoyed teaching his skills to others, especially his students, who were often called "Richie's kids". He emphasized (1) Be responsible (2) Take your time (3) Don't be late (4) Be respectful. Brian always treated his students with the utmost of respect, referring to them as sir. He always emphasized the importance of learning math in order to be competitive in the building trade field. Thoughtful and kind, Brian always made time for others. He would never say "no" to anyone; if they asked for his help, he was there. His devotion spilled into our community. Jackson Township, its people, homes, schools, businesses and parks are each a better place because of Brian's commitment to excellence. It is this loyalty and his special rituals that will be greatly missed. He was a man of wisdom, a man of courage, and because of him I will be a better man. He will never be forgotten.

**Bruce L. Shelley**, age 73, passed away Sept. 12, 2008. He served as music teacher and choral director at McKinley, Oakwood, Perry, and Mount Union College, finishing his career as percussion instructor at Jackson. "We were very lucky to have Bruce and will sorely miss him," said Superintendent Cheryl Haschak.

"He was a Jack of all trades, always there with a helping hand, consulting on the blacklight shows and just about everything else," said Band Director Tom Holliday.

"Bruce was an inspiration to all of the kids he touched not only in music but in life as well. He always had a good story to tell. Bruce will be missed, but God has a new outstanding director for his celestial band and choir. The beat goes on..." said Jackson resident Jennifer Jones.

Once a Bear, Always a Bear

## Join Your JHS Alumni Association [jacksonpolarbearsalumni.org](http://jacksonpolarbearsalumni.org)

J. H. S. A. A. Membership  
**Jackson High School Alumni Association**  
 Membership Form  
*"Once a Bear, Always a Bear!"*

Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name (First, Last, Maiden) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Fee ..... \$ 10  
 Lifetime Charter Membership (per graduate) ..... \$100  
 Scholarship Contribution (optional) .....

**Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

Retain this portion for your records  
 Please make checks payable and mail to:  
**JHS Alumni Association**  
 Post Office Box 35323 • Canton, OH 44735-6323

## Secretaries make a valuable contribution

Noreen Sippola was a middle school secretary for 23 years. We apologize for accidentally omitting her name from the recently published list of valued retirees. Now here's an idea of why secretaries are so important. Assistant Superintendent Bob Glassburn noted that she most likely took 92,460 phone calls, which likely lasted about three minutes each. That means Noreen spent 577.75 eight-hour work days on the telephone. Thank you Noreen.



## JHS Wall of Fame induction set for Jan. 23

The Jackson Alumni Association will induct its Class of 2008 on January 23 at the high school, between the JV and varsity basketball games. This year's class of inductees includes:

- Jason Bake – three-time state qualifier in wrestling and champion in 2000.

- Rob Dewolf – All-Federal League, All County in baseball 1981.
- Bonnie (Bergener) Sprankle – 1952 grad who will receive the Community Contribution Award for her dedication to the Jackson Township Historical Society and the relocation and her participation in the moving and restoration of Jackson Center One-Room School.



**PUTMAN PROPERTIES INC.**  
 3978 Fulton Dr NW, Canton, OH 44718  
 Office: 330-498-4400 Fax: 330-498-3800  
 Website: [www.putmanproperties.com](http://www.putmanproperties.com)

Broker Interest

## Shakertown Square - The Friendly Plaza

5854 – 5896 Fulton Dr NW - Next to Church of the Lakes

Locally owned and operated financial, insurance, medical service suites include:

<b>New Horizon Financial Group</b>	Bob Foutty	330-499-1915	- Investment Management, IRA Rollovers, 401K Rollovers
<b>Lyle McGaughey DDS</b>	Dr. Lyle McGaughey	330-499-2388	- Family Dentistry. New patients welcome.
<b>Golden Horizons Insurance Agency</b>	Linda Caswell	330-499-2444	- Specializing in Retirement Annuities, Medicare Supplements, Long Term Care, Life, Home, Health, Auto, and IRA & 401K Rollovers
<b>Edward Jones</b> www.edwardjones.com	Barry Olszewski	330-499-6232	- Financial Advisor - Retirement Planning, Income Planning, Estate Planning, and College Funding
<b>Pro Adjuster Chiropractic Clinic</b>	Dr. Cherokee Russo	330-244-9106	- Providing Superior Health and Balance Through Chiropractic
<b>A Better Choice Driving School</b>	Oral Ray	330-244-8680	- Jackson Township/Lake Cable driving school specializing in the key to driving. Start the New Year out right and learn from the BEST!
<b>Visiting Angels</b> www.visitingangels.com/Canton	Sandra Williams	330-209-5995	- Non-Medical Homecare for Seniors

Please call Wick Hartung or Tim Putman for leasing: 300 s.f., 760 s.f., 1,400 s.f., 1,500 s.f. suites





## Heard a rumor? Want the facts?

It has come to our attention that some folks think we bought better chairs for the high school cafeteria. NOT TRUE. The truth is, the cafeteria chairs were not holding up as expected and the chair company not only honored the warranty but also allowed us to upgrade the chairs at no cost.

We know that trying to squash a rumor is like trying to un-ring a school bell, but you can help. If you hear an unlikely story about your top-rated school district, or find something confusing, just ask at: [pmb1jc@jackson.sparcc.org](mailto:pmb1jc@jackson.sparcc.org).

## Keep Learning

Visit Jackson's on-line community education center

[www.ed2go.com/jtce](http://www.ed2go.com/jtce)

### Eat at the Bear's Den

The student-run restaurant serves the public delicious lunches Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM at Jackson High School.



Luann Koch

Sauder students were so proud of Luann Koch, their "librarian of character" that each of the school's 761 students signed a banner for her. Children pictured with Mrs. Koch are: Shelly Douglas, Colin Williams, Jacob Matronice, Justin Williams, Abby Donelan, Nathan Webb, Ashley Grega, Jimmy Maccora, Justin Grega, Trent Kurkcu, Landon Patterson, Trevor Kurkcu, and Anna Schirack.

## Your Board of Education



**Ken Douglas**  
President • 330-833-0657



**Barb Talley**  
Vice President • 330-497-4109



**Scott Gindlesberger**  
Board Member • 330-498-9997



**Tom Winkhart**  
Board Member • 330-832-3955



**Chris Goff**  
Board Member • 330-639-2290

## Board Meeting Schedule

Jan. 13 ..... Strausser ..... 6:00 PM  
Feb. 17 ..... JMMS ..... 6:30 PM  
Mar. 17 ..... JHS ..... 6:30 PM

Meeting dates and times can change.  
Call 330-830-8000 to confirm.

## On The Banner

**P** Lydia Nakoneczny  
**O** Tommy Davies  
**L** Gavin Riggs  
**A** Laine Goff  
**R** Emma Stevens

In front: Alyssa Alexsonshk

**B** Brittany Locker  
**E** C.J. Julian  
**A** Michael Shull  
**R** Samantha Malo

**P** Bethany Jacobs  
**R** Kara Gindlesberger  
**I** Jake Morton  
**D** Nolan Todich  
**E** Kayla Gotschall

## Jackson Local has People of Character

Last October, family members, friends and colleagues gathered at the R. G. Drage Career Technical Center to honor more than 100 recipients of the People of Character award, sponsored by CHARACTER COUNTS! in Stark County. Each school in the county is asked to identify and submit the name of one person of character and to identify the reasons that qualified the individual. The recipients were selected as People of Character because they live their lives by the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. They also serve as role models for the school community.

*This year, Jackson selected the following people of character to receive the honor:*

- Strausser teacher Jennifer Roknich
- Amherst teacher Erica Mytinger
- JMMS teacher Amy Dretke
- School psychologist Denise Daniels
- Sauder librarian Luann Koch
- Buildings and grounds custodian Vic Neff



Erica Mytinger



Denise Daniels



Vic Neff



Jennifer Roknich



Amy Dretke

# Trust Your Heart to the

# MOST EXPERIENCED HEART TEAM

To learn more about Mercy Heart Center's experience and medical milestones visit [www.CantonMercy.com](http://www.CantonMercy.com)



To advertise in Polar Bear Pride,  
call Sandy Hina at Canton Media Works  
**330.456.9811**



**Jackson Girls Softball League**



Registration extended until January 31st!!  
Download application at [www.jgsl.org](http://www.jgsl.org)

**Come join the fun!!**




**Pat King, ABR, SRES, e-PRO**  
Hayes Realty  
4368 Dressler Road NW  
Canton, Ohio 44718  
Phone: 330-493-7700  
Direct Line: 330-639-0404  
Email: [Pat@CallPatKing.com](mailto:Pat@CallPatKing.com)  
[www.CallPatKing.com](http://www.CallPatKing.com)




**LAYLAND**  
Foreign Car Specialists **MOTORS**






**IS YOUR CAR  
READY FOR WINTER?**

Full Service Facility Since 1976  
Foreign and Domestic

Monday Thru Friday  
8:00am - 5:00pm

"We Do It Right the First Time!"

**1132-30TH STREET NE  
CANTON, OHIO 44714**      **330-455-8841**

*Let Maid Brigade Dust Away the Winter Blues!*

Enjoy a clean and healthy home by letting Maid Brigade take care of your housecleaning needs.

**SAVE \$25 off your first cleaning!**

Call Maid Brigade today for a free, no obligation estimate 330-453-6000



Call Maid Brigade today for a free, no obligation estimate 330-453-6000

Owned and Operated by Jackson Residents  
[neohio.maidbrigade.com](http://neohio.maidbrigade.com)




**GIANT EAGLE**

**MAKE EVERY DAY TASTE BETTER**

- FRESH PRODUCE
- HIGH QUALITY MEATS
- FRESH SEAFOOD
- FULL SERVICE DELI
- GOURMET CHEESE SHOPPE
- PHARMACY
- EAGLES NEST
- CAFE
- EARN FUEL PERKS
- ADVANTAGE CARD
- EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

**THE STRIP**  
6493 Strip Ave., N.W.  
North Canton, OH      **(330) 497-7902**

## AMHERST ELEMENTARY



Amherst music teacher Cindy Grove, and students Jared Marsh and Gia DiLoreto talk with Gary Rivers.

### Amherst students host My 101.7 with Gary Rivers

When Gary Rivers, host of my 101.7 morning radio show, asked the Amherst choir to perform at the Palace Theatre on Nov. 8 as part of his first annual *An Old Fashioned Christmas* variety show, choir director Cindy Grove and her students were thrilled. But the celebrity did not stop there. Mr. Rivers asked Mrs. Grove to select two of her students to help her co-host his radio show. Well how does a teacher select two children from a hard-working choir of 115? "You pick them out of a hat," she said. And the lucky two were Jared Marsh and Gia DiLoreto. The trio traveled to the Freedom Avenue radio station in North Canton on Nov. 6 before school started and hammed it up like old pros on the air. The Christmas program was later held at the Canton Palace Theater and was a smashing success, benefiting the Palace Theater's ongoing renovation efforts and Stark Hunger Task Force.

### Students use political process to choose 3rd grade prez

Amherst 3rd graders learned how the electoral college works and about the rights and responsibilities of citizens when they conducted a presidential election, complete with Democratic and Republican parties, primary season, campaigning, making speeches, meeting with constituents, raising campaign funds, holding a convention, and finally putting it to a vote that would elect their class president. The 4th and 5th grade students acted as the population of the 50 U.S. states while other 3rd graders became the electoral vote representatives to whom the general population submitted their presidential choices.

Winning the primary and facing off for the highest office in 3rd grade were Democrat Tucker Berens and Republican Alec Johnson. The two boys selected campaign teams, including vice presidents, campaign managers, advertising agents, and speech coaches. The teams had to earn campaign dollars from the other 3rd graders so they could buy poster board for signs, t-shirts for advertising, and commercial time on the school-wide news program MBBC.

On election day, November 4, the gymnasium filled with the excitement of votes being cast as a governor of each state counted the popular vote then came forward to present the state's electoral votes.

When Alec Johnson reached 270 electoral votes, half of the gymnasium erupted in applause for the 3rd grade class president. The students immediately got behind their new president by singing *50 Nifty United States*.

"It feels good and exciting, but kind of scary because I don't know what will happen next," Alec said.

"I'll help him if he has trouble," added Alec's vice president Shayna Blair.



From left are: speech coach Sarah Benson, advertising agent Paige Hill, campaign manager Jesse Smith, vice president Shayna Blair, and 3rd grade president Alec Johnson.



From left are: presidential candidate Tucker Berens, vice presidential candidate Taylor Mikesell, campaign manager Alex Sweeney, advertising agent Aiden Moses, and speech coach Cameron Wydra.

# LAKE CABLE ELEMENTARY



Veterans Day brought 58 veterans to Lake Cable where students honored and learned from them.

## Vetrans honored at Lake Cable Elementary

Continued from page 1

After the *Pledge of Allegiance* and the 5th grade choir's rendition of the *National Anthem*, Principal Kathy Clark explained that Veteran's Day began when World War I ended on Nov. 11 – in the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month.

"It is a time to honor all the men and women of America and other countries who have served the cause of freedom," Mrs. Clark said. "and today, we are gathered to offer our love and thanks to the unbroken line of men and women who did not shrink from service to their country. We cannot know how many crises have been avoided because tyrants understood that America's armed forces were prepared to defend our freedom and the freedom of others throughout the world. Veterans Day reminds us that the values we hold dear are preserved at a price."

The event, co-sponsored by Time Warner Cable and the History Channel, brought to the stage Scott Miller, vice president and general manager of operations for Time Warner's South Region.

"These veterans are witnesses to our history, and through their eyes we can see what freedom really costs," Mr. Miller said.

Mrs. Clark told students that the Tomb of the Unknowns contains the remains of American soldiers from WWI, WWII, the Korean Conflict, and Vietnam "Known but to God." She explained the solemn ceremony marking each Veteran's Day at Arlington when the president places a wreath at the tomb. Lake Cable students and their guests then observed a moment of silence and the playing of Taps by David Gleason.

Students and Veterans were dismissed to classrooms where Veterans shared stories and answered questions. The events were organized by Lake Cable's Student Council, under the direction of 5th grade teacher Diana Jones and Shelly Detore.



Among the honored guests were 91-year-old Alva Selinsky who served in World War II and his son-in-law Craig Humbert who served in Iraq. Also pictured are Mr. Humbert's wife Shayna and two of their three children, Lydia and Brayden.



Curt Schlarb and Craig Randall answer questions for kindergartners.



Amanda Oeder looks at military photos.



Simran Vaidya with Pearl Harbor survivor Jim McNeill.



Tina Vitale, Mel Lazarus, and Gary Anderson pose with grateful, inquisitive students.



[www.palmertravel.com](http://www.palmertravel.com)  
**330-966-2252**  
5366 Fulton Drive NW  
**INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL EXPERTS**  
Extensive knowledge & experience  
<http://talesfrompalmertravel.blogspot.com/>




4767 Higbee Ave. NW  
Canton, Ohio 44718  
330.491.1805  
888.491.1805

*From Our Hearts to Your Home*

*The Sylvan Advantage*  
*To Catch Up, Keep Up, or Get Ahead*  
*With School Work...*

Check out the #1 choice in tutoring. Call today to set up a Sylvan Skills Assessment and get on your way to success through our proven, **individualized** programs.

- ~ Academic Reading
- ~ Beginning Reading
- ~ Academic and Advanced Math
- ~ Study Skills
- ~ Homework Help
- ~ ACT/SAT college prep classes
- ~ Academic Writing and College Prep Writing
- ~ ASVAB prep for entrance into Armed Forces



*Tutoring*  
*you can*  
*trust!*

Sylvan Learning Center  
Belden Village  
**330-494-5270**  
[Sylvan1400@neo.rr.com](mailto:Sylvan1400@neo.rr.com)

**They roll and tumble, run and jump: yet you're the one left breathless.**

If the cartwheels and twirls on TV have inspired the same in your family, there's no better time to enroll your child in The Little Gym. The lessons your child learns will fill you both with pride: How to reach higher. How to listen better. How to tackle challenges with confidence and a smile.

Call to schedule a free introductory class. Learn more at [TheLittleGym.com](http://TheLittleGym.com).



The Little Gym of Jackson Township • [www.tlgjacksontownshipoh.co](http://www.tlgjacksontownshipoh.co) • 330-833-4455

**East Coast Martial Arts**  
 Developing Leaders  
 in Jackson for  
 20 years!  
 In the Cable Shores Plaza  
**330 966-0313**



**Little Leaders  
 KARATE**

**Ages  
 3&up**



**Don't hide your  
 Polar Bear Smile!**

\$25 gas card for all  
 new patient exams.  
 Offer ends February 28, 2009.

**DENTISTRY**  
**DR. BRIAN AMISON**

Currently caring for  
 young and old smiles!

From regular maintenance  
 to cosmetic dentistry!  
 Visit us online for more information.  
 www.dramilson.com

3684 Dressler Road NW | Suite A  
 Canton, Ohio 44718  
**330.452.2255**

*Need a great place to hang out?*

**Become a part of our YMCA family!**

- Gym • Wellness Center • Pool
- ChildWatch (babysitting) • Locker Rooms
- Multi-Purpose Room/Game Room and much more!



**We Build  
 Strong Kids  
 Strong Families  
 Strong Communities**

Call the David YMCA of Jackson Township.  
 (330) 830-6275 - Off of Wales Rd. - across from Buehler's.



**CANTON  
 MEDIA  
 WORKS**  
 PUBLISHING, LLC

**For advertising information,  
 call Sandy Hina at Canton Media Works  
 330.456.9811**

**SAUDER ELEMENTARY**



Holding Banana, the albino Burmese python are, from left: Safari Greg Carter, Olivia Sirpilla, Mary Katelyn, Daniel Williams, Nick Schtrich, Drew Peterson, and Jaret Pallotta.

**Sauder students take a walk on the wild side**

Safari Greg Carter of Academic Entertainment visited Sauder students to open their eyes to inspire them to have respect for all forms of life. To make his points, Safari Greg produced a petting zoo of exotic animals from colorful boxes and animal print sacks.



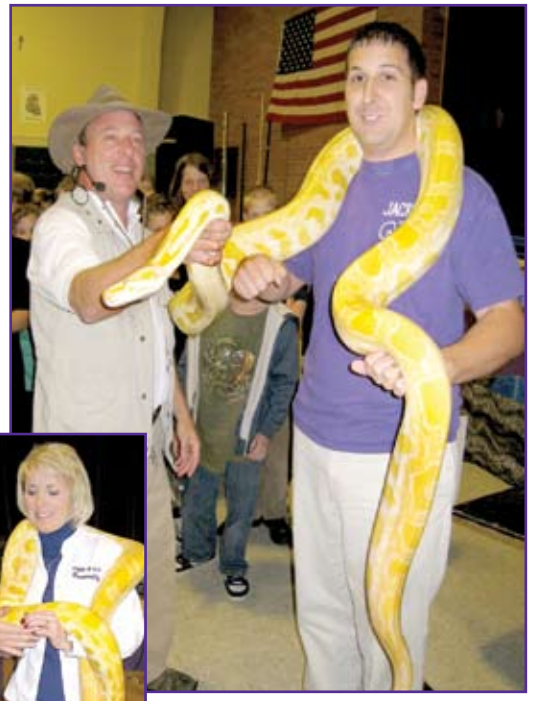
**Anthony Shelley pets an alligator.**

Most students were eager to touch any reptile or small mammal that Safari Rick made available. Even Principal Cindy Brown fearlessly wore the albino Burmese python like a mink stole around her neck.

That same act was not so easy for 5th grade teacher Jeremy Evans who is terrified of snakes because when he was three-years-old he watched one fall from a tree onto his brother's back.

Students shrieked in delight when Mr. Evans decided to conquer his fear by first standing near the snake, then touching him with fingertips, and finally wrapping himself in the smoothness of reptilian skin.

"My students were watching me so I had to do it," Mr. Evans said, "I didn't want to be a scaredy-cat in front of them. He later used the incident to talk to his 5th grade class about facing down their own illogical fears.



**Principal Cindy Brown holds Banana. With clenched fists and stiff shoulders, Mr. Evans delights students by tackling his terror of snakes at a school assembly.**

**Cereal Santas share food and books**

Second graders in Sharon Ritchey's Sauder classroom became Cereal Santas, spending their own money to buy one or more boxes of cereal for the needy in our area. The students gave nearly 300 boxes of cereal to the Stark County Hunger Task Force to distribute to local food shelters. In addition, the class collected 258 books for needy children in Zambia, Africa. Student Molly Altman has a cousin serving in the Peace Corps in Africa. He teaches children to read using whatever print is available, typically old magazines. He asked Molly if her classmates could lend a hand, and they rose eagerly to the challenge. The generous students searched their bedrooms, basements, and playrooms to come up with 258 children's books which they sent to Molly's cousin for the children in Africa. Pictured at right are a few Cereal Santas: Alexandra Washburne, Avery Sedlacko, Madison Danner, Ian Eichorn, and Luke Ritchey. Pictured at right are students with their book donations.



# STRAUSSER ELEMENTARY

## Strausser students' signatures orbit Earth

Strausser Elementary has 755 students. Last spring, each student signed his or her name to a NASA poster with the knowledge that their signatures would fly to outer space with American astronauts. On Nov. 14, the Space Shuttle Endeavour launched from the Kennedy Space Center on mission STS-126 carrying those signatures among its cargo. The Student *Signatures in Space* program, jointly sponsored by NASA and Lockheed Martin, aims to stimulate young people's interest in space and technical studies by allowing them to feel a personal involvement with the crew and the mission.



At Launch Pad 39A the space shuttle Endeavour, carrying the signatures of Strausser students, cuts into the night sky from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida to begin mission STS-126 to the International Space Station.

Third grader, Cayden Pentello, said, "I was amazed that my signature flew in space. I watched the Space Shuttle take off. It made me want to learn more about how it was built, and I did. I researched the size of it, its parts and how it was made."

Throughout the 15-day mission, Strausser students received updates from NASA to stay abreast of the mission activities and learned about the space program in general. The program demonstrated how learning science and math can help them prepare for future roles in America's space program.

The posters that Strausser students signed will be returned to the school for permanent display. They will also get an official NASA flight certification verifying that the signatures flew in space and a photo of the STS-126 astronaut crew that flew the signatures.



## Strausser PTG brings educational extras to kids

Strausser Principal Anna Minor and part-time teacher/Dean of Students Suzanne Walters promised students they would come to school in Polar Bear costumes after students helped the PTG (parent/teacher group) conduct its annual *Race for Education*. Students petitioned family and friends to sponsor them in a 30-minute playground run. PTG president Cynthia Jacobs said the event raised over \$20,000. PTG will spend the funds on needed classroom supplies, educational assemblies for students, and several SMART Boards. In the past, the PTG built a pavilion which students use as an outdoor classroom. They purchased two SMART Boards, a portable sound system, and paid for the school's marquee. At the end of last school year, they purchased a school library book in the name of each graduating 5th grader.

## Jackson Branch Library – The After School Place for Families

**Jackson Kid Bowl**  
Saturday, Jan. 31, 2:00-4:00  
Grades 1-5

Wear your favorite team jersey (optional) and join us for an afternoon of friendly competition in a corn-hole tournament, dart board duel, goal post shoot-out or use your wits in a variety of table games. Prizes. Refreshments.

These are just a few of the activities offered for children, teens, and adults. To find out more, check the Library events calendar at [www.starklibrary.org](http://www.starklibrary.org), or call 330-833-1010.

**Dance the Night Away!**  
Monday, Feb. 9, 7:00-8:30  
Adults

You and a partner will enjoy learning popular ballroom dance steps.

**Lucky Penny Drawing**  
Preschool-Grade 5

Come in during Mar. for a chance to win a kite by selecting the "special" penny from our jar. All participants will receive an origami envelope to hold the penny drawn.



**Love Stinks Teen Lock-in**  
Friday, Feb. 13, 7:00-11:00  
Grades 6-12

An alternative to all of the Valentine's Day hoopla. Games, contests, chocolate!

**jazzercise** cardio strength stretch

ONE MONTH FREE w/EFT registration & paid joining fee.  
Lake Cable Clubhouse M&W 6p T&TH 5:30 & 6:35p  
Jackson Friends Church Sat 8:00a  
jazzercise.com • 330-715-0415 • expires 1/31/09

**HIO JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY**

Doug Lemons  
PGA Teaching Professional  
330-412-2320  
theojga@yahoo.com

Indoor Junior Golf Schools and Instruction NOW!  
Schools begin in February and also March 2009

Spring Instructional Leagues forming soon!  
Junior Golf Equipment  
Winter-long Driving Range Hit right off the turf. Call to sign up!

TEACHERS: In-school programs available for students!

**THAT LITTLE ITALIAN KITCHEN**

5808 Fulton Road  
Across from Lake Cable  
330.499.2248  
Call ahead - Take Out

Pizza | Subs | Bakery | Salads

• Caterer for Quaker Steak & Lube (access to complete menu)

• Boar's Head Lunch Meats available

• Full-service catering for all events

ORDER NOW FOR VALENTINE'S DAY  
Heart-shaped pizzas - regular and chocolate!  
(please call 24 hours ahead for chocolate pizzas)

Gift Cards Available

**Go Bears**

**CMW CANTON MEDIA WORKS PUBLISHING, LLC**

For advertising information, call Sandy Hina at Canton Media Works  
330.456.9811

# PUTMAN PROPERTIES INC.



Office ♦ Industrial ♦ Retail ♦ Medical ♦ Auctions  
Residential ♦ Investments ♦ Management ♦ Development  
Site Acquisition ♦ Tax Deferred Exchanges

**TIM PUTMAN WICK HARTUNG STEVE MARCELLI**  
**DAVE BERENS JIM BEDNAR**

Established 1985

3978 Fulton Dr NW, Canton, OH 44718  
Office: 330-498-4400 Fax: 330-498-3800  
Website: [www.putmanproperties.com](http://www.putmanproperties.com)

## LAYLAND MOTORS

Foreign Car Specialists



IS YOUR CAR  
READY FOR WINTER?

Full Service Facility Since 1976  
Foreign and Domestic

"We Do It Right the First Time!"

Monday Thru Friday  
8:00am - 5:00pm

1132-30TH STREET NE  
CANTON, OHIO 44714

330-455-8841

## M & J Bitzel Carwash



Self-serve Wash  
\$1.50

Double  
Automatic Wash  
\$6.00

8011 Hills & Dales Rd  
Behind Speedway



# CANTON MEDIA WORKS

PUBLISHING, LLC

For advertising information,  
call Sandy Hina at Canton Media Works  
**330.456.9811**

## BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY

### Sports Illustrated captures Claire

Claire Digianantonio used to be terrified of the water, but this fall she made the JV swim team at JHS. She also participated in the Ohio statewide Summer Olympic Games in June 2008. Claire prefers freestyle events over backstroke because, she said, "I do freestyle a heck of a lot faster." Claire's photo appeared in the Sports Illustrated CNN Web site magazine. The photo was taken by Lynn Johnson, an award-winning photographer for National Geographic, Life Magazine, Smithsonian, and Sports Illustrated. In addition to Claire, she has photographed celebrities including Tiger Woods, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Mister Rogers and the entire Supreme Court.



Photo by Lynn Johnson

Claire Digianantonio

### Miss Pre-Teen Akron

Lake Cable 5th grader, Courtney Lynn Storey, competed in the Miss Pre-teen Akron Pageant that interviewed over 1200 girls and selected 157 in four age categories to compete in Independence, Ohio last October. Courtney was 2nd runner up from a field of 55 girls in the 10-12-year-old pre-teen category. She competed in the categories of interview, photogenic, and casual and formal wear. Courtney enjoys competitive dancing at Candy Apples Dance Center, singing in the 5th grade choir, golf, and cooking.



Courtney Lynn Storey

### Haunted Hayride for Habitat

JHS senior Nick Olinger and his friend Kyle Longworth raised over \$300 for Habitat for Humanity by hosting a haunted hayride in Nick's yard. For the past four years, Nick's grandfather, Jerry Ports, helped Nick build stations throughout the yard where Nick's friends acted out Halloween scenes to scare and delight neighbors. This year over 200 people attended.



Nick Olinger

### Golfer of the Year

JMMS 6th grader Landrie Grace is the 2008 Junior Northern Ohio PGA player of the year with the Kenny Novak Tour. She opened the season by shooting a round of 89 at Grantwood Golf Course and continued by placing first in every Kenny Novak point tournament and championship all season. Landrie learned to play golf at age five and began playing competitively in leagues and tournaments at age six. She carries a 12 handicap on the course and maintains a 3.75 GPA in school.



Landrie Grace

### Club Z students travel to South Africa

The Club Z In-Home Tutoring Services Annual Achievement Award of \$1,000 has been awarded to the Satellite Girls: Elizabeth Price, Ashley Falls, Julia Moyer and Katelyn Jefferys who gained national prominence by qualifying for an international science competition. They presented their research on a warming study conducted using satellite imagery. The students went to Stilbaai, South Africa in June to represent the United States at the International Globe Learning Expedition.



Elizabeth Price, Ashley Falls, Julia Moyer and Katelyn Jefferys

## Time to register for kindergarten

Continued from page 1

### Please bring:

- Board of Health issued birth certificate
- Proof of legal residency, such as a voter registration card, rental agreement, or utility bill in your name
- Custody papers if applicable
- Student's social security number
- Immunization record

The Ohio Department of Health has established the following minimum requirements:

- Five doses of DTP, DTAP, or TD (adult vaccine or a combination of these vaccines) are required if the fourth dose was administered prior to the 4th birthday.
- Four doses of polio vaccine (OPV) if the third dose was administered prior to the fourth birthday.
- Two doses of MMR
- Three doses of Hepatitis B

- One dose of Varicella (chicken pox)

Students who do not meet these immunization requirements will be notified during the week of August 24, 2009. All students must meet the legal immunization requirements, or be in the process of completing these requirements in a timely manner, on or before Monday, Sept. 14, 2009, or face exclusion from school attendance. Immunization can be done by your private physician or the Stark County Health Department located on 3951 Convenience Circle, NW, Canton, 44718 at Belden Village (330-493-9904).

### EVERY DAY KINDERGARTEN

Once again, **optional** every day kindergarten is available at an additional cost determined by a sliding fee scale:

- Qualify for free lunch - no charge
- Qualify for reduced lunch- 50% or \$125

per month for 9 months

• All others- \$250 per month for 9 months  
If you feel you qualify for the free/reduced lunch program and wish to have your child in the Every Day Kindergarten program, please complete the "Temporary Free/Reduced Lunch Application" and return it to your building secretary as soon as possible. You will be notified by mail of the results of the application.

If you plan to participate in the Every Day Kindergarten, a one-month deposit is required to enroll your child.

Questions regarding kindergarten registration should be directed to the building principal:  
Elaine Ferguson, Amherst - 330-830-8024  
Kathy Clark Lake Cable - 330-494-8171  
Cindy Brown, Sauder - 330-830-8028  
Anna Minor, Strausser - 330-830-8056

## 200+ seniors serve as presidential election poll workers

After studying American government in their social studies classes, nearly half of the senior class volunteered to train for and become poll workers throughout Stark County for the Nov. 4 election.

The students eagerly worked the 14-hour day, setting up voting machines, programming cards for the computers, matching signatures, directing people to their proper precincts, and disassembling the voting machines when the polls closed.

"I think it speaks volumes about the type of kids we have here at Jackson," said JHS social studies teacher Dan Michel.

Ohio's decision to allow high school seniors to work the polls may have been instigated by Mr. Michel, himself. In January 2007, after reading an article by Ohio Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner stating that Ohio had a shortage of poll workers. Mr. Michel and fellow teacher Mike Draime wrote to Secretary Brunner, saying that senior government students could help because they are of legal age, have studied government and would be served by participation in one of our government's most important processes. Within a year, high school seniors statewide were granted the poll-working privilege.

Mr. Michel received a flood of letters and phone calls praising the students for their diligence, courtesy, speed, and efficiency. Jackson resident, Mr. Charles "Hank" Collette was impressed enough to write a letter to the editor of the Repository and kind enough to allow us to reprint it (at right).



**JHS seniors working the polling station at John Knox Presbyterian Church are pictured with voters Jennifer Hoffner and Kris Rogers. Baby Connor will vote in about 16 years. Seated are Jason Faust and Bryan Haas. Standing from left are: Jessica Lowden, Lauren Haley, Liz Harter, Abbey Dremer, and Annette McCulla.**

*Dear Editor,*

*I served as a poll worker during the general election. Two Jackson High School students, Suyash Khanvilkar and Courtney Schreiner, had volunteered to assist and were assigned to our polling location as greeters, with the responsibility to assist voters who were unsure of which precinct they were registered in and where that precinct was located within the polling place.*

*Both Suyash and Courtney were terrific examples of the young people going through the Jackson school system. They were extremely polite with the voters and the other poll workers.*

*They learned what they were to do very quickly and took complete charge of their responsibilities.*

*They not only looked up voters' precincts in the book provided but also, on their own initiative, escorted them to the proper line.*

*When the polling place became quite crowded and lines began to intermingle, they took it upon themselves to redirect the lines to avoid confusion. Their assistance proved extremely valuable to the poll workers who were busy manning their precinct stations.*

*Suyash and Courtney's sense of responsibility, poise, initiative and maturity should be a source of pride not only to themselves but also to their parents and the Jackson school system.*

**CHARLES "HANK" COLLETTE**



## Lincoln Live

Mr. Gerald Payn, from Wooster Ohio, visited JHS students to enliven the wit and wisdom of our nation's 16th president. The Lincoln impersonator delivered an impressive, hour-long lecture peppered with stories that kept the attention of nearly 100 students for over an hour. Mr. Payn brought to life the self-educated genius of the written and spoken word, war strategist, family man, moral giant, and master of the corny joke.



## Rivals revel in rivalry

Senior football players, cheerleaders, coaches and athletic directors from Jackson and Hoover attended a Jackson Rotary luncheon at La Pizzeria where the Jackson and North Canton Rotary clubs gathered just before the last game of the season to celebrate the long-standing rivalry between Jackson and Hoover. The clubs host one another and the teams each year in the spirit of fun and good sportsmanship. Unfortunately, on Oct. 24 at home, the Vikings outscored the Bears 26-7. Jackson's lone score came on a 35-yard fumble return by Wyatt Lloyd in the first quarter. Jimmy Hanlon was Jackson's leading rusher with 87 yards on 15 carries.



**Polar Bear Pride  
is sponsored by:**

Akron HBA .....	Page 4
Amadeus Spa .....	Page 3
Amherst Meadows Nursing Care Center .....	Page 2
Dr. Brian Amison Dentistry .....	Page 12
Budget Blinds .....	Page 7
David YMCA .....	Page 12
East Coast Martial Arts .....	Page 12
Elite Granite .....	Page 6
Elyse's Boutique .....	Page 5
Fleming Orthodontics .....	Page 6
Giant Eagle on the Strip .....	Page 10
Home Preferred Home Care .....	Page 11
Ohio Junior Golf Academy .....	Page 13
Jackson-Belden Chamber .....	Page 2
Jackson Girls Softball League .....	Page 10
Jazzercise .....	Page 13
JoAnn Grisak, Realtor (Prudential DeHoff) .....	Page 3
Lawn Primp .....	Page 16
Layland Motors .....	Page 10, 14
The Little Gym .....	Page 11
M & J Bitzel Car Wash .....	Page 14
Maid Brigade .....	Page 10
Mercy Medical Centers .....	Page 9
Network Solutions .....	Page 7
Oak Park Preschool .....	Page 7
Palmer Travel .....	Page 11
Pat King, Realtor (Hayes Realty) .....	Page 10
Professional Perspectives .....	Page 4
Putman Properties .....	Page 8, 14
Stark Federal Credit Union .....	Page 3
Sylvan Learning Center .....	Page 11
That Little Italian Kitchen .....	Page 13
Tire Source .....	Page 5
Tutoring Club .....	Page 6

## Elf keeps watch on Amherst students

Daily, for weeks preceding Christmas, an antique style, plastic elf from the book *Elf on the Shelf* made his rounds to every Amherst classroom. This elf's job was to hide and watch over the children, then report back to Santa each night about who had been naughty or nice that day. The daily hide-and-seek ritual delighted Amherst students who always found him. After students named the innocent looking elf Buddy, his mischievous character emerged. Buddy created a mess every time he showed up. Students would leave their classroom tidy



Pointing to Buddy, the mischievous elf are counterclockwise: Brittney Mast, Ben DeFazio, Gabe Ferrante, Luke Burdeshaw, Denis Ciocin, & Edgar Belmudes-Gomez

and return to find unshelved books, overturned pencil boxes, or magic dust sprinkled about the room. "He makes mischief and has magic," said student Gabe Ferrante. "He uses his magic to come alive and report to Santa on our behavior," added Meghan Tucker. Buddy truly came alive in the children's imaginations. "Look," said third grader Dusten Leiser, "he stuck his tongue out at me." "He moved his head," added an excited Denis Ciocin. "Now he moved it back," added Ryan Lahr. When one teacher asked her class what they thought Buddy might say to Santa on their behalf, student Kaelyn Martinez said, "We've been excellent." "Maybe a little talkative," added Aiden Moses. "But really good," concluded Lexy Haas.

## JHS cares for unwanted animals

More than 1,000 pounds of dog food, 800+ pounds of cat food, and various animal supplies arrived in, JHS teacher Gretchen Hull's classroom in response to a challenge from Student Council to take care of local animals who might fall through the cracks during these tough economic times.

The items (enough to completely fill a large, box-shaped delivery truck) were taken to the Humane Society just before winter break.

Monthly challenges are scheduled January through May, which will likely keep the animals well fed and comfortable in the coming months.

"This is overwhelming and amazing," said student John Castle who recently adopted a black lab mix from the shelter.



Helping to organize several thousand items for delivery to the Stark County Humane Society are Steve Smith, Rand Romas, Brooke Barbari, and John Castle.



SEE WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE LINE OF SERVICES

**Lawn Primp**  
Landscaping and Lawncare

**330.266.7222**

Our professional services include:

Mowing

Spring Clean-up

Fertilization

Irrigation Systems

Landscape/Design

FREE ESTIMATES

Retail Location at:

6929 Portage Steet NW,  
North Canton, OH 44720



**WWW.LAWNPRIMP.COM**

JACKSON LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
7984 FULTON DRIVE  
MASSILLON, OHIO 44646

WS CAR SORT  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
CANTON, OH  
PERMIT #105