

THE

Black & Gold Unfold

-Home of the Panthers-

Parkway
Local
Schools



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District News

Correspondent: Carter J. Hellwarth



Parkway FFA Hosts Canned Food Drive

During this season of thanks, it is easy to take for granted simple things such as the food we enjoy. The Parkway FFA Chapter realized the importance of giving to those who need it and hosted a canned food drive through all levels of Parkway Local Schools. The FFA chapter ran the food drive from November 9th-18th. Overall, the program led to the successful collection of 3,991 cans of food. The food was then sorted by FFA members into different groups and sent to the Rockford food pantry. As a reward for donating the most in their school levels, winning classes received rewards such as pizza parties or dodgeball tournaments.

Operation Giving Back

The Parkway civics classes, overseen by Mr. Minnich, ran a school-wide toy drive titled *Operation Giving Back* from Dec. 1-8. The drive was run for Afghan refugees in Camp Atterbury. Although the refugees in this camp were given living essentials, there was a lack of toys for the children. The drive gathered an abundance of toys, over 70 boxes full, that were sorted and shipped by December 10th.

Burtch and Lyons Leaving the School Board

This month, two members of Parkway's School Board will be finishing their tenure. Melissa Burtch has served the school for two terms, totaling eight years, and Tom Lyons has served the school for three terms, totaling twelve years. Both Burtch and Lyons have also served as Parkway's representatives to the Vantage School Board during their tenure. Parkway is thankful for their time and service to this community. Beginning in January, Mark Kimmel and Les Nichols will be entering the board, joining Talen Bates, Tara Patterson, and Deb Call.

School-Wide Dates to Know:

- January 4 - 7 - End of Course Exam Re-Takes
- January 18 - Vantage coming to Parkway to talk with Sophomores
- January 19 - ASVAB testing for all Sophomores
- January 24 - CCP Meeting
(College Credit Plus)
*6:30 pm in Community Room
(This meeting is required for all students who plan on taking CCP classes and their parents)
- January 28 - Sophomore Vantage Visit



High School News

Correspondents : Blayne Fullenkamp and Chantry Simon



Parkway Musical Arts Perform Beautiful Melodies

The Parkway band and choir performed their Christmas ensemble in the auditorium on December 5th with songs that put the audience in a festive mood.

The Parkway band performed three songs, and the choir performed four songs. The concert began with the choir's performance of "White Christmas," then a rendition of "Carol of the Bells," followed by "Little Drummer Boy," and concluded with "Last Christmas." After a speech from our band director Ryan Twigg, the band performed their ensemble that consisted of "House of the Rising Bells," an Austrian Carol entitled, "Still, Still, Still," and a melody that consisted of songs that the audience could participate in by singing along with the band. The band's sing-along songs were "Jingle Bells," "Deck the Halls," "Silent Night," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." The music groups play the Christmas songs during the holiday season every year for the community's enjoyment and for the enjoyment of the students. Since November, the students prepared for this concert by practicing every day during school.

The concert put the audience in a festive mood, and the students had a fun time performing their music. If you wish to watch the concert, it is posted on our Parkway website, under the Arts tab, then "Panther Music"- "Panther Band."



Attention Seniors:

Do you need money to help with college? Scholarships are starting to be posted. See Mrs. Ontrop's bulletin board and view her Google Classroom site for more details. New scholarships are posted daily. Check them out!

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):

Earlier this fall, there was a FAFSA meeting for seniors and their parents. If you missed this meeting, please contact Mrs. Ontrop or go to studentaid.gov for more information.

Pictured: Parkway band and choir

Want to see more?

Check out our Parkway homepage under Newsletter for more information and in-person interviews about clubs we offer at Parkway!

Middle School News

Correspondents: Chase Heitkamp and Gabriel Schaaf



Students of the Month

5th Grade - Kayliann Ford - Since Kayli's arrival at the beginning of the school year, she has not only transitioned but has also acclimated and excelled at Parkway. She is a terrific student with a personality that lights up the room. She is an engaged learner who does well in all of her classes. Kayliann is a member of the House of Alacer and is the daughter of Dustin Ford and Nicole Norton.

6th Grade - Jaxson Bollenbacher - Jaxson comes to class everyday with a great attitude and a desire to learn. He asks good questions to obtain a better understanding of topics being taught. His teachers appreciate his positive personality and his kindness he displays to others. Jaxson is a great example of what a PAWS-itive student looks like! Jaxson is a member of the House of Potis and is the son of Derik and Kayla Bollenbacher.



7th Grade - Morgan Bentz - Morgan displays many of the traits of a PAWS-itive student. She is respectful to her teachers and shows kindness to her classmates. She is a hard worker and is engaged in class activities and discussions. Morgan comes prepared for class daily and gives her best effort on assignments. Morgan is a member of the House of Spero and is the daughter of Stephen and Trisha Bentz.

8th Grade - Trevor Heitkamp - Trevor has excelled in all of his middle school classes while also maintaining a partial high school schedule with advanced math and science courses. Trevor gives his best effort in each class and acts mature, responsible, and respectful. He is an outstanding example of being an Active Learner. Trevor is a member of the House of Potis and is the son of Brian and Laura Heitkamp.

D.A.R.E. Graduation Ceremony

Parkway's 5th graders participated in the Mercer County D.A.R.E. program. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. This program focuses on teaching students how to make safe and healthy lifestyle choices.

D.A.R.E. Essay Winners – Ramsey Parrish, McKenzie Snell, Kallie Brehm, Ella Hays, Steven Severt, Abi Sipe, Hadley Stover, and Rogan Luginbill

D.A.R.E. Honor Students – Savada Triplett, Abi Sipe, Isabelle Knapke, Hadley Stover, Kallie Brehm, Jackie Baker



Elementary News

Correspondents: Caden Slusher and Jace Armstrong



High School Art Class Hosts “How To Draw” Activity for 3rd Grade Students

Mr. Kuhn’s high school art class came to all of the 3rd grade classrooms and demonstrated to students the basics of drawing a face. All of the students followed their step-by-step instructions and even tried drawing faces of their own, including Santa Claus!



December Students of the Month

Kindergarten - Maliyah Hays & Nolan Schmidt
1st grade - Calie Langenkamp & Charlotte Heck
2nd grade - Cameron Hinkle & Zoey Roth
3rd grade - Avery Baucher & Logan Kraner
4th grade - Hudson Clay & Savannah Tickle



Third Grade Gives to Community

Rather than buying Christmas gifts for their teachers, third graders were asked to help our community by bringing in non-perishable food items. These items were donated to the Rockford Food Bank, which is run by Helping Hands Thrift Shop and RUMC. Thank you third graders for learning a valuable life lesson and giving back to our community!