

THE

Black & Gold Unfold

-Home of the Panthers-

Parkway
Local
Schools



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District News

Correspondent: Brynlea Houser



Brave Teens Volunteer to Help Their Communities

Each year, a Mercer county school district is responsible for organizing the Mercer County Junior / Senior Mock Crash, and this year was Parkway's turn. Many of our Parkway High School students were to volunteer to help with this event, but unfortunately, the event was canceled due to inclement weather. Regardless of the cancellation, the Black and Gold would like to spotlight these student-volunteers.

The Rockford, Willshire, Mendon, and Chatt Fire Departments have help from volunteers in the Junior Firefighter Squad program. These squads consist of high school students who are interested in fire-fighting and want to help their community in times of need. The duties of these Junior Firefighters varies between towns, but the basics are helping get tools around for future fires, rolling up fire hoses, checking truck maintenance, generally helping around the fire station, and even going out to help fight small fires. The training for this program is long, with a minimum of 240 hours for volunteer work. These students are not paid, but the hands-on experience and helping our communities is invaluable.

Volunteering for their community's fire department is no easy task, and we are so proud of the following teens for their efforts: Collin Langenkamp, Riley Bolton, Jonas Farmer, Cooper Clay, Duke Brehm, Abby Hague, Bryan Molina, Kelsie Arnold, Taylor Minnich, Trevor Minnich, Isabell Young, Kaitlyn Rager, Hayden Ayers, Maddoxx Houts, Tyler Miller, and Kaid Hileman. Thank you for your hard work!





High School News

Correspondent: Xavier Samples



Scholastic Bowl Success

If someone was to ask for an example of something successful, a perfect response would be Parkway's Scholastic Bowl Team. This team, that consists of only one upperclassman, worked together to bring home Parkway's very first varsity Scholastic Bowl MAC championship! However, the team has their eyes set on even bigger goals than being back-to-back MAC champions. Their goals for the next few seasons are to reach the Small School State Championship as well as Nationals. Now in order for this great feat to be achieved, everyone on the team will have to have an impact. The reason for this is the team will be quizzed over a variety of topics throughout the tournaments. Those topics include pop culture, sports, science, literature, history, and many other categories. So, the team is asking anyone who thinks they may be interested in joining, to sign up as there is a role for everyone on the team. The regular season starts on the first Monday of September, and ends in November. In addition, they are participating in multiple tournaments from December through March. Congratulations to our Parkway Scholastic Bowl team, and Good luck on the upcoming season!

For the list of Scholastic Bowl members, please visit Parkway's Homepage, and click on Newsletter.

Franklin Walter Award Banquet

On April 3, Meg Henkle attended the annual Franklin B. Walter All Scholastic Awards banquet as the representative of Parkway. This award was started in 1990 to recognize Franklin B. Walter, a former superintendent in Ohio, for his dedication towards improving education. The Franklin B. Walter Award is an award given to each senior Valedictorian in Mercer County, who then are given the opportunity to go to the state level for the award. Each nominee, selects one teacher of influence to attend the banquet as well. Meg selected Mrs. Danielle Profit, who teaches higher-level math, such as Calculus, Statistics, and College Algebra. During the ceremony, each student and their teacher are asked to speak. A committee ultimately picks a nominee to represent Mercer County to move on to the state level.

Congratulations to Meg Henkle and Mrs. Profit for proudly representing Parkway at the Franklin B. Walter Awards Banquet!

Mason's Award Winners

Congratulations to Angela Lovell and Ashton Minnich on receiving the 4th District Non-Masonic Excellence in Youth Award. In order to be nominated for this award, the candidate must be involved in many community activities and have a passion for helping others. Then, they must be selected by the Grand Master of Masons in Ohio to receive the award. Since 1945, this prestigious award has been given out only once every year. Congratulations Angela and Ashton!



Angela Lovell and Ashton Minnich are presented with their awards.

Senior Class Trip

With the Seniors' final few weeks of high school coming up, they all enjoyed one last class field trip together on March 20. Their first stop on the trip was to Topgolf, where they hit the range for two hours. Following that, the Senior class went to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, which showcased elephants, gorillas, polar bears, and many more animals. For lunch, each student had the option of eating at Top Golf or at the Zoo. In the afternoon, the students enjoyed Otherworld, an interactive art museum that consists of 47 different rooms for guests to explore. Finally, their last stop before heading home was to dinner at Chuy's Tex-Mex Restaurant. Best of luck to this year's seniors with their future endeavors!

Upcoming Events

- April 22-25- Math, Science, History End of Course Exams
- April 30 - Juniors attend Career Day
- May 8- Relay For Life
- May 15 - Senior Awards 7:00 PM
- May 19 - Parkway Graduation
- May 20 - Vantage Graduation



Middle School News

Correspondent: Brynlea Houser



Most Valuable Panthers

The 5th grade team nominates Bentley Frisch as March Student of the Month. Bentley is the son of Jackie Frisch and Chad Young. Benny Fish has shown a tremendous growth mindset this month. He has been engaged in his learning, and his grades reflect that. He is also an energetic student who enjoys participating in class discussions and brings fun into our learning environment. Keep up the good work, Benny!

The 6th grade student of the month is Harper Norris. Harper is the daughter of Ryan and Kristen Norris. Harper is a great all around student who is a joy to have in class. She is very responsible with her work and always asks questions for a better understanding. Harper is a great classmate who is always willing to help others in need.

The 7th-grade staff has chosen Carson Tong as the March MVP. Carson is the son of Aaron and Nicole Tong. Academically Carson is a rockstar. His sometimes ornery personality can get him off track but he's able to rebound quickly and refocus. He has a gift for thinking critically through difficult problems before seeking out help. He's self-motivated and almost always gives 110% on everything he does. Keep it up, Carson!

The 8th grade team has picked Natalie Strickland as the MVP. Natalie is the daughter of Jason and Dianna Rissner. Natalie is a positive student who always has a smile on her face. She wants to get work done, she pushes herself constantly to do better, and she loves learning. Natalie is also super polite and is sure to greet her teachers and her classmates every day! Way to go Nat!



L to R: Bentley Frisch, Harper Norris, Carson Tong, Natalie Strickland



Elementary News

Correspondent: Emma Prichard



Upcoming Events

- April 29th- Kindergarten Field trip to Mercer Health 12-12:30.
- May 1st- 3rd Grade Field trip to Rockford Historical sites from 9-12. (Day 1/2)
- May 2nd- 3rd Grade Field trip to Rockford Historical sites from 9-12. (Day 2/2)
- May 8th- 4th grade Field trip to MVP Dairy from 9-12:30.
- May 9th- 1st grade Field trip to the zoo
- May 16th- 4th grade to Johnston's Farm.

Brokner Nature Center

The second grade visited Brokner Nature Center on April 10th. They hiked through the woods with a tour guide, visited a mammal room, listened to different bird calls, looked at painted turtles, and visited the animal rescue. At the animal rescue facility, students saw coyotes, turkey vultures, a skunk, a bald eagle, owls, crows, and foxes.



End of the Year Testing

Students in kindergarten-4th grade are completing their end of the year assessments in reading and math. These assessments are completed on the computer and are taken three times a year to measure each child's academic progress. Students work very hard on these assessments and sometimes receive rewards. Students are excited to see the progress they have made throughout the year.

Spring Concerts

The Elementary had their Spring Concerts. Unfortunately, the Pre-school and Kindergarten concert ended early due to storms, but they were able to perform for the first graders. The full concert recording was uploaded to Dojo so everyone could enjoy.



PBIS

3 Screen Productions presented a 45 minute film entitled, "Let's Be Friends." The film was about sharing kindness and preventing bullying. It included lots of fun, upbeat songs and some favorite comic book, cartoon, and movie characters including Spongebob, Curious George, and Rocket from the Guardians of the Galaxy. The film included stories about how kids just like them were doing things to show kindness and to make a difference in the lives of others all over the world.



Please go to Parkway's Homepage, under Newsletter for more information and pictures.