
Knighly News

Van Buren Local School
217 South Main Street
Van Buren, Ohio 45889
Volume: 28 No.: 8
March 2008
Published nine times per year

Superintendent's Office — 299-3578 High School — 299-3384 Elementary — 299-3416

Message from the Superintendent

For the past several months, a Management Team committee under the direction of the Board of Education has been working on development of a new strategic plan for our school district. Open community meetings have been held at the school and small group meetings have been held in various other locations. Information was gathered in respect to the strengths and weakness of the district along with perceived needs for the future. The information has proven to be enlightening and extremely supportive of our schools. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed their thoughts and ideas to this process.

Recently, the Management Team has developed a series of belief statements for the school and community, a school vision, and a school mission statement. While these items will not be officially board approved until the entire process, including goals and action plans, are completed, I would like to share the Management Team's recommendations with you at this time.

Beliefs

We believe that:

- All students are capable of learning when provided a safe and nurturing environment
- Learning is a life-long process
- Our small school atmosphere stresses family values and personal relationships
- Quality education can only come when partnering our school with the community
- Multiple opportunities and tools are necessary for our students to achieve success
- Respect, dignity, and fairness toward all must be a focal point of our school and community
- Diversity should be integral to the Van Buren Local Schools' achievement of excellence
- The Judeo-Christian tradition is the basis of our community values.

Vision

Van Buren schools will continually strive to be a leader in educational excellence.

Mission

We challenge and support all students to reach their maximum potential in a changing world.

Based upon information gathered from the community, the Management Team has also developed five (5) basic goals in the areas of Curriculum, Technology,

Facilities, Unity/Communication and Outside Resources, and Money/Grants. These basic goals include:

Curriculum

By the fall of 2010, we will implement a plan to provide innovative curriculum that best meets our students.

Technology

By 2010, all teachers will routinely integrate instructional technology to ensure our students' technology literacy by the eighth grade so they can explore advanced technology in grades 9 through 12.

Facilities

By June of 2010, identify the present and future facility needs and make recommendations to the Board of Education.

Unity/Communication & Outside Resources

By the fall of 2009, partnerships will be developed between Owens Community College, The University of Findlay, area businesses, and alumni groups.

Money/Grants

To evaluate, research, develop, and establish means to generate funds to support our school's educational and extra-curricular endeavors to maintain Van Buren as a leader in educational excellence.

The next step in this process needs you. We need approximately 50 individuals, 10 per goal, to further define and develop action plans for each of these goals. All of the planning of the Management Team, Board of Education, and the staff and administration is inconsequential if it is not understood and accepted by the local community. Historically, community turnout for district-wide planning and informational activities has not been well attended by the local community. In contrast, community organization for issues involving extra-curricular activities or having a direct effect on individual students has shown a unique ability to "rally the troops". While I respect and support individual's rights to get involved in issues which seem to have a direct impact on their children, I am hopeful that we can gather the same enthusiasm to help develop and support the long range planning which is vital to maintaining and expanding the Van Buren Schools tradition of educational excellence. Please take the time to review the Vision, Mission, Beliefs, and Goals listed above and contact me about becoming a partner in defining and developing these goals for the future of our district. I can be reached by phone at (419) 299-3578, or by email at tmyers@vbschools.net. Remember, Quality education can only come when partnering our school with the community!

THE VAN BUREN SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Van Buren School District, a highly-progressive school with a small school atmosphere, is to guarantee all students a superior education which empowers them to reach their maximum individual potential, to graduate, and to become exemplary citizens, through the instruction and encouragement of a highly-dedicated team, using a challenging curriculum, modern resources, advanced technology, and a sound partnership with the community.

Visit Van Buren Local School
at our website
www.vbschools.net

Van Buren Local School

217 South Main Street
Van Buren, Ohio 45889

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High School & Middle School & Elementary News

The Van Buren Academic Boosters Proudly Present

January Awesome Knights

Students are chosen monthly by each high school teacher based upon one or more of the following: academic achievement; positive attitude; class participation; letter grade improvement; and/or outstanding performance.

All students chosen monthly will receive a certificate for a value meal at McDonalds and a certificate of recognition from the Academic Boosters organization.



Back Row: Joel Ryder, C J Illiff, Jacob Monday, Riley Patterson, Jon Tropf, John Word, Clay Eaton.
Middle Row: Alan Molyet, Rachel Adolph, Hillary Hachey, Bailey Heminger, Erica Kinser, Lacy Allen.
Front Row: Brooke Rehus, Becca Farling, Kylie Jacomet, Erika Stacy. *Not Pictured:* Hannah Shank.

January Virtuous Knights

Many VBMS students go above and beyond every day to make our school and community a better place. Each middle school teacher selects one student per month as a Virtuous Knight. Virtuous Knights strongly exhibit the following qualities: *Hard-working, Enthusiastic, Kind to Others, Respectful, Generous, Responsible, School and Self Pride.*

Each student will receive a certificate and a gift card from Cold Stone Creamery. Congratulations to the following students who have shown themselves to be Virtuous Knights.



Back Row: Jeremiah McDougale, Emily Hanson, Emily Lammers, Megan Grine, Amanda Pummell, Shelby George. *Front Row:* Madison Endicott, Kaitlyn Endicott, Chaney Brown, Heather Clark, Jacob Szczublewski, Devin Spieker.

Van Buren HS/MS Guidance

- The updated Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) work sheets for the 2008-2009 school year are now available in the guidance office for those students who will be attending college next year.
- Those juniors planning on going to college after graduation are encouraged to take the ACT test at least once before entering their senior year of high school. Sophomores should also think about taking the ACT at the conclusion of this year. The June 14 testing deadline for registration is May 9.
- Any student who has to complete class credit work before next year needs to see Mr. Zender by the end of the school year for make-up work information.
- This is the time of the year when scholarships for seniors start coming in on a regular basis. Seniors should stop in the guidance office weekly to pick up applications. Also, all Hancock Community Foundation scholarships are available on line at www.community-foundation.com.
- Scheduling for next year is taking place this month. It is important that the student, parent, and teachers are all involved in the student's course selection for next year. Once school starts in the fall, there will be no schedule changes at that time.
- There will be a scheduling meeting for all 8th graders in the high school cafeteria on March 12 at 6:30 P.M. We will be selecting classes for those students entering Van Buren High School as a freshman for the 2008-2009 school year. The student and at least one parent are expected to attend. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you need to contact Mr. Zender in the guidance office. Information has been sent home with all Van Buren 8th graders.
- If any student in grades 8-11 is interested in taking college classes next year through the Post Secondary Education Options program, they need to contact the guidance office by March 31. Information has been sent home with the students.

From the Elementary Phys. Ed. Department

Ms. Breitigam, elementary physical education teacher, would like to recognize a student from each grade as student of the month for January. These students followed directions and displayed outstanding efforts and attitudes in physical education class. Congratulations to these outstanding students!



Kindergarten: Austin Welly, 1st Grade: Nicholas Marshall, 3rd Grade: Lilly Stewart, 4th Grade: Taylor Gilliland, 5th Grade: Justin Phillips, 2nd Grade: Jordan Siferd

High School & Middle School News

VAN BUREN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Second Nine-Week Grading Period 2007 - 2008 School Year

ALL "A's"

6th Grade	Michael Domke, Madison Endicott, Michelle Flanagan, Jenna Gallelo, Zachary Hiris, Kelly McCartney, Tory Palmer, Drew Patterson, Jonathan Rafferty, Rachell Resnik, Natalie Risser, Corey Spoon, Alisa Warren, Macaulay Williams	7th Grade	Chandler Adams, Ryan Adolph, Sarah Benson, Austin Bisbee, Ryan Brauneller, Alexis Clark, Heather Clark, Michaela Conkle, Chase Conley, Heather DeBouver, Alexandra DeVincentis, Matthew DeVore, Malynn Eaton, Laura Endicott, Kaleigh Frampton, Sarah Greer, Grace Haffenden, Emily Hanson, Emily Lammers, Caleb Masters, Daniel Moon, Joshua Pettry, Alec Rampe, Cala Reynolds, George Shawver IV, Ashley Smith, Kayla Sonnenberg, Alyssa Spears, Mary Sullivan, Brennon Swain, Jacob Szczublewski, Kristen Tropf, Monique Walton, David Weber
7th Grade	Elyse Anderbery, Tessa Gerken, Olivia Godzak, Bandi Hoyng, Sydney Jameson, Alexis Kelley, Cameron King, Hailey Lowden, Dylan Sexton	8th Grade	Christopher Beachler, Sarah Benjamin, Joseph Claes, Lucas Cole, Brandon Conner, Aaron Crissman, Brian Davidson, Derek Donley, Elizabeth Ehrmschwender, Amber Ellinger, Julia Endicott, Megan Ewing, CJ Gettys, Jacob Gilliland, Katie Hertel, Carrie Houdeshell, Austin Kingsley, Matthew LaFontaine, Megan Lee, Jeremiah McDougale, Paige Otto, Paige Pierce, Lucas Reed, Joshua Roberts, Justin Roberts, Dean Rodabaugh, Kailie Scarlett, Shawn Smith, Tyler Smith, Alexandra Stough, Taylor Watkins, Scott Wymer
8th Grade	Chandler Brown, Jaclyn Cole, Ashton Combs, Julia Edelbrock, Kaitlyn Endicott, Taylor Fieger, Kiera Gaswint, Meagan Grine, Jessica Hammond, Lacie Kern, Zane Kieffer, Elizabeth Kniss, Macy McCartney, Amanda Pummell, Stephanie Sawyer, Joseph Simon	9th Grade	Erica Arthur, Kelsey Aukerman, Riley Bayer, Jessica Borsani, Carol Campbell, Kalyn Leeper, Brandon Lucas, Taylor Miller, Jacob Monday, Lindsay Rinker, Logan Roberts, Teresa Schultz, Andrew Shroll, Chad Sonnenberg, Colin Stacy, Tori Swain, Olivia Wills, Sam Yoder
9th Grade	Rachel Adolph, Brooke Barnhisel, Callie Bays, Jacob Brown, Devon Causey, Madison Coldren, Matthew Early, Logan Eaton, Aaron Edelbrock, Rebecca Farling, Zachary Hoehn, Kylie Jacomet, Matthew Lee, Colleen McCormick, Richard Meyer, Scott Neall, Jude Palmer, Jacob Sexton, Hannah Shank, Megan Stewart, Clayton Sudlow, Holly Tumblin, Suzanna Tumblin, Layne Turner, Kasie Wilkins	10th Grade	Tyler Akers, Sarah Bartchlett, Brent Beggs, Samantha Benson, Jessica Blakely, Brittany Borsani, Sarah Brink, Karleigh Carman, Tarah Clark, Amanda Couchot, Ashley Cytlak, Austin Franklin, Joseph Gallelo, Madison Grant, Jordan Hammond, Shelby Heitmeyer, Steven Jett, David Lee, Anthony Male, Zacharey Potteiger, Nicholas Rafferty, Kayla Roberts
10th Grade	Alex Anderbery, Lauren Clark, Alyson Combs, Sara Doxsey, Chelsi Faine, Michael Flanagan, Tia Gilkerson, Sarah Hanson, Dillon Jameson, Katlin Mackedanz, Nichole May, Alan Molyet, Catelen Ramsey, Alexander Roszman, Erika Stacy, Morgan Tackett, Jason Tropf	11th Grade	Jacob Allen, Kaelan Bell, Kalie Beltz, Emily Braithwaite, Derek Brauneller, Tara Brubaker, Courtney Campbell, Brittini Clark, Nicholas DeBouver, Clay Eaton, Taylor Hummell, Corbin King, Lindsay Laney, Michelle Long, Brett Lucas, Kevin Ragless, Katelynn Romaker, Jacob Sansom, Evan Shank, Ciera Sonnenberg, Hannah Wilkinson
11th Grade	Nadine Akra, Brittany Barnhisel, Tayler Finsel, Bailey Heminger, Holly Kendrick, Laura Thornton, Brett Willson, Breann Zerby	12th Grade	Elizabeth Blakely, Lauren Caris, Melanie Cole, Emily Conkle, Denise Cooley, Kevin Davis, Eric Dehnhoff, Morgan DePuy, Danielle Evans, Paige Faine, Jodie Ferguson, Mason Frazier, Mitchell Frazier, Amber Glick, Adam Greer, Hillary Hachey, Christopher Iliff, Erica Kinser, Joshua Lee, Matthew Phillips, Seth Sattler, Jeremy Simon, Spencer Smith, Patrick Stacy, Clayton Stewart
12th Grade	Christopher Baney, Tyler Brown, Hanna Burke, Shelby Calland, Megan Early, Courtney Ferguson, John Flanagan, Kathleen Godzak, Logan Grant, Cory Herr, Michelle Homan, Chase Marshall, Noreen Murphy, Kristina Rowles, Lauren Salisbury, Jonathan Tropf, Hope Tumblin, Abby Wheeler, Raymond Wolfe, Janelle Wood, John Word		
	ALL "A's" and "B's"		
6th Grade	Matthew Bado, Lindsey Barchent, Tyler Clark, Adam Cytlak, Mary Davidson, Brandon Edelbrock, Robyn Flick, Zara Fournier, Aaron Franklin, Shelby George, Nicholas Hoehn, James Irving, Sawyer Junge, Amber King, Ester Moon, Ashley Overmyer, Gregory Paul, Scott Phillips, Ivan Quezada, Shivali Sachdeva, Joel Schumacker, Shelby Schweitzer, Ted Simmons, Michael Smith, Devon Spieker, Breanna Starr, Courtney VanHorn		

News from MS Principal Jay Clark

Author Visits MS & HS

Author Ken Jewett visited Van Buren on January 31. Ken has recently published **To the Valley**, a historical novel in which many of the characters are based on his family and friends here in the Findlay area. Mr. Jewett shared his experiences with writing and publishing and how he used his French language skills during his career in the Air Force. Thanks to Mr. Bartlett for making this visit a reality.

Middle School Staff Present at Conference

Mrs. Brown, Mr. Clark, and Mrs. Underwood presented at the Ohio Middle School Association Conference on Thursday, February 21 at the Easton Hilton in Columbus. Their presentation "Adding the student to parent-teacher conferences" highlighted our school's student-led conference program – its success, uniqueness, and facets that we look to improve for the future. This program has gained much attention and we are contacted regularly by other schools wanting more information on our model. The OMSA conference is attended by teachers, administrators, and university faculty with an interest in the middle-level grades.

VBMS Students Selected for District III Honors Band and Choir

Congratulations to our OMEA District III Middle School Honors Band and Choir members! These students joined other middle school students from across the district on February 23 for a performance at Wapakoneta Middle School. Band members included: Cameron King (clarinet), Dean Rodabaugh (baritone), and Brandon Conner (trumpet). Choir members included: Kiera Gaswint, Tyler Hiatt, Amanda Pummell, and Joseph Simon.



HS Musical Info

Music News

Become a patron of the musical (and get great seats in the meantime!)

The Van Buren High School production of **Little Shop of Horrors** is just around the corner – Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5 at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday, April 6 at 3:00 P.M.! Tickets and great seats for this production will go fast – but you can get your seats early if you become a **Van Buren Musical Patron!**

Becoming a patron is easy and saves you some time as well. In addition to receiving *the first seats that go on sale*, a patron also is allowed to *put up to two lines of copy into the musical program*. Your message can include a greeting to a cast member or just your name – you choose! Best of all, you *don't have to wait in line to pick out seats* – we can (at your preference) pick out the best seats for you and hold them at the will call for you to pick up at that evening's performance. (Or, you can come in during the patron sale dates and pick out your own seats – it's up to you!)

How do you become a patron? Simple – here's what you do:

1. Cut and fill out the patron ad form below (please follow directions on the form.)
2. Include your check or money order, payable to *VB Drama*. One patron ad is **\$30** and includes **three tickets (either one per performance or three for one night's performance.)**
3. Send the form to Linda Schwemley at Van Buren High School before the deadline.

All patron seats that are requested to be selected by the musical staff will be selected on a first-come, first-serve basis. **No refunds or exchanges for any ticket sales (patron or general public.)**

PATRON TICKETS will be sold from March 7 to March 28. (If you are wishing to pick out your own seats, you can contact Linda Schwemley to arrange a time before or after school to pick them out).

GENERAL PUBLIC TICKET SALES will begin March 31. Tickets will be on sale before school and during lunch periods. All tickets will be \$7.

QUESTIONS? Contact Linda Schwemley at 419.299.3384 x434, or email (lschwemley@vbschools.net).

CUT OUT AND RETURN BELOW

VAN BUREN MUSIC AND DRAMA DEPARTMENTS
PATRONAD
Little Shop of Horrors

NAME AND MESSAGE – PLEASE PRINT ABOVE ON LINES PROVIDED
2 lines of copy – 36 characters per line maximum

I wish to have tickets reserved for: FRIDAY ONLY (3 TICKETS) _____ SATURDAY ONLY (3 TICKETS) _____ SUNDAY ONLY (3 TICKETS) _____ FRI., SAT., SUN. (1 TICKET EACH) _____	Reserve Tickets For: Name _____ Phone Number _____ EMAIL (optional) _____
---	--

Please Pick Out Seats For Me (check here) _____ (will be available at will call on the evening of the performance)
I Wish To Pick Out The Seats (check here) _____ (any tickets not picked out by March 28 will be picked out for you by musical staff)



"Isn't it Grand!" Project Update

The Van Buren Grand Piano Committee is committed to keeping you updated on the progress each month toward our goal of raising funds to purchase a new 6'11" Yamaha concert grand piano for the school auditorium.

Who's Donating? Thank you to the following donors who gave a contribution to the project since the last *Knightly News* publication:

Note Donors

- A.G. Ashcraft
- R.L. and E.D. Benson
- Harry and Joyce Biddinger
- R.A. Eakin
- Wallace Fieger
- Erica Kelley
- Valerie and John King
- Sara L. Kuhlman
- Cassie and Kurt Ohlrich
- Karen and James Schuh
- Mark and Rebecca Smith
- Dina and Larry Swain & family
- Alvin and Angie Trusty

Key Donors

- Duane and Diana Aukerman
- Jim, Melinda, Matthew & Emily Bado
- Donald and Mary Flanagan
- Clarence and Naomi Golden
- Edwin L. Heminger (1 ½ keys)
- Nicholas and Barbara Petti (2 ½ keys)
- Richard and Darlene Umbaugh

Community Donors

- Findlay Publishing Co.

(If you recently gave to the project and do not see your name listed, your donation was received after this Knightly News deadline and will be published in the following month's publication.)

How to Donate: We are offering the purchase of musical notes or piano keys:

Eighth note.....\$25	OR	One key.....\$200
Quarter note.....\$50		An octave.....\$1,600
Half note.....\$100		
Whole note.....\$150		

Donations may be mailed to the Van Buren Music Boosters, Grand Piano Committee, P.O. Box 100, Van Buren, Ohio, 45889. You can also send your donation with your child or grandchild to school and turn in to the elementary or middle/high school office or give your donation to Mr. Vaughn or Mr. Eakin.

Did you know... that a composite list of donors was printed in the band concert program on Monday, February 18? If you were not at the concert and would like a copy of the program, please contact Yvonne Tumblin at (419) 422-5355 or YTumblin@juno.com.

GRAND Q&A

What does the grand piano cost? Piano expenses are approximately \$34,500 (includes necessary accessories). Total project expenses are approximately \$37,000.

What has been raised so far? Approximately \$8,000, so we welcome your donations! You can always track the progress on the thermometer located outside the auditorium doors in the lobby.



We're moving forward! Together we can make it happen!

Bloodmobile Scheduled
Wednesday, March 19, 2008 from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
in the HS Band Room

Donors are eligible if they have not given blood within the last 56 days.

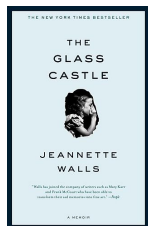
If you would like to make an appointment to donate with us, please call 419-422-9322 ext. 226, or 1-800-GIVE BLOOD.

Sponsored by VBHS National Honor Society

Community News

School News

2008 CommunityREAD Book Announced



The HancockREADS committee has announced that the 2008 CommunityREAD feature book will be the *New York Times* bestselling memoir, *The Glass Castle*, written by critically acclaimed author, Jeannette Walls. Additionally, Walls will visit Findlay to participate in several community events April 3-4, 2008.

Published in 2005, *The Glass Castle* has sold more than 1.5 million copies, been translated into 16 languages, and is being made into a movie by Paramount. Its numerous awards include the Christopher

Award, the American Library Association's Alex Award, and the Books for Better Living Award. In *The Glass Castle*, Walls describes growing up in the desert of the American Southwest and then in a West Virginia mining town with her three siblings and the brilliant, unorthodox, irresponsible parents who manage at once to neglect them, love them, and teach them to face their fears.

As revealed in her memoir, Jeannette and her three siblings were raised by nomadic parents; her father was an alcoholic and her mother was a schoolteacher-turned-painter. Driven by stubborn nonconformity, her parents roamed America, moving (or "doing the skedaddle," as her father put it) whenever money or food ran out. The family eventually settled in Welch, West Virginia, a small mining town. However, her father's drinking and her mother's depression grew worse, and the children became subject to the merciless taunting of the locals. According to Jeannette, she hid in the bathroom during school lunch breaks so nobody would notice she didn't have any lunch to eat. She would later rummage through the bins and eat whatever the other children had thrown away.

The story is at times harrowing and at times hilarious as the children go without food and indoor plumbing, yet are encouraged to read Shakespeare and dream of the beautiful glass house they will all one day build. Despite all her hardships, Walls develops the determination to leave West Virginia on her own at the age of 16, move to New York, enroll in Barnard College and eventually become a television personality and a well-known columnist for *New York Magazine* and *MSNBC.com*. Walls lives in Virginia with her husband, writer John Taylor. She has written for *New York Magazine*, *Esquire*, and *USA Today*, and appears regularly on *The Today Show*, *CNN* and *PrimeTimeLive*. She has appeared on *Prime Time Live*, *Good Morning America*, *Larry King Live*, *Oprah* and the *Diane Rheem Show*.

This inspirational book has been taught at universities in courses on literature, psychology, parenting, child development, and poverty. Walls has been a regular speaker at colleges, corporations, and business associations discussing overcoming hardship and the keys to turning adversity to your advantage.

The focus of this year's CommunityREAD event is to generate family and community discussion on the concepts of homelessness, poverty, perseverance, and kindness as well as highlighting the HancockREADS mission of helping to "STAMP OUT ILLITERACY" in Hancock County.

Many activities are being planned for CommunityREAD month (March 2008), including a special event featuring author Jeannette Walls on Friday evening, April 4, at 7:00 p.m. at Central Auditorium. Tickets for the event are \$5.00 and will be available at The Arts Partnership Box Office and The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation office.

The committee has also organized a "Red Envelope" promotion which allows community members to purchase a \$10.00 "Red Envelope" from local bookstores. Each "Red Envelope" includes a ticket to the feature event and a raffle ticket to win lunch for two with Jeannette Walls. You may purchase CommunityREAD books and Red Envelopes at the following participating bookstores: George House Coffee and Tea Company, Main Street News, Mazza Gallery, Moreys, Mother Hubbard's Learning Cupboard, Readmore's Hallmark, Springs of Life, and Stately Raven.

The children and young adult book selections have also been announced by the committee. *The Lady in the Box* written by Ann McGovern and illustrated by Marni Backer is the selected children's book and *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis is the chosen young adult book.

Members of the Hancock County community and surrounding communities are invited to participate in CommunityREAD events during March. Details of book

discussion groups was included in an insert in *The Courier* on February 27, 2008.

CommunityREAD is organized by the HancockREADS committee. HancockREADS is an initiative of The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation whose goal is to "Stamp Out Illiteracy" by supporting Hancock County programs that focus on improving literacy and reading skills. Every dollar raised in the community towards the HancockREADS endowment is matched with 50 cents by The Community Foundation. Donations to support the HancockREADS Fund at The Community Foundation will be collected at the events. Contributors may also give to the HancockREADS Fund online at www.community-foundaton.com.

Contact Marty Rothey at The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation at 419-425-1100 with further questions.

About The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation

The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation (TCF) has a rich history of assisting individuals, families and corporate entities to realize their charitable visions. Established in 1992 as an outgrowth of a one-time gift from L. Dale Dorney in 1976 to The Cleveland Foundation, TCF has evolved into a foundation with more than 200 funds and nearly \$72 million in assets. Since its formation, TCF has increased its yearly grantmaking total from \$456,734 in 1992 to nearly \$2.6 million in 2006. Visit www.community-foundation.com or call 419-425-1100 to learn more about how TCF is helping our community. Together we make a difference.

Van Buren High/Middle/Elementary School Students and Parents/Guardians

The price for the 2008 *Knight* is now \$50.00. A student can also purchase a protective plastic cover for \$2.50. A student can fill out the form on this page and give it to his/her teacher (elementary) or give it to Mr. Bratt in Room 235. When your student makes an order, please make sure that if he/she is paying by check and that the check is made payable to the 2008 *Knight* for the number of books purchased.

The yearbook staff thanks you for your support of the *Knight*, and we look forward to serving you in the future. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Bratt, yearbook adviser, at (419) 299-3384 (ext. 407).

Order Form for the 2008 *Knight*

Van Buren Elementary, Middle School and High School

Name _____

Grade/Teacher _____ Date _____

\$50.00 each Price of the 2008 *Knight* in FULL COLOR (coverage of the whole school including the elementary, middle school, and high school)

\$2.50 each Plastic protective cover for your book

Please fill out the following form and return it to your teacher (elementary) or Mr. Bratt in room 235 (middle and high school). Thank you, and enjoy your yearbook!

Quantity	Item	Price/Unit	Total Amount
	2008 <i>Knight</i>	\$50.00	
	Plastic Cover	\$2.50	
Please make all checks payable to: 2008 <i>Knight</i> . TOTAL			

Elementary News

Second Grade Gets Messy

The week of January 14 ended with a bit of a mess for the second grade. After reading, The Goat in the Rug, for our weekly story, the students got to dye their own friendship bracelets. Using spinach, beets, coffee, and blueberries, the students dipped yarn in the various pots and made the yarn turn to reds, pinks, browns, and greens!! The following day we all had a lesson in braiding! Wow!! What a lot of twisting that day was! Fun by all and a great lesson in dyeing!



Second Grade Career Day

Our second grade classes recently celebrated Career Day after studying about goods and services and discussing different community helpers. All four classes have been around with parent volunteers who came in to tell the students about what it is they do each day. Second graders dressed up as their future occupation and had a parade through the first floor of the elementary building. They also created and studied graphs showing the wide assortment of jobs in each class. Some of the most popular jobs included teachers, doctors, vets, military personnel and many pro athletes!



School News

High School Musical - Little Shop of Horrors

The Van Buren High School production of *Little Shop of Horrors* is just around the corner –

Friday and Saturday, April 4 & 5, 2008, at 7:30 P.M., and Sunday, April 6, 2008 at 3:00 P.M.!

Tickets and great seats for this production will go fast!

Tickets go on sale beginning Monday, March 31, 2008. Tickets cost \$7.00.

Ticket Office hours are the following:

Monday - Friday	7:30 – 8:00 A.M.
Monday - Thursday	3:00 – 4:00 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday	6:00 – 7:00 P.M.
Friday - Saturday	6:00 – 8:00 P.M.
Sunday	2:00 - 3:30 P.M.

Come and see the very talented high school students that attend Van Buren.

preschool Screening

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008

A developmental screening for 3, 4 and 5 year-old children for whom there may be concerns in the areas of gross or fine motor skills, speech-language or readiness. In addition a vision and hearing screening will be offered.



For students in the following school districts:
Arcadia - Arlington - Cory Rawson
Liberty Benton - McComb - Van Buren - Vanlue

SCREENING LOCATION:

Findlay First Nazarene Church
2501 Broad Avenue, Findlay

****PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED****

For a screening appointment call:
419.422.7525, ext. 209

BY

April 8, 2008

(A confirmation will be mailed)

Register early! ~ Sessions fill quickly!

Conducted by:

HANCOCK COUNTY
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

7746 C.R. 140, Findlay, OH 45840
Phone 419.422.7525 – Fax 419.422.8766



Sports News

School & Booster News

2008 VAN BUREN BLACK KNIGHT SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULES



2008 Girls Varsity Softball

Wed. Apr. 2	Northwood	A	5:00
Thurs. Apr. 3	Miller City	H	5:00
Sat. Apr. 5	N Riegel w/Oak Harbor	A	12:00
Mon. Apr. 7	Liberty Benton	H	5:00
Tues. Apr. 8	Ridgemont	H	5:00
Wed. Apr. 9	Hardin Northern	A	5:00
Thurs. Apr. 10	Hopewell Loudon	A	5:00
Fri. Apr. 11	Mohawk	H	5:00
Sat. Apr. 12	Kenton	A	11:00
Mon. Apr. 14	Pandora Gilboa	H	5:00
Wed. Apr. 16	Cory Rawson	A	5:00
Sat. Apr. 19	A Wayne w/Woodmore	A	11:00
Mon. Apr. 21	Vanlue	A	5:00
Wed. Apr. 23	McComb	H	5:00
Thurs. Apr. 24	Calvert	A	5:00
Fri. Apr. 25	North Baltimore	H	5:00
Sat. Apr. 26	Patrick Henry w/Kalida	A	12:00
Mon. Apr. 28	Arcadia	A	5:00
Wed. Apr. 30	Arlington	A	5:00
Fri. May 2	Carey	A	5:00
Mon. May 5	Leipsic	H	5:00
Tues. May 6	St. Wendelin	H	5:00
Thurs. May 15	Old Fort	H	5:00

2008 Boys Varsity Baseball

Wed. Apr. 2	Eastwood	H	4:30
Thurs. Apr. 3	Miller City	H	5:00
Fri. Apr. 4	Bluffton	A	5:00
Sat. Apr. 5	N Riegel w/Oak Harbor	A	12:00
Mon. Apr. 7	Liberty Benton	H	5:00
Tues. Apr. 8	Ridgemont	H	5:00
Wed. Apr. 9	Hardin Northern	A	5:00
Thurs. Apr. 10	Hopewell Loudon	A	5:00
Fri. Apr. 11	Mohawk	H	5:00
Sat. Apr. 12	Kenton	A	11:00
Mon. Apr. 14	Pandora Gilboa	H	5:00
Tues. Apr. 15	Patrick Henry	A	5:00
Wed. Apr. 16	Cory Rawson	A	5:00
Sat. Apr. 19	Elmwood	A	2:00
Mon. Apr. 21	Vanlue	A	5:00
Wed. Apr. 23	McComb	H	5:00
Thurs. Apr. 24	Calvert	A	5:00
Fri. Apr. 25	North Baltimore	H	5:00
Mon. Apr. 28	Arcadia	A	5:00
Wed. Apr. 30	Arlington	A	5:00
Fri. May 2	Carey	A	5:00
Mon. May 5	Leipsic	H	5:00
Tues. May 6	St. Wendelin	H	5:00
Thurs. May 15	Old Fort	H	5:00

2008 Boys JV Baseball

Wed. Apr. 2	Eastwood	A	4:30
Thurs. Apr. 10	Hopewell Loudon	H	5:00
Fri. Apr. 11	Mohawk	A	5:00
Tues. Apr. 15	Patrick Henry	H	5:00
Thurs. Apr. 17	Leipsic	H	5:00
Thurs. Apr. 24	Calvert	H	5:00
Fri. May 2	Carey	H	5:00
Tues. May 6	St. Wendelin	A	5:00
Wed. May 7	Liberty Benton	H	5:00
Tues. May 13	Liberty Benton	A	5:00
Thurs. May 15	Findlay	A	5:00

2008 Varsity Track

Thurs. Apr. 3	Hardin Northern	A	4:30
Sat. Apr. 5	Carey Relays	A	10:00
Tues. Apr. 8	Arcadia	H	4:30
Fri. Apr. 11	Doug Mowrey Memorial Invite	H	4:30
Tues. Apr. 15	Carey	H	4:30
Thurs. Apr. 17	HN/Elmwood	H	4:30
Sat. Apr. 19	St. Wendelin Invite	A	10:00
Tues. Apr. 22	McComb	H	4:30
Fri. Apr. 25	Seneca East Invite	A	4:00
Tues. Apr. 29	Ridgemont	H	5:00
Thurs. May 1	Arlington/Elmwood	H	4:00
Sat. May 3	Liberty Benton Invite	A	9:00
Tues. May 6	Eastwood	A	4:30
Thurs. May 8	Riverdale Relays	A	4:00
Wed. May 14	BVC Meet	A	TBA
Fri. May 16	BVC Meet	A	TBA
Thurs. May 22	Districts @ Spencerville	A	4:00
Sat. May 24	Districts @ Spencerville	A	10:00
Wed. May 28	Regionals @ Fostoria	A	4:00
Fri. May 30	Regionals @ Fostoria	A	4:00
Fri. June 6	State @ Columbus	A	10:00
Sat. June 7	State @ Columbus	A	10:00

2008 Middle School Track

Mon. Apr. 7	Ridgemont	A	5:00
Mon. Apr. 14	Pandora Gilboa	H	4:30
Mon. Apr. 21	Arlington & HL	H	4:30
Mon. Apr. 28	Knight Relays Invite	H	4:30
Fri. May 2	Liberty Benton Invite	A	4:15
Mon. May 5	Arcadia & McComb	H	4:30
Thurs. May 15	HN Invite	A	4:30

Van Buren Youth Baseball Clinic

Van Buren Youth Baseball will conduct tryouts on Saturday, March 15 in the high school gym at the following times: T-ball (12:00 - 12:30 P.M.), Machine Pitch (12:30 - 1:00 P.M.), Minors (1:00 - 2:00 P.M.), Jr Pony (2:00 - 3:00 P.M.). All first year players or players not assigned a team are required to attend. Registration forms have already been sent home through school. Late registrations will be accepted until the day of tryouts. This is the cutoff date for anyone wishing to play baseball. If anyone needs another copy, please stop by the office.

Post prom t-shirt orders will be taken April 14 - 17 during all lunch periods in the cafeteria. T-shirts will be available in three great colors - lime green, hot pink, and California blue.
New this year...t-shirts will be distributed and can be worn at post prom!
All juniors and seniors are encouraged to visit the table where orders will be taken so they can sign the paper to get their signature on the back of the t-shirt.

Reverse Raffle Donations Needed

The Athletic Boosters Reverse Raffle will be held on Saturday, April 12 at the AMVETS on Melrose Avenue in Findlay. Thanks to the wonderful people of the VB community we have been able to provide many nice items for silent auction, along with lots of prizes throughout the evening and raise lots of money to be used towards our great athletes at VB.

We are asking you again to please consider giving a donation for this great cause. Whether you have a former, current, or future Black Knight, we encourage you to become involved. There are several ways to do this. You may give an item yourself, ask family or friends to donate, or volunteer to serve on a committee to solicit donations. The support of the community for our school has proven time and again that Van Buren is a great place for students to grow and learn lifelong skills.

If you can help in any way...call Julie Erwin at 419-299-3770 or email Colleen Reynolds at car1000000@aol.com by March 15.

Thank you from Julie Erwin & Colleen Reynolds, VB Athletic Boosters Door Prize Committee.

PLEASE Support our BIGGEST Fundraiser of the Year!

Van Buren Athletic Boosters REVERSE RAFFLE



Saturday, April 12, 2008, at the Amvets on Melrose Avenue, Findlay
 Dinner at 6:00 P.M. - Raffle at 7:00 P.M.

Tickets are \$50 (includes raffle number, dinner, and one pop, tea, or coffee)
 Meal Tickets are \$15 (only 50 meal tickets will be sold)
 50/50 drawings • Last chance drawings and lots more fun!

If you want to reserve a table, please contact any of the Booster Members (Ed May, Anita Huber, Steven Gilliland, Cindi Grant, and Julie Erwin).

Spring Break is Friday - Friday, March 21 - 28, 2008

March - April Menu/Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
** Menu subject to change ** 16 MARCH	•Mini Corn Dogs, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk •Hot Dog or Coney Dog, Corn, Fruit, Milk St. Patrick's Day 	•Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Fruit, Milk •Turkey Manhattan, Fruit, Milk VBEPAmeeing, 1:30 P.M., Elementary Room 129	•French Toast Stix, Sausage Links, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit, Milk •Pepperoni Pizza, Corn, Fruit, Milk NHS Bloodmobile, 8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M., Band Room Boy Scout Troop 313 - 7:00 P.M., Allen Twp. Center	•Chicken Noodle Soup, Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich, Fruit, Milk •Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Tater Rounds, Fruit, Milk End of Third Nine Weeks	SPRING BREAK Good Friday	
Happy Easter 	SPRING BREAK Academic Boosters - 7:00 P.M., Community room	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	
Regular Print - Elementary Menu (K-5) Italicized Print - MS & HS Menu (6-12) 30	•Hot Dogs, Tater Rounds, Fruit, Milk •Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk General public ticket sale for <i>Little Shop of Horrors</i> musical	•Beef & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk •Baked Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/ Beef Gravy, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk	•Macaroni & Cheese, Peas, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk •Pizza, Corn, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/Eastwood, 4:30 P.M. Var Softball @ Northwood JV Baseball @ Eastwood, 4:30 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 313 - 7:00 P.M., Allen Twp. Center	•Hamburgers, French Fries, Fruit, Milk •Chili w/cheese, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/Miller City Var Softball w/Miller City Var Track @ Hardin Northern	•Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Carrot Stix w/dip, Fruit, Milk •Chicken Strips, Tater Rounds, Fruit, Milk Kindergarten Screening Var Baseball @ Bluffton "Little Shop of Horrors" musical performance - 7:30 P.M., Auditorium	Var Baseball @ New Riegelw/ Oak Harbor, 12:00 noon Var Softball @ New Riegelw/ Oak Harbor, 12:00 noon Var Track @ Carey Relays, 10:00 A.M. "Little Shop of Horrors" musical performance - 7:30 P.M., Auditorium
"Little Shop of Horrors" musical performance - 3:00 P.M. matinee, Auditorium 6	•Mini Corn Dogs, Corn, Fruit, Milk •Tacos, Corn, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/Liberty Benton Var Softball w/Liberty Benton MS Track @ Ridgemont Athletic Boosters - 7:00 P.M., Community Room	•Tacos, Refried Beans, Fruit, Milk •Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/Ridgemont Var Softball w/Ridgemont Var Track w/Arcadia	•Baked Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Beef Gravy, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk •Hamburgers, French Fries, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball @ Hardin Northern Var Softball @ Hardin Northern Boy Scout Troop 313 - 7:00 P.M., Allen Twp. Center	•Cheese Pizza, Corn, Fruit, Milk •Sausage Gravy over Buttermilk Biscuits, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball @ Hopewell Loudon Var Softball @ Hopewell Loudon JV Baseball w/Hopewell Loudon Board of Education meeting 7:00 P.M., Community Rm	•Chili w/Cheese, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk •Mini Corn Dogs, Tater Rounds, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/Mohawk Var Softball w/Mohawk Doug Mowrey Memorial Track Invitational, 4:30 P.M. JV Baseball @ Mohawk	Var Baseball @ Kenton, 11:00 A.M. Var Softball @ Kenton, 11:00 A.M. District III Middle School Solo and Ensemble Contest @ LBHS Van Buren Athletic Boosters REVERSE RAFFLE, Amvets, 6:00 P.M.
Lunch Prices: K-5 \$1.75 6-12 \$2.00 Ala Carte \$2.25 Adult \$2.50 Milk \$0.40 Sandwich \$1.40 French Fries \$1.25 Ice Cream \$0.60 13	•Ham, Egg, & Cheese Sandwich, Tater Rounds, Fruit, Milk •Taco Salad, Corn Chips, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/Pandora Gilboa Var Softball w/Pandora Gilboa MS Track w/Pandora Gilboa Music Boosters - 7:00 P.M., Fine Arts Wing	•Turkey Gravy over Mashed Potatoes, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk •Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes w/ Chicken Gravy, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball @ Patrick Henry Var Track w/Carey JV Baseball w/Patrick Henry VBEPAmeeing, 1:30 P.M., Elementary Room 129	•Hamburgers, French Fries, Fruit, Milk •Pepperoni Pizza, Corn, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball @ Cory Rawson Var Softball @ Cory Rawson Boy Scout Troop 313 - 7:00 P.M., Allen Twp. Center	•Salsbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Beef Gravy, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk •Macaroni & Cheese, Peas, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk Var Track w/Hardin Northern & Elmwood JV Baseball w/Leipsic	•Chicken Breast Sandwich, Corn, Fruit, Milk •Chicken Noodle Soup, Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/North Baltimore Var Softball w/North Baltimore Var Track @ Seneca East Invite, 4:00 P.M.	Var Baseball @ Elmwood, 2:00 P.M. Var Softball @ Anthony Wayne w/Woodmore, 11:00 A.M. Var Track @ St. Wendelin Invite, 10:00 A.M.
20	•Chicken Noodle Soup, Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich, Fruit, Milk •Ham, Egg, & Cheese Sandwich, Tater Rounds, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball @ Vanlue Var Softball @ Vanlue MS Track w/Arlington & HL	•French Toast Stix, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Oranges, Milk •Vegetable Beef Soup, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk Var Track w/McComb	•Cheese Pizza, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk •Hamburgers, French Fries, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/McComb Var Softball w/McComb Boy Scout Troop 313 - 7:00 P.M., Allen Twp. Center	•Chicken Strips over Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Fruit, Milk •Hamburger Gravy over Mashed Potatoes, Butter Bread, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball @ Calvert Var Softball @ Calvert JV Baseball w/Calvert	•BBQ Rib Sandwich, French Fries, Fruit, Milk •Chicken Breast Sandwich, Corn, Fruit, Milk Var Baseball w/North Baltimore Var Softball w/North Baltimore Var Track @ Seneca East Invite, 4:00 P.M.	Var Softball @ Patrick Henry w/Kalida, 12:00 noon

Please mark your calendar for Friday, May 9, 2008. There will be an early dismissal for Teacher Inservice meetings. Students will be dismissed at 1:00 P.M.