



YOHAN JR. NEWS



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A SEASON FOR GIVING

We are in the middle of the Holiday Season. Everyone is happy and anticipating Christmas and two weeks of playing, celebrating, and sleeping! However, HMS students and staff have shown that this time of year is also for caring.

The Giving Tree

Sabrina Dennie and Jaylen Perez

The Giving Tree is what some people call the Angel Tree, a tree just for the needy children in Hobart. Other businesses and organizations in Hobart participate in this activity as well. HMS students and staff very much enjoy helping with the project.

The Giving Tree is decorated in Wish tags from Hobart families in need. Names are selected from the tree by HMS staff and students. The people selecting the card does his/her best to purchase or make things from the list to help make this Christmas a joyous one. Those helping are enjoying this very much and are buying many gifts.

If you want to help there are very few names left. (We are running out of tags quickly.) Also, if any one in an extra curricular activity would like to donate please do so now because we are running out of time! Hopefully, we can get all the children with names on the tree what they want for Christmas. Just let these children know that someone they don't know cares about their well being. HMS students and adults have participated in this for a long time and hope to continue to do this activity for many years to come.

The Food Pantry

By Sabrina Dennie



Most of you know that HMS has completed its annual Food Pantry. Mrs. Shurr has been working very hard on this program. The Drama Club and Talent Show Club have helped with the Food Pantry. When the Drama Club last discussed the Food Pantry, it was decided to set the goal at 1000 cans or above, if possible. All the donations go to the local Hobart Food Pantry, but HMS is not only taking canned food, but they are also collecting money to give to the Hobart Food Pantry.

The reason why Mrs. Shurr sponsors the Food Pantry is to show the students how it feels to give back to those who need it most. I know that you will be happy to know that as of close of school Friday, we collected 1041 cans. Mrs. Shurr has decided to keep the collection going until Friday. The food pantry is in a state of shock and are coming to get at least one truck load immediately. Last year we collected 1050 cans. We know we can beat last year's practice. "WAY TO GO, TEAM HOBART!!"

Mrs. Shurr would like to give a special thanks to Mrs. Johnson, Josh Howell, Chelso Newbolds, and Cameron Legg.

UPDATE - 1680 CANS WERE COLLECTED AND \$. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED

NJHS CHRISTMAS TREE



You may have noticed the Christmas Tree in the library window. It is loaded with footy-pajamas, scarves, hats, and gloves. This is the NJHS's annual Christmas drive. Members were challenged to bring in footy-pajamas to help keep little ones warm as the weather becomes colder and colder. The pajamas, scarves, hats, and gloves are being donated to a Woman's shelter located near to us. Many women have come to the shelter with their children in order to have someplace safe and warm to stay. Often they arrive at the shelter with only the clothes on their backs. Even though this is a club project, the NJHS would be happy to have others join in the collection.

First Robotics Competition

Aubrey Butterfield and Samantha Hardwick



The Robotics LEGO League competed Sunday, November 24, 2013, at Indiana University Northwest. The club members who competed were Nick Sanchez, Ethan Mosqueda, Chaylee Graham, Andrew Fugate, Zachary Kaminsky, Daniel Gould, Jamie Rodriguez, Jordan Rodgers, Ryan Downs, Austin Winiecke, and Nathan Fox. Accompanying them were their coaches Mrs. Kistler and Mrs. Germann and their mentor Mr. Fox.



Each team had three rounds to run its robot missions. After the first round, the Hobart team was in fourth place. Then group did three other presentations besides the missions. Each group was judged on the missions, core

values, robot designs, and project. For the project Hobart chose a flood as the natural disaster.



The core values of the team are 1) We are a team, 2) We do the work to find solutions with guidance from our coaches and mentors, 3) We know our coaches and mentors don't have all the answers; we learn



together. 4) We honor the spirit of friendly competition. 5) What we discover is more important than what we win, 5) We share our experiences with others, 6) We display Gracious Professionalism and Co-operation in everything we do, 7) We have FUN!!!!



Pennies for the Philippines

This year we had a war between the 6th grade students, 7th grade students, 8th grade students, and the teachers! The rules were each grade had to bring in pennies to put in its jug. The more pennies you brought in, the more likely that grade was to win.

Every penny was considered as a positive point. Any silver coins and dollar bills placed in a jug were considered negative points. HMS students and staff raised \$359.89. Sixth grade students won the competition followed by the teachers who took 2nd place. Seventh grade came in third and eighth graders came in last. Way to go, HMS!

REAL BRICKIES WEAR PINK

During the month of November, the Student Council sold t-shirts for the Susan G. Komen Cause for the Cure Fund. The "Real Brickies Wear Pink" fundraiser collected \$1500.00 for the cause.

Be on the watch for next year's t-shirts.





HMS in the Holiday Spirit

The Holiday Spirit was everywhere during the weeks before Christmas. Students and staff collected toys, food, and clothing for others. They also celebrated with music, parties, and fun. It was fun-filled, productive month.

HMS Staff Participated in Santa Run

7th Grade & A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley



The seventh grade took advantage of the holiday season by combining the reading of the adaption of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* with a field trip to see *A Christmas Carol* at the Merrillville High School



auditorium. Students studied the life and times of Charles Dickens, read the play, and saw the stage production. Combining the three enabled them to better understand the literature of the time and helped them find an appreciation of the older classics.

Using the elements of drama they studied, plot structure, and audience, some groups of students wrote and produced holiday books to share with first grade classes at Joan Martin Elementary School. Several students delivered the books after school and read them to the classes. One group dedicated its book to Mrs. Darlington and read it to her class.



Holiday Choir Concert

Sabrina Dennie

The Holiday Choir Concert was December 7th. According to Mr. Wolff, the director, the groups practiced for several weeks for the program that included the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade members. Songs included "The Star Spangled Banner," songs from *Glee*, "The Polar Express," "*Shenandoah*," "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town," "The Nutcracker", and other Christmas songs. The concert was absolutely amazing; everyone did an amazing job! Mr. Wolff did a wonderful job getting this together as well. Thank you for doing the very best you can and it was amazing!!!!



NJHS Celebrates Christmas



The NJHS met afterschool to celebrate the holiday season and all of the work they did on the Mitten and PJ's tree

displayed in the library.



Christmas Sleighs



ASK THE EXPERT

Seventh graders were introduced to a variety of career choices as part of the Junior Achievement "Ask the Expert" day. Groups attended six different sessions, each of which featured a different field. Students prepared



for the day by completing surveys and interest inventories. At the conclusion of the sessions, students gave the speakers thank-you cards signed by all of the students who attended their sessions.



Spell Bowl 2013

The HMS Spell Bowl Team competed in the regional Academic Spell Bowl competition in Merrillville. Competing were Alex Amore, Destiny Babilonia, Raena Blaize, Sierra Cyprian, Kylee Lewis, Janessa Liendo, Luz Martinez, Madyson Mata, Natalie Otero, Keliya Perry, Lauren Romero, Rebecca Vicari, and Danielle Hill. Competition was tough, but the team did a great job.





Veteran's Day Convo Honors Those Who Served

Zachary Baca

HMS thanks the veterans that have served for our country and protected our freedom. We also thank the veterans for coming to listen to the HMS band and choir. (They did a great job!!)



NEW MATH PROGRAM INTRODUCED

By Emily Reppert

Everyone in the school took the Scholastic Math Inventory Test to measure their math level. The scores were used to assign 60 students in each grade to a Math 180 class; these classes meet during homeroom. Second semester, an additional class will be offered at each grade level.

Math 180 will give these students a chance to improve their math skills while they are still working in their regular math classes, too. All students will continue to take the SMI test throughout the year. Students that are in the Math 180 program will have the opportunity to test out at the end of the year. We hope that Math 180 will help students move up to grade level in math and improve their ISTEP scores.

The New Mrs. Labahn

Chaylee Graham and Sarah Spalding

Mrs. Labahn has been teaching for three years and this is her fourth year. She teaches eighth grade math, but her room is in the seventh grade hallway. She really enjoys teaching 8th grade because she likes how the students act and also enjoys what the students do to help her.

Getting married was a bit of a distraction for her. But her students helped her stay focused and stay on task. When asked if her students were more excited about her wedding than she was, she was quick to say, "I don't think anybody was more excited about my engagement than me. I think my students were more excited about my last name. But when I did get married, the kids kept on calling me my maiden name and they felt so bad for calling me that."

We also asked her if hearing her new last name confused her. She said her only problem was during parent teacher conferences when she had to introduce herself. She found herself saying, "Hi, I'm Ms. Ellul." In other words she's still not used to her new last name.

Grandbabies Are Precious

We'd like to welcome our new staff grandbabies. Congratulations, Mrs. Rakoczy and Mrs. Germann. Avery

Josephine was born at 5:42 on September 5th. Mrs. Rakoczy's granddaughter weighed in at 7 lbs. 5oz. Mrs. Germann's Lincoln (pictured) was born in October.

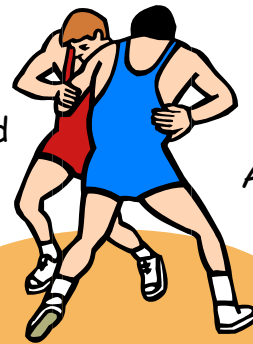




SPORT REPORT

Wrestling

By Sarah Spalding and Rylie Funke



Addison coach.

We went to the final home wrestling meet and interviewed Coach Swafford, Bradley Thorn, and Funke. First I asked coach Swafford about being a

"I love being a coach. I coach wrestling, football and track. We push the wrestlers very hard." Swafford was quick to say that bus rides are the worst part about being a coach. He also said the most beneficial part of being a coach is getting to teach the kids about competition, respect, and teamwork. Though he doesn't know the year the team went coed, he does know that it hasn't always been coed. There is one female wrestler on the team, Alya Barnet. There are four captains: Bradley Thorn, Michael Hunter, Justice Leon, and Jayden O'Hayden.

Though Thorn is glad his coaches push him, he says the coaches push him to his limits. He, also, says that he enjoys wrestling because it is good way to let out anger. I asked him why he was glad his coaches push him, and he said if they didn't push him he would most likely be at his house watching T.V. and being lazy.

My last interview was with manager Addison Funke. She said that managers mop the mats, clean up blood, hand out foam, handle cuts, and keep score. They had participated in four meets at the time of the interview. They won their first meet, placed 3rd on the second meet, and won their last home meet.