



"A Tradition of Excellence"

Upper Sandusky Exempted Village Schools

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Superintendent's Message . . .

April 2008

Congratulations, Students!!!

Last month, I was pleased to acknowledge all of our student-athletes who went on to district competition in their respective sports. This month I would like to add to that list a set of new awards and/or accomplishments.

Congratulations to:

* Seth Combs and his parents, Randy and Rebecca Combs, upon Seth's induction into the National Technical Honor Society at Vanguard-Sentinel Career Center the evening of March 3;

* Fernando Salinas, his parents, Martin and Patricia Salinas, and Instructor Wayne Thomas upon Fernando's qualification last month for national/international competition in Atlanta, Georgia this April because of his 3rd place State finish in Food Marketing;

* Abby Warfel (daughter of Gail); Alec Stansbery (son of Kelly and Martin); and Justin Outland (son of Dawn and David) upon qualifying for State Science Day Competition on May 10; special congratulations as well to Alec Stansbery who earned the right on May 10 to participate as an observer in the International Science and Engineering Fair at Atlanta, Georgia on May 11;

* The USMS students that were chosen to participate in the Honors Band & Choir;

* The Upper Sandusky Chamber Choir and Symphonic Choir and Director David Headings on their excellent rating at Ohio Music Education Association's Large Group Contest on Saturday, March 15;

* The Upper Sandusky High School Symphonic Band and Director Rosalind Thacker who received a superior rating March 15 at the Ohio Music Association's Concert Band Contest, earning them the right to advance to State Competition on May 2;

* The cast and crew, pit crew, and Director David Headings on a wonderful performance of the musical Li'l Abner;

* Alex Falk, and his parents, Barry and Judy Falk, who since last month was named: 1st Team All-Northern Ohio League, 1st Team All-Northwest District, and 3rd Team All-Ohio;

* Clare Aubry, and her parents, Bill and Kate Aubry, who since last month was named: 1st Team All-Northern Ohio League, 1st Team District 6, and 3rd Team All-Ohio.

Super job, students!!! All of us are proud of you!!!!

An Explanation of What took Place at the March Board Meeting: Two Teachers at Middle School Will Be Reassigned; No Teacher Will Lose His or Her Job Next Year.

Had the Board not made the changes I recommended at the March Board meeting by reassigning two middle school teachers next year part-time to the high school, it would mean that three teachers would remain unnecessarily on the payroll with one additional teacher needing to be added to the high school staff to meet the new core curriculum requirements mandated by the state at the high school level. This would mean that **FOUR** teachers would be needed to fill these positions over the next three years.

Four teachers times the average teacher and salary benefits costs of a teacher at Upper Sandusky times the 3 years before 2012 (when the district is projected to lose approximately \$1 million per year in tangible personal property tax) equals **\$781,704**.

I would hope that taxpayers would appreciate responsible and visionary leadership, especially in light of knowing what lies ahead of us as a district. As the management team, the Board and superintendent must see the district in its totality in long-range terms and from a broad perspective. We can be proactive now, or in 2012, when the loss of tangible personal property tax revenue will be felt dramatically, **TWELVE** (12) of the 15.35 teachers (equivalent to a million dollars in expenditures) will need to be cut at that time.

I wish to make it perfectly clear that **NOT ONE** teacher will be losing his or her job next year if the Board follows my recommendations. We will simply be making more efficient use of existing staff. In fact, students will receive an enhanced curriculum where ALL students – not some--will soon receive enhanced technology skills at an earlier age (6th grade) by following my recommendations. We will not only meet the new core curriculum requirements mandated by the state at the high school level but alleviate the class size overcrowding situation at the high school (where 12 classes currently having over 30 students will be reduced to much more manageable class sizes). Moreover, starting next year, we will EQUALIZE the amount of planning time that all kindergarten through twelfth grade teachers will receive. (Currently, there exists a disparity in the amount of planning time among our k-12 teachers.) Every attempt will be made to retain some variation of common planning time for middle school teachers, the eighth grade trip, homebase, and community service for 6th, 7th and eighth graders.

Mission Statement: The mission of the Upper Sandusky Schools is to provide a safe, child-centered and developmentally appropriate environment where learning is a positive, exciting, and dynamic lifelong process.

I realize all too well that there are those who choose to see only a small portion of what must truly be a much larger picture. It's natural for all of us to see things from our own personal vantage point, but doing so in this situation would be very short-sighted. This is why, regrettably, I feel the need to write this article.

I wish to emphasize once again that I did not recommend to the board the cutting of any teachers' jobs. I recommended to the Board that two teachers be reassigned – not cut – next year. Most middle school teachers are professionals, and the vast majority of them are intelligent enough to completely understand what I have proposed. They may have to work differently, and I understand that change is hard, but it is expected of all of us.

The irony here is that my recommendations will essentially save the jobs of 12 teachers for at least 1 year when 2012 arrives! (And that includes only this year's set of the recommendations and not all of those we have made since I came here!)

So in conclusion, I am happy to report that the very vast majority of Upper Sandusky teachers, including the vast majority at the middle school, ARE team players, and that is why I am able to tolerate criticism as much as I do. Thank you, school board, and all but a few teachers, for supporting me. If we survive past 2012, it will be because ALL of us have worked together and made some sacrifices. We will not survive what is sure to be the worst financial time in this district's history if we are reactive and not proactive. We can adjust now to soften the devastating effects of the loss of tangible personal property taxes, or we can watch our district fall into an inevitable downward spiral from which there will seem to be no return. My thanks to the vast majority of staff, parents, teachers, and the current board who are working with me to make the best situation for the educational future of our children and the youth of our community. Having this shared vision requires cooperation, a willingness for understanding, and some sacrifice on everyone's part. If we survive past 2012, it will be because ALL of us shared in the vision putting ALL our kids first. We must look beyond our own corner of the world if a vision as wide and as noble as this is to be accomplished, and I thank the vast majority of you for doing just that.

Yours for education,

Ken Doseck, Supt.

P. S.--Due to the need for writing a second article this month, I will publish on the school district's website the second half of my SF-3 article (as promised in last month's newsletter). Our website address is "www.upper sandusky.k12.oh.us".

South, Union & East Elementary News

A FUN-FILLED NIGHT!

South School Parent Team sponsored the 2nd Annual Winter Family Fest on March 1, 2008. Over 200 children, parents, grandparents and other relatives attended this free event. There were a



variety of games to play and prizes to be won by all children who attended. Everyone was decorated with face paint and tattoos with

the help of community service students from the middle school. Over 100 cakes were given away at the cakewalk in the gym. The book fair allowed families to add to their home libraries. Popcorn and juice were served to refresh and re-energize everyone. Students could also sign up for a free raffle to win a "movie basket" full of coupons, treats and movies. Congratulations to Nick Nutter, a kindergarten student, who won that great prize. A BIG THANK YOU to all the parents and staff who made cakes and volunteered their time to make this night a great success!

- Laurie Vent, South & Union Principal

HAPPY HEALTHY HEARTS ON VALENTINE'S DAY



Enjoying candy on Valentine's Day has been the tradition for many years. East School added a new twist this year. While trying to promote our schools' wellness program to improve our students' health, Mr. Courtad sent a note home asking parents to consider sending healthy

treats to the classroom parties this year. Each student received a list of suggested healthy snacks that could be sent for Valentine's Day and hopefully enjoyed at home as well, in place of "junk food." Teachers and students discussed the benefits. Teachers emphasized that they don't expect children or themselves to completely cut out sweets, but they do want them to realize there are options and substitutes that may be just as enjoyable at times.

According to The School Nutrition Association, only 20% of a child's calories are consumed at school. However, we continue to encourage our children to eat healthy and exercise more at school.

We were pleased to find that families sent in just as many healthy snacks as sweet treats – 62% healthy vs 38% sweet. The only class that sent more sweet treats than healthy ones was our oldest group. It appears that old habits are hard to break, showing that it is important to start good habits when children are young. Students enjoyed their parties just as much with half the sugar and went home with happy, healthy hearts.

- Penny Case

THERE'S SNOW WAY

East School has been sponsoring a Recycling Drive once a month for over 18 years. In that span of nearly two decades, we



have braved the heat, cold, rain, sleet and snow, yet never cancelled.

That string of some 200 consecutive months came to an end on Saturday, March 8th, when the Wyandot County Solid Waste Management personnel and I

decided "there was no way" to hold the recycling collection with the near blizzard conditions raging outside, causing a snow emergency county-wide.

We will start our new streak, as usual, on (the second Saturday of each month) April 12th!

We thank you for your years of patronizing our community service project and remember: Reduce-Reuse-Recycle- Reinvest!
- Michael Courtad, East Principal

VISIT FROM WYANDOT CO. SOIL & WATER

The third graders at Union Elementary had the opportunity to invite Mrs. Angie Ford from the Wyandot Soil and Water Conservation to visit their classrooms. She taught the students about animals in Ohio and insects' and animals' life cycles and adaptations through hands-on activities, posters, pictures, and animal pelts. The students enjoyed having a close-up look at animal skulls and pelts. One student said, "I liked looking at the insects in the jars. It was cool to see how the insects changed from when they were babies to adults." One of the third grade boys said, "It was awesome when Mrs. Ford walked around the room flapping the owl and hawk wings." The students agreed that they could hear the hawk "flying around the room," but they could not hear the owl. Mrs. Ford explained that this is an adaptation that helps birds hunt their prey. Another student stated, "I liked learning about the animals that lived in Ohio a long time ago. It's too bad that people and buildings made the animals go away." Overall, Mrs. Ford's presentations were very exciting and informative. The students had a lot of fun while they were learning. We hope Mrs. Ford will be able to come back soon!
- Andrea Bluhm

"GETTIN' DOWN ALL AROUND . . ."

The hard working kindergarten and first grade students at East Elementary are "Gettin' Down All Around with Mama Goose." They will be putting a new spin on some old nursery rhymes such as "Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary" and "Five Little Monkeys" for their spring music program. It will be presented on Tuesday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m.

"To Bee or Not to Bee" is the question the second and third grade students will be asking as their part of the program. Wanda Bee wants to be a Honey Bee but her Aunt Bea suggests that she look into being another type of bee such as a Spelling Bee, Sewing Bee or a Drone. Wanda learns that you should follow your dream even when everyone tells you to give up.

No matter how much you enjoy school, everyone needs a break now and then, even, if not especially, the teacher! The fourth and fifth grades celebrate the ups and downs of that "typical" vacation they've been dying to take in "I Need a Vacation." From fishing to fast pitch, surfing to summer camp, there's a vacation idea to suit just about everyone's taste.

To accommodate the many friends and relatives planning to watch the program, guests are invited to attend morning dress rehearsals on Monday, April 14 and Tuesday, April 15 at 9:00 a.m. This gives everyone an opportunity to watch these wonderful young people as they perform. Please come and enjoy!
-Robin Spoor

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students for being selected USMS Students of the Month. Each month one boy and one girl from each grade level are selected based on excellence and persistence. In May all students chosen attend a Toledo Mud Hens baseball game with kindergarten students from Union Elementary. It is our way of not only saying thanks to those students for being role models but also a way for them to show younger children what fine role models they are.

This month our students are:

Grade 6	Wade Eigel	Kilee Saylor
Grade 7	Jenna Brocklesby	Lucas Kelly-Keffer
Grade 8	David Grove	Brittany Dawdry

This year's trip will be partially funded by the following local businesses: Pfeifer Hardware, Wilson Tire, Guardian Industries, Bill and Kate Aubry, First Citizens National Bank, and Kimmel Corporation.
- Jim Wheeler, Principal

THE FINAL SPELLING BEE!

On Tuesday, March 13, the stage was set for sixty-five spellers participating in the Toledo Blade's final spelling bee at Owens Community College. Once again Upper Sandusky Middle School was represented by two exceptional spellers in Hannah Cole (daughter of Bill and Jennifer Cole) and Allie Smith (daughter of Mike and Billie Smith).

As the bee's tension mounted, both girls maintained their composure, asked the judge for clarification of each word and then carefully spelled the words. Hannah finished in the last group of twenty, going out on the word *percolator*. Allie was one of the final eight, missing the word *pantomime*.

An added compliment for the girls came later in the evening on the 11:00 p.m. Toledo news, where both girls were spotlighted spellers on the television coverage. Hannah and Allie, we are bursting with pride!
- Jim Wheeler, Principal

VEGGIE U

The Culinary Arts Institute of Milan, Ohio extended a free science opportunity to fourth grade teachers in our region. Lynda Smith of Union attended the Veggie U class at the Tiffin ESC office on March 13. The Veggie U is a science curriculum that is aimed at encouraging fourth-graders to learn more about the importance of healthy eating. It covers the state and national fourth grade science standards and meets benchmarks for these standards. The curriculum includes segments on healthy soil, composting, and a study of plant parts. It also incorporates a number of hands-on activities to make learning fun, including creating a worm farm; planting vegetables, complete with grow lights; and taste testing from a wide range of unusual vegetables.

By attending class, teachers were presented materials free of charge. Materials included, but were not limited to:

- a light kit,
- an earthworm kit, soil samples, root view boxes, flats, soil, seeds and vermiculite.

It is hoped that the partnership between Veggie U and the Upper Sandusky School District is a step forward in helping children to understand the benefits of making wise food choices and eating more vegetables. Another direct benefit of the program is that the children learn about growing plants through sustainable agriculture. They will learn how important it is to replace the nutrients in the soil after the vegetables are harvested.

I, for one, am extremely excited to get started working with my students using the curriculum and materials provided by the Veggie U class.
- Lynda Smith, Union

Middle School Happenings

DUKES

The following students have been selected as DUKES at Union for the month of March:

Hannah Stansberry	Travis Secoy	Tyler Kincide
Carolyn Kennedy	Kaylee Meade	

OMEA DISTRICT II JR. HIGH MUSIC FESTIVAL

On Saturday, March 1, the Ohio Music Educators Association held its annual District II Jr. High Music Festival at Tiffin Middle School. Approximately 300 band, choir, and orchestra students, each nominated by their music teachers, were selected to be participants.

Members who were selected to perform in the Honors Choir were: Samantha Barth, Adam Bils, Taylor Clark, Jacob Courtright, Katie Grafmiller, Nick Koehler, Angela Massara, CJ Smith, and Caitlin Sprang.

Members who were selected to perform in the Honors Band were: Max Birtle, trumpet; Adam Duress, trumpet; Derek Hartschuh, tuba; and Janelle Terry, French horn.

- Cheryl Coakley

JUNIOR ROTARY

It's been a busy month for USMS Junior Rotary. Last month the group spent some time raising money for a very important cause – planting a tree in memory of a member of the Union/USMS school family.

First, Jr. Rotary held a dance and raised in excess of \$500 for this cause. Secondly, they hosted a USMS Volleyball Tournament, raising \$180. The tree will be planted in the north yard of our building.

- Jim Wheeler, Principal

USMS SCHOOL VISITS

Each year, Alison Cheney and I find it important to interact with entering 5th grade students a few months before they come to USMS. This year, we will visit the following schools on the following dates:

- | | | |
|---|-------|---------|
| • USMS visits East 5 th Grade | May 5 | 8:30 AM |
| • USMS visits South 5 th Grade | May 6 | 8:30 AM |
| • USMS visits St. Peter's 5 th Grade | May 7 | 9:30 AM |

We also invite each section of 5th grade students to visit USMS to get a feel for what goes on at USMS. Those visits are as follows:

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------|
| • East visits | May 12 | 10:15 |
| • South visits | May 13 | 10:15 |
| • St. Peter's visits | May 14 | 10:15 |

- Jim Wheeler, Principal

HOMEWORK HOTLINE

Homework Hotline is available to all 6-8 grade students/parents who need to check on either missed assignments or nightly homework assignments. Please call (419) 294-5721 after 4:00 PM. Enter the following codes:

6th Grade - 8206 • 7th Grade - 8207 • 8th Grade - 8208

High School Events

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

The 3rd nine-weeks ended on March 25. Upper Sandusky High School students will be receiving grade reports during the first week in April. The following events are scheduled at USHS during the month of April:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 3 | Angeline All-Star Basketball Game: 5-9:00 p.m. |
| April 6 | Boys Basketball Banquet: 2:00 p.m. |
| April 9 | Wyandot Co. Leadership: 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
National Honor Society Banquet: 6:30 p.m. |
| April 17 | Docu-Drama: 9:30 a.m. |
| April 23 | Wyandot Co. Leadership: 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| April 24 | ASVAB Test: 7:50 -10:50 a.m. |
| April 28 | 4-H Officer Training: 5:00-9:00 p.m.
Academic Boosters: 6:30 p.m. |

Congratulations to Seth Combs, a USHS student attending Sentinel Career Center. Seth is in the Public Safety program and was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society Sentinel Chapter in a ceremony at SCC on Monday, March 3, 2008.

- Jim Clifford, Principal

WHY DOES ATTENDANCE MATTER?

Your teachers and your school have rules on the number of days you can be absent. That's because they want you to attend class! Here's why:

- **You're likely to get better grades.** You can't learn if you aren't in school. Research shows a clear link: students who attend class do better in school.
- **You're likely to get a better job.** The habits you set now attending class every day and coming to school on time will carry over into the workplace.
- **You're more likely to stay out of trouble.** One study found that 78% of those who ended up in prison had a first arrest for school truancy.
- **You'll be more likely to graduate.** Missing too many classes is often the first step toward dropping out. Students who drop out of high school have a higher rate of unemployment.

- Jim Clifford, Principal

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR TEEN IS HAVING PROBLEMS IN SCHOOL

What Can I Do If:

- **My teen is having problems in a certain subject?** First talk with your child, and encourage him/her to talk to the teacher. Perhaps testing for a learning problem is what's needed. Your teen's teacher may have suggestions that can help you and your teen make a plan of action.
- **My teen is not behaving in the classroom?** Talk with your child first. Also, talk with your child's teachers, a counselor, and, perhaps, your school principal. They all want to help. Their insights about what is happening, combined with what you know about the problem, will be useful in planning what to do. Usually action is needed both at school and at home.
- **My teen doesn't like one of their teachers?** Acknowledge your child's feelings. You might say, "It's okay not to like every teacher. But sometimes we have to learn to work with people we don't like." Find out as much as you can about why your child doesn't like her teacher. Listen and take notes...but remember that there are at least two sides to every situation. Don't necessarily believe everything your child says.

- Jim Clifford, Principal

USHS STUDENTS-OF-THE-MONTH

Our congratulations go out to the students who have been selected by the high school staff as students of the month. These students are chosen for outstanding qualities, such as positive attitude, improved academics, academic achievement, and community and school involvement. Each student receives a certificate from the Lions Club and coupons from area businesses.

February 2008

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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Senior-Isaac Anderson | Junior-Gretchen Pneuman |
| Sophomore-Drianna Rall | Freshman-Brennan Roper |

- Jim Clifford, Principal

JUNIOR AND SENIOR GUIDANCE NEWS

As we head into the end of the school year, many seniors are probably asking themselves tons of questions. What college will I go to? What job should I take? How much is my top choice college going to cost me? Will my job pay me enough to live on my own?

While this can be a very exciting time for most students, it can also be a scary one. One of the biggest decisions students are struggling to make right now is deciding which college to commit to. As you receive your financial aid packages from various colleges, be sure that you are comparing "apples to apples." Look not only at how much scholarship and grant money your student is receiving but also how much money you and/or your student will have to borrow over the next four years to attend each school. Financial aid packages don't always spell out this information, so review them carefully. Most colleges have a May 1st commitment deadline. This means that if you have decided to attend a particular school, you should let them know your intentions and reserve your spot by sending them your housing deposit. If you have decided against a particular school(s) then you should also call or send a letter stating that you would like to withdraw your application and if you have sent a deposit that you would like it returned. If you are not ready to make a decision, don't panic. Just call the schools you are still considering and ask for an extension. They will most likely be more than willing to work with you if they know you are still considering their school.

If your student is a college-bound junior and has not yet taken the ACT or SAT, this is the time to do so. The upcoming dates are:

ACT: June 14, 2008 – Registration deadline is May 9, 2008.
(www.actstudent.org)

SAT: June 7, 2008 – Registration deadline is May 6, 2008.
(www.collegeboard.com)

Juniors should also think about making visits to colleges that they may be interested in and setting up summer shadowing or internship possibilities. Let me know if you would like help with this!

Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns at 419-294-2308 or cara_s@treca.org. Happy Spring!

- Cara Stevens, 11th & 12th Grade Counselor

FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES GUIDANCE NEWS

On March 13th the 8th grade classes visited the high school for a brief tour. Students toured the high school and guidance offices, cafeteria, gym, library, computer lab and computer applications and vocational agriculture classrooms. National Honor Society students Clare Aubry, Danielle Bachtell, Jared Barth, Kelly Brocklesby, Lauren Bruynis, Emily Holycross, Chelsea Massie, Brittany Molnar, and Joe Sebenoler served as tour guides. Following the tour of the high school building, the students met in the auditorium where they were given an overview of high school rules and expectations by the high school assistant principal, Mr. Stotts.

Students were also given a five-page curriculum handout and an explanation of the handouts by 9th grade guidance counselor Mrs. Barbara Norman. The material explained in the handouts covered high school and college requirements, quality points, and electives. The handouts were given to students as the first step in the scheduling process for the 2008/2009 school year.

Course Selection Guides have been sent to the middle school students, and parents may use this as a reference for general information and course descriptions. Parents/guardians are encouraged to schedule an appointment or call USHS with questions about scheduling.

Freshmen in the second semester Computer Applications class will be reviewing the Ohio Career Information (OCIS), which they began in the eighth grade. Students in Mrs. Davis's Work and Family Life classes develop portfolios for assistance in exploring careers, setting goals, planning coursework, etc.

- Barb Norman, 9th & 10th Grade Counselor

SCIENCE FAIR

Six Upper Sandusky High School students competed at the North Central District Science Day at the Ohio State University Marion Campus. Knowledge, experience, and a classroom grade

were not the only valuable rewards Tim Pohlman's ICP students gained from conducting research and participating in scientific procedures.

Alec Stansbery's interest and efforts are in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, "Harmony: a Soul Element of Music". Alec was awarded the American Psychological Society Award, Best 7-12th grade Behavioral and Social Science project, and a \$300 scholarship to Marion Tech. Alec will be the 1st observer going to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Atlanta, Georgia this May 11-16. As a 1st observer, Alec is sponsored to attend ISEF, and if a student drops out of the competition, Alec will have the opportunity to present. The ISEF is a rewarding opportunity for the world's best young scientists. It is a culminating event for a network of science fairs held around the world where students have acquired skills in identifying and isolating important problems or questions; planning for the solution of problems or the answers to questions; using organized, logical thought and study to reach conclusions; and verbal and visual communication. Alec's superior rating for his project has also advanced him to compete at the State Science and Engineering Fair.

Abigail Warfel's interests and efforts are in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, "Does Color Affect Short Term Memory?" Abby's accomplishments this year were, Best 11th grade project, and a \$1,000 scholarship to OSU Marion. She is the 2nd alternate for ISEF. Abby was nervous about participating at the District level but is now excited and eager to participate at the state competition. Abby is also very appreciative of friends, family, and all others involved that enabled her to reach out and achieve goals that extend past the normal school learning atmosphere.

Justin Outland's interest and efforts are in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, "Deception is Visual Perception." Justin was awarded one of the US Army Life Science Awards, and from the five they selected, his project was recognized as Best Overall. Justin's superior rating has also allowed him to advance on to the State Science and Engineering Fair. When asked of his impressions of the science fair experience, Justin remarked, "It's been interesting and fun. I'm surprised that I'll be going to State."

Lynzi Daughenbaugh's interests and efforts were in Medicine and Health, "Girls, Eating Disorders, and the Media." Lynzi commented that she was very excited and appreciative at the chance to go to district science fair. She was nervous in giving her presentation but was calmed down by everyone else that was there to support her. She wants to thank Mr. Pohlman and the other participants for the encouragement and the chance to go that far. Her rating was an excellent, and she was proud of this rating.

Emily Caudill's interest and efforts were in Medicine and Health, "The Effects of Gatorade vs. Water on Pulse Rate While Exercising." Emily received an excellent rating on her project. Emily comments that she had a good time with the whole process, that she regrets not being able to move on but is proud of her accomplishments. Emily extends "thank you's" to her parents and Mr. Pohlman for supporting her through her efforts.

Natasha Boes' interest and efforts were in Medicine and Health, "Acne: Is There Really a Cure?" Natasha stated that, "Attending the districts science fair at the Ohio State University was an excellent experience! Everyone was very supportive before and after attending. Even though I did not make it on to state, this experience gave me a particular aspect of what an awesome science fair project should be. I really enjoyed the unique ideas that others had come up with, especially those that had made it to state from Upper Sandusky! I want to say congratulations to you and to those that did not make it on. We all worked really hard to achieve to the best of our ability, and that's what counts! We had a blast together, and this will be a memory I'll never forget! Lastly, I want to thank Mr. Pohlman and Mrs. Harris! If it weren't for you, I wouldn't have acknowledged the fact I could achieve such a goal of even attending the district science fair! Thank you!"

Projects were judged using four criteria: knowledge achieved, use of scientific method, clarity of expression, and originality and creativity.

The students have been working hard since the first day of class and have done an outstanding job working through the scientific method. The school and community are well represented by such fine young dedicated and intelligent students. We wish you luck at State level and possibly the International level of competition!
 - Tim Pohlman, USHS Science Teacher



Left to right: Justin Outland, Abby Warfel, and Alec Stansbery display science trophies

DECA Award



Fernando Salinas, (left) and Marc Franks (right) hold trophies won at the 2008 Ohio DECA State Marketing Competition in Columbus. Fernando won third place in Food Marketing and advanced to national DECA competition in Atlanta, Georgia. Marc won first place in the Marketing Testing category. Carrie Cusick and Shaina Victor also represented the Upper Sandusky High School DECA chapter in the state competition.

- Wayne Thomas

WINTER SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The USHS Swim Team completed its most successful season in school history. This year's team set 33 new school records and had a boys relay team qualify for the district meet for the first time in school history. The 200 freestyle relay team of Sam Molnar, Vince D'Ettorre, Alex Parks and Jacob Beach shattered the school record in the district meet at Bowling Green State University by finishing the race with a time of 1:40.6.

The Ram Wrestling Team opened the season with a 12-0 record in dual meets and by winning the Bucyrus Invitational. This year's team wrestled aggressively and showed continual improvement throughout the season. Arin Neely highlighted the Rams individual performances by winning both the NOL and sectional titles while qualifying for the state tournament in the 160 pound weight class. Zach Tiell finished 5th in the district and earned a trip to the state tournament as an alternate.

The USHS Girls Basketball Team finished the season with an outstanding 17-5 record. The Lady Rams won their final nine regular season games to earn a second place finish in the NOL. They won their sectional title for the 20th time in school history by defeating Clyde but lost a hard-fought game to Lexington in the district semi-finals. Senior Clare Aubry earned first team honors in both the NOL and District 6. Clare was also a 3rd team All-Ohio selection in Division II.

The USHS Boys Basketball Team continued to show improvement throughout the season, winning 3 out of their last 4 regular season NOL games. The Rams advanced to the sectional finals before losing to a strong Lexington team. Earlier in the season, the Rams set a school record for points in a game by defeating Marion Harding 124-123 in an overtime thriller. Alex Falk was named All-NOL first team, All-District 6 first team and All-Ohio 3rd team.

The Varsity Cheerleading Squad completed another excellent season with a fine blend of athleticism, precision, enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Our cheerleaders continue to set the standard for cheerleading in the NOL and Northwest Ohio.

The USHS Athletic Department is proud of the many accomplishments of all our winter sport athletes and coaches. They continue to represent our school with "class" both on and off the playing field. Our teams continue to carry on the fine "tradition of excellence" of Upper Sandusky High School Athletics!

- Brad Ehrman

OMEA CONTEST

On Saturday March 15, 2008, The USHS Symphonic Band traveled to Lima Bath Middle School to perform in the OMEA Large Group Band Contest. Over 20 Bands performed Friday night and during the day Saturday for a panel of three judges in the performance hall and for one judge in the sight reading room. Symphonic Band has been preparing for this contest since the beginning of the semester, and despite many 2-hour delays and cancellations, performed an outstanding program earning them a Superior Rating of I,I,I, in the performance hall, and a rating of II in Sight Reading. A Superior Rating at the district level allows the band to participate in the State Contest in Findlay, Ohio on May 2, 2008. This will be the band's third trip to State Contest in three years! Congratulations to the band members on their hard work and outstanding performance!

- Rosalind Thacker



APRIL 2008

District Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 USHS B - V BBall - New Riegel H - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - New Riegel H - 4:30 pm	2	3 USMS Track - Wynford/Buckeye Central at Wynford 4:30 pm USHS B - JV/V Ten - Bucyrus H - 4:30 pm Coed V Track - Tiffin Col. H - 4:30 pm	4 USHS B - V BBall - Seneca E. A - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Seneca E. H - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Seneca E. A - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall Seneca E. H - 4:30 pm	5 USMS Solo & Ensemble Competition at Seneca East High School USHS Coed V Track - Bucyrus Elks Inv. - A - 9 am B - V BBall - DH Hopewell - A-11am G - V SBall - DH Hopewell - A - 11 am
6	7 USHS B - JV/V Ten - River Valley - H - 4:15 pm	8 USHS B - V BBall - Fostoria H - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Fostoria A - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Fostoria H - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall Fostoria A - 4:30 pm B - JV/V Ten - Bucyrus A - 4:30 pm Coed V Track - Norwalk A-4:30 pm	9	10 USHS B - JV/V Ten - Pleasant A - 4:15 pm	11 USHS B - V BBall - Willard H - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Willard A - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Willard H - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Willard A - 4:30 pm Tiffin Univ. Jazz Summit HS Vocal Jazz	12 EAST Recycling 8:30-10:30 am USHS Coed V Track - Kenton Relays - A - 9 am G - V SBall - DH - Riverdale - H - 11 pm
13	14 USMS Track - Fostoria/Bellvue at Fostoria - 4:30 pm USHS B - JV/V Ten - Tiffin Col. H - 4:15 pm B - V BBall - Shelby A - 4:30 pm B - JV Bball - Shelby H - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Shelby A - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Shelby H - 4:30 pm	15 EAST Spring Program USHS B - JV/V Ten - Norwalk - A - 4:15 pm G - V SBall - Mohawk A - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Mohawk H - 4:30 pm Coed V Track - Galion H - 4:30 pm	16	17 SOUTH Gr 3-4-5 Spring Program USMS B - JV/ V Ten - Fostoria A - 4:15 pm B - V BBall - Bellevue H - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Bellevue A - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Bellevue H - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Bellevue A - 4:30 pm	18	19 USHS Coed V Track - Clyde Inv. - A - 9:30 am B - V BBall - DH Wynford - A - 11 am B - JV BBall - DH Wynford - H - 11 am G - V SBall - DH Wynford - A - 11 am G - JV SBall - DH Wynford - H - 11 am
20	21 Grades 4-5-8 Reading Achievement Testing USHS B - JV/V Ten - Willard A - 4:15 pm B - V BBall - Galion A - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Galion H - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Galion A - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Galion H - 4:30 pm	22 UNION 4th-5th Grade Concert District 5th Grade Band Concert USHS Coed V Track - Shelby H - 4:30 pm	23 Grades 5 & 8 Math Achievement Testing	24 Grade 4 Math Achievement Testing USHS B - JV/ V Ten - Shelby H - 4:15 pm B - V BBall - Tiffin Col. H - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Tiffin Col. A - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Tiffin Col. H - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Tiffin Col. A - 4:30 pm	25 Grade 4 Writing Ach. Testing Grades 5 & 8 Science Ach. Testing USMS Ottoville Inv. - A - 4 pm USHS B - JV/ V Ten - Bellevue A - 4:15 pm B - V BBall - Norwalk A - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Norwalk H - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Norwalk A - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Norwalk H - 4:30 pm	26 USHS Coed V Track - Swankhouse Inv. H - 9:30 am G - V SBall - DH - Carey H - 11 am G - JV SBall - DH-Carey A - 11 am
27	28 Grades 3-6-7 Reading Ach. Testing USMS Track - Kenton/Mohawk H - 4:30 pm USHS B - JV/V Ten - Galion H - 4:15 pm B - V BBall - Fostoria A - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Fostoria H - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Fostoria A - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Fostoria H - 4:30 pm	29 Gr. 5 & 8 Soc. Stud. Ach. Test Gr. 7 Math Ach. USHS B - V BBall - Shelby H - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Shelby A - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Shelby H - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Shelby A - 4:30 pm Coed V Track - Fostoria A - 4:30 pm	30 Grades 3 & 6 Math Achievement Testing	May 1 Grade 7 Writing Achievement Testing USHS B - JV/ V Ten - Tiffin Col. A - 4:15 pm B - V BBall - Willard A - 4:30 pm B - JV BBall - Willard H - 4:30 pm G - V SBall - Willard A - 4:30 pm G - JV SBall - Willard H - 4:30 pm	2 USMS Wynford Relays - A 4:30 pm USHS Coed V Track - Margaretta Inv. - A 4:30 pm	3 USHS B - JV/ V Ten - NOL at Shelby - A - 9 am

**PARENTS
WHO HOST
LOSE
THE MOST™**



Don't be
a party to
teenage drinking.

It's against
the law.

Underage Drinking Laws

What parents should know:

- As a parent, you cannot give alcohol to your teen's friends under the age of 21 under any circumstance, even in your own home, even with their parent's permission.
- You cannot knowingly allow a person under 21, other than your own child, to remain in your home or on your property while consuming or possessing alcohol.

If you break the law:

- You can face a maximum sentence of six months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.
- Others can sue you if you give alcohol to anyone under 21, and they, in turn, hurt someone, hurt themselves or damage property.
- Officers can take any alcohol, money or property used in committing the offense.

Things you can do as a parent:

- Refuse to supply alcohol to anyone under 21.
- Be at home when your teen has a party.
- Make sure that alcohol is not brought into your home or property by your teen's friends.
- Talk to other parents about not providing alcohol at other events your child will be attending.
- Create alcohol-free opportunities and activities in your home so teens will feel welcome.
- Report underage drinking to local law enforcement.



*A program of
Drug-Free Action Alliance*

*With support from the Ohio Department of Alcohol and
Drug Addiction Services*

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For more information about school events and
activities, please watch WRAM TV 22
or visit our web site at www.upper sandusky.k12.oh.us



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