

# Around the Schools

... a publication for and  
about Westlake City  
Schools employees

## Dates to Celebrate

**Jan. 1-31:** National Get Organized Month

**Jan. 4:** World Braille Day celebrates the birthday of Louis Braille and his invention.

**Jan. 7:** Orthodox Christmas

**Jan. 8-14:** National Letter Writing Week

**Jan. 14:** Ratification Day is the anniversary of the ratification of the Treaty of Paris (1784), establishing the U.S. as a nation

**Jan. 15:** Bald Eagle Appreciation Day

**Jan. 16:** Religious Freedom Day commemorating Thomas Jefferson's "statute for religious freedom" which led to the freedom of religion clause in the First Amendment

**Jan. 17:** Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Jan. 18:** Thesaurus Day

**Jan. 23:** National Handwriting Day

**Jan. 27:** Holocaust Memorial Day

## WHS teacher's work held up as national model

Reviewers at the National College Board have identified the AP German Language and Culture syllabus submitted by WHS German teacher Ursula Hays as a model syllabus.

As part of an advance review of syllabi for AP German Language and Culture, related to course revisions being made to the course and exam, 25 current AP teachers – including Hays – created and submitted syllabi based on the new curriculum framework to assist in the development of teacher resources for the AP Course Audit.

The syllabus submitted by Hays was one of our selected by a team of college faculty and a member of the AP Curriculum Development and Assessment Committee, chosen as a model syllabus. Hays' document demonstrated how the reviewed curricular requirements can be met, as well as the variety of activities, assignments and assessments. Hays' syllabus is one that collectively represents a variety of approaches to structure the revised AP course.

Because these teachers were invited by the AP program to create and submit syllabi that will help in the development of teacher support materials for the course audit, they did so without the benefit of the resources typically available for teachers. Their hard work will serve as an example to support all AP teachers in their subject area. Hays' syllabus will be posted on the AP Course Audit website for other teachers to use as a resource.

## CFO/Treasurer earns national credential in school finance

Mark C. Pepera, CFO/Treasurer, was awarded the Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations (SFO) certification by the Association for School Business Officials International (ASBO International).

The SFO certification, which is new by ASBO International, is granted to highly qualified individuals who fulfill multiple requirements, including demonstrating eligibility, through work experience and education; passing a comprehensive two-part exam that tests competency in accounting and school business management topics; and adhering to the ASBO International Certification Code of Conduct. Pepera has been with the Westlake Schools since 1999. Previous awards include CFO of the Year Award, OASBO Distinguished Service Award-NE Region, GFOA Financial Report Award and State of Ohio Award for Early Implementation of GASB 33 and 34.

# Tandem for Schools online calendar

Westlake is transitioning over to the Tandem for Schools calendar program to manage all school calendars and events. It will be THE place for you to find all school event information. Sign up for FREE to get these great benefits:

- \* Find all the calendar information you need in one place
- \* Integrate school calendars with other tools like Cozi, Outlook, Google or iCal based on the groups you specify
- \* Eventually you will be able to see pictures of past events and read the latest school news

Here's a link to a 3-minute video that shows you how you can maximize your use of the calendar:

[http://help.intand.com/index.php?section=public\\_invite](http://help.intand.com/index.php?section=public_invite)

And here is the calendar itself:

<http://westlake.intand.com/>

Webmaster Dane Holman has provided a link to the new calendar on the Westlake Schools homepage. You'll find it on the right-hand side of the screen, just under the Events box, which is our current Sharepoint calendar. Eventually we will be moving away from the existing Events calendar and transitioning solely to the new Tandem for Schools calendar.

The new calendar system will allow you to "subscribe" to various groups so you can be instantly alerted via text message or email if a new event has been posted in your group, if a change has been made or if an event has been postponed, canceled or rescheduled. You also have the option of filtering your view of the calendar so you only see events of interest to you.

## Section 125 reminder

Please be advised participants have 70 days beyond Dec. 31, 2010, to incur eligible medical expenses and allocate these toward the 2010 plan year. In addition, participants have 90 days beyond Dec. 31, 2010, to submit eligible expenses to American Fidelity for reimbursement purposes.

If you have any specific questions about eligibility or this announcement, please call American Fidelity at 1-800-323-3748.

### Westlake Eagle Scouts

Congratulations to the following WHS students on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout:

- Freshman Peter J. Eyre
- Senior Beau Thomas Hartman
- Junior Andy Morris
- Sophomore Ashwen Ravichandran

All are from Boy Scout Troop 208

**Around the Schools is published weekly online by the Westlake City Schools communications department. Please forward information for publication to Communications Coordinator Kim Bonvissuto at the Administration Building, or call (440) 250-1258 or email [bonvissuto@wlake.org](mailto:bonvissuto@wlake.org)**

**Deadline for submitting materials is Wednesday at Noon.**

**The Westlake City School District is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action agency and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, political affiliation or disability.**

## News from the Demons Club

The Demons Club will be conducting a Demons Club version of the "March Madness Game." More details will be coming – visit the Demons Club website at [www.WestlakeDemonsClub.com](http://www.WestlakeDemonsClub.com) for more information.

"Save the Date!" – The Demons Club will be hosting a Night at the Races Event on March 26, 2011, at St. Demetrious. More information will be forthcoming about this event.

The Spirit Wear Team will be conducting a series of online-only sales. Our next online sale will be held just prior to the Spring Sport Season. Visit the Demons Club Store at [www.WestlakeDemonsClub.com](http://www.WestlakeDemonsClub.com) for more information.

### *Mileage rate increase for 2011*

The Internal Revenue Service has increased the standard business use mileage rate for 2011 to 51¢ per mile effective Jan. 1 - an increase of 1 cent. The increased rate affects travel on or after Jan. 1, 2011. Work related travel between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2010, that is reimbursed at the "IRS rate" should continue to be reimbursed at the old rate of 50¢ per mile.