

# Around the Schools

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

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century tools

The INFOhio Learning Commons at <http://learningcommons.infohio.org> is designed to help schools embrace new learning methods and opportunities that include essential skills for today's students such as critical thinking and problem-solving, communication, collaboration, creativity and innovation. Resources include:

- Self-paced online course, 21 Essential Things for 21st Century Success. Integrate skill-building activities. There are options for credit, including individual module CEUs, graduate college credit, or a 21st-Century Skills Certificate with a specialization in media and information research.
- 21st-century learning skills. Focus on student outcomes with new technologies.
- INFOhio videos.
- Glossaries of terms relevant to Web 2.0 technologies, 21st century skills and information literacy and research.
- Discussion Forums. Using INFOhio's discussion forums, educators can collaborate with peers while completing their coursework.

## WEF teacher grants

The Westlake Education Foundation is participating in funding for the district-wide Home Language Literacy Program initiated by Jennifer Petticord at Lee Burneson Middle School. The program objectives are four-fold: (1) to facilitate social inclusion of the many students for which English is their second language; (2) increase parent-child reading at home and, therefore, increase family literacy; (3) boost reading comprehension for the ELS Students with approved bilingual Accelerated Reading test books; and (4) affirm the importance of a multi-lingual environment. Once ordered and received, the books will be available to any school within the district via inter-library loan.

The WEF has committed to funding \$650 for the program (half of the requested amount).

The WEF also will provide funding for the Economics: Dollars for Dog Tags program initiated by Tracy Sicafuse from Dover Elementary. This program is intended to allow all third grade students at Dover with hands-on learning of economics by developing a product, marketing and selling the product and managing money. The product will be a painted (sanded and primed) and decorated dog tag that can be attached to a backpack or used as a key chain. Proceeds from the project will be donated to Dog Tags for Kids, a non-profit organization that provides dog tags to children whose parents are serving our country in the military in Afghanistan, Kuwait and Iraq.

The WEF funded \$604.50, the entire amount requested for the program.

For more information on the WEF visit <http://www.westlakeeducationfoundation.org/>

## Information technology conference

Registration is now open for the April 13 itWORKS.OHIO Conference 2010 in Columbus. This statewide event brings together secondary and postsecondary educators involved in the development and implementation of programs in interactive media, information support and services, communication network systems, and programming and software development.

Educators and their business, industry and community partners will present sessions focused on helping students transition into education and workforce settings in the information technology field. To register, visit [www.treca.org/69001008914139/site/default.asp](http://www.treca.org/69001008914139/site/default.asp). Please direct any questions to Nenna Davis at (614) 466-9514 or [nenna.davis@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:nenna.davis@ode.state.oh.us).

## Stork Report

Hilliard assistant Diane Kramer became a grandmother for the 4th time. Daughter, Sharon, (WHS '96) and son-in-law Jarrod Hamilton welcomed Reed Hershel Hamilton on March 20th.

Dover secretary Sandy Westfall welcomed a 2nd set of twin grandsons. Cooper weighed 2 lbs 8 oz. and Mace was 2 lbs 14 oz. Her daughter, Jen, and son-in-law Jeff are doing well.

Bud driver Lora Stemmer and husband Bill became grandparents for the 8th time. Daughter Cassy and son-in-law Jack Holman welcomed Jacob Lee on March 5. Jacob weighed 7 lbs 4 oz., 19 3/4 inches long. Jacob joins siblings Jack and Cayla at home.

## State wrestler

Brice Locklear, son of elementary special education assistant Doris Locklear, placed 4th at the Ohio Grade School State Tournament in The 95lb weight class. The All Ohio wrestler has been wrestling since kindergarten for Ohio Youth Program it is his fifth time placing in this tournament.

## Great Programming on WHBS

- March 29 A: Parkside 5th grade spring concert (3/16)  
B: Winter sports awards show (3/22)
- March 30 A: Parkside 5th grade spring concert (3/16)  
B: Winter sports awards show (3/22)
- March 31 A: Parkside 6th grade spring concert (3/9)  
B: Winter sports awards show (3/23)
- April 1 A: Parkside 6th grade spring concert (3/9)  
B: Varsity girls basketball v. Olmsted Falls (2/10)
- April 2 A: WHS play: Grease (3/26)  
B: The Demon Zone: Spring Preview #24
- April 3 A: WHS play: Grease (3/26)  
B: The Demon Zone: Spring Preview #24
- April 4 A: WHS play: Grease (3/26)  
B: The Demon Zone: Spring Preview #24



Cindy Hronek, John Willi Pam English, Jack Bogart, Sonny Kumar of Toshiba and Patrick McMorro

Parkside 6th graders John Willi and Jack Bogart won 1 of 24 regional awards in the Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision awards. The pair invented the Downspout Generator to create electricity using water traveling through a gutter and down a downspout. They will go on to compete in the state competition.

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.

## Women Making History Essay Contest

Eighth grade students can enter the 2010 Women Making History Essay Contest by April 23. The competition is sponsored by the Governor's Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach, the Ohio Interagency Council on Women and Girls and the Ohio Department of Education. Essays of 400 to 600 words should focus on a woman who has made or

is making history. Recognition for writers of winning and honorable-mention essays in five categories will include a day of learning and activities in Columbus during June. The five winning writers also will be recognized at the 2010 Ohio Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony in August.

To view contest details and access the Essay Submission Kit, visit <http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=122&ContentID=43195>. For more information, contact Virginia Moore at (614) 728-2759 or [virginia.moore@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:virginia.moore@ode.state.oh.us).

**Program A begins at: 8am, Noon, 4pm, 8pm, Midnight, 4am**  
**Program B begins at: 10:10am, 2:10pm, 6:10pm, 10:10pm, 2:10am, 6:10am**  
**WHBS sponsor credits begin at: 7:50am, 3:50pm, 7:50pm, 11:50pm, 3:50am**