

Monroe County Schools

PTO Prince and Princess Dance



Peterstown Elementary School PTO sponsored a Prince and Princess Dance for our students on February 11th. Our female students brought their fathers for a date and our male students brought their mothers for a date! They were dressed adorably, enjoyed dancing and all the

decorations, as well as had their portraits taken to preserve the special day together. Refreshments were served before everyone left, sponsored by PTO and a donation from the Little League. We are truly blessed with our PTO and all the work behind the scenes providing wonderful rewards and curriculum enrichment for our students! A special thank you to PES PTO!!!



See Page 2 for more photos of the Prince and Princess Dance.

MVS Receives New iPad Lab



Mountain View recently received an iPad lab! Students have loved having this additional learning device to use during technology time. So far students have been able to use an app to create both prompted and unprompted digital art designs. They also completed a computer coding lesson about programming using a special iPad app and curriculum. The lesson was titled, "Who do you think is smarter, you or a computer?" Students learned that although a computer seem to be very smart, it can only do what a computer programmer has programmed it to do and that it cannot think for itself. The lesson continued with an introduction to programming language and the importance of sequencing.



American Flag Presentation

The Union Lions Club gave a presentation to Mountain View 3rd grade students. They had a lesson on the history of the American Flag and flag etiquette. Each student was able to take home a pamphlet of information and their own American Flag.

More Photos From The Prince and Princess Dance (Continued from Page 1)



Womack a Finalist for the National Merit Scholarship



Photo by Perry Bennett, WV Legislative Photography

Samuel Womack, a senior at James Monroe High School, advanced to finalist status for the National Merit Scholarship Program. As such, he is one of 15,000 finalists out of an initial pool of 1.6 million high school students across the United States. He will now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 million that will be offered this spring. James Monroe High School has graduated two other finalists in its history: Grover Jones III in 1998 and Ash Guy in 2001.

According to its web site, “the mission of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) is to recognize and honor the academically talented students of the United States. All winners of Merit Scholarship awards are chosen from the Finalist group based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments—without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference. A variety of information is available for NMSC selectors to evaluate: the Finalist’s academic record, information about the school’s curricula and grading system, two sets of test scores, the high school official’s written recommendation, information about the student’s activities and leadership, and the Finalist’s own essay.”



PES Student Recognition

Peterstown Elementary Students were recognized February 24th for their achievement on last year’s State Summative Assessment. They received certificates for attaining Mastery, and certificates/trophies for achieving Distinguished in any area tested. Mrs. Mustain attended and congratulated the students with classroom teachers, as well as parents and extended families. There were many proud smiles captured! The celebration continued that afternoon with an inflatable obstacle course, slide, and bouncy house in the gymnasium. Ms. Boggess was even taped up on the wall to celebrate their achievements by PTO parents and students. Everyone had a memorable time and all students are motivated to enjoy yet another reward next year! A special thank you to all parents, PES teachers and staff, PMS administration and teachers, and PTO members for making such a wonderful day happen!

MAVERICK MAGNIFICENCE

Havens Receives Offer of Appointment to Naval Academy

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin has announced that Clay Havens, a senior at James Monroe High School, received an Offer of Appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy.

Each year, Senator Manchin nominates up to 10 students to each of our nation's service academies requiring congressional recommendations. Senator Manchin nominates students after reviewing the recommendations made by a seven-member Service Academy Selection Board that convened on October 17-19.

Clay enjoys playing sports, being outdoors, and hanging out with family and friends. Clay stated, "Attending the US Naval Academy would be an honor for me. I have a deep passion to serve my country and to continue my education."

Blanco Receives Offer of Appointment to West Point

Senator Joe Manchin announced that Antonella Blanco received an Offer of Appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Antonella is a senior at James Monroe High School where she participates in Civil War Reenacting and enjoys hiking in her free time.

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JMHS Student Participates in All-State Honor Choir

Union resident Maddie Mohler, a sophomore at James Monroe High School, performed at Charleston's Municipal Auditorium on Saturday, January 28th as part of the West Virginia All State High School Chamber Choir.

To be considered, students must be nominated by a teacher or music instructor who is a member of the state association. Maddie was nominated by her voice instructor Carrie Honaker.

Out of over thirty girls nominated and auditioning for soprano slots in the high school choir, only nine made the final cut, with Maddie Mohler being one of the nine.

Busy Month for 7th Grade Hawks



February has been a very busy month for the 7th Graders at Mountain View Middle School. After completing the novel “Tuesdays With Morrie”, the students worked at creating their own “Life Lessons” project using all of the lessons the main character lived by. Included were lessons on Family, Greed, Marriage, Selflessness, Forgiveness, Friendship, Materialism, Love, Death, Trust, Meaning of Life and Wealth.



They were allowed to choose their own form of presentation which included scrapbooks, posters, vision boards, etc. They worked with each lesson finding pictures and images that represented each one, a quote about that lesson and an explanation as to why they chose the image to connect the two. Many very creative and unique products resulted from



their hard work.

They have also been working on learning the proper technique and rules for writing a research paper. They just completed writing and typing their first research paper of the year.

In honor of Black History Month, students researched and developed their paper on famous historical people that influenced many areas including politics, music, entertainment and sports. Research papers on Maya Angelou, Jackie Robinson, Frederick Douglass and Colin Powell were a just a few of the many people honored.

They learned about formatting a research paper and citing their resources to prevent plagiarism. Keep up the hard work, 7th graders!

Local 4H Air Rifle Members Take Honors at WV Championships

The West Virginia 4-H Air Rifle State Competition was recently held in Braxton County in late January. The top four youth in the senior division from this completion will now represent West Virginia in the National 4H Shooting Sports Championships in Grand Island, Nebraska this June. Two of the four members of the team are James Monroe High School students Bryce Sabol and Logan Weikle.

Monroebotics

Monroebotics 4-H Club’s MCubed FTC Robotics Team has been very busy this season. The team consisting of Bryce Sabol; Sarah McClure, Harry Mohler; Ian Jackson; Cade McMunigal; Riley Sparks; Morgan Holzman; Kaitlyn Crawford; Maddie Mohler and Cammie Wickline are ALL James Monroe High School students.

They have won Winning Alliance Member at the WV State competition; Think Award in Alabama and 1st Place Inspire Award in the SW Virginia Qualifier which qualified them for the Virginia state event in Lynchburg on February 25th. This type of success is unheard of from a rookie team.

MAVERICK BATTALION NEWS

Maverick Battalion Advances to Semi-Finals in Leadership Bowl

Article by: Cadet Sergeant First Class Logan Weikle

The Monroe County Technical Center/James Monroe High School Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) program advanced to the semi-final round in the leadership portion of the annual JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl (JLAB) on February 13, competing against 538 other JROTC programs across the country.

The team consisted of Cadet Captain Samuel Galyean and Cadet Sergeant First Class Chris Weikle. The competition consists of answering questions about basic leadership based on the JROTC curriculum using a timed online application. If the JLAB Team is successful at this level it will travel to Washington, DC this summer to compete in the final round.

Maverick Cadets and Vietnam Veterans Visit the VA Hospital

Article by: Cadet Captain Carson Fisher

On February 20th, cadets from the James Monroe High School/Monroe County Technical Center (JMHS/MCTC) Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) Maverick Battalion traveled to the Beckley Veterans Administration Hospital to visit the veterans there. The cadets handed out handmade bed socks, afghans, and quilts to each individual veteran they visited. The quilts were provided by members of the Maverick Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America, who also attended. The cadets got to speak individually with the veterans and learn details about their lives in the military. The cadets that participated were Cade Fisher, Hannah Johnson, Antonella Blanco, and Carson Fisher. The trip was a success and the

cadets are looking forward to the next opportunity to learn from these national treasures.



Members of the Maverick Battalion & Vietnam Veterans of America at the Beckley VA Hospital.

Maverick Battalion Hosts JROTC Staff Exchange

On January 26th, the James Monroe High School/Monroe County Technical Center (JMHS/MCTC) Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) hosted Pikeview High School's JROTC Battalion Staff for a meeting to exchange ideas about the program and Pikeview's upcoming JROTC Program for Accreditation (JPA). The Maverick Battalion Staff delivered both their Continuous Improvement Plan and Service Learning Project briefings to the Pikeview Battalion Staff as an example of what "right" looks like for the JPA. The Mavericks Battalion excelled in the portion of the JPA and were happy to share some ideas about what made it a success. After the briefings Pikeview's JROTC cadets toured the new Maverick Battalion Headquarters and the two staffs had lunch together. The Maverick Battalion hopes

this type of cooperation will continue in the future and looks forward to working with Pikeview's JROTC Battalion.





Employee Recognition



James Monroe Employee of the Month

Mrs. Tammy Schumaker is the secretary at James Monroe and started her career here in 1998. When asked what led her to work at JMHS, she laughed and stated, “I wanted summers off.” Mrs. Tammy shared that she believes, “We have genuinely good students here, and I just try to be a positive influence and I try to be available to talk to students if they need to talk to someone regardless of my position. Luckily, in this school we have good communication that you wouldn’t have in bigger schools.”

Regarding her favorite memories, Mrs. Tammy shared, “Some of my favorite memories are from when I was a lunch secretary. I could remember everyone’s lunch number and can still remember some.”

Mr. Jeff Goff is an English/AP Literature teacher at James Monroe and started his career here in 2003. Many students who take Mr. Goff’s class consider his class a necessity for college preparation.

When asked what led him to work at James Monroe, he jokingly replied, “Desperation! No, I had reached a point where I had wanted to get back into teaching. I had been a social worker for several years, and I had decided I didn’t want to do that anymore.” Mr.

Goff stated that his favorite qualities in his students include brilliance, hard work, good personality, and responsibility. Aside from teaching proper grammar, how to cite works, etc., Mr. Goff tries to teach his students life lessons, such as showing up, putting their names on their papers, and he emphasizes to kids that the paper you put your name on is a reflection of you.

Mr. Goff shared his favorite memory from when he first came to James Monroe. He said, “My first year here as a teacher during prom, a student brought his prom date in a John Deere tractor, and it just blew me away. Where else in the world other than in Monroe County, would a young man and a young woman come to prom in a John Deere tractor?”

We appreciate Mr. Goff’s passion for education and his witty personality. We’re incredibly fortunate to have such a wonderful and experienced English teacher at JMHS.

Peterstown Middle School Employees of the Month

Peterstown Middle School would like to recognize Chris Booth as professional employee of the month. Mr. Booth does so many things for our school. He is head football coach to our very successful middle school football team. He tirelessly raises funds for his team and our athletic program to provide our teams with the best of

everything. He also arranges for peer tutoring in the afternoon for those athletes in need. Chris is a caring and kind individual and we are proud to have him on our team!

Kathy Frazier is Peterstown Middle School’s service employee of the month. We have been fortunate to have Kathy as both a cook and a custodian. She goes above and beyond in her duties as custodian. Kathy is a pleasure to work with and we are lucky to have her on staff.

Peterstown Middle School’s volunteer of the year is Cindy Wiliford. Cindy volunteers every day at our school. She is such a big help to us all! We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Cindy for all that she does at our school.

MCTC’s Employee of the Month

Lori Feamster, the Alternative School Instructor, is housed at Monroe County Technical Center. Lori grew up in Virginia Beach, VA and received her Bachelor’s Degree from Virginia Tech in 2000. She worked at Seneca Health Services in Greenbrier County for seven years. During that time, she worked with outpatient clients, crisis intervention, and Title XIX Waiver.

Lori graduated from WVU with a Master’s Degree in Special Education in 2007. After teaching Summer School at Davis Stuart in Lewisburg, she began her career

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in education in Summers County, WV. After eight complete years of teaching, Lori joined us in Monroe County.

Mrs. Feamster's career experiences and knowledge of adolescent behaviors help her address student needs. She works to provide academic learning, as well as encourage citizenship and appropriate conduct. Her collaboration with JMHS guidance counselors and teachers at both MCTC and JMHS has resulted in gains for students. She readily establishes rapport with students, and her fair and firm classroom management style serves the students and the alternative program well. It is apparent that students respect Mrs. Feamster, and many come to trust her as an advocate for their learning and better decision-making.

Lori resides in Summers County with her husband and two sons. She enjoys bike riding, taking care of the family pets, reading, and watching her boys play sports.

Peterstown Elem. School Employees of the Month

PES would like to recognize Debbie Page, our Speech Therapist, for her outstanding work ethic and dedication for our students. She works tirelessly to make sure that our students receive the skills, encouragement, and support they need to improve their communication. Additionally, she has exceptional professional relationships with parents and colleagues. Thank you Mrs. Page for all that you do!

PES would like to also recognize

Trish Beasley, our incredible clerk, for her team spirit and efficiency! She not only does an excellent job with our attendance data, but she is also always willing to jump in and assist whomever needs help. Her selflessness towards our students is remarkable, and evident through her Box Top efforts that has rewarded our students with many things we otherwise could not have offered. We appreciate you Ms. Trish!

Mountain View Employees of the Month

Mrs. Ann Jameson graduated from Marshall University and Radford University with an M.S. in science education. She has worked for Monroe County Schools since 1981. Her first teaching position was itinerant hearing/visually impaired which led her to all parts of the county. One of her pre-school students from Ballard School was the flower girl in her wedding! She then entered the classroom and taught sixth grade for several years. The last two decades have been spent in second and third grades.

In her leisure time she enjoys riding and showing Tennessee Walking Horses and traveling with her husband, Kent. She has two children; both of whom live and work in Washington, D.C. She would like to note that in all her years of teaching, this is the first year that students have finished school in May!

Mrs. Debbie Wilson has worked in many capacities in The Monroe County School System. Now, she is an instructional aide in

Kindergarten. Mrs. Wilson assists with all aspects of the Kindergarten curriculum including Reading, Writing, Math and Technology. She is very dedicated to student achievement.

Mrs. Wilson enjoys spending time with her family and attending sporting activities in which her granddaughters participate. She is married to Bobby Wilson. She has two children; David and Megan as well as three granddaughters; Bailee, Lilly, and Zoe.

