

## November “Did you know?”

### **Hartland High School**

Did you know that Hartland High School participated in College Application Week in November? This endeavor included teachers sharing their college experiences with students and then all senior students applying for some post-high school training including college, trade or specialty schools, or the military. During the week, many colleges waived their application fees and seniors were all able to apply somewhere. What a great job by the counseling department to pull off such a great event!

### **Legacy Alternative High School**

In keeping with tradition, Legacy High School recently hosted the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for all of the students and staff at the HESSC. The Hartland Student Nutrition department does a fabulous job of preparing a delicious meal. For many of the students, the dinner serves as their only opportunity to eat a warm meal and celebrate the season. A great time was had by all and a very special thanks to everyone who donated to the event!

### **Hartland Middle School**

Did you know that Abigail Peterson, an eighth grader at Hartland Middle School, won first prize in the Livingston County United Way’s Makin’ Lemonade Creative Art Contest? Using the theme that Livingston County United Way helps our community make “lemonade out of lemons”, contestants created original art that was then displayed on the United Way Facebook page. Visitors to the page were invited to vote on the entries by “liking” their favorites. As the top vote getter, Abigail received a \$100 gift certificate and a \$100 donation made in her name from EctoHR.

HMS student Rachel Marie Ooms was a finalist for the Livingston County Veterans’ Essay Competition. Rachel Marie was the youngest finalist – 7<sup>th</sup> grade - from any of the Livingston County schools represented. Her essay was about her Uncle Jerry (a Vietnam Vet) and she received a \$50 gift certificate. Her essay will be published in a future library publication. There was an award ceremony at the Cromaine library where students read their essays aloud to a large group of attendees, including many veterans.

Eighth grader Myron James (Emjae) Samala was recently named the school champion of the National Geographic Geography Bee. Within the next month, Emjae will take a qualifying test administered by HMS teacher Gerlad Bliznik for the state level competition. One hundred of the top scoring students on the qualifying test will compete in the state geography bee this spring.

### **Farms Intermediate School**

Mrs. Berry and her 6<sup>th</sup> grade science classes are currently participating in the DNR Salmon in the Classroom Program. Trout Unlimited Ann Arbor Chapter, America’s leading trout and salmon conservation organization, donated \$1,000.00 toward this project. This program aligns with the 6<sup>th</sup> grade science standards - the Organization of Living Things and Eco-systems. Mrs. Berry and her classes will be raising Chinook salmon within her classroom. In the spring, the students will be releasing 200 salmon into the Red Cedar River with the hope they will make their journey to Lake Michigan. Mrs. Berry went through hours of training and preparation for this project to learn how to properly care for and raise the Chinook salmon. Best of luck to Mrs. Berry and her students with their salmon journey!!!

### **Creekside Elementary School**

Creekside kindergarten classes held their first Grandparents Thanksgiving Gathering. One hundred and thirty grandparents and special guests visited with kindergarten students in their classrooms before the Thanksgiving break. The children performed for their grandparents and impressed them with their singing abilities. The event finished up in the cafeteria with crafts, snacks, and pictures with Tom the Turkey. There were many happy faces as everyone enjoyed socializing. Thanks to the kindergarten teachers for organizing such a nice family event.

### **Lakes Elementary School**

Did you know that Lakes Elementary has added a new mentoring piece to our Lakes Kids Care program? Once a month, all students in the building join their Lakes Kids Care Family, which is facilitated by a staff member (including teachers, ancillary staff and our principal), and is comprised of about 16 students in grades kindergarten through fourth. We meet in our family groups on Friday once a month for twenty minutes to participate in fun activities around our Lakes Kids Care concepts that include empathy, respect, friendship, tolerance, and perseverance...just to name a few. Our goal is to continue to promote our Family Culture at Lakes and to build connections and relationships across grade levels and with another adult in the building.

### **Round Elementary School**

Did you know that Round Elementary School Family raised over \$13,000 for the PTO and Round students during our 2014 Fall Fun Run? Students raised money by having family and friends sponsor their laps during the run. Students received face stickers, water bottles, and t-shirts for participating in the fundraiser and a "finisher" sticker for participating in the run. It was a beautiful fall day and we had a great turnout to cheer our students on. For reaching our goal for the fundraiser, the Round staff put on an assembly where the top fundraising students were able to put a pie in their favorite teacher's face along with squirting chocolate on them and pouring water on their head to wash it off. The Round School family had a blast and we thank all that participated for a good cause.

### **Village Elementary School**

Did you know that Village Elementary School has teamed with Knock Out Autism to create a Buddy Bench at our school? The Buddy Bench was originally going to be utilized for students with autism who may have a hard time communicating that they would like to have somebody to play with. We "Villagized" the concept so that any student may use the Buddy Bench if they are looking for a friend to play with. Our teachers spoke to the children in their classrooms; explained the purpose of the bench and signed up volunteers to help out at each recess. We believe that this will increase peer interaction and assist in teaching our students empathy. Special thanks to Mrs. Thomas from Knocking out Autism, and our Village staff for continuing to find ways for students to feel safe at school. We are in our first week of having the bench available and we are excited about the outcome.