



Falcon Flyer

December 2015



HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #2

DECEMBER 2015

**THANK YOU
FOR VOTING**
WE REALLY APPRECIATE IT

Thank you for voting for our recent levy. We truly appreciate your vote for our students!

A Note from Your Superintendent

Thank you, voters, for approving the 1.4-mill permanent improvement levy on November 3. This levy is a vital part of our building maintenance plan and will assist greatly with our technology updates. With four levy campaigns in just over two years, I am happy to say to the voters that I have challenged myself to keep the district off the ballot for the next four years and to go to the ballot in the future with renewals only. Through the strategic planning process and smart financial decisions, I believe these goals are possible. We know that the state is not going to be favorable to the district in future budgeting, so we need to consider this issue as we move forward in our planning. For the current school year, we were able to add programming back in vocational agriculture, which was done through the retirement of another teacher.

As we move forward, we must be cautious not to add programs we cannot sustain. I believe we can add programs, which has been and will continue to be a focus for the Curriculum Committee of the Strategic Planning Committee and the Board of Education. In addition to vocational agriculture, we have added many elective courses through our online option and currently have over twenty students taking over eighty online courses. I would like to remind everyone that you have an open invitation to be involved in the strategic planning process. We meet the second Tuesday of the month throughout the school year at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Library. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!



Veterans Day Assembly

On Nov. 11th, we celebrated our veterans. In the picture above, the third grade students and teachers hosted an assembly for all elementary students, veterans, family, and friends. The third graders sang songs, performed skits, and taught us the meaning and importance of Veterans Day.



Hillsdale Schools would like to thank all veterans for their service and thank all who attended the Veterans Day assemblies.

Pictured Left: Trace McBride (3rd grader) with his father, Travis McBride

Kindergarten Field Trip



The Kindergarten classes went on a field trip to Honey Haven Farm. They learned about the life cycle of a pumpkin. They also learned about the different crops that are planted at the farm and how they use different crops to fertilize and to prevent soil erosion.

Third Grade Field Trip

The third graders visited the Barnhardt Dairy Farm in northern Ashland County. While they were there, they learned all about what dairy cows eat, how they digest it, how they produce milk, how the milk is harvested, how to approach farm animals, as well as what products are produced from the milk.



PTO Information

In October we had another successful basket silent auction. This auction raised over \$2,500!! In November we sold over 225 spirit wear shirts raising over \$750. Thank you so much for your support for both fundraisers. In December we did our yearly Secret Santa shop. Items were purchased by the PTO and donated by local businesses. This is one of our favorite events to do and the kids love it so much. Thank you everyone who helped make this week so special for the kids. Just a reminder, we have meetings in the cafeteria the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. We have had some new faces join each month and we always welcome more. You can also check us out on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/HillsdaleElementaryPTO/?fref=t>

We want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!





In 6th grade ELA classes, students got to have a little Thanksgiving fun while learning reading and writing standards.

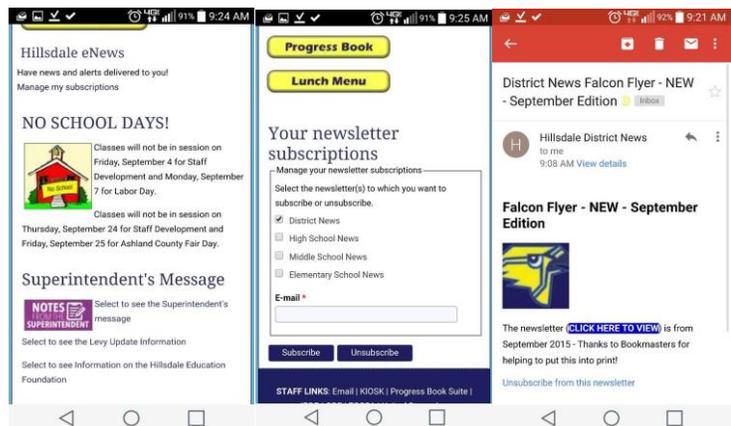


HMS 5th graders are fortunate to participate in the D.A.R.E. program with Deputy Angie Hamilton. The highlights of our first lesson on Sept. 14th were using the "drunk goggles" to see how alcohol can impair our vision and the pig lungs showing the harmful effects of smoking.



What's Going on at Hillsdale?

Want to be more informed about what is happening in our schools but don't have children in the school bringing home printed versions of our newsletters? You can subscribe to the newsletters by going to our district homepage at <http://www.hillsdale.k12.oh.us/>. Navigate to the Hillsdale eNews and then choose Manage my Subscriptions and you will be transferred to a page where you can choose the newsletters you want to receive by email. When a new item is posted to the website, you will receive an email similar to the one attached and you can download and view the information you want.



In honor of Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day, our high school student council, led by advisors Kelly Snow and Mark Hoffman, put on a "coin war" between the classes. \$602 was raised by the students and staff which was donated to the Breast Cancer Network on behalf of Chemistry teacher, Renee Burnison who is courageously battling this type of cancer.



The Harbor

by Jostens

We continue to model and define our culture at HHS as one that is building character and expecting excellence. In October, the high school students began a weekly viewing of a video series called "The Harbor" with Mike Smith and guests that is produced by Jostens, our class ring and graduation products supplier. These videos give real perspectives from real people about life lessons every high school student faces in their teen years. Our hope is that these videos and the discussions afterwards will help our students achieve greater success in the outside world and help them focus on making the most of their high school years and planning for their future. We are thankful for the awesome group of young adults at Hillsdale High School.



The visual art students of HHS & the 6th graders have been busy creating an art logo project for the Local Roots Market of Ashland. The project included painting on rocks that were collected in Lakewood, Ohio on the shores of Clifton Beach. They totally loved doing this and want to do more!

Haunted Biota Trail

by Kat Holmes

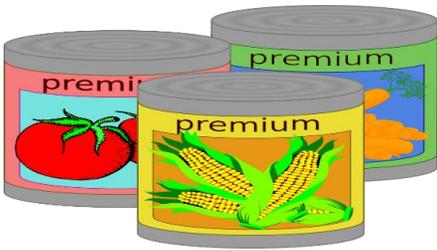
The Hillsdale Leo Club, with help from the Spanish Club, held their first annual Haunted Trail on October 31, 2015. Various members together with Mr. Dickerson, Mr. Griffin and Ms. Kelly gathered first thing Saturday morning to begin setup for what was to be a spooky trail experience. At dusk, students, staff and community families alike, gathered eagerly anticipating what the wooded area would behold. An estimated 130 people attended the gathering which concluded at about 10:00 pm.

The trail guides silently led groups of 6-8 people at a time through the darkened trail. The groups were steered through different themed stations such as a mad doctor's operating room, a haunted cemetery and a terrifying tunnel. Though, the trail wasn't so much horrifying, as it was campy, with people of all ages enjoying their Halloween tour through the "Crystal Lake Woods".

At the head of the trail, the bonfire served as a source of warmth, as well as heat, to grill hot dogs and marshmallows. The snacks were coupled with hot chocolate and apple cider that were sold at the concession table.

Proceeds consisted of donations and concessions, and will go to the Leo Club's general fund, which serves a variety of charities and organizations in need.





LEO Club Canned Food Drive for Hillsdale CARES

The LEO Club sponsored a canned food drive contest in November between Hillsdale Local Schools and Loudonville Schools. It was the Falcons vs. the Redbirds in a battle to collect the most canned foods to be distributed through Hillsdale CARES to local families in need. The winning class with the most cans donated will receive their choice of a pizza party, donuts or an ice cream party. Go Falcons!



2015 LEO Club Powderpuff Football

Our LEO club sponsored a powderpuff flag football game on November 5th to promote team work, physical exercise, and fun. The game also gives an opportunity for the students to spend time with others that they might not normally have a chance to get to know. It came down to a tough battle between the seniors and juniors with the seniors going on to victory. A special thanks goes out to all who helped make this fun event happen including the high school football team, Mr. Dickerson, Mr. Colter, Mr. Shenberger, and Mr. Williams.

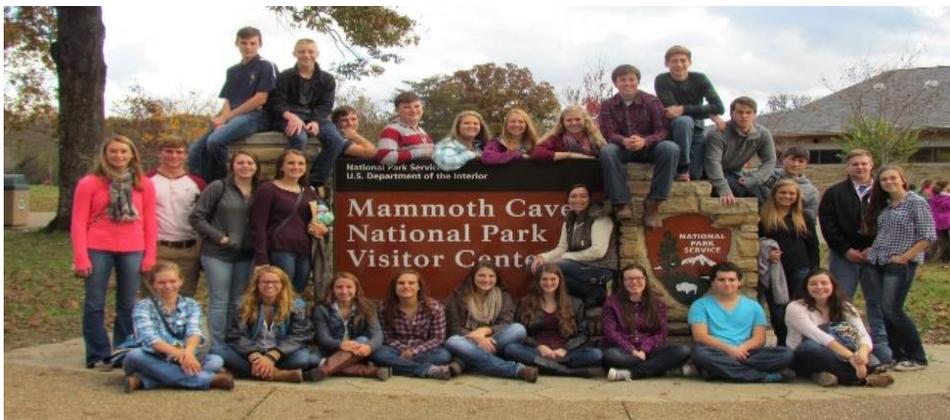
Hillsdale FFA

by Katie Mager

The Hillsdale FFA sent thirty-one students to the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky on October 26th through the 31st. The Hillsdale FFA sent two teams, The Agricultural Sales Team and The Novice Parliamentary Procedure Team, to compete at the national level. The Agricultural Sales team members and their national places are: Will Yeater, 39th, Ben Raudebaugh, 64th, Shelbi Long, 78th, and Adam Cutlip, 95th. The team overall placed 14th and received a silver rating. The Novice Parliamentary Procedure was made up of Kendal Meyer, Maryellen Bliss, Damon McCoy, Nate Bigley, Sydney Long, Taylor Rebman and Libby Hohler. The team did very well but, unfortunately, the team did not advance to the final round. The students had a great time at the national convention. The students went on several tours such as a Cargill Plant in Cincinnati, Ohio, The Corvette Assembly Plant in Bowling Green, Kentucky, Mammoth Cave in Mammoth Cave National Park, Rosa Mosaic and Tile Company in Louisville, Kentucky, and Fasig Tipton Horse Sale Facility in Lexington, Kentucky. The Hillsdale FFA would like to thank all the chaperones, Kevin Reidy, Jodi Long, Jody Payne, Heather Crites and the Hillsdale FFA Alumni for making this trip an opportunity for the students. The students had a great learning experience on this trip and also a very fun time that they will remember forever.



Pictured above, left to right: Damon Gantz, Sydney Long, Libby Holher, Kendal Meyer, Taylor Rebman, Nate Bigley and Maryellen Bliss.



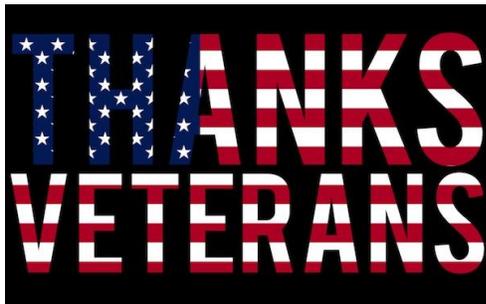
FFA students are pictured above at Mammoth Cave in **Mammoth Cave National Park**.



Pictured above, left to right: Will Yeater, Adam Cutlip, Shelbi Long, and Ben Raudebaugh



Approximately 30 veterans from the Hillsdale community were present to join the HHS and HMS students and staff on November 11 to honor those who served our nation. Chief Master Sergeant Mark Dyer, USAF, and Mr. Buddy Essick, retired Marine, shared their thoughts on service to the nation. HHS choir students, under the direction of Miss Rachel Kelly, provided musical selections, including the Armed Forces Medley and God Bless the USA. Following the assembly, HHS student council members served breakfast to veterans who attended.



The Hillsdale Local Schools would like to thank Bookmasters for making this newsletter possible! Without their help, we would not have been able to print and distribute this amazing Falcon Flyer!



HHS Straight A's Field Trip

Thirty-one Hillsdale High School students attended a career day presentation and East Coast Hockey League game in Toledo, Ohio featuring the Toledo Walleye versus the Kalamazoo K-Wings on Thursday, November 19.

The students in grades 9 through 12 earned the opportunity to attend the field trip, sponsored through the HHS Student Activities fund, by earning Straight A's during the first quarter of the current school year and exhibiting exemplary citizenship throughout the same time period.

High School Principal Kevin Reidy started the academic incentive this school year to "challenge all students to strive for excellence not only in the classroom, but also in their daily interactions with others on our campus. By providing an Ohio Professional Sports experience, those attending were given background on the Toledo Walleye's operations and facilities and the jobs related to providing an entertainment activity in Northern Ohio."