

April/May 2020

Volume 1, Issue 7

# STEELER Nation News



## Farrell Community Parade rings pride through city

Farrell Community Parade to honor the school students and thank essential employees took place on Saturday, May 2, and brought out the best that our community has to offer. Ms. Megan Mishata, parade organizer, had a vision and she thanks city and school officials for making that vision come to fruition.

"Farrell is not just a city of athletic champions, we are small, but a mighty village, and it takes a village," Ms. Mishata commented. She wants students, school district and

essential employees to know that we recognize and thank them for all they are doing. "I was overwhelmed with the amount of support, it was really humbling," she stated.

Over 50 cars and emergency vehicles rode through the parade route, that included UPMC Hospital, Farrell, where employees waved and cheered on parade participants. Many of those participants and spectators alike were brought to tears as they were reminded of the strength and love that our community has in this uncertain time.



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## Celebrating our Senior c/o 2020



Seniors will be the first in FHS class in history to graduate remotely! A date and further details for this virtual graduation ceremony will be provided soon.



In the meantime, Principals, Mr. Fowler and Mr. Veccia, distributed Senior yard signs to commemorate our Seniors in this time of pandemic.



Mr. Joe Tucheck and Ms. Karen Korab working to prepare daily lunch and breakfast for our district.

# FHS Seniors: Focused and moving FORWARD



"Even though we won't get to experience the milestone we've all been waiting for, I'm glad that we've spent the most important years of life together and I will miss you guys dearly." ~Chardell Stewart

*Chardell Stewart*  
**Thiel College**  
Majoring In  
BioChemistry  
& Minorng  
Peditrics




*Jasmine May*  
**Youngstown State University**  
Biology and  
Minorng in Pre-Vet

*Deirdre Burks*  
**BC3**  
Audiologist




**Samyra talbert**  
**Purdue university**  
**juvenile corrections industry / correctional officer**




*Camryn Gipson*  
**Spelman College**  
Dual-Degree Engineering  
for Computer Hardware  
Engineering




**Raymond Raver**  
**Thiel College**  
*Criminal Justice*




**Raphael's School Beauty Culture Inc.**  
Cosmetology and  
Barbering




**Saniyeh Thomas**  
**Penn State Shenango**  
**Nursing**




**Juwon Samuels**  
**Ohio Technical College**  
*Studng Automotive Technology*




**Skylar Cordray**  
**Ohio State University**  
Early Childhood  
Education




**Kalia Knight**  
**Youngstown State University**  
Exercise Science  
and Kinesiology




**Adrian Daniels**  
**Thiel College**  
Criminal Justice




*Kyra Crosby*  
**Penn State Shenango**  
**NURSING**




**THIEL COLLEGE**




**Nikyah Jefferson**  
**Indiana University of Pennsylvania**  
**Early Childhood Education**




**Jaxavier West**  
**LAUREL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**  
**Cosmetology**



# Retirement Spotlight: Mr. Rupert

By MELONN WELLS

Mr. Karl Rupert has been working here at Farrell Area School District for 30 years and will retire at the end of this year. I had the opportunity to interview him. Rupe, as we call him, remembers his first day working at Farrell School like it was yesterday, he said. When he first began, he worked with Mrs. Donatelli in the "Hot Lab," which was located in the elementary, where they taught 5th grade in 1990. Throughout these 30 years Mr. Rupert has taught Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Robotics, Physics, and General Science to his middle and high school students. He said, "I chose to teach here at Farrell because of the 'Divine Appointment Tragedy' of Mr. Forman, who was the Physics teacher here at Farrell before he passed away in January of 1991". Now, Mr. Rupert said that if he could have chosen to work in any other position or job besides being a math and physics teacher at Farrell, that he "WOULDN'T because I LOVE it here," and believe it or not this is the ONLY teaching job he's EVER had! I could not even believe it when he told me.

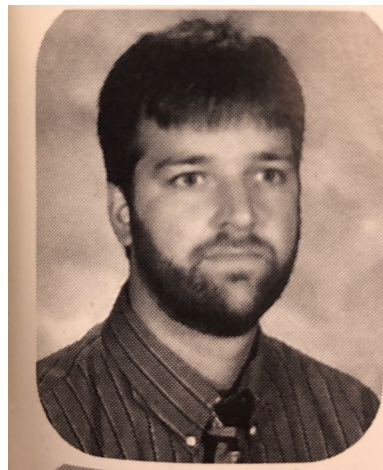
Now, being that Mr. Rupert is literally everyone's favorite teacher. We should all make his retirement not a sad moment, but a proud moment. And I say a proud moment because of all the time he has spent with his students teaching us, growing with us, caring about us, yelling at us, and letting us leave detention early if we brought him snacks at the end of the day. We also want to thank him for everything he has ever done for any of us even if it was throwing our detention slips away or not writing us up for not serving it. Mr. Rupert said, "the list of things I will miss the most about FHS is so long, but the most important thing I'll miss is the interactions with young people, and I'll miss trying to convince them how successful and great they can be."

Mr. Rupert isn't retiring from working yet though, he just wants to move on to new things and decided he wants to change careers. Retiring from FHS, he says, "is a stream of emotions." Sadness only because of the memories he has had and being that he has

**"I just want to know how you get the kids to believe absolutely everything that you say..."** -Mr. Tim Dye

"parked in the same spot for 30 years". One of his favorite memories is when he took his class on a trip to go canoeing. He explained why that was his favorite memory because of what happened to him and his class after they found out they couldn't go canoeing. Mr. Rupert doesn't really have a worst memory at Farrell he just said, "the only thing that breaks his heart is teaching students that are no longer here. May they be at rest and peace!!"

Mr. Rupert has some advice for new students and staff. Advice for teachers: "make sure you build a connection



**Throwback yearbook picture of Mr. Rupert in 1999. He hasn't changed in 20 years!**

with your students and actually get to know the kids". Advice for students: "live your life with INTEGRITY and good things will happen." I would take that advice and run with it just because, if you know Rupe, you know he doesn't lie !! And now that Rupe has other busi-

nesses and opportunities to invest in and to explore it is almost that time to say our goodbyes to him until we see him again.

And I, Me-Lonn Wells want to say thank you Rupe for always being the BEST TEACHER I'VE HAD SINCE ELEMENTARY! I will miss you telling me off, yelling at me for no reason, but I'll miss your corny jokes the most. Also, thank you for helping me prepare myself for Mr. Lewis's class my 10th grade year! I couldn't have done it without you and your weird way of teaching, but it definitely helped.

**"I just want to wish my good buddy Rupert a wonderful retirement. The last 4 years have been great having you across the hall from me. The halls of FHS will never be the same without you. We have had some wonderful times together over the past 4 years. I can honestly say that you started as a co-worker to me but now I consider you a close friend. I wish you all the best in retirement, because you deserve it. Get the kayaks ready!"** - Mr. Derek Burda

**"We always had agreed on two things; If I was not the Secretary he probably would of been fired and there is no other Mama from Farrell that loves him unconditionally!"**

- Mrs. Joanne Retone

## Sophomores PLACE 2nd in Stock Market Challenge

Farrell High School 10th graders, under the direction of Mrs. Kladitis, competed in the Spring Stock Market Challenge and won 2nd place out of 21 competitors in the region.

Students researched, and following the advice of Mrs. K., chose conservative stocks. This choice paid off. As the simulation runs in real time, the COVID 19 crisis sent many stocks plummeting. The team of **Marquan Freeman** and **David Bonner** remained consistently on top with their "safe" bets, *Amazon*, *Google*, *Nike*, etc. and lead our school in this fine achievement!

### View Advisor Rankings

Name: Kim Kladitis Date: 4/23/2020  
Security Level: Advisor

Ranking for Advisor | Kim Kladitis | Pennsylvania Stock Market Game  
Select region to rank (only regions that have advisors with 5 or more participating teams are ranked): West

Rank	Advisor Name	School Name	Avg Total Equity	Avg AD S&P
1	Heidi Grinnell	Jamestown+Area+Jshs	\$97,172.64	10.6804
2	<b>Kim Kladitis</b>	<b>Farrell Area HS/UMS</b>	<b>\$97,018.69</b>	<b>13.4347</b>
3	Kevin Shamblin	Union Area HS	\$97,001.54	10.5093
4	Jesse Hockenberry	Punxsutawney+Area+Hs	\$95,526.82	9.0347
5	Thaddeus Merriman	Mt Lebanon SHS	\$95,405.80	8.9136
6	Eric Wenger	Sharon+Hs	\$94,657.41	8.1652
7	Richard Abbott	South+Allegheny+Ms%2FHs	\$93,011.92	6.5197
8	Melissa Survinski	Hampton HS	\$92,360.31	5.8681
9	Roxanne Delon	Central Valley HS	\$92,081.03	5.5888
10	James Paul	Armstrong JSHS	\$91,122.75	4.6306

**THANK YOU Essential Employees...**



# Of Farrell Area School District



Photo credit: Mr. Brian Vecchia and Mr. Matthew Fowler

Maintenance and cafeteria personnel preparing, packaging, transferring and distributing food to the children of our community, (from top, left) include, Ms. Tamara Faight, Ms. Tracy Robinson, Mr. Joe Tuchek and Mrs. Phyllis Bolling, Ms. Stella Butler, Ms. Karen Korab, Mr. Colombo Obregon, Mr. Brian Pollock and Mrs. Phyllis Bolling, Mr. Ray Donovan and Ms. Alice Crosby, Mr. Glenn Burrows and Ms. Tamara Faight, Mr. Anthony Pegues, Mr. Bill Wade and Mr. Charles McSwain, Ms. Phyllis Bolling, Ms. Alice Crosby and Ms. Mary Frankovich. Thank you all!

# Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!



Photo Credit: Ms. Mona Pendel

"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today." ~Malcolm X

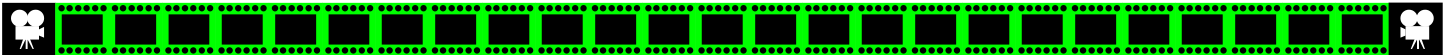
**Teachers and School Nurses, THANK YOU!**



Thank you, school nurses!



Afternoon custodial staff (from top, left): Mr. Richard Ellis, Ms. Mary Albert, Ms. Kathy Testani, Mr. Keith Boulware, Ms. Mona Pendel, Mr. Mark Zimmerman, Ms. Becky Pendel, Mr. Melvin Boggs, Ms. Anita Craig.



## Zimmerman's photos making an impression



By OMAR STEWART

Readers of *Steeler Nation News* this year may have noticed an abundance of pictures used from Photographer, Cameron Zimmerman. On March 5, 2020, I had the honor of interviewing this local photographer. Cameron Zimmerman graduated in the Farrell class of 2019. Cameron had no interest in pursuing a career in photography; he just wanted to attend his favorite college, Slippery Rock University.

Cameron was introduced to Photography while in taking pictures in 10th grade, in Mrs. Phanco's Photography Class. What made Cameron decide to start taking pictures seriously was when he was taking pictures of his older brother one day, his brother had recommended that he used a camera that he had already owned. After taking the pictures, Cameron's brother had seen the pictures and realized that he took some really good photos and persuaded him to practice more and get into photography.

Cameron had never viewed himself as being a photographer. After thinking

about what his brother had said, Cameron decided to take his brother's advice and get into photography. Cameron decided to go independent with photography. Cameron came up with a name for his pictures which is called *Camfilmz*. Cameron came up with *Camfilmz* because he wanted to use his name and for the first part which would be Cam and used *Filmz* as the other part of the word. What makes his name different from other photographers is that most photographers had "films" with an S, Cameron decided to use a Z at the end to make it different.

Cameron started doing portrait photos and photoshoots. Cameron also takes pictures of high school sports here at Farrell and some other local schools. Cameron decided to take pictures one time a week when he can make one of the athletic events here at Farrell.

Some of Cameron's favorite pictures are of Sophomore football players, Anthony Jackson and Taidon Strickland coming out of the locker room to play the Reynolds Raiders. What made that picture special to him was the lighting. He did not have to set any filters and

the picture just came out cool. Another picture was of Senior Eric Hopson wearing his Kobe Bryant shirt. Cam stated that he liked the angle of the picture because of the angle it was taken at and the lighting.

Cameron explained that he gets positive feedback on his pictures now and it keeps him motivated to keep going and take pictures. What keeps Cameron more educated on taking pictures is YouTube and other photographers. Cameron uses a program called (VSCO) for his photos. Cameron explained the key of taking a good picture is to make whatever he is taking a picture of the main focus of the picture and get the best angle.

Cameron's goals in 5 years as far as photography is to be a professional sports photographer. Places Cameron wants to travel are Los Angeles, California, and New York City. Since Cameron is a 2019 graduate, I asked him to give a word of advice about high school and after high school, Cameron said to always have a plan B because you never know what life will bring you!

**THANK YOU CAMERON!!!!**

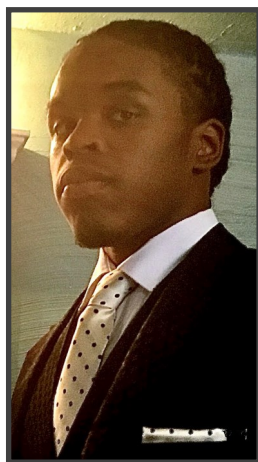
# National Honor Society 2020

The National Honor Society was founded by the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1921. Our local chapter, is named after the English Teacher who founded it in the 1950's, Mary V. Scardina. The Four Pillars of the National Honor Society have remained the same throughout the years, **Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character.**

Farrell Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors, with a GPA of 3.3 and above are invited to apply for membership into this selective honor society. The following six students not

only completed a rigorous application process, but were also selected by a faculty/administrative review panel to represent Farrell's National Honor Society class of 2020.

Although the extenuating circumstances of COVID 19 prohibit students from participating in a formal induction ceremony this year, students will have this honor in the upcoming school year. Questions regarding our Farrell Chapter of the National Honor Society can be addressed to Madame Kotb, NHS Advisor.



## Laven Day

**Grade:** 12

**Accolades:** 8th Grade Chorus, Honor Roll, outstanding attendance.

**Service:** Community Clean-up, volunteering at Prince of Peace, Salvation Army, and area food banks.



## Toni Austin

**Grade:** 11

**Activities:** Varsity Cheerleading Captain/Co-captain, Class Vice President, Spanish Club, JCPenny's Seasonal Associate, Volleyball, Choir

**Quote:** "I think it is more meaningful when someone provides a service and does not expect anything in return."

## Mariyana Amos

(picture not available)

**Grade:** 11

**Activities:** Varsity Cheer Captain, Spanish Club, Class President, Senior Breakfast server, Volleyball, FBLA, Dual Enrollment, Thoughtful Needs Assistant, Choir, Mayoral Election Volunteer, Wendy's part-time job.

**Quote:** "My dad has always taught me that it is better to give than to receive, to never look down on those in need, because of this I have always made it a point to help others as much as I can."



## Kamira Brown

**Grade:** 11

**Activities:** Cheerleading Co-captain, French Club Treasurer, High Honor Roll, Class Treasurer, JCPenny's part-time associate.

**Quote:** "Being in NHS, being a role model, admitting to mistakes, showing respect and concern for others, being unique, and positive communication and interactions are a great responsibility that I do not take lightly."



## Demariah Burns

**Grade:** 10

**Activities:** Varsity Basketball and Volleyball, Spanish Club, Track and Field, Golden Girls, Student Council, Dual Enrollment, Backpack Program, JV Cheerleading

**Service:** Has assisted in Special Olympic Games, Blood Drives, FHS School Store and helping elderly persons in her neighborhood.



## Nevaeh King

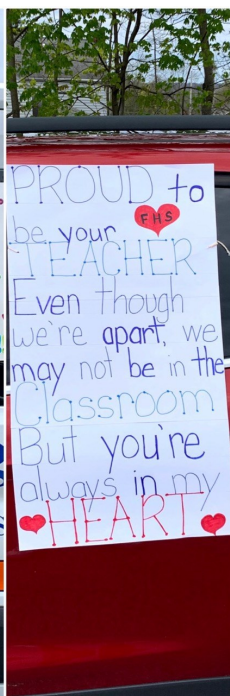
**Grade:** 10

**Activities:** Basketball, Dual Enrollment, Upward Bound, Class Historian, Talent Search, Backpack program.

**Plans:** "I plan on enlisting in the Navy or Air Force, I plan on joining the R.O.T.C. and then going on to active duty."



# Farrell Community Parade



Parade photo credit: Mr. Matthew Fowler

Mercedes Barge  
Ondre Burris  
Deidre Burks  
Noah Clingerman  
Dennis Coleman  
Skylar Cordray  
Kyra Crosby  
Adrian Daniels  
Laven Day  
Sincere Day  
J'Kye Flint  
Brandon Gilchrist Jr.

Camryn Gipson  
Tyrre Hammonds  
Brian Hilton Jr.  
Melvin Hobson Jr.  
Eric Hopson Jr.  
Gary Hopson Jr.  
Lorenzo Jackson  
Nikyah Jefferson  
Benjamin King  
Kalia Knight  
Seth Koren



Ronald LaCamera Jr.  
Jasmine May  
Adrienne Moore  
Aunesty Myers  
Pierra Parker  
Dwight Ravenscraft Jr.  
Raymond Raver Jr.  
Dashawn Richardson  
Jalen Russell-Eackles  
Juwon Samuels  
Christopher Renn

Xavier Savage  
Chardell Stewart  
Samyra Talbert  
Markal Talley  
Josiah Tarver  
Saniyeh Thomas  
Sayvion Thomas  
Melonn Coleman-Wells  
Jaxavier West  
Nathaniel Wild  
Desmond Williams  
Lerlena Wilson

## Congratulations Farrell Seniors Class of 2020

#SteelerNation

#Farrell2020