



## Thoughts on Black History Month and FHS students honor heroes through artistic expression

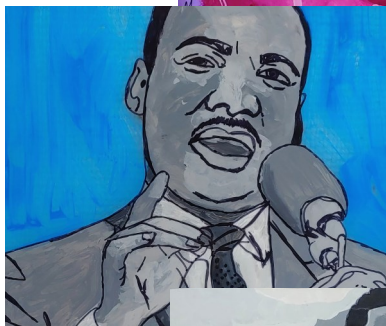
By **ISAAC HUSBAND**

Black History Month is a monumental celebration of freedom and history. We use Black History Month as a means of remembering African American people and related events in history. We need to dedicate this time to learn that treating people differently due to their skin color is wrong to do as seen in past failures. The United States, along with many other countries, celebrate Black History Month. In the US, General Ford officially recognized it in 1976, and it was made official in the United Kingdom in 1987, with other countries following soon after.

There is a theme for Black History Month each year, that recognizes what African Americans have done for the country or to spread awareness about what is happening. This year's theme is, "The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity." This month is about fighting stereotypes and racial bias that originated as or are a result of slavery.

This year's celebration of Black History Month may look a little different locally, with COVID restrictions still affecting our community and schools. The elementary school is doing their annual reading, where they have someone from the community read a poem or piece of literature over the loudspeaker. In past years, the school has had people such as superintendents, mayors, and other key figures in the community read in person, but this year they will be doing it virtually.

In the high school, several classes explore various themes of Black History, including the Art project examples on this page. Art students completed a study of a Black Hero, including a significant quotation and a reverse painting on acetate (transparency film). This project and others are highlighted throughout this issue of *SNN*.



Above, Maya Angelou, by Neveah King, left, MLK Jr. by Cheyenne Felix, below, Chadwick Boseman/T'Challa by Marcus Green.



### FASD Survey participants on importance of honoring Black History:

"I feel that teaching and honoring African Americans from the past is extremely important to discuss, not just in February, but all through the year. It is important to understand the struggles they went through and adversity that they have had to overcome and still overcome everyday."

~Principal, Mr. Fowler

Continued p. 6



Rosa Parks by Makyah Burns, Mary Jackson by Tyleigh Stinedurf.



Photo credit: Mrs. Munnal

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**RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS DAY**

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." ~ Aesop ~ Random Act of Kindness day was Feb. 17. Don't wait until next year, show kindness today!

### STEELER Nation News Staff Writers Photographers

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History.com Editors. (2010, January 14). Black history Month. Retrieved February 18, 2021, from <https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month> Black history themes. (n.d.). Retrieved February 18, 2021.

## Gary commits to Duquesne



Photo credit: Mr. Fowler

In a February ceremony, Senior, Gary Satterwhite, committed to Duquesne University. Good Luck Gary!

## Mrs. Smith's Senior Sonnets

Honor Class Students conclude Shakespearean Sonnet study with the composition of their own Shakespearean Sonnets.

### One's Desire By: Brice Butler

Thy game of love we intimately know  
It's laws and fate mastered by one's heart;  
Therefore, I ask to be your only beau  
With devotions that no other could impart.  
These feelings that hold weight in my chest  
Should furthermore in your soul be grown;  
I promise these oaths, most sincerely expressed,  
To make my buried desires truly known:  
That never shall I abandon from thy side,  
Nor do I ever intend to sadden you hence,  
Nor will the day ascend that damaged pride  
Could surge from some unfaithful dalliance.  
My demeanor leaves your face unblemished by tears,  
Confident that our future can remain clear.

### My Internal Monologue: My Unamusement Towards Dating By: Faith Zagotti

For I have had a few people question,  
Nosy, why I don't date as a zoomer.  
They have a far wondering perception,  
They're curious if I'm a late bloomer.  
Possibly there is something wrong with me,  
Because it is not within my intent  
I've always been independent, you see?  
I'll just be an old maid, it could be meant.  
Or my soulmate could possibly exist,  
It'll just take me some undemanding time  
Let my oblivious mind get the gist  
Nevertheless, I am still in my prime.  
It's none of their business, anyway  
I'll focus on myself, I know it's cliché.

Photo credit: Mrs. Munnal

## Francophone African Studies

French students, levels I-IV, honor African American History via exploration of the Francophone African Nation of Senegal. Students looked at the country's colonial past, Gorée Island House of Slaves - a symbolic last stop for Africans forced into slavery in America and the Caribbean, to the modern day construction of the tallest monument in Africa: *The African Renaissance Monument*.

Students read, translated, interpreted and analyzed the poem, "Poème à mon frère blanc," by former Senegalese President and author, **Leopold Sedar Senghor**. They identified traditional literary devices such as repetition and literal versus figurative language in French. English discussion consisted of tackling the poem themes of Black identity, race, and prejudice.



### Cher frère blanc

Quand je suis né, j'étais **noir**,  
Quand j'ai grandi, j'étais **noir**,  
Quand je suis au soleil, je suis **noir**,  
Quand je suis malade, je suis **noir**,  
Quand je mourrai, je serai **noir**.

Tandis que toi, homme blanc,  
Quand tu es né, tu étais **rose**,  
Quand tu as grandi, tu étais blanc,  
Quand tu vas au soleil, tu es **rouge**,  
Quand tu as froid, tu es **bleu**,  
Quand tu as peur, tu es **vert**,  
Quand tu es malade, tu es **jaune**,  
Quand tu mourras, tu seras **gris**.

Alors, de nous deux,  
Qui est l'homme de couleur ?

### Dear White Brother

(English translation)

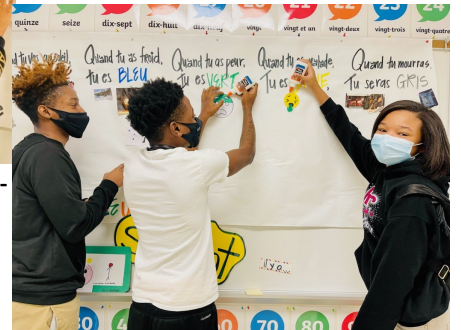
When I was born, I  
was **black**,  
When I grew up, I was **black**,  
When I am in the sun, I am **black**,  
When I am sick, I am **black**,  
When I die, I will be **black**.

While you, white man,  
When you were born, you were **pink**,  
When you grew up, you were white,  
When you go in the sun, you are **red**,  
When you are cold, you are **blue**,  
When you are scared, you are **green**,  
When you are sick, you are **yellow**,  
When you die, you will be grey.

So, between you and me,  
Who is the colored man?



Taidon Strickland, Keyonna Lockhart (above), Jeremiah Jones, Jhailyn Richardson, Kennedy Johnson illustrate the poem.



## Artists at work...

From left, Cyncere Harden-Mann, Neveah King and D'Eryah Steward work on Black Heroes Art.





# Computer Tech Spotlight: Mr. Archie

By JADEN HARRISON

I just had the best interview with one of our recent Farrell High School graduates, Mr. Tyrone Archie. He played football here at Farrell. Currently, Mr. Archie is one of the Computer Technicians, here at Farrell Area School District. You may know him, because he is the one who fixes your Chromebook issues. Mr. Archie attended the University of Clarion to study Computer Programming, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science and he also played football for Clarion.

He chose Clarion because it is close to home and it was a small campus life, just like Farrell. When it comes to the differences between high school and college, he said that the professors give information in more detail than he was used to getting in high school. The professors want things done in a certain way and you have to get used to meeting their expectations.

When I asked Mr. Archie if it was hard to transition from high school to college

life, he said that it was not as hard as he thought it would be. You will have to get used to adapting for a successful transition into college life. You will still have a social life outside of school, especially if you are an athlete, because you get to meet people on the team and meet their friends. The pros about playing a sport is you're doing a physical activity, providing balance, and you can get a lot of things off your mind. The cons of playing sports is time management and less focus. If you're not focused on both your sport and school, college will be hard and you will not make it but that's on you.

Financial planning, Mr. Archie said, is a main priority for college students just because that's the biggest part. If you don't have the money, or at least a good strategy to pay off some loans and tuition you shouldn't even go. The worst thing that can happen is that you can go into debt and ruin your life.

As a Senior student interested in the field of Information Technology, I asked

Mr. Archie some questions about why he chose a four year program as opposed to a two year or tech school option. The difference between Computer Science and Information Technology (college versus trade programs) is that in Computer Science you work more with coding and software, while Information Technology works more with integrated business and technology.

I asked Mr. Archie, "Did you ever think about changing your major or quitting football?" He replied, "Never had the thought about changing it, just because it gets hard doesn't mean you should quit." Mr. Archie has said things like this my whole life, and I am not surprised. Growing up and seeing his leadership and his courage in every situation, he inspires me. He probably has his moments, but he never showed it to anyone. If you ask anyone about Mr. Archie, you will hear a different story every time, but in a good way, because he has impacted a lot of people's lives, and I don't think he even notices.

## The Battle to Save Stey-Nevant Library

BY Arianna Blanchard

The CLSV Stey-Nevant Branch Library may be closing its doors permanently within the next few months. For many, the library may have been where you go and do things such as expanding your knowledge, playing games, socializing, and more. The Stey-Nevant Library has been around for over 50 years. The closing of the library could cause a great amount of chaos in many people's lives. This is because many people use the library on a daily basis, sometimes even multiple times a day. They tend to go to the Library to use the free internet, free Wi-Fi, the study space, and environment where you feel safe and calm and much more. With the closing of our local library, many of the people who come to the library are not going to be able to get some or all the majority of their necessities. Because of this many of the board and community members are attempting to change this.

Our own FHS Biology Teacher, Mrs. Victoria Latzoo, is one of the individuals on the CLSV Stey Nevant Library Board of Directors that has been trying to make something shake. She, along with others, are trying to raise funds to keep the library open and running smoothly within the next few months. The reason behind the closing of the library is that they could not meet the funds it takes to keep the library open. Mrs. Latzoo has been on the board since 2017.

To keep our local library open it will cost us a revenue of \$20,000 for the quarter.

To get to this amount needed they will be opening and creating activities for fundraisers. They will also be writing grants and net-working with other institutions to collaborate in doing this. Also, bulk donations are much appreciated. They will be holding cupcake sales and special craft lessons/ dates but our largest fundraiser is the Spring Fling, normally held in April. This fundraiser is an evening of live music, food, fun and basket raffles. The tickets are reasonably priced and the event is alcohol free and family friendly with children's activities in the basement.

During the pandemic the employees continued to work regularly and they continued to provide services to our community. The employees tried their best to keep it "COVID clean", to help with this they started doing curbside services. The only policy was to return the borrowed book within the

2 to 3 week time period.

Mrs. Latzoo offered some thoughts regarding the loss of the library. She reiterated that, "As I stated in my email to Farrell City Council Members, as an educator and parent, I know that students suffer from "Summer Slide" and lose a lot of academic ground over those three

months. "COVID Slide" has taken an even greater toll on our students. Our students, families and community need our local library. Without the City Library, Farrell residents (and

*"Farrell is a GREAT city. I'm very glad to be an employee and resident. However, greatness doesn't just happen. It's not promised. It takes energy and resources to attain it and it takes interest, energy and resources to maintain it."*

*~Mrs. Latzoo*

students) are at risk of worsening socioeconomic challenges."

Additionally, she would like the public to know that, "Farrell is a GREAT city. I'm very glad to be an employee and resident. However, greatness doesn't just happen. It's not promised. It takes energy and resources to attain it and it takes interest, energy and resources to maintain it."



# Local Black Owned Businesses

By ANTHONY JACKSON

This month, for African American History Month, SNN is taking this opportunity to highlight Black owned businesses. I wanted to honor how black businesses are booming in our local communities. The following two Black owned and developed businesses are some of the most popular businesses in Farrell and Sharon.

**TOODYEEFORR** is an in person, Tie Dye clothing business. It has been around since May 23, 2020. When asked, *CEO of TOODYEEFORR*, D'Eryah Stewart, if she had any help along the way, she responded, "Yes, I have had plenty of help along the way. The help I have received was from my mother D'Ericka Stewart, cousins Amarah Reed and Marquette Coleman, and Aunt Chloe Stewart. They helped me get my brand out there, making me help with their businesses and helping me get started. Basically



making sure I have supplies and money to get started!"

When I asked D'Eryah Stewart about her target audience, she replied, "I try to target all age groups and genders. **TOODYEEFORR** is not strictly made for women, men can wear tie dye as well."

When questioned about the inspiration for her business, she answered, "I got the idea for tie dye by just making tie dye outfits for my little cousin, Marae, and little sister, Delani. Then my cousin asked me to make shirts for him and his friend's business because they thought the previous samples came out nice. So, I made shirts for the brand called Big Money Brand. Once I did that, I started to blow up, I was getting orders left and right. After that, it inspired me to start my own brand."

When asked if she had help with this journey of opening a successful business, she said, "It's really only me and mother depending on what I'm selling. If I am making or selling the outfits or shirts I make them by myself, but if I am selling a crewneck/sweatshirt, I have a business partner for that."

D-Squared Wear is a second, Sharon based business, that I had the chance to inter-

view. The CEO of *D-Squared Wear* is Farrell Alumni Class of 1997, Darwin Dixon. When interviewed, I asked Darwin if he had any help along the way and he responded yes, "My friend Desmond Bell, that is also a CEO of another clothing brand, gave me vision and help on design."



His inspiration for his business came from, none other than, retired Farrell teacher, Mr. Rupert who gave him the nickname, D-Squared, because of Darwin Dixon.

When he first started his business, he often made short term goals which served to advance his business in various ways. After achieving his short term goals, he realized he was growing his business beyond his expectations. He also hopes his son Darwin Dixon Jr., his son, takes on the business and takes it to the moon. During the pandemic, business was definitely affected because there was not much to do and people could not go out how they used to.

Darwin Dixon had some finishing remarks for young entrepreneurs just starting out, "Don't be scared make sure to give everything a try so you won't have any regrets, and always believe that you can do it."

To contact Darwin Dixon, owner of *Dsquared Wear*, his Email is [darwin\\_dixon@yahoo.com](mailto:darwin_dixon@yahoo.com), his number is: **724-877-9213** and Instagram page name is **@dsquaredwear1867**. To contact D'Eryah Stewart the owner of **TOODYEEFORR**, her Facebook is **D'Eryah Stewart**, Snapchat **@deryahstewart**, Instagram

## Hair Evolution

BY Jacara Green

When thinking about natural African American hair, we all think about curls, and how different African American women are when they wear their hair out rather than in a ponytail. Yet what we don't talk about is how so many people get perms and relaxers in their hair, because so many females are under the impression that curly, thick hair is ugly, "nappy" and not classy.

When thinking of corn rolls, most people think of just a hairstyle you put in younger children's hair, or even a new cute style to wear for about a week. We would never think about why we use these styles in the first place. For example, back when people were enslaved, men were made to cut off their hair and make sure it was shaved off completely. Yet some of the men who refused to do this, just got their hair braided to their scalp for it to be neat and to have a better appearance.

Most importantly, enslaved people used corn rows to



Photo: JACARA GREEN



create maps to run away from the plantation at which they were held captive at. The tight braids to the scalp that had curves represented the roads that were to be used to get away. Then they put gold pieces in the person's hair to represent different stations that helped the slaves live after they got away. Like today, when wearing different styles, we use beads, silver or gold jewels, and string in our hair to decorate the different styles that are put in hair. When the origin of these styles became more widely known, African Americans were made to believe that our way was "ghetto" or "inappropriate." The reality is that we just did not know how to take care of our hair, what products to use, and what type of hair we have.

Read on to find out some other interesting facts about African American hair types, types and styles that you should know about.

• **Hair porosity** is important when considering hair products and routines.

create maps to run away from the plantation at which they were held captive at. The tight braids to the scalp that had curves represented the roads that were to be used to get away. Then they put gold pieces in

- Low hair porosity is when it's hard for your hair to get moisture, and takes a while for the product to leave the hair and get dried out.
- High porosity hair has holes and it is easier for moisture and product to get into the hair, and to move out. Therefore, the hair gets dry and loses its moisture quickly.

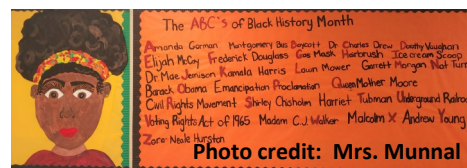
There are also **4 different hair types**, in each hair type there is an "A, B, and C" in each category as the letter goes higher the hair type gets thicker. For example:

- Type 1 hair is thin, soft and shiny.
- Type 2 hair is wavy, which is never very dry.
- Type 3 hair is always curly, with "S" shaped curl patterns.
- Type 4 hair is kinky, and full of tight coils.

Posted by Alexander on November 21. (2020, February 04). Hair & history: A short story on the evolution of hair in the African American community. Retrieved February 18, 2021, from <https://uuhair.com/blogs/news/hair-history-a-short-story-on-the-evolution-of-hair-in-the-african-american-community>



# Black Heroes



## Michael Jordan

By: MALACHI SHEPHERD

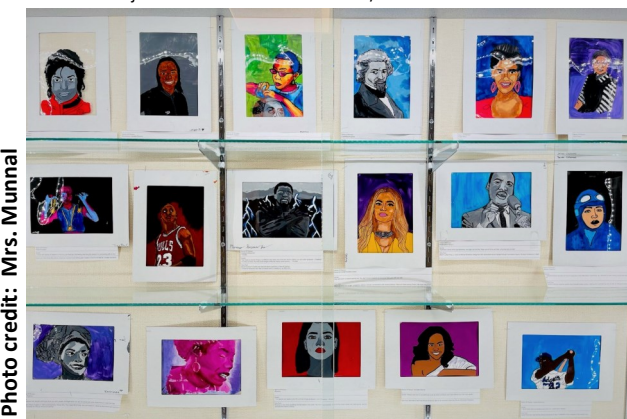
Michael Jordan is a hero for today's young men. Michael Jordan is a 6'6 guard, who played in the NBA from 1984 to 2003. Michael Jeffrey Jordan was born on february 17, 1963, in Brooklyn, New York. Michael Jordan is the principal owner and chairman of the Charlotte Hornets, of the National Basketball Association, and a 23XL Racing in the NASCAR cup series. Michael Jordan played 15 seasons in the NBA, winning six championships with the Chicago Bulls. Michael Jordan is considered by many to be the best basketball player of all time.

Michael Jordan won Rookie of the Year and is a five time NBA MVP and a six time NBA finals MVP. Accolades also include All time NBA First Team, nine time NBA All- Defensive First team and Defensive Player of the Year and 14 time NBA All Star. Jordan retired from the NBA and played Minor League Baseball, but returned to the NBA in 1995.

Michael Jordan made a big impact on the NBA and on people's lives in general. Generations of African Americans look up to Michael Jordan as their idol. He inspires people to grind harder and pursue their dreams. Many NBA players would not be there if it wasn't for Jordan.

I chose Michael Jordan because he is arguably the best player in the world. He has made a significant impact on my life. I wore his number 23 all the way up to my Freshman year of basketball, just because he inspires me. Michael Jordan also reminds me that hard work and dedication can get me anywhere. Michael Jordan made a big impact on many others as well. For example, Kobe Bryant said that Michael Jordan had an impact on his life because he showed him that anything is possible and he looked up to him. Lebron James also commented that playing against MJ is fun and competitive and that he looks up to him. Michael Jordan is an awesome hero and I hope to be like him one day.

Ananth Pandian Feb 22. (2016, February 22). Kobe Bryant talks about Michael Jordan's influence on his career. Retrieved February 24, 2021, from <https://www.cbssports.com/nba/news/kobe-bryant-talks-about-michael-jordans-influence-on-his-career/>



Student Art Projects of African American Heroes, notable quotes and background information on display.

Photo credit: Mrs. Munnal

Farrell Elementary School display by Ms. Bridges

## Tarana Burke

By: MICHELLE STUBBS

Tarana Burke is a 47-year-old African American Civil Rights Activist from The Bronx, New York. She was the founder of the "me too" movement. Burke created the movement back in 2006. Burke started using the phrase "me, too" to try to help other women who have suffered from sexual harassment or assault and let them know that they are not alone. Ten years later, the #MeToo hashtag became very popular all over social media. It started becoming popular when women started using it when they were tweeting about the Harvey Weinstein sexual assault allegations in early October 2017. That hashtag sparked the making of an international movement, being used in countries such as the U.S., India, France, China, Japan, and Italy.

The hashtag became popular and women felt empowered through the strength in numbers. On October 15, 2017, an American actress, Alyssa Milano, posted a quote on Twitter, "If all the women who have been sexually harassed or assaulted wrote 'me too' as a status, we might give people a sense of the magnitude of the problem." Many celebrities and ordinary people soon followed her and spoke out boldly. Soon, large media platforms started to cover the discussion of sexual harassment. When Burke first started the movement, she never thought that the hashtag would be used more than 12 million times. Because of the large impact the hashtag had on the world, Burke made Time's Person of the Year in 2017 along with multiple other women.

Although the movement was a good thing, there was also some backlash that happened as a result. Some "high profile men" were losing jobs over the women speaking out. People were accusing the women of lying and trying to ruin their reputation. Activists were accused of creating a "witch hunt" that was targeting men. Surveys were showing how men were uncomfortable mentoring and working closely with women. There was a lot of bashing that was happening for a while, but it has seemed to dial down.

Burke never intended for the movement to blow up and take a toll the way that it did then. She is, and always has been open to criticism. She is open to other people's ideas and always finds ways to incorporate them into the movement. Burke said, "Sexual violence happens on a spectrum so accountability has to happen on a spectrum," she said, "I don't think that every single case of sexual harassment has to result in someone being fired; the consequences should vary. But we need a shift in culture so that every single instance of sexual harassment is investigated and dealt with. That's just basic common sense."

I personally chose to spotlight Tarana Burke because of how inspirational of a woman she is. She has gone through so much in her life and overcome it all. Burke has made a huge impact on all women, but African American women especially. While growing up in a low-income home, she was sexually assaulted as a teenager and child. Nobody should have to go through what she went through especially at such a young age.

Walsh, C. (2020, February 21). Me too FOUNDER tarana Burke Discusses where we go from here. Retrieved February 18, 2021, from <https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2020/02/me-too-founder-tarana-burke-discusses-where-we-go-from-here/>  
Alexander, K. (n.d.). Tarana Burke. Retrieved February 19, 2021, from <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/tarana-burke>





# Black History Month Reflections... (from p.1)

**SNN: Your thoughts on the importance of honoring Black History?**

**Mrs. Latzoo:** Without Black History, there is no American History. To say Black Americans have contributed to the success of America is a gross understatement. America's success came, "at the expense of Black Americans," (James Baldwin). It was the ingenuity, problem solving and, unpaid labor of Black Americans that harvested the crops, built the railroad and thus, created the financial revenue base that this country continues to enjoy today.

**Marcus Green:** It brings light and recognition to our past African American inventors, artists, and leaders who have worked hard and fought through racism to get to where they are.

**Tahj'mere Gibson:** It is great to honor people who fought for our rights.

**Mrs. Roberson:** It is 2021, and we still call the shortest month of the year, "Black History Month." From September until June, all students should be learning Black History,

and I'm not just referring to slavery. Our white-washed curriculum needs to change.

**SNN: Who are your African American role models / heroes?**

**Faith Zagotti:** Katherine Johnson, Josephine Baker, MLK Jr.

**Mrs. Latzoo:** The writer, poet, playwright, activist Mr. James Baldwin. The pain and power of American (Black) History are so often so emotionally consuming that it is difficult to put into words. Thankfully, Baldwin is able to articulate these emotions and present them from a Black man's perspective, and even from a Black, Gay, man's perspective. His poignant arguments (from 1965) still ring true today, giving us a template for critical thinking and conflict analysis.

**Marcus Green:** As a huge comic book fan, I have always recognized Black Lightning, Black Panther, and Storm from Marvel and DC Comics because they were the first Black superheroes in that genre.

**Mrs. Roberson:** All four of my children.

**Demaris Crowder:** My grandfather,

he was a hero and a leader.

**Tahj'Mere Gibson:** LeBron James because he is a leader.

**Mrs. Kladitis:** Oprah Winfrey, who is a self made billionaire who came from nothing and built an empire with no scandals, followed the law, and did it honestly.

**Mrs. Allenbaugh:** Katherine Johnson, recognized as a math genius at the age of 10 and was a leading scientist at NASA.

**Mrs. Fischer:** Jackie Robinson, who led the way to other African Americans playing MLB and other sports.

**Mrs. Rodgers:** Madame C.J. Walker, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, MLK Jr., Jackie Robinson and Maya Angelou. I am inspired by these individuals because they didn't let anyone tell them no, you can't do what you want to, or be who you want to be. They used their words and actions, not fists or weapons.

**SNN: The 2021 Black History theme is, "The Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity." What do you feel is the significance of this theme.**

**Mrs. Sharper:** Any parent, African American or Caucasian, can teach their child right from wrong or raise them to be good citizens and role models.

**Mrs. Kladitis:** Family identifies people, builds people and unifies people. It is one place that people belong whether they like it or not. Your family is your unit.

**Mrs. Latzoo:** It is here that we learn our first lessons, build character, develop and refine our values. I think family is even more important now than in the past.

**Mrs. Roberson:** There is a deep level of loyalty that flows from family member to family member. Black families enjoy spending time together and celebrating life on a regular basis. Often, these celebrations revolve around delicious food!

**Mrs. Rodgers:** Students need to be encouraged to believe in themselves and not discouraged by others. They need to be taught that it is okay to be different. At FHS, we are our students "extended family," when they need someone, we want them to know that we are here and we care!



## Farrell High School Softball



Contributed by: CHYNA BUTLER



I interviewed **Mrs. Harrison (left)**, assistant coach of the 2021 Girls' Softball team. She is a 1999, FHS alumni and also the Learning Support Teacher for K-2 in the elementary. She has been a teacher here at Farrell for 15 years and she has

been a Softball Coach since the fall of 2018.

Mrs. Harrison coaches alongside her husband, the head coach, Mr. Harrison, who is a 1997 alumni. Mrs. Harrison has been playing softball since she was 9 years old and continued in college and community leagues.

I asked her about the softball team's history. Mrs. Harrison provided me with the following information. "Farrell's fastpitch softball team started in 1998-1999. The coaches of the team that year were Mr. Cardamon and Mr. Meiss. At the time Farrell's Softball team was in the WPIAL Class. It was a thirteen game season and the team played Rochester, Laurel,

Neshannock, Monaca, and Western Beaver."

Mrs. Harrison went on to explain the game of softball and what it means to her. She says "I enjoy being a coach and teaching a new generation of girls how to love a sport that I have been loving all my life. I especially love having my daughters on the team. Sports can help grow self-confidence as well as teamwork." The game of softball is very dear to Mrs. Harrison. She and her husband want to bring recreational softball back to the community so they started their own recreational league in Farrell. All of her daughters were able to participate with her and her husband on the recreation teams.

To learn any sport takes time and dedication. To be a fastpitch softball pitcher, it takes dedication, determination, and practice. Hitting is one aspect of softball that we will work on. The offense in softball includes hitting, and efficient base running. Pitchers and catchers will begin conditioning within a couple of weeks. She is hoping to have 3-4 girls learn to pitch this upcoming season. The 2019-2020 season would have been the Harrisons' first year as High school softball coaches, but due to COVID 19, the season was canceled. I asked Mrs. Harrison how COVID 19 has affected her and she said "COVID 19 has im-

pacted

every aspect of our lives for almost a year and due to the virus, there will be necessary changes and precautions taken to keep everyone safe as possible. We will follow school directives, as coaches, in regards to keeping our athletes healthy."

Their goals for this season include having a safe and healthy season and working hard, no matter the score. This year, prospective players can anticipate coaches who have a love and enthusiasm for this sport. If a student is interested in playing, we welcome them. If you want to play, all athletes must have a Physical Form completed. These can be picked up from the FHS office.

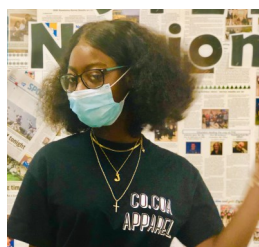
Our schedule is a 16 game season in District 10. We will play local teams such as Kennedy, Sharpville, and Reynolds. We will play a total of eight teams, each team twice. We will have eight home games on our beautifully upgraded field. Our season will start when the PIAA allows us which should be around the middle of February. I then asked Mrs. Harrison if there was anything else she wanted to add and she said "Having been a *Farrell Steelerette* and now a coach, is full circle for me, and I am truly appreciative for the opportunity."

## MEET YOUR STEELER NA- TION NEWS STAFF:



*Isaac  
Husband,  
9th*

**How long have you been on Newspaper Staff?** 6 months  
**Favorite topic(s) to write about:** teacher spotlight  
**Favorite subject:** Civics  
**Extra-curricular and or sports in which you are involved:** Track and Football  
**Favorite FHS memory:** lock-ins  
**Dream trip:** Alaska



*Jordan Jones*

Do you hate working for someone, reporting at certain hours and punching a time clock?? Do you ever think what life would be like if you were your own boss? I have a word for you. Entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship is the center of becoming your own boss, but in order to do so, you must have very strong, and clearly defined goals. This comes, with discipline,

## Special Interest

### Pit Bulls

BY Tylajea Karkoska

When most people think of pit bulls, they think of stocky dogs with bulging muscles and bared teeth, chained or tethered to a post. But that's not always the case. The term "Pit bull" is a blanket term used to refer to several breeds. The American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, American Bulldog, as well as several others, are considered to be part of the "Pit bull" family. The reason for these dogs being lumped together is because of their shared physical traits.

Pit bulls are shrouded with misconceptions. Some say they were originally bred to be nanny dogs and protect children, but that isn't actually the case. Though they typically aren't good guard dogs because of their friendly nature, they are indeed protective of their families. Pit bulls were first bred around the 19th century, in

the United States. They were originally bred with the idea of being hunting companions, gripping the hunted animal by the neck with their strong jaws. But when laws made such techniques illegal, people turned to using them for dog fighting.

This stigma from the past has carried all the way to today's times, giving these dogs a bad rap. Pit bulls are even illegal in some places such as Ohio, Kansas, Iowa, Michigan, and Mississippi. Because of this, they are often mistreated.

People still use the dogs for dog fighting, which was made illegal in 1976, because it involved the cruelty of animals for human enjoyment. They may also be trained to be aggressive guard dogs, or just have a fowl temperament because of the way they were raised. But if a pit bull is raised well, they can turn out to be really sweet. Organizations, such as the *American Pitbull Foundation* and *Bella-Reed Pit Bull Rescue*, work to help show others that pit bulls aren't deserving of the bad name they have.

The history of pit bulls. (n.d.). Retrieved February 23, 2021, from <https://love-a-bull.org/resources/the-history-of-pit-bulls/>  
Pit bull. (2021, February 21). Retrieved February 23, 2021, from [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pit\\_bull](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pit_bull)  
About us. (n.d.). Retrieved February 23, 2021, from <https://ascpa.org/about-us/ascpa-policy-and-position-statements/position-statement-pit-bulls>

### Entrepreneurship

By Jordan Jones

risks taking, money management, and flexibility. With those four concepts you have a perfect foundation in order to start your own business.

Now for beginners, the main questions to start your own business are who, what, how and why? Such as, who is my audience, am I a service or do I sell a product, how far do I see myself with this talent, and how will I fund my business? If you actually see yourself being successful with your business it will be the best option to get an LLC, which I, personally, have ascertained for my own company. A LLC is a limited liability company, which allows all of your work to be YOURS only, it is registered by the state and makes your business super official. Lastly, once you have your what, why and how, you are off to a good start. A good tip is to write down your answers to those questions and any additional thoughts. I personally have my own business book where I write all my ideas and goals to keep everything in order pertaining to my business.

That leads you to reflection, now reflect on yourself and figure out what best fits you and your personality. This will help you organize your thoughts on which type of business or entrepreneurial aspect you will like to pull yourself towards. For example, I myself, am very stylish, outgoing and diverse in what I know how to do. My

journey pulls me towards fashion. I love everything about clothes and different looks, which allowed me to start my own small business by designing and making my very own clothes. Once I realized my potential, I began to direct my energies towards research. Google and Youtube should be your best friends, because any questions or instructions you need will be all there. You will just have to figure out what is suitable to your time and your budget requirements.

The beginning stages of starting your own small business is that you will deal with many trials, errors and failures. Small things, such as ordering products, items not selling, inventory not what you expected, etc. will challenge you on a daily basis. These things happen often and can put you down, but realize nobody is built like you and you have designed yourself, just keep going! Keep in mind, that this also comes with a lot of success and growth. A huge part of this industry is that you have to know how to persevere, take losses as lessons, and be sure you are learning from each experience.. Also, always have a plan B and C. Plans may not go as planned, but work through it and find a way to bounce back. The best feeling is knowing you are working hard, knowing that your work has influenced others, and your business is continuing to flourish over time.







# FHS VALENTINES

*Annual Science Club Flowers and Candy Fundraiser huge success*

*Students write French love letters*

Photo credit: Marcus Green



Photo credit: Marcus Green



High School Principal, Mr. Fowler, Junior, Santana Banks, and Spanish Teacher, Señora Torres, receive roses and chocolates delivered before Valentine's weekend by members of the Science Club.

Photo credit: Marcus Green



French II students (above), Demaris Crowder, Malachi Shepherd, and Tahj'Mere Gibson display French messages to loved ones for Valentine's Day.

FCS and Fashion and Design students work on ♥ themed projects

Madison Long, Chaurice Ousley, Zoe Mishata, grade 8, bake Valentine cookies (left). Santana Bankston, Ivory Elerby, Jonathan Singh and Hailie Switz cut out and try cookies. Makyah sews pillow



FHS couples, Ja'laija Gregory and Amare Mason, and Shawtee Bratten and Dwight Allen-Gregory display French Valentines and flowers for Valentine's Day.



Photo credit: Mrs. Bolyard



Photo credit: Mrs. Bolyard



Photo credit: Mrs. Bolyard