

STEELER Nation News



FASD Dedication Event



Principals Mr. Fowler, Ms. Wright and Superintendent, Dr. Adams-King open ceremony.

Photo credit: Kyra Crosby

Farrell Area School District closed out 2019 with a brand-new beginning, the dedication of our newly renovated district. School administrators and student representatives welcomed community and board members, as well as Mercer County Commissioner, Matt McConnell and state Rep. Mark Longietti, among others. FAHS students distributed programs, gave tours and offered opinions to local journalists. The occasion also included a formal ribbon cutting ceremony and reception. Optimism and academics for the future were overarching themes of the Sunday, December 15, event.

One Team One Dream:

Mission Accomplished, again.



Photo credit: Mr. Fowler

FHS Football Team and Cheerleaders pose for a celebratory photo after the State Championship Title battle in Hershey, PA. Article on page 7.

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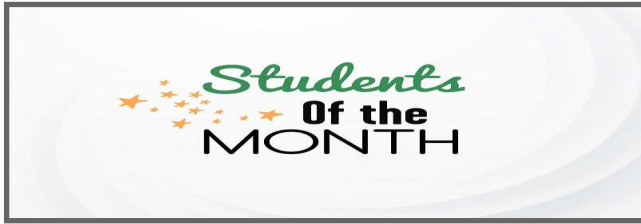
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Principal, Mr. Fowler cuts ribbon of the HS building.

Mark your calendars:

Dec. 20-Jan. 6—No school
Jan. 17—End of 2nd 9 weeks
Jan. 20—MLK Day, No school



Winners receive a cash reward of \$100 funded by Mr. Ted Pedas. Mr. Pedas has been generously funding this award to Farrell Students for the past 15 years.



October Students of the Month are, from left to right, Tayonna Evans-8, Ronald LaCamera-12, Tamera Slater-9, Jacara Green-11, Cyncere Harden Mann-10, Autumn Scarbough-7



November Students of the Month are, from left to right, Cailey List (Grade 7), Charles Anderson (Grade 8), Jasean Boatwright (Grade 9), Jada Williams (Grade 10), Jada Jackson (Grade 11), Adrian Daniels (Grade 12)

WYTV Sports: Student Athlete: Melvin Hobson



By **Chase Evans**, WYTV Sports

FARRELL, Pennsylvania (WYTV) – Farrell senior Melvin Hobson was born to be a Steeler.

His grandpa and uncle were standouts on the Farrell football team and now Melvin has carried on that tradition.

He played for Sharpsville his freshman and sophomore years, then transferred back to Farrell, where's made quite an impact in just two years.

"It's not always just about beating up the guy, blowing him back it's making sure that you know where the ball is supposed to be going and that you can get your guy where he needs to be," said Hobson.

At 6'3", 265 pounds, Melvin is one of the strongest, yet smartest players on the field at all times. He has great instincts for the game and his technique is what sets him apart.

"The mental aspect is a huge part of it," he said. "Momentum is everything in football and making sure that you have the upper edge however you can is the most important thing about the game."

Melvin is an All Region lineman and played a big role in Farrell's undefeated season last year, which ended with a Class A State Championship in Hershey.

"Last year was the 100th season of Farrell football and it was the third time we won states, so I think the numbers so you enough right there of how rare of an experience it is to have and I'm very grateful to be able to go through it," said Hobson.

"The ultimate goal is to go back-to-back, just like the 1995-96 team, we want it to be the 2018-19 team back-to-back twice."

Off the field, Melvin carries a 4.2 GPA and is on track to be valedictorian at Farrell. He plans to play football at the Division 1 level and likely study Engineering.

"I've never seen it as a choice, it was always just something that I had to get done," he said. "I always had to make sure I did everything I could to the best of my abilities. I don't want to rush out of high school by any means. I want to enjoy this last school year, then we'll see what happens next year."

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Educators leading the way at FHS

Athletics guru, Mr. Myers, in 2nd year at FHS

By OMAR STEWART JR.



Mr. Timothy Myers started teaching Physical Education for the boys here at Farrell last year. Mr. Myers graduated from Slippery Rock University and also attended the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and majored in Physical Education, Health, Aquatics, Lifeguarding, and Special Education.

Prior to teaching at Farrell, Mr. Myers taught Health and Physical Education at Crossroads, a group home for boys and girls. What made Mr. Myers want to pursue a career in Physical Education was growing up he wanted to be involved in every sport and enjoyed athletics.

He adds, "Both of my parents were teachers and it was great to see the influence they had on their students."

Mr. Myers is very involved in all things sports. The team he enjoys watching is our very own Farrell Steelers, and loves watching teams from Pittsburgh where he was born and raised.

What Mr. Meyers enjoys about teaching is interacting with the students to help them set and achieve lifelong goals. Mr. Myers' teaching style is to try to learn from the student and to respond in different ways.

His personal goal he sets for himself is to self-assess every day. That is what helps you become better, not only as a teacher, but as a person. Mr. Myers' philosophy on discipline is first respect and rapport. Those are the keys to succeeding in his class. He believes that it is vital to hold students accountable for their actions. Words that Mr. Myers uses to describe himself are positive, influential, and supportive.

Mr. Myers' dream vacation is to go to the Caribbean where the water is clear, it is somewhere that he has never been. Outside of school, you can find him coaching volleyball, visiting his cabin in the mountains, golfing, playing basketball, and swimming.

New HS Guidance Counselor: Ms. Titus

By DAKOTA PETREY



Our new Guidance Counselor, Ms. Jennifer Titus grew up in Niles, Ohio. She attended Howland School until the 8th grade. She then moved to Sharpsville until graduation in 1987. Growing up, Mrs. Titus wanted to become an Art Teacher. To this end, she attended Edinboro University and graduated in 1991. Following graduation, and reflecting on her adolescence, she realized that her true calling was to help people with their problems. Thus, she decided to go back to school. She attended Westminster College and got her Masters of Education. Mrs. Titus is licensed in PA and Ohio for grades K-12.

Ms. Titus worked in West Middlesex Area School District for 10 years, and following that was hired here at Farrell for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Titus' role here as the Guidance Counselor is creating and changing student schedules, helping to prepare students for SAT and ACT Test and scheduling college visits and state testing. A professional goal that Ms. Titus has for the next year is to do her very best in her new career.

As for priorities in her personal life, Ms. Titus has four sons, Michael 22, Morgan 22, Jack 20, and Casey 14. When asked about her biggest role model growing up, her response was her parents. Mrs. Titus' biggest pet peeve is lying. The three words that describe her best are honest, generous (time), and artistic. Her favorite outdoor activity is swimming, and her favorite movie is *White Christmas* with Bing Crosby. Her dream vacation is to go to Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. Finally, Mrs. Titus' fun facts about herself are that she carved limestone in college and did pottery; also, she has a pet ferret named Fiji.

Teaching from the HEART

By JORDYNE SCOTT



We would like to welcome back a pillar of Farrell High School who has been sorely missed over the past months, Mr. Cardamon. Mr. Cardamon is our Social Studies Teacher. However, for many students past and present, he plays the role of father figure, uncle, counselor and so much more. His teaching philosophy is to provide a safe environment where students can share their feelings, ideas, and take risks.

Mr. Cardamon came to work at FHS because he coached football for 10 years and the students were a "tremendous group of kids." Therefore, when he graduated from Slippery Rock University, he came straight to work in the district as a Social Studies Teacher. Fortunately, for us students, almost 30 years later, he is still an inspiration and motivation for Farrell upperclassmen. He currently teaches both American and World History.

In her 2019 Salutatorian address, former student, Cinnamon Price summed up the admiration that many students have for Mr. Cardamon, "...when I grow up, I hope to have Mr. Cardamon's kindheartedness." His greatest strength is the ability to utilize empathy, motivation, and trust with kids. The biggest weakness is sometimes he cares too much and it can be detrimental to his health. He motivates his students to learn by encouraging them to think outside of the box when it comes to history, politics, and traveling. He finds it can be discouraging when students do not realize the importance of our history.

Mr. Cardamon's greatest influence was his Math Teacher at Kennedy Catholic, Sister Margaret. She knew when he needed tough love and that grounded and guided him. His proudest accomplishments in life have been raising his children, being a great role model for education and never giving up. The best memory he has is of the Farrell Football Team winning back-to-back State Championships in 1995 and 1996.

Outside of school, Mr. Cardamon enjoys travel, spending time with his family, and being at his camp. Mr. Cardamon's dream is to visit Calabria, Italy, to meet the Cardomone family.

Ted Pedas Planetarium: illuminating and educational holiday tradition

Photo credit: Skylar Cordray



Mr. George Pedas (Planetarium founder's brother), takes a minute from this season's shows to talk to SNN Staff writer and pose for a photo in the remodeled space.

The Ted Pedas Planetarium, located in Farrell High School and named after its founder, is one of only fifteen of its kind in the state of Pennsylvania. The planetarium

By OMAR STEWART

was built in the late 1960s. Mr. Pedas attended Farrell High School and Youngstown State University. Mr. Pedas was inspired to build the planetarium after studying in the one at his alma mater, YSU.

Mr. Pedas taught in the planetarium for over 30 years. Mr. Pedas funded the planetarium's dimensional dome programming, equipment, upkeep etc. Our 360-degree dome lets the audience see things from different time zones and it can be viewed from all around. Spectators can see galaxies from the past compared to what it looks like in the present day. In addition, the spectator can view galaxies up close or from a distance.

The purpose of the planetarium is to give back to the school and community. Mr. Pedas has been putting on a holiday show for students here at Farrell K-12. Mr. Pedas' brother, Mr. George Pedas, directs the show. Mr. Pedas' recent show in the month of November/December is fantastic. The show explains how Apollo was left on the moon and returned information for educational purposes and the importance of the moon and the role it plays in its relationship to Earth. Mr. Pedas explained that astronomy is important to learn since it is important to the world. Some local universities that have programs for Astronomy are YSU, Westminster College, and Slippery Rock University.



Spreading holiday cheer: survey results are in!

With break around the corner, you may find Senior, Mercedes Barge, listening to K-pop and reading, while Junior, LaShawn Williams, will be eating dinner at MIDNIGHT and opening her presents in matching pajamas with her siblings.

The *Steeler Nation News* Staff surveyed the Junior and Senior High School students and staff to find out about our traditions and plans for this 2019 holiday season.

Not surprisingly, 90% of those surveyed prefer Christmas to Thanksgiving, and with a LONG two-week break this year, it should be a relaxing one! During breaks, students and teachers alike tend to spend time catching up on lost sleep, visiting loved ones and playing video games. *Netflixing* and movies are a popular way to pass the time and some of our favorites mentioned are, *Home Alone*, *The Grinch*, *The Polar*

Express, *Christmas Vacation*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, and *The Nightmare before Christmas*.

Most of us celebrate the holidays locally and with family, although a few classmates will be traveling out of town to visit family in Ohio and Mississippi and even a little get away to Niagara Falls, Canada. Fun traditions include gifting "gag" presents, rotating

who puts the star on top of the Christmas tree, and attending various religious services.

One teacher summed up what we are grateful for as, "faith, family, friends and FAR-RELL!" While this sentiment seems to apply to most of those surveyed, Junior, Jailen Roye is also thankful for getting closer to graduation. Also, we cannot talk about the holidays without including the final "F," FOOD. Our main dish favorites include, macaroni and cheese, and ham and turkey at the top of the list, as well as sweet potatoes (dressed with marshmallow!), baked beans and stuffing. Our dessert indulgences include pumpkin, apple, chocolate, sweet potato and pecan pies, candied yams, cheesecake, Texas Sheet Cake, and lots and lots of cookies.

Pictured left: Survey participants, thanks!

Steeler Nation News Staff thanks those who participated in our survey and wishes everyone a happy, healthy holiday season, see you in 2020!



Artistic Expression

“Art has the role in education of helping children become more like themselves instead of more like everyone else” - Sydney Gurewitz Clemens

Student artwork on display at SRU Art Show

Art students, Marcus Green, Jaylie Green, and Jada Williams had pieces of original artwork accepted and on display at the **Annual Juried High School Exhibition** at Slippery Rock University in November. Over 300 students submitted

artwork to the show in 2019, from Pennsylvania.

Marcus explains that his piece is inspired by his favorite DC Superhero, Harley Quinn, “Harley is crazy, goofy, and doesn’t care, and I see that in my own personality.”



Photos (by Ms. Munnal), from left to right, Marcus Green shows off entry, Marcus, Ms. Munnal, Jada Williams pose in front of displays, Jada with show entry.

French and Spanish Clubs participate in guided tour of Carnegie Museum of Art

Contributed by: **FAITH ZAGOTTI**

On Wednesday November 20, French and Spanish Club students visited Carnegie Art Museum in Pittsburgh. The 24 student participants were selected based on language grades, effort and attitude in classes. Students also attended a mandatory, 45 minute, learning/information session prior to the travel date. The language clubs funded the field trip with a financial grant from the Carnegie Foundation, which made it completely free to students.

The tour of the museum was conducted by three professional docents, each with eight students and a teacher. This allowed the students to have more of an intimate one-on-one experience with art and express their own reaction to pieces being studied.

The field trip allowed students to admire numerous genres of art: Realism, French Impressionism, Cubism and Pointillism. The artists featured on the tour included Van Gogh, Monet, and Signac.

African American photojournalist, Charles “Teenie” Harris was also featured, as the museum houses the majority of the famous Pittsburgh local’s collection of work.

After the tour, the students ate lunch together and did one final walk through of the museum. Many explored the Contemporary Art, as it had not been covered in the docent tour.

The Contemporary Collection of the art museum displayed the weird side of art. It featured many perspective photos, a black and white film that was very “avant garde,” and a wonky one way mirror that you could go inside.

Overall, it was a very intriguing experience. It is good to take time to learn and appreciate the history of art and beneficial to so many other areas of study.



Pictured right: CMOA docent challenges students to pose like Degas statue, students pose in front of VanGogh painting and students get up close to understand Monet’s “Waterlilies” technique.

Students attend Genetics Conference

Contributed by: MRS. ALLENBAUGH

Students attended the Sam Rhine Genetics Conference at Upper St. Clair High School on November 12, 2019. Sam Rhine is a leading educator in the field of genetics. It is his desire to "take Biology out of the textbook and see how it works in the real world."

During the four-hour conference, students learned about the latest in genetics advances, hot research areas, ethical dilemmas as technology advances, and career opportunities. Additionally, students learned how scientists are using stem cells from skin to cure diseases, such as Type 1 diabetes and multiple sclerosis. Another interesting aspect of stem cell research discussed was producing "slaughterless meat", or STEMBurgers. Simply put, muscle stem cells from cows would be used to make meat in a lab. However, it currently costs \$279.00 for one STEMBurger!

The second half of the lecture was about CRISPR. CRISPR is a technology used to identify virus DNA so that it can be corrected, modified or edited, in other words, a genetic manipulation. CRISPR has many applications. It can be used by farmers to strengthen their crops and beef up their cattle. It is also being used to cure diseases such as sickle cell anemia.

Mr. Rhine ended the conference with the ethical dilemma that scientist can edit humanity with genetic enhancement. "We can now engineer the human race."

Our student participants weighed in on the many benefits of the conference, pointing out that the career paths discussed were of particular interest especially to those planning to enter the medical field. One impressive stand out among the many advances discussed was the developing capacity to grow human organs.



Conference participants, Gary Satterwhite, Jailen Royce, Xavier Footman, Brice Butler and Linda Stubbs pose for a picture before traveling to Pittsburgh.

Mercer County Career Center: hands-on training appeals to students

By DAKOTA PETREY



Nathan McGarry, Sincere Day, Denis Coleman, Die-dre Burks and Emadalay Williams stop for a picture following a productive morning spent at MCCC.

The Mercer County Career Center is a local Vo-tech school here in Mercer County. The Vo-tech allows students from different school districts to attend and participate in a career-training path. The Mercer county career center offers 15 different programs.

Auto Mechanics: Lets students learn to do the following brakes, electrical systems, engine performance, suspension, and steering. **Carpentry:** hands on with power tools, roofing, siding, window installation, and computer aided design.. **Collision Repair:** estimate damage, replace parts, and refinish/detail. **Computer Information Technology:** designing and maintaining a computer network, students earn hands on skills in computer hardware. **Cosmetology:** hair such as cut and style. **Culinary Arts:** learn skills to be able to start a career in a restaurant or hospital. **Diesel Mechanics:** how to pursue a career in hydraulics, transportation, electrical systems, and diesel engine maintenance and repair. **Early Childhood Education:** interacting with young children. **Electronics Tech:** computer science and mathematical concepts. This helps students learn about today's wireless world. **Health Care Careers:** designed for students who are considering a Post-Secondary Education. **Innovation and Entrepre-**

neurial Development: learn to use common business software. **Precision Production Metals:** machining and manufacturing. **Protective Services:** safety in emergency, medical, and public safety. **Welding:** arc welding, and blowtorch training. **Cooperative Education:** firsthand experience in trade of their choice.

Mrs. Titus states that the Mercer County Career Center gives students a great opportunity, especially those who may be considering alternatives to attending college. Students are able to get a certificate or a license, and are able to work at a good job right after high school. Mrs. Titus feels that, "MCCC is an outstanding institution, many companies work only with the career center, and it allows students to get well-paying jobs".

Vo-tech student, Lakyah Burns, states that she likes that the career center "teaches you what you're supposed to know. This gets you ready for the real world."

Back to Back STATE CHAMPIONS



By OMAR STEWART

The Farrell Steelers won their second consecutive PIAA Single A, State Championship on December 5, 2019, in Hershey, PA. The Steelers overcame their losing streak to the Clairton Bears with a 13-10 win over the Bears on Friday, November 29, to secure their spot in the state title battle.

The journey to Hershey began with a traditional pep rally in the gymnasium and send off by local police and fire department on December 4.

Despite the past defeat (2015) to Bishop Guilfoyle, the Steelers went into the game knowing they could win. The Steelers played with this confidence and remained consistent throughout the match. The game went into overtime and Steelers’ Brian Hilton kicked a field goal to secure the Steeler win. The Steelers beat Bishop Guilfoyle 10-7.

We caught up with several senior players (pictured right) following the game to ask their parting advice to underclassmen. Our athletes offered the following wisdom: *“Don’t lose yourself trying to impress others,”* Tyrie Hammonds. *“Follow your heart, but take your brain with you,”* Dwight Ravenscraft. *“Don’t take your time on the*



@cam filmz

field for granted, because you won’t get it back,” JoJo Tarver. *“Never underestimate an opponent, you don’t know how determined they may be,”* Sayvion Thomas.

Pictured below (left to right): Senior, Brian Hilton blocks a kick, Brice Butler runs the ball, Sayvion Thomas brings down an opponent and Anthony Stallworth and Jaden Harrison show off 1,000 yard award.



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Coach T weighs in on Girls’ Varsity Hoop

By JORDYNE SCOTT

With winter sports season upon us, we reached out to Mr. Ed Turosky, third grade teacher and Elementary and Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach. His varsity athletes have been gearing up for season for some months. He explains that a typical open gym involves a lot of skills work, such as dribbling, passing, and shooting. He also offered some insight into strategy, saying that factors that might influence playing time; other than grades, skill sets, and other athletic abilities, is effort and attitude. These key components are developed in the off-season and sometimes off the court.

Coaching has made a significant

impact in his life by allowing him to meet many great people, including friendships that will last a lifetime. His strength as a coach is his passion for inspiring kids to do their best. His greatest weakness is that his passion for his team and the game can lead to emotional reactions on the court.

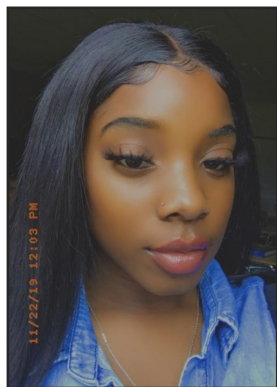
The goal for this 2019-20 basketball season is to take one game at a time. Girls opened up their season at the beginning of December with one loss to Cambridge Springs and one win over Oil City on Saturday, December 7. The toughest competitor this season is Kennedy Catholic (KC). When asked for words of encouragement, coach T offered, “Go hard or go home.”

Coach Turosky reflects on this season’s seniors, Kyra Crosby and Pierra Parker, “These two kids are very special. As are all my players,

they are like daughters to me. I am always impressed with kids that start something and finish it. These two will be successful adults someday. Let’s make this season memorable.”

Coach Turosky’s worst memory was losing in the western semi-final in 2008. He doubts that there is any single best memory because he enjoys every year that he has coached. Coach Turosky’s parents had the biggest impact on his life. Although he grew up in a broken home, his parents were always there to support him. They taught him to work hard. In addition, Coach Turosky finds inspiration in all of the people who doubted him.

Meet your Steeler Nation News Staff:



Name and grade: Melonn Wells, Grade 12

How long have you been on Newspaper Staff? 4 months

Favorite topic(s) to write about: Fun events

Favorite subject: Geometry, because Mr. Lewis is one of my favorite teachers

Favorite book and or movie: *13 Reasons Why*

Proudest moment or accomplishment: Becoming the young woman that I am today

Work: Popeye's

Favorite FHS memory: There are many, never a dull moment

Plans: I am writing my first book and, after school, I want to become a counselor.



Name and grade: Jordyne Scott, Grade 11

How long have you been on Newspaper Staff? 4 months

Favorite topic(s) to write about: Teacher Spotlights

Favorite subject: Math, I enjoy working with numbers.

Favorite book and or movie: *Criminal Minds* and *All American*

Proudest moment or accomplishment: When I will walk across the stage in June 2021

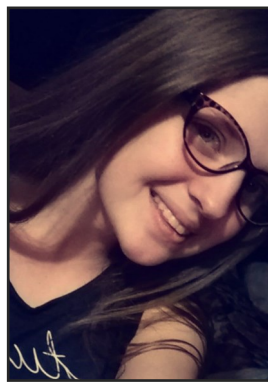
Extra-curricular and or sports in which you are involved: Student Council and Varsity Basketball

Work: JC Penny's

Favorite FHS memory: Homecoming Parade and Cap and Gown Committee

Future plans: Join the Air Force

Dream trip: Bora Bora



Name and grade: Dakota Petrey, Grade 11

How long have you been on Newspaper Staff? 2 months

Favorite topic(s) to write about: Holidays, interviews, anything French, Gymnastics

Favorite subject: French, because it is a different perspective and culture.

Favorite book and or movie: *Fifty First Dates* because Adam Sandler is the main character.

Proudest moment or accomplishment: When I beat my dad's worst score in bowling (161).

Extra-curricular and or sports in which you are involved: Bowling League

Work: Home repairs with my dad.

Favorite FHS memory: None yet.

Plans: Move south near my grandparents, become a Physical Therapist.

Dream trip: Take my grandparents to Las Vegas



Name and grade: Omar Stewart, Grade 10

How long have you been on Newspaper Staff? 1 year 4 months

Favorite topic(s) to write about: Football

Favorite subject: Math, I enjoy numbers.

Favorite book and or movie: *Creed II*

Proudest moment or accomplishment: Starting as a freshman on the football team.

Extracurricular Activities / Sports: Football, track, basketball

Favorite FHS memory: Watching the 2015 Steeler Football Team go to Hershey while I was water boy.

Future Plans: Play college football and study Graphic Design.

Something we may not know about you: I like to work out, play video games and hang out with friends and family.

Dream trip(s): Jamaica, Egypt and Alaska

"If you want to change the world, pick up your pen and write."

~ Martin Luther

