

THE DIRECTOR'S VIEW

BRADLEY COUNTY SCHOOLS

May 2016

Joeli Poole, WVHS A/V Productions, Editor

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 10

Celebrating a *GREAT* Year in BCS

Connecting and Communicating

The end of the school year brings a tremendous sense of accomplishment, and perhaps some sadness at leaving behind a year filled with great experiences, teachers, and friends. On a daily basis our students have structure and purpose within the school life, but all of that is about



to change. The lazy days of summer seem appealing to most students, but in reality students may be experiencing some nervousness and a little anxiety about leaving the familiarity of school. Some are concerned about when they will see friends and even moving to the next grade. In order to relieve some of the concerns, help your child keep

(see **Director's page 2**)



May's theme - Celebrating the GREAT year in the Bradley County School System. What a year it has been...from welcoming our new Director of Schools to Readers are Leaders/Read 20 events to the graduation of the Class of 2016...the school year has been packed with great events. In this issue, the local Mason Lodge honors elementary students with perfect attendance, Black Fox's new radio station, Goal Academy's B16 Deal, Walker Valley's Jennifer Miles selected to be part of the National Science Foundation curriculum event at Texas A&M University, and BCS CTE Share Our Successes celebrates another outstanding year.

100 Years of Excellence

BCHS celebrates it's 100th Graduation

Saturday, May 14, 2016 was a perfect day for a graduation, but not just any graduation. This day in May celebrated the 100th graduating class for the high school founded in 1916. According to history documented in an article in the Cleveland Daily Banner, May 13, 2016, the first graduating class of Bradley County High School had only 8 graduates, a far cry from this year's class of 390. The school has grown in history and tradition since that first graduating class.

This history was honored throughout the program from the Invocation presented by First Baptist Senior Associate Pastor Mr. Jeff Lovingood, BCHS Class of 1982, to the keynote speaker Dr. Paul Conn, BCHS Class of 1963 and President of Lee University which as he noted like Bradley Central has also seen much growth over the years. The graduates were presented with challenges from the former principals of Bradley Central High School including Dale R. Hughes, John Driver (who commented about once

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May Highlights

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Kerri Formont, Teacher - BCHS
Nat Akiona, Principal - WVHS
Todd Shoemaker, Principal - BCHS

Elementary News

Masons honor Perfect Attendance

Members of the Cleveland Masonic Lodge 134 presented two Bradley County Schools elementary students with vouchers for a brand new bike and helmet for achieving perfect attendance in the 2015-2016 school year. The students were randomly selected from a list of all elementary students who achieved perfect attendance in the system. The winners were Kyleigh Phillips, from North Lee Elementary, and Bryson Dangerfield, from Hopewell Elementary. Lodge representative

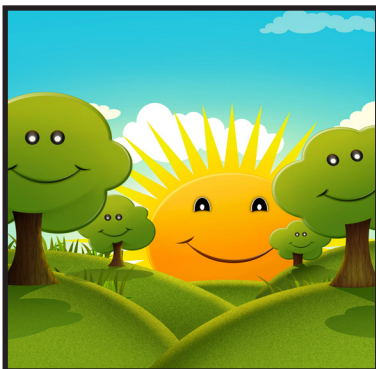


Local Masons Chapter award Kyleigh Phillips and Bryson Dangerfield bicycles and helmets from Scott's Bicycle Centre of Cleveland for achieving perfect attendance this school year.

Barry Phillips encouraged the students to continue to "keep at it. This is a great habit for you to have. It will take you all the way through life if you continue." Principals Dana Yost from North Lee Elementary, Tim Riggs from Hopewell Elementary, Director of Schools Dr. Linda Cash, and other from the Lodge joined the students to help them celebrate this great accomplishment.

[Click Here to read the Cleveland Daily Banner's article.](#)

Park View Elementary in the News



Park View's first Kindergarten Class "graduated" from 5th Grade earlier this month. Read more about this very special class in Christy Armstrong's Cleveland Daily Banner Article - [Bidding farewell to a Special 'K'](#)

Park View Elementary decided to "Sprinkle Bradley County with Happiness." Students, teachers,

parents, and more helped to deliver a little happiness to Bradley County. Check out the Cleveland Daily Banner's article about Park View's Happiness Project - [A Sprinkle of Happiness](#)



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(from Director's page 1)

in touch with classmates and arrange some summer dates for getting together. Just knowing there are opportunities to see friends helps bring a smile to their faces.

The value of friendship is something that few people take time to really appreciate. When you need a friend, you realize just how important it is to have a strong relationship to another person. Everyone values friendships, but it's especially important when you are a teenager and a young adult. A special friendship provides someone to talk to and hang out with, laughter, advice and so much more.

Also, good friends are good for your health. Friends can help you celebrate good times and provide support during bad times. Friends prevent loneliness and give you a chance to offer needed companionship, too. Friends can also increase your sense of belonging and purpose; boost your happiness and reduce your stress as well as improve your self-confidence and self-worth. I hope each of you and your children find friendships that lead to great joy. Make plans to get together with friends and family this summer. Relax, play and learn. "You can always tell when two people are best friends because they are having more fun than it makes sense to be having" (unknown).

Black Fox's new Radio Station 96.9 FM

This spring, Black Fox Elementary launched it's brand new radio station. The station allows parents to listen to daily announcements in their cars while dropping off/picking up their students each day. This student led effort is helping to distribute information to parents in a fun and unique way. WVHS' Joeli Poole talked with those involved in the radio station in this video.

[Click here to watch Black Fox Radio Video.](#)

Secondary News

GOAL Academy Seniors are a B16 Deal!

At the beginning of this school year, GOAL Academy seniors chose the slogan, "We are kind of a B16 deal." As graduation draws near, it turns out that they really are. This may be the largest graduat-

ing class GOAL Academy has seen. Amazingly, they have 100% FAFSA completion, and have participated in a brand new work based learning pro-

gram. These at-risk students are doing things that many never thought would be possible.

GOAL Academy seniors started this school year at Ocoee Retreat Center working on leadership skills and teamwork, thanks to the sponsorship of the Gear Up Grant. These students were challenged on both a low ropes and high ropes course to get them ready for the obstacles of senior year. They have worked



GOAL Academy's "B16 Deal" pays off in graduating one of it's largest class to date.

hard all year to recover credits, earn senior privileges, and get college and job ready. These students have participated in job shadowing trips, college visits, mock interview day, resume

building, college access classes, TN Promise meetings, and work based learning all with the desire to reach their goal of graduating.

As the school year draws to a close, these seniors are seeing the

rewards of all their hard work. They are working in industries and companies all over Cleveland. Many of these students are college bound, while others are already building a job history and resume that will help them get into their desired fields. These seniors will be attending a Senior Awards Day on April 29, 2016 at 10:15 at GOAL Academy. Graduation Day is May 14, 2016 at 6

(see B16 Deal page 4)



Investment pays off at WVHS

By: Richard Jackson, WVHS Guidance

Mitt Romney once said, "Education is the investment our generation makes in the future". Around 18 years ago, the Bradley County Commission and Bradley County Board of Education had a dream to build a high school on the north end of Bradley County to serve 1,200 students.

Many questioned the dream. Some felt that it would be a waste of tax payer dollars. Others believed the dream was too big. Knowing that all investments take risk, the community leaders took the challenge and made the decision to make an 18 million dollar investment to build what would eventually become Walker Valley High School.

During the same time period, 17-18 years ago, the Class of 2016 was born. Some were born out of state, while most were born right here in Bradley County. Regardless, each had parents or guardians who made investments financially and educationally in their children. Whether attending reading nights during elementary school, paying school fees, helping with middle school projects at the last mo-

ment, or encouraging their child to attempt a high school class; all were educational investments for their child's future.

On May 12, 2016, the investment made by community leaders and parents came to fruition as Walker Valley High School graduated 344 seniors. Of these, 238 maintained a 3.0 GPA with an average ACT composite score of 22.96. There were also 31

graduates who earned a 4.0 GPA and an average ACT composite score of 28.36. There were 18 AP Scholar candidates with an average ACT composite score of 29.33. Additionally, 101 of the graduates met all four benchmarks on the ACT and graduated with State Honors. In the fall, the Walker Valley High Class of 2016 will be attending over 50 various colleges and universities including: University of Chicago, Georgetown University, American University, Macalester



Graduation of the Walker Valley High School Class of 2016

College, and Transylvania University. At this time, the Walker Valley Class of 2016 has been awarded over 7.6 million dollars in scholarship monies. This amount does not include the tnPromise dollars, which will provide over 100 seniors a free tuition at

(see WVHS page 4)

County Spotlights



Student Spotlight - Natiyah Parker,
Park View Elementary



Teacher Spotlight - Kerri Formont,
Bradley Central High School



Administrator Spotlight - Nat Akiona,
Principal - Walker Valley



Administrator Spotlight - Todd Shoe-
maker, Principal - Bradley Central

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(from WVHS page 4)

participating colleges.

Today, on behalf of the Walker Valley High School faculty and staff, we say thank you. Thank you to the community leaders who took the risk to invest financially 18 years ago in a vision not seen by everyone. Thank you for dreaming big and making Walker Valley a reality. To the parents and guardians, thank you for the investment you made in your child's education. Thank you for allowing Walker Valley to be a part of your child's life, and thank you for your continued support. To the current leaders in our community, may you continue to dream big, take risks, and believe that "education is the investment our generation makes in the future".

[Click here to watch the 2016 WVHS Graduation produced by The Spill.](#)

Cleveland State COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2016 STEM CAMPS

(from B16 Deal page 3)

PM at Ocoee Middle School. Finally, seniors will end the year at the same place they started, Ocoee Retreat Center on May 20, 2016. This time they will be celebrating their accomplishments together because they have truly fulfilled their initial claim that they are a "B16 deal."

Celebrating CTE Successes



BCHS Students Mariah Thomas and Jacob Ellis MC the BCHS Share Our Successes Ceremony

Bradley Central High School (April 28) and Walker Valley High School (May 4) conducted an awards ceremony to honor students completing activities above and beyond the regular high school curriculum in Career and Technical Education. The CTE Graduation/ Diploma Plus activities awards included categories of Leadership, Career Technical Student Organization State Honors, Internships, Portfolios, Dual Credit, & Industry Certifications. Leadership honors were given in the areas of Business Technology, Agriculture, A/V production, and Health Sciences. In addition Walker Valley FBLA was recognized as a National Outstanding Chapter Award winner and Bradley Central High School celebrated the 48th Gold Emblem National Chapter Award. Bradley County Schools was strongly represented at the student organizations with STATE WINS in DECA, FBLA, FFA, SkillsUSA, FCCLA, and HOSA. These students were honored. Students completing industry specific internships, completing portfolios, and earning dual credit were also recognized at both high schools. Over the last five years the schools have built up industry certifications to include Certified Nursing Assistant, Solidworks Certification, Action Personal Trainer Certification, Emergency Medical First Responders, I-Car, Pork Quality Assurance, NIMS, and AWS. All categories totaled the Bradley Central High School program awarded 223 tributes plus 209 Microsoft Office Specialist Exam awards. Walker Valley High School awarded 192 tributes + 65 MOS Exam awards. Celebrating great work in the CTE Department!

WVHS' Jennifer Miles to NSF

Jennifer Miles, Computer Aided Design and Engineering teacher at Walker Valley High School, will take part in the National Science Foundation Research Experience in Mechatronics, Robotics, and Industrial Automation at Texas A&M University. Miles was one of eight teachers selected in a national search to participate in this event. Teachers will take part in the six week experience over the summer and work directly with faculty from Texas A&M to create a new curriculum.



Jennifer Miles is one of eight teachers selected nationally to participate in National Science Foundation Research Experience at Texas A&M

According to a report by Christy Armstrong in the Cleveland Daily Banner, each teacher will be assigned a faculty mentor and be led through the process of conducting research in a specific area related to mechatronics, robotics or industrial automation. Through that process, each teacher will create an instructional

(from BCHS page 1)

again being required to follow Mr. Hughes) and the most recent past principal and former director of schools, Johnny McDaniel. Along with the principals, graduation Alumni Representatives were present for the celebration representing classes from 1945, 1948 & each year's class spanning 1950 through 2015. These distinguished representatives included the sheriff, the city police chief, the district attorney, a judge, the city manager, doctors, business men and women, teachers, principals, college students, and many more.

The student speakers were equally as impressive with quotes from The Hobbit, challenges to the graduates and an Oprah moment as the salutatorian presented all graduates with Sour Patch Kids under their chairs. There was much to celebrate and celebrate they did. As principal Todd Shoemaker and Director of Schools Dr. Linda Cash noted in their speeches, this graduating class included all state musicians, athletic wins in the Super 32, CTE state winners and the 48 National Gold Emblem FFA chapter awarding, the 22nd and 23rd State Wrestling Championship, Cambridge Graduates, & the list goes on. With over 5 million dollars in scholarships the class of 2016 will carry on the proud tradition of BCHS. God Bless and Go Bears!



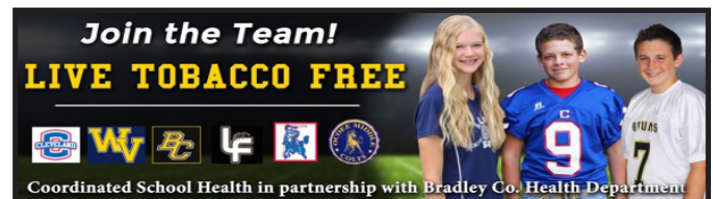
module which will be used to help create a new curriculum. Miles states in the report that "We'll end up leaving with a

research curriculum we can take back to our schools."

Research from this project will be shared with teachers at both Bradley Central and Walker Valley High Schools and will specifically benefit students taking Mechatronics I, II, and III, Computer Aided Design I, II, and III, and Engineering courses. Miles hopes this program and it's research will add to the

already strong engineering programs at both high schools.

[Click here to read the Cleveland Daily Banner article.](#)



Special Thanks

The Director's View Newsletter has been a cooperative venture between the Applied Arts Practicum students at Bradley Central High School (1st Semester) and Walker Valley High School (2nd Semester).

Bradley Central High School's Benjamin "Zayn" Bunch did an outstanding job 1st semester to help launch this newsletter and get it off the ground. Walker Valley students followed with their hard work on the Director's View this semester. Seniors Joeli Poole, Logan Pierce, and Wes Wagner were very instrumental in the video editing/recording process. Joeli did an outstanding job coordinating the newsletter while working on the school's biggest project of the year, 2016 WVHS Senior Video.

Thanks to all the schools who helped send article, pictures, and videos. The newsletter would not be possible without their help. A very special shout out to Gwen Shroyer and Scott Webb, AV Production teachers at BCHS and WVHS, for all the hard work getting things moving with the View. We are very proud of the great things happening in the Bradley County School system. We hope you have enjoyed the 2015-2016 newsletter.

