6655 Consear Road
Ottawa Lake, MI 492

Whiteford School Distric
Ottawa Lake, MI 49267

This newsletter is also available on the district's website: www.whiteford.k12.mi.us February 2020

2020 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES AND FAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

## By Mr. Doug Donnelly

Three new inductees took their place in the Whiteford High School Athletic Hall of Fame Friday, February 14th, during a brief ceremony, Milly lott, Jake DuPree and Tony DuPree are the newest members of the Hall of Fame.
Tony DuPree graduated from Whiteford in 1983 after an outstanding athletic career that saw him play three sports for the Bobcats. He was a starter on the basketball team that won two TCC championships. During the 1981-82 sea son, he played alongside brothers Warren and Everett. It was on the football field that DuPree created a faithful following of fans. He rushed for a then-school record 1,442 yards during his season, leading the Monroe County Regio in yards and touchdowns. He was a threat to score a
touchdown seemingly every time he touched the football and helped the Bobcats into the state rankings at one point during the 1982 season-its first time in the state rank ngs since the mid-1960s.
Jake DuPree, nephew of Tony DuPree, was a 1,000-point corer in basketball for Whiteford and Monroe County Region scoring champion during his career. He also was a gion scoring champion during his career. He also was a the state playoffs his senior year.
Milly lott earned her induction into the Hall of Fame by being named All-State in softball after her senior season in 2019. Iott was a key member of a Bobcat team that won multiple championships over the past four seasons. The Athletic Hall of Fame was created by former Whiteford Athletic Director John Flynn in the late 1980s. Plaques are on display for all of the Hall of Fame athletes and coaches outside of the Whiteford Gymnasium


Whiteford's Cari Hayes, who has been the official photographer for Whiteford athletics for the last several years, was honored Friday as the Boosters Fan of the Year.. Hayes is in her final months of taking photographs of Whiteford sporting events. The Boosters annually honors a Whiteford fan for their dedication and commitment to the Whiteford sports community. Hayes began taking photos several years ago, replacing longtime photographer Debbie Vaughn. She has followed the Bobcats across the state, taking photographs and docu menting championship runs and sporting events. She also annually takes team photographs and individual player photos

|  | SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE... <br> The 2019-2020 school year marks the end of our 5 year strategic plan (20152020). That plan was written by a committee of district stakeholders (parents, students, staff, administrators, community members) during the 2015-2016 school year. At that time, the team was instrumental in creating a new district mission |
| :---: | :---: |
| Superintendent <br> of Schools <br> VALERIE ORR | statement "Engage, Encourage, Empower" as well as writing a strategic plan that would guide the district in making improvements to the educational experi- |
| Board of Education <br> President Tracy Malhoit | Board of Education, the staff at Whiteford Schools got to work on bringing the plan to life. We created new opportunities for students through STEM, world language, career experiences, dual enrollment, the arts, and our virtual learning platform. We also put resources in place to meet our students' needs better than ever before by providing more academic intervention and support classes. |
| Vice President Dave Dixon | For our gifted students and students performing above grade level, we are providing a challenging learning environment by offering more programming |
| Secretary Christine Bischoff | options as well as learning opportunities that go beyond the core curriculum. Finally, the community supported our district improvement efforts by passing a |
| Treasurer Shane Hillard | bond to pay for improvements to our facilities so we can continue to provide those experiences to our students. The word "PROUD" is not a strong enough |
| Trustees Mike Iott Kristi Mock Janelle Young | word I could use to describe how I feel about our progress over the past five years. Whiteford truly is a small learning environment with big opportunities for our students. <br> While it is important to celebrate our accomplishments over the past five years, |
| Upcoming Regular Board of Education Meetings 6:00 PM | we also know we have to keep looking to the future. In January, a new district improvement team of stakeholders convened to kick off the strategic planning process for the next strategic plan, 2020-2025. They are reviewing survey infor- |
| March 9, 2020 <br> April 13, 2020 <br> May 11, 2020 <br> June 8, 2020 <br> July 13, 2020 | mation provided by students, parents, and staff as well as studying best practices and research regarding how to take Whiteford to its next level. The team will work together to write a new strategic plan to guide district improvement for the next five years. With the help of our supportive Board of Education, we will en- |
| August 10, 2020 | sure that plan come to life as well. We are a district of champions and will al- |
| October 12, 2020 | ways work to be the best, because our kids deserve nothing less from us. I am |
| November 9, 2020 December 14, 2020 | excited about the future for our school district and want to invite you to join our efforts. Whether you are reading this issue of the Bobcat Tales as a parent, |
| High School Library | grandparent, alumnus, or community member, you are invited to join the team |
| District Mission / Vision | by contacting my office at (734) 856-1443 ext. 101 and letting us know you want to be a part of the future of the Whiteford Agricultural School District. |
| ed ... | Sincerely, |
| in learning | ValerieOrr |
| by our community |  |
| Empowered ... for our world | Valerie Orr Superintendent |
| We are Whiteford! |  |
| PAGE 2 |  |

## 2020 MS/HS Spring Sports Schedules

Surnis Mesaci.
The 2019-2020 school year marks the end of our 5 year strategic plan 2015 2020). That plan was written by a committee of district stakeholders (parents, stuyear. At that time, the team was instrumental in creating a new district mission statement "Engage, Encourage, Empower" as well as writing a strategic plan ence for our students. After the strategic plan was written and approved by the Board of Education, the staff at Whiteford Schools got to work on bringing the ple We created new oppotunilies for students through SIEM, wolla lanplatform. We also put resources in place to meet our students' needs better ever before by proviaing more academic intervention and support classe providing a challenging learning environment by offering more programming options as well as learning opportunities that go beyond the core curriculum. Finally, the community supported our district improvement efforts by passing a bond to pay for improvements to our facilities so we can continue to provide word I could use to our students. The word "PROUD" is not a strong enough years. Whiteford truly is a small learning environment with big opportunities fo our students. we also know improvement team of stakeholders convened to kick off the strategic planning process for the next strategic plan, 2020-2025. They are reviewing survey infor mation provided by students, parents, and staff as well as studying best practice work together to write a new strategic plan to guide district improvement for the next five years. With the help of our supportive Board of Education, we will en解 that come to life as well. We are a district of champions and will always work to be the best, because our kids deserve nothing less from us. I am excited about the future for our school district and want to invite you to join our efforts. Whether you are reading this issue of the Bobcat Tales as a parent by contacting my office at (734) 856-1443 ext. 101 and letting us know you wan to be a part of the future of the Whiteford Agricultural School District.

Sincerely,
Valerie Orr

Valerie Orr
Superintendent
dates and times subject to change without notice
DH = double header


## J.V. Baseball



Middle School Sports

## Baseball / Soffball:

No teams for 2020 due to low participation numbers.


Varsity Softball


## Varsity Track \& Field




## Whiteford Recreation Club News

## By Mr. Ryan Dubendorfer, WRC Vice President

The Whiteford Recreation Club is looking to fill two positions on the Board of Trustees... secretary and trustee. Please contact Nick Puhl - President (nickp3441@bex.net) or Ryan Dubendorfer - VP (ryanduby@gmail.com) if you are interested or would like more information. We only ask for an hour of your time each month.

The WRC Board of Trustees meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library. This is an open forum and we welcome and encourage your attendance. Continue to watch for updates in the weekly News Blast and follow https://www.facebook.com/WhitefordRec for updates.

WRC is looking for baseball and softball sponsors again this year. $\$ 200$ gets you, your company or club a 48 " wide $\times 24^{\prime \prime}$ tall, full color banner with name, logo, website, email, phone, etc. Banners will be displayed on the backstops at Stoneco Park mid-April through the end of June baseball season. If interested in supporting WRC, please contact Ryan Dubendorfer ryanduby@gmail.com for an order form or additional information.

## HWRC

## Whiteford Parents' Association (WPA) News

## By Ms. Jaclyn Warren WPA Presiden

Who can believe we are already heading into the home stretch of the 2019-2020 school year?! Thank you to everyone who has volunteered your time or donated supplies for the events the WPA has hosted so far this school year. There is exciting news for those of you saddened to read about the ending of Santa's Workshop in the last edition of the Bobcat Tales-I am happy to announce that that announcement was premature! Sarah Cross has volunteered to be the new coordinator of Santa's Workshop and is already getting organized, planning and shopping for next year's event. Work on this event is completed throughout the entire year so if you would like to be a part of it and help Sarah out, please reach out to us via Facebook or email and we can help you connect with Sara.
Check your children's folders for information on our spring fundraiser, coming out at the end of this month. We will be organizing the sale of Little Caesar's Pizza kits again this year, and this year all students, $\mathrm{K}-12$, will be able to get in on the selling. If you are reading this and do not have a child in school but would like to order, please don't hesitate to contact the WPA to purchase.
The WPA has another big annual event coming up in March: the Daddy/Daughter dance, on Saturday March 14th. This year's theme will be a luau theme. Volunteers are needed for a variety of things. We need help with decorating, setting up and taking down, chaperoning at the dance, and are also asking for donations of baked goods to serve as refreshments at the dance. The current dance coordinator is also seeking a replacement to work with her and take over the dance for next year. This person will have a team to work with so you won't have to do all the work; if you are creative, energetic, great at organizing, and willing to donate some of your time, we would love to have you work with us on next year's dance!
The WPA is still seeking to fill the positions of treasurer and secretary for the coming school year; ideally, the new officers will come onboard before the end of this school year, shadow the current treasurer and secretary for a few months, then take over their position next year. The current board consists of some moms who work full time but are flexible enough to come to the meetings each month, and some moms who started out when their firsts were just in kindergarten-so, no experience required! If you are passionate about the school, you children, and helping bring them the best school experience possible, we would love to have you join us! Not interested in being an officer but want to be involved? Please attend our monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8:05, in the elementary school cafeteria (upcoming meetings are February 18th and March 7 . We welcome moms, dads, grandparents, and anyone else wiling to donale some of your valuable time. No babysitter? No problent Litte ones not yet in sce also welcone to attend. We hope to see you there!
***Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with all our latest news, events, and volunteer opportunities. You

Whiteiord Robotics Team 6750: Season Kickoif
We would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generous donations to our robotics team, and give special thanks for their outstanding support and partnership. On Saturday, January 4th we participated in the FIRST Robotics kickoff event, this is the reveal for the 2020 robotics competition season challenge. This year's competition is titled "Infinite Recharge" and is Star Wars themed. The game challenges include
 collecting special foam balls, called power cells, and delivering them to a target that has three different goals, for three different point values. Also as part of the challenge there is a spinning color wheel that needs to be set to a predetermined color and finally the robots need to climb up onto an elevated
 rocker switch bar and hang off the ground, while working with your teammates to keep the movable bar level. This season's challenge is pretty cool! We have already started to design and build our robot and are working out our game strategy.

We will be competing in two district competiions this year. The first is March 5-7 at Milford High School: 2380 S. Milford Rd, Highland,
MI 48357. The second is March 26-28 at Woodhaven High School: 24878 Van Horn Rd, Flat Rock, MI 48134. Our goal this year is to perform well enough at these district events to qualify for regionals (states). Based on our performance last season we have high hopes for not only qualifying for regionals (states), but also receiving some special recognition awards as well. We would love to have you come and cheer for us at one or both of the district events!

This year our team has chosen to embrace 4 core values, they are: teamwork, excellence, persistence, and creativity. We have some challenging tasks ahead and will be keeping these values in mind as we tackle the 2020 season. We are already hard at work. The first pi ture is some of the team working on strategy and the second picture is some of the team disassembling last year's robot to salvage parts that we can use for this
 year's robot. Wish us luck for our 2020 season!

How TO
Contact Us
MAIN PHONE 734.856.1443

## Phone Promp

 $\frac{\text { PHONE PROMPTS }}{4}$ 4 Elementary Office $5 \mathrm{MS} / \mathrm{HS}$ Office6 Superintenden 6 Superintendent/
Finance /
Transpratio Transportatio Offices

## ADMINISTRATION $/$

 SUPPORT SERVICES SuperintendentValerie "Val" Orr Valerie
ext. 101
MS/HS Principal Kelli Tuller
ext. 102
Elementary Principa Elementary Principal
Michaele Shepherd ext. 104
Director of Student Advancement AD Jason Mensing
ext. 103 ext. 103
Dean of Student Services/Career Coach Ken Groch
ext. 122

District Counselor Jennifer Head
ext. 309
ext. 309
Director of
Trensportation,
Buildings \& Ground Buidings \& Ground
Charie Butz Charlie Butz
ext. 107
Director of Finance \& Director of Finance
Business Services Michelle Strick ext. 105

Office FAXES Elementary Office 734-856-472 MS/HS Office
$734-856-2564$ Superintendent/
Business 0 fice Superintendent
Business Office
734-854-6463

## Whiteford Elementary School

Elementary Cafeteria Wed., April 15, 4:30-7:00 pm Thurs., April 16, 8:30-11:00 am

It is time to register your Kindergartner for the 20202021 school year! Your child must be 5 years old by September 1, 2020 to be eligible for kindergarten. All new students will be vision/hearing tested, and screened for readiness.
Enrollment forms are available on our website, in the elementary office, or at Kindergarten Round Up. Please bring the following documents to registration:
*Original Birth Certificate
*Immunization Records
*Proof of Residency ( 3 types are required; driver's license must match Whiteford residency, home owners or renters proof, and current utility bill.)

Middle School Students of the Months


December: Service to Others (pictured at left in order from left to right)
7th Grade-Avery Cousino 6th Grade-Addeson Cousino 8th Grade-Makayla Andrews

January: Service to Others (pictured a t right in order from left to right)
8th Grade-Reagan Wing
7th Grade-Liberty Simmons
6th Grade-Garrett Schalmo


## National Inventors Hall of Fame ${ }^{\circ}$

## Camp Invention is returning to Whiteford Agricultural School!

In partnership with the National Inventors Hall of Fame ${ }^{\circledR}$ (NIHF), Whiteford Elementary School is pleased to offer the nationally acclaimed Camp Invention ${ }^{\circledR}$ program to children entering kindergarten through sixth grade. This exciting, weeklong summer adventure provides lessons that explore connections between science, technology, engineering and innovation. Children rotate through several hands-on activities each day while using teamwork, creative thinking and problem-solving skills to invent unique solutions to real-world challenges. The all-new 2020 program, Elevate! runs June15th - June 19th from 8:30 to 3:00 each day.

During this program, young innovators will:
Build a cityscape out of upcycled materials, navigate planes through a storm and take apart a robot they'll bring home at the end of the program.
Learn the value of their creativity as they sketch and build prototypes, design logos, market their invention and protect their intellectual property.
Collaborate and discover solutions to protect the Earth's ecosystems as they compete in zipline races, explore energy conservation and help wildlife habitats. Discover the great inventors behind their favorite sports, play high-energy games and design the ultimate sports complex.

Camp Invention's activities give participants the opportunity to explore, create and build confidence as they bring their biggest ideas to life.
Register using promo code SUM25 to save $\$ 25$ (expires $3 / 31$ ) or SUM15 to save $\$ 15$ (expires $5 / 12$ ) off the $\$ 235$ registration fee. Availability is limited. Visit invent.org/camp or call 800-968-4332 to secure your child's spot today!

Local educators facilitate the program and enthusiastic high school students serve as Leadership Interns, ensuring that one staff member is in place for every eight children. This year Miss Daniels, Miss Hanselman, and Mrs. Bruce will be our facilitators for this amazing week.

## If you have questions, please contact Marcy Anderson at anderson@whiteford.k12.mi.us



##  

## Whiteford FFA Leadership Development Contest Results <br> By Mr. Jacob Gust, FFA advisor and Science Teacher

On January 29th, teams from Whiteford's FFA chapter traveled to Sand Creek to compete in District-level contests. Members competed in events such as Demonstrations, Parliamentary Procedure, Greenhand Conduct of Meetings, Ag Issues, and Greenhand Public Speaking. Out of 63 total competitors, 44 Whiteford members moved on. All 1st \& 2nd place teams will compete at regional contests at Saline High School on February 12th. The results are as follows.
Ag Issues: Ist, with a presentation on NPDES Permits -- Mallory Simmons, Jessica Mercurio, Emma Olrich, Lainey Hillard Morgan Olrich, Ali Schober, and Jordan Brown 2nd, with a presentation on Wedding Barns \& the RTFA -- Andrew Dixon Emma Spradling, Josie Sonnenberg, Trent Durden, Madie Lee, Sarah Oberle, and Emma Van Hove Demonstration: 1st, with a demo on Maple Syrup -- Luke Andrews, Paige Thomas, and Shea Ruddy : 1st -- Alaina Andrews, Kalie Bulz, Alyssa Ulery, Madelyn Thomas, Jessica Ulery, McKenzie Ulery, and Allison Spradling 2nd -- Ali Bauman, Aly VanBrandt, Luke Rasor, Ava Hillard, Brody English, Brayden Luse, and Eriarliam
Parliamentary Procedure: 1st-- Jack Andrews, Cole Giesige, Karis Thomas, Isaiah Joerin, Noah Bauman, and Levi Hillard onhand Public Speaking: 1st, with a speech on Vivisection-- Mason Fielding
School to compete in regional-level contests. These members were in the top teams from the District Contest that was held 2 weeks prior at Sand Creek HS. 44 Whiteford FFA members competed in events such as Demonstrations, Parliamen-
 tary Procedure, Greenhand Conduct hand Public Speaking. Out of 44 tota competitors, 22 Whiteford members moved on. All 1 st \& 2 nd place teams at regionals will compete at state tems dvance to the state contests:
Igsues Contest: 1st, with a presentation on NDES Pemits - Malor Sim mons, Jessica Mercurio, Emma Olrich, Lainey Hillard, Morgan Orich, Ali Scho er, and Jordan Brown Ayssa Ulery, Madelyn Thomas, Jessica Ulery, Mackenzie Ulery, and Allison Spraaling 2nd -- Ali Bauman, Aly VanBrandt, Luke Rasor, Ava Hillard, Jake Giesige, Brayden Luse, and Erica Holup Greenhand Public Speaking: 2nd with a speech on Vivisection - Mason Fielding

Fourth Grade Participates in Global School Play Day! By Ms Aimee Hanselman, Fourth Grade Teacher
The month of February is filled with fantastic holidays and events. One that is often overlooked is the Global School Play Day! What is Global School Play Day, you may ask? In 2014, Dr. Peter
 freedom to play with, other children, without adult direction. Over the same period of decline of play freedom, there has been a gradual but dramatic increase in anxiety, depression cents. Based on their research, Dr. Gray presented a TEDTalk about the reasons why free play is essential for children's healthy social and emotional development.
Free play is essential for children to problem solve, interact with peers, express their creativity and more! But what exactly is "free play"??? Free play is any sort of play/creation/activity where a child is not given guidelines or directions on how to build/create/craft. This does crafts, and others. While these things are not inherently negative, they all have an end goal or target that children are given by adults or the creators.
ebruary 5 this year was GSPD and in 4th grade, we took total advantage of it! We spent a half hour enjoying building, crafting, and playing with friends and classmates. Students were given blocks, legos, colored paper and craft supplies, STEM kits, and more, to express their individuality and practice problem solving with peers. We enjoyed seeing pictures of dogs and cats being drawn, Lego castles and cars being made,


## Middle/High School Honor Roll (2nd Quarter)



| 6th Grade-All A's (cont) | Emch, Zayne | CORRECTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spradling, Bailey | McCormack, Lincoln | The following students were inadvertently omitted from the " $A / B$ List" for their respective grade from the 1st Quarter Honor Roll: |
| VanHove, Addyson | McCullough, Everett |  |
| Welker, Tyler | Montrose, Blake |  |
| Wing, Briar | Ruddy, Drew | Brayden Zimmerman-6th Grade Van Broshious-8th Grade Seth Rodgers-8th Grade |
| 6th Grade-A/B List | Smith-Emerson, |  |
| Alexander, Shevy | Samantha |  |
| Burke, Grace | Speweik, Gabriel | The following students names were misspelled in the 1st Quarter Honor Roll: Olivia Ruehle-7th Grade Harmony Torres-11th grade |
| DeBarr, Mason | Thomas, Keegan |  |
| Diesing, Cooper | Wells, Ayden |  |
| Douse, Emma | Zimmerman, Brayden |  |

## Elementary Honor Roll (2nd Quarter)

| $5^{\text {th }}$ Grade-All A's | 5th Grade-A/B List | Stevens, Anna | Perry, Jeter |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alcock, Brayden | Brace, Isabella | Sulier, Ava | Podgorski, Brady |
| Bauman, Austin | Briem, Kaeleigh | Swiczkowski II, Christo- | Suchora, Eva |
| Billau, Austin | Burton, Bradyn | pher | Vida, Molly |
| Buechele-Sloan, Philip | Chiotti, Braelynn | Thomas, Ryan | Vida, Rory |
| Call, Cooper | DeBarr, Sierra | Torres, Amaya | White, Brielle |
| DuRocher, Delaney | Deloach, Kylie | Valasek-Wienclaw, |  |
| Eitniear, Tre | Flowers, Joseph | Alisyn | $4^{\text {th }}$ Grade- $A / B$ List |
| Hoag, Riley | Guilliam, Isabelle | Williams, Leah | Babcock, Jameson |
| Joerin, Theo | Hinojosa, Alexia | Wright, Leah | Cole, Kiera |
| Kahn, Sophia | Hughes, Anthony |  | DuBois, Kyle |
| Lestock, Kate | Johns, Sage | 4 ${ }^{\text {TH }}$ Grade-All A's | Ellis, Camden |
| Luse, Kayla | Light, Noelle | Butz, Ava | Grifith, Allison |
| Masters, Marissa | McCormack, Mason | Cousino, Jackson | Hamid, Sadia |
| Messerschmidt, Kloe | McCullough,, Jason | Hall, Juliana | Ingram, Rilee |
| Prange, Amber | Montrose, Conner | Jurgenson, Harlow | Kendel, Emmalyn |
| Ruddy, Brek | Pitney, Kyleigh | Keller, Lane | Raker, Allen |
| Schober, Cade | Ray, Cooper | Krieger, Jacob | Schumacher, Nathan |
| Stevens, Ava | Saylor III, Jess | Masters, Brody | Vance, Elijah |
| Tyrrell, Brookelynn | Schroyer, Audrey | Mock, Indy |  |
| Valasek, James | Smith, Ava | Olrich, Jade |  |

## 5th Grade Speliling Bee

## By Mrs. Michaele Shepherd, Elementary Principal

Whiteford Elementary School held the $5^{\text {th }}$ grade Spelling Bee on Wednesday, January 29 2020. All fifth grade students participated, and after several rounds of intense spelling achievement, a final winner was determined. This year Audrey Schroyer will represent achievement, a final winner was determined. This year Audrey Schroyer will represent
the Bobcats at the County-Wide Spelling Bee held on Wednesday, May 6 at the Monroe County Intermediate School District. Amber Prange was the Runner-Up.


Winner Audrey Schroyer and
Runner-Up Amber Prange
Top Ten Spellers
Top Ten Spellers
Back Row: Ava Stevens, Brayden Alcock, Chris Swiczkowski, Marissa Masters, Grace Ford

Front Row: Austin Bauman, Hailey Schumacher, Corbin Biegajski. Audrey Schroyer, Amber Prange

