

November 2016
Newsletter

Monroe County Schools

Photo contributed by JMHS Alumnus, Jesse Beasley

Honor Society Goes to Monticello

By: Grant Mohler, Honor Society Member

On Monday, October 10, 2016, a few members of the Honor Society took a trip to Thomas Jefferson's home near Charlottesville, Virginia. The day started off with a tour of the former President's home that he had planned out and built. The amount of detail put into the building of the house was incredibly precise. The tour included the whole first floor of the home, an underground tunnel, and the gardens.

After the tour, the members ate lunch at the Michie Tavern which was said to be very delicious. Once the food was all eaten, the bus's next stop was to none other than, James Monroe's home. I mean why not, right? Our school is named after him. This tour included a viewing of a statue, tour of the grounds, and a demonstration of firing a musket from the civil war days.

The students on the trip learned tons of history about both Jefferson and Monroe, and they would recommend you visit these historical places if you haven't already. All in all, it was a successful trip.





not be forgotten. Mr. Simmons and Mr. Farley spoke with the students about the history of the Vietnam Conflict, what the wall symbolizes and the need to honor our veterans and active duty members.

After the two men spoke, the students had the opportunity to walk around the wall and look at the service personnel that gave their life for our freedom. The students learned that their freedom is not free. We are very appreciative of the message and the opportunity to interact with these two great men.

The Mobile Wall



With the support of the Peterstown Elementary School PTO, Dave Simmons and Rod Farley (both Veterans) brought the West Virginia State Council Vietnam Veterans of America's Mobile Wall to Peterstown Elementary on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. The wall has the 732 names of West Virginians who were killed in action, held as Prisoners of War and those still Missing in Action on the soils of South Vietnam, North Vietnam, its seaways and theater of operation.

The Council transports the Mobile Wall throughout West Virginia with the message the fallen will



National Principals Appreciation Month

By: Whitney Hunt – National Honor Society Member

October is recognized as National Principals Appreciation Month. In order to understand what makes our principal, Mrs. Mustain, so great we sat down and got to know her. Mrs. Mustain has been our principal since 2010, but she's worked in education for 32 years. Homecoming is her favorite time of the year at James Monroe, because she loves seeing everyone's school spirit.

One of her most memorable events was when the Lady Mavericks volleyball team won the state championship. She also really enjoys graduation, because she gets to see all the hard work of the students and staff pay off. When asked about her most embarrassing moment at James Monroe she said, "I'm very afraid of heights, so one time I climbed up a ladder to get on top of the roof and refused to come down. I was up there for a while."

A couple fun facts about Mrs. Mustain are she loves eating at Ruby Tuesdays, Cracker Jacks are her favorite snacks, and she's a big WVU fan. In school her favorite subject was P.E, and she didn't always want to be a principal. We here at JMHS sure are glad she accepted the job and we appreciate all the hard work she does.

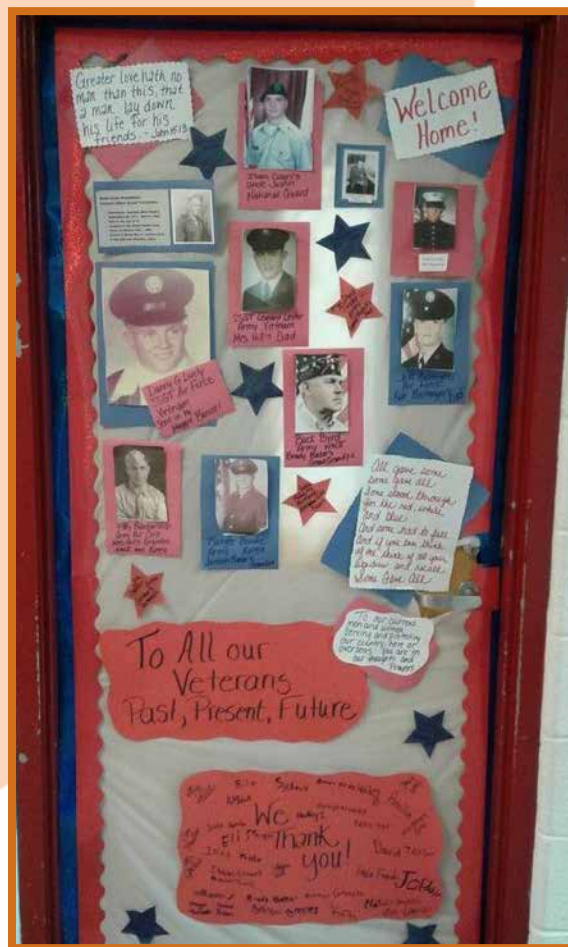


Pictured L-R:
Matthew Meadows, JMHS Principal Lisa Mustain,
Whitney Hunt, and Bryce Dickerson

PES Honors Veterans

PES PTO sponsored a classroom door decorating contest in recognition of our Veterans, November 7th-11th. Our students and teachers worked very hard creatively and the results were amazing! While the judges had great difficulty deciding on the entries, Mrs. Hill's 4th grade class was the lucky winner of the popcorn party.

The contest assisted us as we learned the many different areas of service, as well as, our students' knowledge of veterans that they know personally.



In addition to the door contest, 1st grade students took a walking field trip to the Memorial in Peterstown, many classes engaged in writing activities and visiting the Mobile Wall, and others invited veterans to their classrooms for lunch.

Thank you everyone for celebrating!

Mountain View Thanksgiving Meal

The Eighth grade students at Mountain View were served Thanksgiving lunch with a spirit of gratitude and encouragement from their eighth grade team teachers. Students were shown appreciation with cloth adorned tables, fall centerpieces and messages that let them know how much their team of teachers appreciate them. The students felt as if they were “in a dining hall at a really nice restaurant”. They enjoyed the atmosphere. The cooks presented the Thanksgiving meal on color coordinated trays and silverware already placed on the tables.



JMHS Heisman School Winner

James Monroe High School Senior Leaves it all on the field and becomes a school winner in the Wendy's High School Heisman. There are some students who set the bar. They work harder, show more passion and lead by example – in the classroom, on the field and within the community. Today, Wendy's High School Heisman recognizes Lexi Carter from James Monroe High School and her dedication to never cut corners by naming her a School Winner.

“These students are known by their teachers and friends for their commitment to excellence. We are excited and honored that a program like Wendy's High School Heisman is also recognizing their hard work,” said Principal Lisa Mustain of JMHS.

Since 1994, Wendy's and the Heisman Trophy Trust have been running the same play to perfection: honoring more than 600,000 of the nation's most esteemed students. This year, Wendy's will celebrate the accomplishments of thousands of the best high school seniors, awarding winners in five phases.

Both School Winners and State Finalists have been announced today. School Winners will receive a bronze medal, a Wendy's High school Heisman State Finalist patch and a \$25 gift card. From the group of State Finalists, one senior male and female will be selected from each state and announced as State Winners on October 20.

For more information or to track a student's progress through the competition, please visit www.WendysHeisman.com.



Mavericks March in Washington, D.C. Veteran's Day Parade



The Maverick Battalion Color Guard leading the Parade of Heroes from the Korean War Memorial to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

On Saturday, November 12th, twenty-six members of the James Monroe High School/Monroe County Technical Center Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps "Maverick" Battalion had the honor of leading a parade at the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War memorials in Washington, D.C. Present at the ceremony were Mr. Ray Chavez, a 104 year-old survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The members of the Maverick Battalion who were able to participate were duly impressed by the solemnity and importance of the occasion, particularly in an election year.



The Maverick Battalion's presentation squad with memorial wreaths placed at the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War memorials in Washington, D.C. during the Parade of Heroes.

In addition to the ceremonies the cadets were able to visit important and educational sites in the capital, such as Arlington National Cemetery, the U.S. Capitol and Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, the White House Visitor's Center, the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian's Air and Space and American History museums.

Without the support of the Monroe County Board of Education, the Monroe County Commission, The Woodmen of the World, Mrs. Shellie White, and our intrepid bus driver Mr. David Taylor the trip would not have been possible.



Members of the Maverick Battalion at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. with Mr. Ray Chavez, a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Monroe County Model United Nations

By Sidney Karnes (Reporter)

On November 7th, James Monroe High School's Youth Leadership Association succeeded in running our county's second Model United Nations Conference. The student began trickling into the auditorium for a quick crash course on how the conference would run throughout the course of the day. The purpose of the conference was to aid with preparation for the upcoming competitions such

as: Woodrow Wilson MUN, YLA MUN, and William and Mary MUN.

Many students from James Monroe, Peterstown, and Mountain View participated. In total, eighteen resolutions were presented in four separate councils, which were held in separate rooms at the high school. Our councils were run by our council presidents from James Monroe, being Matthew

Meadows, Whitney Hunt, and Austin Toney. Miles Smith; additionally, our district YLA director also contributed to the conference by running a council himself. The General Assembly was run by the President of JMHS MUN, Carter Bonds.

The purpose of the Model United Nations program is to encourage youth to become more involved and informed on issues that are on

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Council 1 led by Austin Toney. Others whom are pictured are: Karissa Bowden, Lily Jackson, Seana Sabol, Carter Bonds, Samuel Womack, Cole Basile, Michael Fraley, and Luke Jackson.



Council 2 led by Miles Smith, YLA director for our district. Also pictured: Madison Bragg, Abby Fraley, Cade McMunnigal, Kassidy Bowden, Isabel Adkins, Elizabeth Adkins, Emma Ballard, Morgan Vass, and Advisor Ashley Mann.



Council 4 led by Whitney Hunt.



Council 3 led by Matthew Meadows. Brady Davis and Nate Wilcox, representing the country of is presenting their resolution to other council members.

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a global scale. While they are learning about their country's perspective during the periods of research that they are given, they are unknowingly picking up essential skills that will aid them

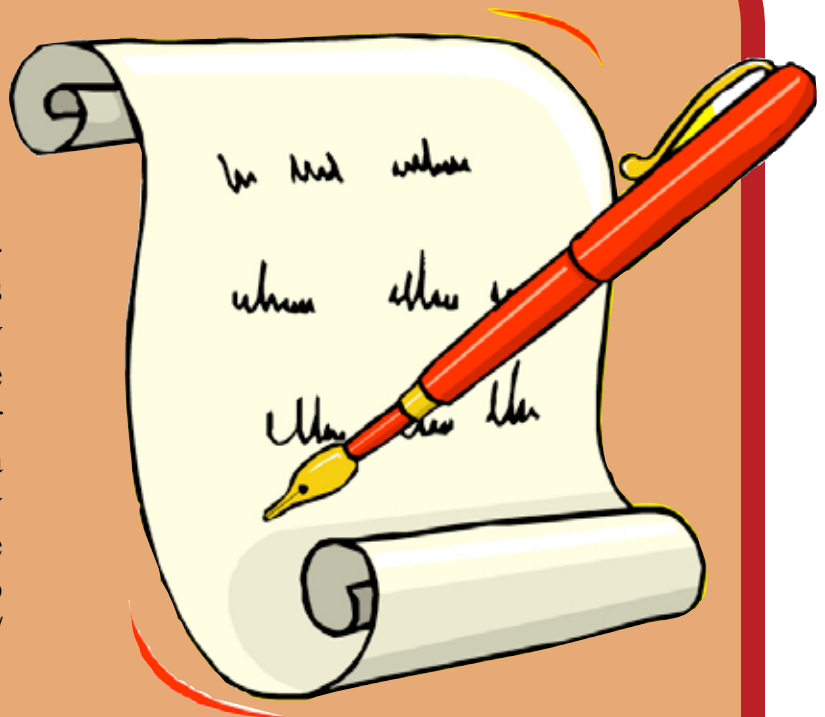
in the years to come, such as learning how to cooperate with others who might not have the same opinion.

The students involved in this Model UN would like to thank Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Scott

Womack, Ashley Mann, Miles Smith, and anyone else who was involved in making this possible. Look for more information on our ventures in upcoming editions.

American Education Week at Mountain View

In honor of American Education Week - the Mountain View Eighth grade students participated in a 'Thank you' project. They wrote a personal note to an adult in the education system that had impacted their school years thus far. Every day is a wonderful day to work at Mountain View Elementary/Middle School; however, the personal notes made it a very special day to be a Hawk at Mountain View Elementary/Middle School.



Mrs. Donna Galford & Kelli Lephew



Mrs. Sandra Humphries & Carnell Quick

MCTC Students Give Back to the Community

Students at Monroe County Technical Center are giving back in a big way. In integral part of Career and Technical Education (CTE) is service learning. Service learning involves projects through which students provide a needed service to the community, and in so doing, learn valuable skills and gain hands-on experience.

The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) is comprised of students who demonstrate high academic achievement as well as competency in CTE career pathway skills. Student members of NTHS recently sponsored a canned food and toiletries drive. The canned food and toiletries collected were delivered to Monroe County food banks for distribution. NTHS Monroe County Chapter has 11 members and will soon induct 10 more. Mr. Mark Blevins and Ms. Hannah Deskins are co-sponsors of the chapter.

Students of Mr. David Richmonds's Law and Public Safety classes sponsored their annual Toys for Tots drive. The students collected toys to be distributed through collaboration with the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. The toy donations will go to local children. Daily, students from Mr. Richmond's class raise and lower the flag at MCTC. Four Law and Public Safety students served as Honor Guard, presenting the nation's flag at a recent football game. The department also participated in Trunk or Treat at Greenbrier Valley Hospital.

FBLA students in the business department are continuing efforts began last year. During 2016-17, FBLA members and advisor Malory McPherson collaborated with the Peterstown Woman's Club to create a Dress for Success closet. There are two closets, one at MCTC and one housed at JMHS. The Dress for Success closets accept gently used donations of professional attire, appropriate for job interviews. Those items are available to individuals in need of career-wear for job interviews. Business instructors Mr. Marshall Neel and Mrs. Laura Nester continue the efforts to provide a helping hand to those who are seeking employment.



MCTC Maverick Battalion at the WWII monument in Washington DC. The seated gentleman is a 104-year-old survivor of Pearl Harbor.



Front Row L-R: Jensen Hoke, Alexis Hunnicutt, Aly Burns. Back Row L-R: Allie Vandegrift, Brooklyn Melvin, Gracyn Lankford, Hannah Williams, Brittany Dunbar, Alania Utterback, Mrs. Vickie Bennett



National Technical Honor Society students, Ashton Carr and Sam Womack, gather canned food and toiletries donations for local food banks.



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Students in MCTC's JROTC program hosted an Honor A Veteran ceremony on November 16. Students and staff from MCTC and JMHS attended the ceremony, along with several veterans and members of the public. The ceremony followed a busy weekend in Washington DC, where Monroe County JROTC members marched in the Veterans' Day Parade and attended several wreath-laying ceremonies.

Mrs. Vickie Bennett's Health Sciences students sponsored a Red Cross Bloodmobile on Tuesday November 22. Students assisted with escorting donors, taking vitals, and ensuring that donors had a snack and were okay to return to their normal activities.



Veterans Day Ceremony and "Vet Together" Cookout

The James Monroe High School/Monroe County Technical Center Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) Maverick Battalion continued its veteran-oriented service project by hosting a ceremony, cookout, and friendly competition in honor of area veterans from any era of service at 10:00 AM on November 16 at the JMHS football field. The Mavericks conducted a formal military review and offered a light meal following the ceremony. Five area veterans from the Korean and Vietnam era were present in addition to most of the student body. Proceeds from a pop-top collection competition held with the Maverick Chapter of the West Virginia Vietnam Veterans of America will go to the Ronald McDonald House for dialysis treatment for patients. A generous donation of pop tops from Mr. Pat Clendenin made this drive truly impressive.



Pictured: The Maverick Battalion and representatives of the Maverick Chapter of the West Virginia Vietnam Veterans of America with pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House.

The Maverick Battalion's honor-a-veteran service project connects each student with a veteran to learn his or her story and produce a brief biography highlighting the veteran's service. The biographies will appear in The Monroe Watchman and become part of a compilation of area veterans.

Veterans willing to be verbally interviewed for Story Corps will have the opportunity to do so as part of this program, and these interviews will be stored in the Library of Congress.



Employee Recognition



JMHS Employees of the Month

James Monroe High School selects John Mustain as the employee of the month for November. Coach Mustain has coached for Monroe Schools for 32 years. This year Coach Mustain led the Maverick football team to a 10 – 2 season. The Mavericks finished 6th in the State for the regular season and hosted the 1st round of the AA State Playoffs. The Mavericks defeated Winfield 38 - 28 to advance to the 2nd round against Point Pleasant High School. This playoff victory was the first victory since 2008. The Mavericks defeated the undefeated Black Knights 21 – 0 and advanced to the 3rd round against Mingo Central Miners. The Miners defeated the Mavericks 41 – 21 ending the Mavericks season. The Mavericks finished in the top four of AA Football. Coach Mustain has coached every sport at JMHS with the exception of Soccer, Cheerleading and Golf, but there is always next year.

James Monroe High School would like to recognize Trina Shoda as November's employee of the month. As the financial secretary Mrs. Shoda is responsible for the budget of 11 sports teams. During the month of November Mrs. Shoda spent many hours securing rental cars, chartering buses, feeding athletes, reserving hotel rooms, and purchasing supplies for volleyball and football athletes. Hours upon extra hours go into organizing these trips for the Mav-

ericks. A big shout out to Trina Shoda for making sure our teams get to and from their games safely with the proper equipment and full tummies.

Peterstown Middle Employees of the Month

Peterstown Middle School would like to recognize and welcome Naomi Walker as service employee for the month of November. She has been an outstanding addition to our kitchen staff. She has already captured our students' hearts with her smiling face and her caring ways. We appreciate all that she does!

Samantha Sizemore is Peterstown Middle School's professional employee of the month. Mrs. Sizemore collaborates well with our math teachers at every grade level to enhance student learning throughout the building. She also tutors our students before and after school in an effort to help them get the extra help they need to succeed. She goes above and beyond to help all students. Her hard work does not go unnoticed.

MCTC Employee of the Month

There are those folks we meet who just simply seem to be tireless in their efforts. If you have met Mark Blevins of MCTC, you have met one such person. He often arrives at work early, stays late, and is a go-to person throughout the day.

Mr. Blevins joined Monroe County Technical Center in the summer of 2014 as a Career Technical Education English Instructor, but he has been a fixture there for much longer.

Blevins began his work with 106.7 FM WHFI, housed at MCTC, as a senior in high school. In 2005, Blevins began his teaching career with Monroe County Schools and took on a more official capacity with the station. He has managed the station's playlists, emergency broadcasts, student and adult volunteers, sponsorships, and sports broadcasts. His work for WHFI is certainly not thankless, but thanks and fulfilling a desire for service to school and community are basically his pay for that position. What keeps Blevins volunteering after school at least twice weekly for radio club and for hours during sporting events? Blevins laughs, "Just a love of music and non-commercial radio, I guess. Having been affiliated with the station for about 20 years, now, I feel very much a part of WHFI, and it is a big part of me." This fall, Blevins was instrumental in providing live streaming of Maverick football games at Network-1sports.

As a CTE English Instructor, Mr. Blevins can be found serving many needs of students and instructors. For students, he often works helping them with technical writing, resume writing, research and public speaking skills. Blevins works alongside MCTC instructors to embed English content into their career

and technical studies. For example, students in Mr. Richmond's Law and Public Safety classes study and analyze Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet for crime details. They apply their knowledge of today's legal system, and even prepare court cases charging and defending "clients" from the play, based on the murderous plots and schemes carried out by the characters. Mr. Blevins also blends his role of radio station manager and English instructor through public service announcements written and recorded by students. "The PSAs are a great way to encourage student awareness of community needs and issues, while connecting learning through a real-life project," Blevins explains.

Mark Blevins also shares duties of advising the Monroe County Technical Center's chapter of National Technical Honor Society. Together with CTE Academic teaching partner Hannah Deskins, Blevins is currently planning the 2016 fall induction ceremony. National Technical

Honor Society honors students' accomplishments in academics, CTE concentration work, leadership, citizenship, service and character. It is fitting for Blevins to be an advisor for this organization, as he embodies those qualities himself. Blevins humbly concurs, "I consider it to be 'just doing my job'. It is unique, I guess, to get to work in both core academics (English) and career tech education, simultaneously. It is a job I enjoy, and I just hope I make a difference, for the students and staff."

PES Employees of the Month

Peterstown Elementary School would like to recognize Susan McGlothlin as one of our outstanding teachers. She currently teaches 1st grade, but has many years as a Specialist at the middle school level as well. Upon visiting her classroom, you will see multiple learning centers, and a high level of engagement that is relevant and fun. Not learning in her classroom is not an option. Together with Mrs. Broyles,

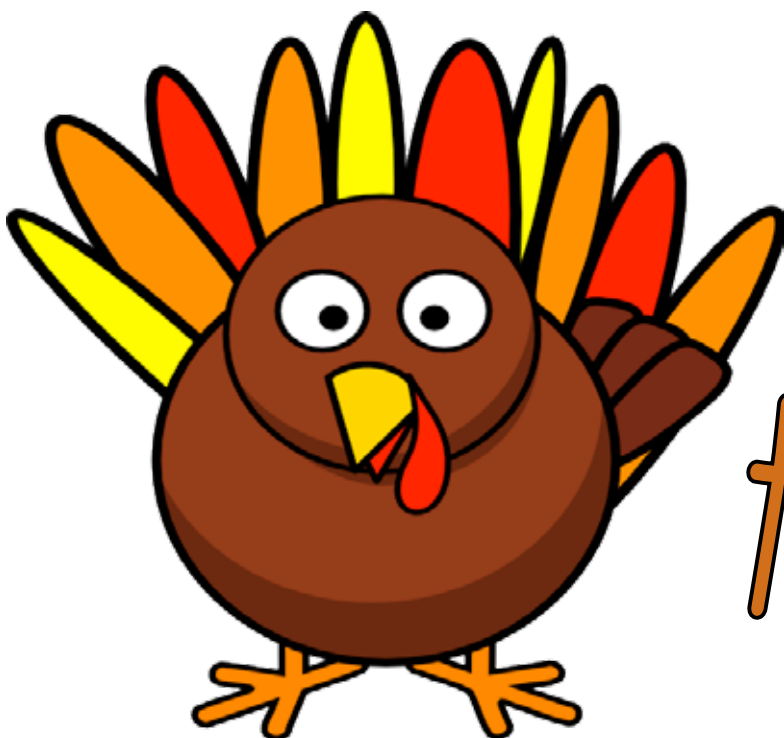
they make a dynamic co-taught team that leaves no child unchallenged. It is always a pleasure to see teachers enjoying what they were called to do. Thank you for your energy and dedication!

Peterstown Elementary School would also like to thank Tim South for his dedication and patience with our little ones. We know they can be challenging, but his calm manner and consistent expectations garners respect from our students, parents, and school employees. The focus on safety is truly appreciated by all. Thank you for all you do Mr. South!

MVS Employees of the Month

Mountain View School's employee of the month is Barbara Holesapple, Middle School Guidance Counselor.

Additionally, the Hawks would like to recognize Kathy Wiley as the service employee of the month.



give
thanks!