



# Our Voice

## Tri-Village Local Schools

We're on our way to building for tomorrow

### A School of Excellence



April 2011

Visit our Web page at [www.tri-village.k12.oh.us](http://www.tri-village.k12.oh.us)

### Small Homes Make Big Impact

Over the past nine weeks, the 5th grade science students have embarked on a problem based learning project called Energyopolis. This project challenged students to think outside of the box in order to learn about all types of energy, including sound, light, magnetic, heat and electric.

The students were assigned to create a model home where each room displayed a different type of energy. The project began with a student created 3-D drawing and from that their model homes came to life. The most difficult challenge came after the floors and walls were constructed. Students were faced with the task of demonstrating real world examples of how these energies are used in daily life. During this process students were challenged at times, but their ability to problem solve made the project a huge success. The times when the light bulbs turned on both figuratively and metaphorically were very exciting. After the model homes were completed, the day of Energyopolis arrived. On Friday, April 8th, students from kindergarten to 6th grade came to the elementary gymnasium to experience the 5th graders homes displayed.

By using the engineering design process students were able to not only better grasp fifth grade curriculum, but they also gained an understanding of how problem based learning is a part of everyday life.



### FFA FLOWER SALE

The Tri-Village FFA Chapter will once again be holding their spring flower sale. Students in the Agricultural Science classes have been raising seedlings and plugs in the greenhouse. The students have been learning about proper care of plants and how to operate a greenhouse. The greenhouse is equipped with some of the most technologically advanced greenhouse equipment. The greenhouse was donated by Ludy's Greenhouse and has been a great advantage to the students in the agricultural programs at the Tri-Village High School. The FFA will sell assorted flowers including, Marigolds, Impatiens, Vinca Vines, Geraniums, Petunias, and more. Also available will be a select amount of vegetables including peppers and tomatoes. Hanging baskets are \$15.00 and flats are \$12.00 or \$24.00. The sale will begin May 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be open weekdays from 2-5pm or other posted times. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Ag. Dept. at (937) 996-1511 ext. 337. All proceeds will go to support the Tri-Village FFA members and their activities.



### Math Navigator

The elementary school is using a new program called Math Navigator to better prepare students for success in mathematics. This was a program purchased with Race to the Top dollars to insure Tri-Village students are mastering math concepts as they progress through their elementary years. The district's Title I coaches use the material with the students throughout the day in the regular classroom and through pull-out programs. We are also extending the learning into the lunchtime as students must answer math facts correctly before leaving their seat to take their tray back to the kitchen or to go to the restroom. This new program was instituted in December and teachers are already seeing positive results from this initiative.



Congratulations to Anna Varvel of Hollansburg for winning the Tri-Village Music Boosters Raffle worth over \$400.00. Proceeds from the raffle benefited the Tri-Village Music Department. The Music Boosters would like to thank the following for sponsoring this years raffle: Beechwood Golf Course, Bev Shumaker with Pampered Chef, Bonita Schlechty with Thirty-One, Deb's Wildflowers, Downings Fruit Farm, Flaig Lumber, Fort Black Buffet, "Happy Feet" Shoes, Sock, & More, Ketrings Locker Service, Mikesell Monograms, New Madison Mini Mart, New Madison Supermarket, Snack Shop, Stephanie Branson with Mary Kay, Farmers State Bank in New Madison, Tommy Renfro, Velvet Grow with Tupperware, and Weimer Electronics.



### **New Madison Tri-Village Alumni Banquet**

The New Madison Tri-Village Alumni Committee wishes to invite all New Madison and Tri-Village graduates for an evening of reminiscing and renewing old friendships at the annual alumni banquet to be held at Tri-Village High School on May 21, 2011. This year's honored classes are the Class of 1936, Class of 1961, and the Class of 1986.

The meal will be catered by Tri-Village graduates Tanya and Chris Clark of Delight Catering. Registration begins at 4:00 with appetizers offered from 4:30 to 5:30 and the main meal will be served at 6:00. Invitations are mailed only to the honored classes with a mass mailing every five years. If you are not in an honored class please contact Monyca Schlechty at 937-548-0725 to place a reservation. Deadline is May 7, 2011.

## **Outdoor Classroom**

In January, Tri-Village was awarded a grant from Lowe's Home Improvement to be used in conjunction with the Ohio Learn & Serve grant to create an outdoor learning classroom. Fifth grade students worked diligently taking measurements, surveying property, and researching plants in order to create six thematic vegetable and flower gardens that will be planted on school property to serve the community. Students calculated area, volume, and perimeter to determine the amount and cost of supplies needed. This entire project not only supports State Content Standards for fifth grade, but also prepares the students for the Ohio Achievement Assessment.

In conjunction with the outdoor classroom, fifth grade students met with Kevin Flory, from Kevin Flory Landscaping, on April 1 to learn about landscaping possibilities for a memory garden. After one of their classmates passed away, students were eager to design an area that would honor the many memories that they had with Sarah Bevins as well as honoring the memory of all Tri-Village community members that have passed.

Kevin Flory Landscaping and Ernst Concrete have been integral components in the successful planning of this endeavor, donating their time and supplies to this learning opportunity. We are happy to have Britton Filbrun from Outdoor Accents who will donate a day to the memorial garden for his labor and expertise in the area of landscaping. A work date will be planned in May to construct and plant the outdoor learning classroom and memory garden. These gardens will not only aesthetically enhance the school, but will provide numerous learning opportunities for students in all subjects while also providing fresh produce to the community. Community members are encouraged to visit the gardens throughout the summer to enjoy fresh produce and herbs as well as the beauty of the new landscaping.

Any community member interested in contributing to the success of this project through volunteering or making donations should contact Leesa Folkerth, Josh Sagester, or Tony Thomas.