



OBERLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL first graders relax on the new reading rugs which were given to them from the Decatur Community Educational Foundation.

Education foundation gives first graders new reading rug

Thanks to the Decatur Community Educational Foundation, the 1st graders are enjoying a new reading rug.

The educational foundation established a grant program for educational activities a few years ago, and since then has helped teachers with projects and events that otherwise

would not be funded. The foundation gives grants each semester.

Last semester, DCEF also helped 15 band students attend the KSU Concert Band Clinic in Manhattan.

According to first grade teacher Cindy Sattler, her students like their new rug. "We use it every day, and

the children are so proud of it," said Mrs. Sattler.

Kays make history

By JOSH RITTER

For the first time in school history, Oberlin boys attended the Regional Kay Conference. Several Kays, including five boys, headed to Kensington at 6:45 a.m. last week for the conference.

First off was an icebreaker. Each Kay was given a list of things to find from other Kays -- from a Kay with the same shoe size to the same hair color. The purpose was to mingle with the other schools.

After that all the presidents talked to all the Kays and told them about themselves and their Kay groups. Everyone was then split up into groups and did a balloon tower building contest that our group especially failed at.

Next, the Kays learned about cyberbullying and then sewed decorations on hats for kids with leukemia. They also learned about the Ronald McDonald houses and how to help

them for service projects.

To end the conference, regional president Brian Henry from Norton talked about Kay camp.

"I learned so much and had so much fun," said Laysha Medina.

It was really fun for me, as well. At first I didn't know what to expect, but it was definitely worth the trip.

Overall it was a great trip, and I highly recommended joining Kays to serve your community and school.

Others attending the conference were Miki Dorshorst, Tracy Hoppal, Katie Glading, Keithen Fortin, Megan Wentz, Kiah Blau, Joe Hirsch, Samantha Anderson, Sara Kyte, Killian Dellere, Channing Fortin, Alexis Hissong, Carrissa Wentz, Brittany Urban, and Ashley Witt. The Kay sponsor is Linda Glaze.

Instrumentalists participate in band clinic at Manhattan

Over 600 high school band members from across the state were in Manhattan January 21-22 for a weekend of music.

Fifteen Oberlin band students represented our school: Amanda Marshall, Nakita Bose, Hannah May, Sierra Lohoefer, Caleb Koerperich, Joe Hirsch, Lizzy Nedland, Samantha Anderson, Nick Ashley, Nolan Henningson, Baron Green, Ben Glading, Katie Glading, Bret Ashley, and Tim Larson.

First, the students auditioned to be placed into one of six bands, each with about 100 members. There is one top band and five equal bands. Six Oberlin students made it into the top band, and all of our students were in the very top of their sections.

Students spent the weekend rehearsing with college/university directors from across the United

States, listening to professional performances by KSU musicians, attending master classes and hanging out with musicians just like themselves for the weekend. On Sunday afternoon each band concluded with a concert of work from their weekend of rehearsal.

Each clinician chose three or four kids from each of the six bands to be awarded the "Outstanding Musician Award." For seniors, the award is a scholarship to play in the K-State band, and for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, it is a scholarship to attend the K-State summer band camp for free (a \$325 camp). Three Oberlin students won awards: Ben Glading, Bret Ashley and Caleb Koerperich.

The Decatur Community Educational Foundation helped to finance the trip, along with USD 294.

Voice of Decatur Community High School



By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Band students selected for state KMEA band

Five band students have been selected for State KMEA Band

One of the highest achievements for a band student is to be selected for State KMEA. Five Oberlin band students have achieved that honor: Katie Glading, trombone; Jacob Helm, clarinet; Darbi Rouse, oboe; Samantha Anderson, horn and Lizzy Nedland, horn. Matt Glading, baritone, was also selected as a first alternate.

To be selected for State KMEA, the musicians first had to audition and be selected for district honor band and be a sophomore, junior, or senior. Then, those students spent

the day in Salina on Jan. 8 auditioning for State Honor Band for classes 1-4A. The state auditions included playing prepared material, playing scales, and sight-reading.

For a school our size to have five students selected for State KMEA is a major accomplishment.

State KMEA will be in Wichita on February 24-26. "This is an outstanding accomplishment for our students and school," said band director Sarah Bricker.

Katie and Jacob have made State KMEA all three years of their eligibility.

School Menus

February 7 - 11 OBERLIN SCHOOLS

Monday: Breakfast: Cheesestick muffin. Lunch: School out early.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Ham corn, mini loaf. Lunch: Beefy nachos, corn, refried beans.

Wednesday: Breakfast: Breakfast burrito. Lunch: Cheeseburger, green beans, chocolate pudding.

Thursday: Breakfast: Fruit turnover. Lunch: Biscuits & gravy, Sausage pattie, hash browns.

Friday: No school.

Fruit served with all breakfasts; choice bar served with all lunches. Milk served with all meals.

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DCEF SOUP SUPPER

February 4, 5:30 p.m

DCHS Cafeteria

Come enjoy homemade chicken noodle and chili soup!

Also serving a variety of delicious homemade desserts

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Join us in helping the students of USD 294

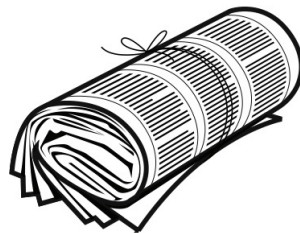


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