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SUPERINTENDENT NEWS

by Josh Meyer, Superintendent

I have been hesitant through this Covid mess to provide information on our current situation in my newsletter/newspaper columns. As you know, things change frequently and by the time the article prints, the situation will likely be different. Understanding that things will change rapidly, here is an update on where we are as of the end of January.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) working with the state department of education (KSDE) suspended requirements for contact tracing and quarantines. On one hand this makes me very nervous about spread of the virus. On the other hand, it feels like this might be the beginning of the end.

At this time, we are not identifying close contacts or requiring anyone without symptoms to stay at home. Although testing is still available, it is not required to attend school. The most important thing right now is that those with any symptoms stay home while they are sick. If your child is sick, we ask that you keep him or her at home. Again, testing is also an option.

The 2022 Mid-Winter Classic basketball tournament was a success. The Lion’s Club turned the operation of the tournament over to the school district last year. We now have a combined boys’ and girls’ tournament and will continue that format moving forward.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

UPCOMING EVENTS



8th Grade presenting AR Book slides

NOTE:

Due to unexpected Snow Day's there are some events that have been rescheduled, postponed or cancelled. Please check the St John USD 350 Facebook page for the latest schedule changes.

REGIONAL SCHOLARS BOWL

February 7th @ Minneola

COMIC CLUB RAFFLE DRAWING

February 10th

TRAPSHOOTING GUN RAFFLE DRAWING

February 11th

HOMECOMING DANCE

February 12th @ 9pm at the skating rink

ACT EXAM

February 12th

TIGER YOUTH CHEER CAMP

February 12th - 13th

SOPHOMORE RAFFLE DRAWING

February 15th

SENIOR NIGHT

February 15th

NO SCHOOL / STAFF DEVELOPMENT

February 21st

CLUB PICTURES

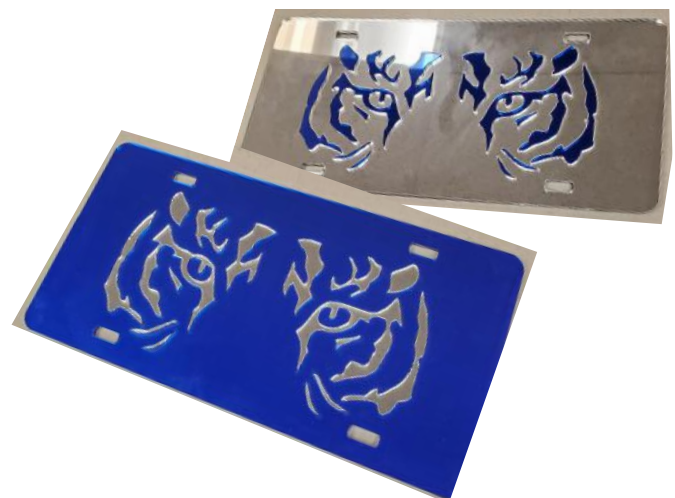
February 23rd

FUNDRAISER

LICENSE PLATES AVAILABLE FOR SALE

by Mrs. Alisa Fisher

Proceeds helps out the St. John Hudson PTO. They are available for purchase in the Elementary Front Office. \$20 each. Blue and Silver available.



SUPERINTENDENT NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Last year, was not a normal year and we were very restricted on crowd size. So actually this is the first year we've had a full tournament with unrestricted crowd size. We have formed a committee to help us improve the tournament. It takes a lot of volunteers to help put on this tournament. Our goal is to continue the tradition of a great community-run tournament for many years to come.

The school board is beginning work on a strategic plan for our school district. We have contracted with the Kansas Association of School Boards to assist in the process and facilitate a couple of community meetings in February. We are in the process of gathering volunteers to provide input for the development of this strategic plan. Contact the district office if you are interested in participating.

The district has been dealing with challenges for many years. Issues related to declining enrollment with budget challenges, the Quivira water rights issue, and now Covid have kept us in survival mode for the past decade or so. It is important that we get away from year-to-year survival mode and look toward the future of our school district. Developing a strategic plan is a step in that process.

Early education is an important focus in our district. Our goal is to ensure that every student enters Kindergarten ready to learn. Our district offers free preschool for all students ages 3 and up. All preschool students MUST attend a screening to be eligible to attend our preschool. The screenings help us identify specific student needs and help us plan for the upcoming school year.

There will be a preschool screening on Thursday, March 10th in the library community room from 9:00-1:00. Call 620-672-7500 Ext. 1213 to schedule an appointment. Other screenings are available but this is the only one held in St. John. Contact the elementary office with any questions.

Kindergarten Roundup will be held on April 29th at the Church of Christ. More information about roundup will be coming next month.

Another program that helps ensure students are ready for school is our Parents-As-Teachers program. Johnna Stanford is our PAT director and Carol Siefkes is the PAT educator. They are available to work with families with young children. Please contact the elementary office if you would like more information in the Parents-As-Teachers program.

Biking Across Kansas will have a scheduled stop in St. John this summer. There will be several hundred riders and support people staying overnight on June 13th. There will be opportunities for school and community group fundraisers. This is also a great opportunity to showcase the great things we have going on in our community. Look for more information about this upcoming event.

As always, if you'd like to visit about any of these topics or have other questions or concerns, I can be reached at 620-549-3564 or meyerj@usd350.com. I am proud to be a Tiger and proud to serve USD 350 with Purpose, Passion, and Pride.

- Josh Meyer - USD 350 Superintendent



IN THE COMMUNITY

edited by Brandon Henkle

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ST. JOHN NEWS

HOME NEWS SPORTS LIFESTYLE OPINION OBITUARIES CLASSIFIEDS LEGALS DIGITAL ISSUES

Home > News

Farm Bureau Financial Services is here to help

USD 350 student Erynn Cantrell interviews the owner of St. John's Farm Bureau office and finds out how this business helps the community. Courtesy: Erynn Cantrell

January 19, 2022 in News

By Erynn Cantrell *Special to the News*

Have you ever wondered what financial services Farm Bureau offers?

Farm Bureau is owned and operated by John Falk. He started his business in April of 2017. He is a kind-hearted man, and he wants to make sure that you get the financial help you need or want as well as the service you need. The company's goals are protecting livelihoods and futures. Farm Bureau employees are kind, professional, and hard-working.

Farm Bureau Financial Services provides insurance for autos, home, life, business, crop, livestock, and farm or ranch. Investment services are also available. John Falk, insurance agent, is located in the St. John office on the west side of the square at 306 N. Main.

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Christmas brings rural communities together for the sake of the children February 2, 2022

Archery lessons offered at Slythe February 2, 2022

Golden Bell Telephone brings tech services to St. John area February 2, 2022

God wants our heart not just our pen February 2, 2022

The Kind of Person God Uses February 2, 2022

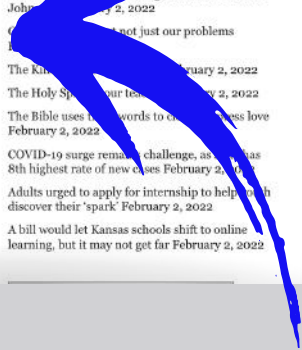
The Holy Spirit is our teacher February 2, 2022

The Bible uses three words to describe how we love February 2, 2022

COVID-19 surge remains challenge, as Kansas has 8th highest rate of new cases February 2, 2022

Adults urged to apply for internship to help youth discover their 'spark' February 2, 2022

A bill would let Kansas schools shift to online learning, but it may not get far February 2, 2022



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ST. JOHN NEWS

HOME NEWS SPORTS LIFESTYLE OPINION OBITUARIES CLASSIFIEDS LEGALS DIGITAL ISSUES

Home > News

White's Foodliner is more than just groceries

By Isaac Mata *Special to the News*

White's Foodliner at 340 North US-481 in St. John started in 2018. White's now has 33 employees. The different types of occupations in White's Foodliner includes department heads, store managers, grocery managers, and traveling specialists. Types of services and products include: groceries, cleaning supplies, beauty products, gasoline, diesel, and E85. Weekly ads may be found on the website in addition to online shopping. The company's goals are to provide groceries for the community.

A meeting room within White's is available for community members to utilize with prior arrangements.

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NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

by Mrs. Natalie Clark

Students in Business Essentials and Computer Applications classes have been conducting business interviews and sending them to the St. John News as special articles to the news. The students are learning more about St. John businesses and the occupations in each of the businesses.

WHITE'S END CAP PROJECT

by Mrs. Natalie Clark & Susan Patterson

The Business and FACS classes at USD 350 collaborated to build an end cap display at White's Foodliner.

The Business students made an appointment with White's Foodliner Manager, Heather Long. Isaac Mata interviewed Manager Long to prepare an article for the St. John News. An end cap display was also discussed. The Business Essentials Class made an appointment with Heather Long to discuss a possible Super Bowl end cap display. The Nutrition and Wellness class prepared a chili recipe and the Business Class proposed a nacho recipe. The Nutrition and Wellness classes collaborated to decide on the final recipes.

The Manager and Grocery Manager at White's met with the Business students and approved the chili and nacho recipes and discussed the process for building the end cap. Business Essentials students that met with the managers and planned the display board included Hannah Son, Erynn Cantrell, Braden Salem, and Isac Mata. The students took pictures of each of the proposed ingredients to calculate cost per recipe and cost

per person. Isac Mata prepared the QR codes that link to recipes, cost of ingredients, and nutritional content of recipes. In addition, Isaac Torres and Ryan Eulenstein helped to calculate the costs of each of the recipes. A list of items to order for the end cap was sent to the Grocery Manager. Audrey Willinger and Victor Rosales-Ubanda, Computer Applications, helped create graphics for the display board. Audrey formatted the recipes for display. Patrons may pick up printed copies of the recipes or scan QR codes to access the recipes, cost of recipes, and the nutritional content of the chili and nacho recipes.

The Nutrition and Wellness students reviewed the pictures of the nutrition labels and prepared the nutritional content for each of the recipes. The students in the 5th hour Nutrition and Wellness Class, Kimbra Dowling, Cassie Long, Melea Hearn, Jarenay Ramirez, and 5th hour Computer Applications Class, Audrey Weaver, Corey Nemec, and Jessie Duran, built the White's Foodliner end cap Wednesday, January 19th. <https://www.facebook.com/WhitesSJ/>



INVITED TO JOIN

JOIN JH SCHOLARS BOWL

by Mrs. Feril, Sponsor

Junior High Scholars Bowl has started. Any interested student needs to talk with Mrs. Feril. As of right now, there are 3 scheduled meets - Ellinwood on February 10th (V and JV), Otis Bison on February 17th (JV & V) and then our home meet on February 28th. If anyone is interested in volunteering to work on February 28th, please let Mrs. Feril know. We are looking for timers, runners, scorekeepers, moderators and judges.



JOIN YOUTH CHEER CAMP

by Mrs. Stephanie Smith, Sponsor



When: February 12 th & 13 th

Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm

Where: Main gym

Who: Any girl and boy PreSchool through 6 th grade

Cost: \$10.00 per child

(Checks payable to SJH Cheer) paid on the first day or before

Participants will perform February 14 th during ½ time of the SJH Boys home basketball game. Registrations can be returned to the school. Attn: Stephanie Smith.

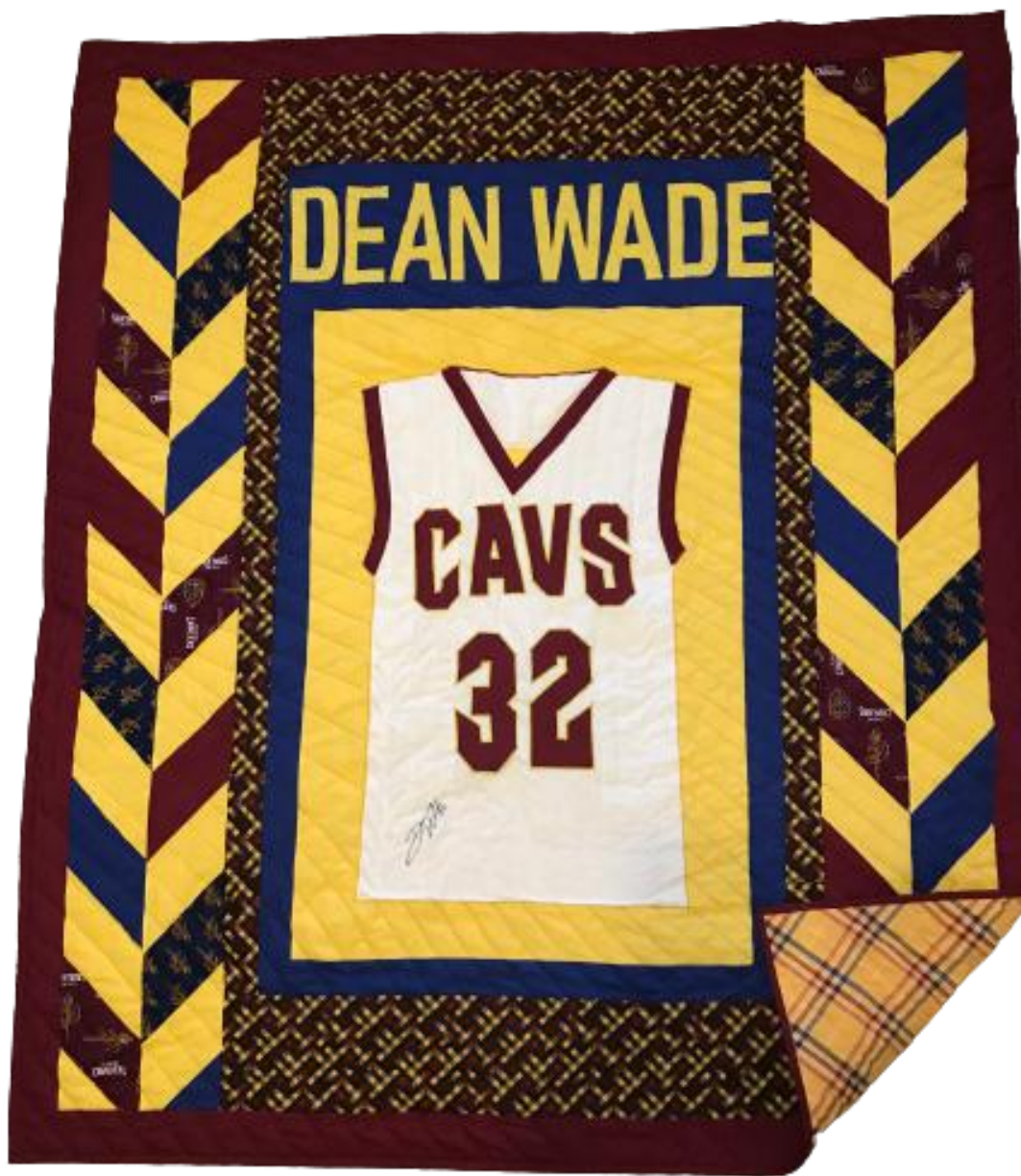
If you have any questions please feel free to contact Stephanie Smith at Cell# (620) 786-4414 or smiths@usd350.com

Waiver must be signed & money paid for child to participate.

PRINTMAKING & PHOTOSHOP

by Mrs. Feril, Sophomore Class Sponsor

Sophomores are holding a fundraiser. They are raffling off an autographed Dean Wade quilt. Tickets are \$5 or \$20 for 5. Winner will be drawn during halftime of the boy's game on February 15th. You do not have to be present to win.



TRAP SHOOTING TEAM GUN RAFFLE

FUNDRAISER DRAWING FEBRUARY 11TH

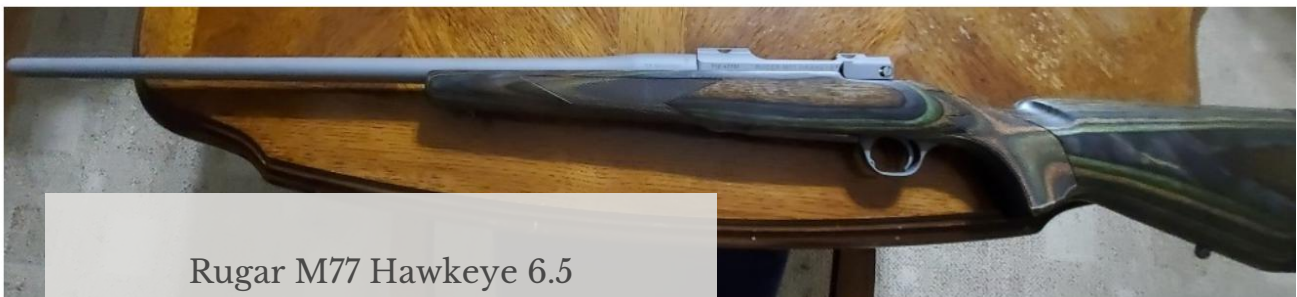


Browning Silver Field (Semi Auto) Habitat Camo 12 Gauge Shotgun 3.5 in 28 in

This raffle is to help pay for club expenses. You can purchase a raffle ticket for \$20 from any trapshooter, coach or from the High School Office. Drawing will be held on February 11th Halftime of the Boys Game The first gun to be drawn for will be the Shotgun.

Must be 18 or over to Purchase a ticket You do NOT have to be present to win.

Limited number of tickets.



Rugar M77 Hawkeye 6.5 Creedmoor Rifle

RAFFLE FUNDRAISER / FEBRUARY 10TH

by Mr. Bryant, Comic Book Club Sponsor

Heath Duntz donated a collectible statue to support the St. John Comic Book Club. A raffle fundraiser is being held for a Royal Gengar (Pokemon) collectible statue that measures approximately 7"H x 8"W and weighs approximately 8 oz. The statue is pictured below.

Raffle tickets will be sold through February 10th. Ticket prices are \$2.00 each or 5 tickets for \$8.00. Tickets can be purchased from club offers: Frances Duntz, Lochlyn Duntz, Issac Torres, Rafael Gonzalez, Anthony Johnson, Nevaeh Fischer or Mr. Bryant.

Please write your name on each ticket you buy. One ticket you will keep and the other will go into a raffle container. For raffle dates or any other questions, please contact Mr. Bryant.



COUNTY SPELLING BEE

ST JOHN HOSTS COUNTY SPELLING BEE

by Jorja Blakeslee

There were over 30 students participate in the 2022 County Spelling Bee between 4th and 8th grade. Here are some of the St John USD 350 participants for this year:



CREATING ARTIFACTS

by Braden Salem

ART CLASS



Garrett and Jaxon help William paint the Amelia Earhart artifact.

“

William is making Amelia Earhart's propeller. It is 9 feet long. made out of paper mache', cardboard, hot glue, dowel rods and a cardboard tube .

ST JOHN HS TEAM PLACES 3RD IN TOURNAMENT

SCHOLARS BOWL

by Brandon Henkle

The St. John HS Scholars Bowl Team competed at the 2022 Central Prairie League Tournament held at Ellinwood on Monday, January 31st at 4:15pm.

Congratulations to our HS Scholars Bowl Team - Conner Murphy (12), Eli Foote (10), Brandon Henkle (9), Willow Murphy (9), and Garrett McAlister (9) - for placing 3rd last night at CPL! Keep up the good work!



photos by Mrs. Spare

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY



APRIL 20TH / SAVE THE DATE

Community Service day will be April 20th, 2022 from 9am to 12pm. If you need services completed please stop by any of the following locations to pick up a Work Request Form:

ST JOHN HUDSON DISTRICT OFFICE

ST JOHN HUDSON HS OFFICE

IDA LONG GOODMAN LIBRARY

SUNFLOWER SENIOR CENTER

HUDSON TRINITY CHURCH

ST JOHN CITY OFFICE

Or you can call St. John HS office at 620-549-3277

Edited by: Erynn Cantrell

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Blain White, HS Principal

Hello February!!! To me February seems to drag on a bit. I'm not sure what it is. Maybe it's the weather, maybe it's the anticipation of the fury of activity that hits after spring break, maybe it's because January seems to go by so fast, maybe it's just the 7th inning stretch. Whatever it is, the shortest month of the year sometimes seems like the longest to me. This is the time of year that I have to really concentrate on being positive. If February feels the same to you, or any time of year really, I encourage you to find a way to stay positive. There are a many different studies out there that provide data that prove that maintaining a positive mental attitude has a profound impact on both your physical and emotional health, your relationships, your behaviors and even your success in your career and family life. As Roy T. Bennett said in *The Light In The Heart*, "More smiling, less worrying. More compassion, less judgment. More blessed, less stressed. More love, less hate."

Here are just a couple of things we have going on this month that you can be looking forward to. Sometime within the next few weeks we will start the process of pre-enrolling students in classes for the 2022-2023 school year. This is an important part of planning because it tells us which courses students are requesting and lets us begin the scheduling process. We are also going to be offering some new courses for students to take that they haven't been able to take in the future. Most of these new offerings will be in the business department and some of the classes we have talked about are Social Media Marketing, Podcasting, Entrepreneur-

-rship, and business math. Our pre-enrollment process will give students an opportunity to express their interest in these classes. We will close the online pre-enrollment process at the end of Spring Break. Students or parents with questions about enrollment should contact Mrs. Hacker.

On March 3rd we will be having a career/job fair day for our students in grades 7-12. The Senior English class is putting this together as their senior project this year. A few weeks ago students were given the opportunity to answer a survey expressing careers that they may be interested in. The data from this survey was used to determine which careers might be represented during the career fair. Throughout the day students will have an opportunity to listen to professionals in several different careers talk about different aspects of the career including the preparation and education required, what an average day is like, income and job growth potential, pros and cons, etc. This is an outstanding opportunity for students to research a variety of careers to help them narrow down their interests as they approach a transition out of high school. It also gives us a great opportunity to encourage partnerships between the school and the community to work in the best interest of our students.

Have a great month. As always, it's a great day to be a TIGER!!!

- Blain White - HS Principal

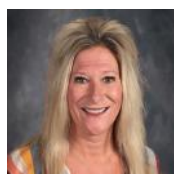
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ST. JOHN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Josh Meyer, *Principal*
Marla Irvine, *Secretary*

ST. JOHN JR / SR HIGH SCHOOL

Blain White, *Principal*
Stephanie Smith, *Secretary*
Jennifer Fischer, *Secretary*

SCHOOL NURSE

Lisa Cornwell, *CTE Coordinator*

LIBRARY

(620) 549 - 3227, *Phone*
Laura Davis, *Director*
Pat Crissman, *Clerk*
Mark Bryant, *Clerk*

“

Our mission is to ensure that students will find their purpose and become successful, lifelong learners and positive contributors in a changing world.

Use your smartphone camera to scan.

