

March 31, 2014 - Staunton City Schools Tip Sheet

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SHELBURNE STUDENT WINS ESSAY CONTEST

Seventh grade student, Shamir Ibar received the first place award from the VFW Thomas-Fields Post #7814 in the annual VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest. The contest asked "What Does Patriotism Mean to You?" and was open to all students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade. Post #2216 split their entries with the Thomas-Fields Post #7814, providing the opportunity for a Shelburne sweep, as the top award at both VFW posts was won by a Shelburne student. Like the competition at Post #2216, there were many other students competing from the area schools - both public and private schools.

In his essay, Shamir passionately stated: "A true patriot will go to war with a smiling face to sacrifice his life, if needed. He would serve the poor and distressed people of his country out of the compassion that arises from the patriotism in his heart. He does not worry about his personal interests or gains, but his devotion and work towards the development of his fellow countrymen. Soldiers do not fight for a country because it produces more cement than the enemy, but because it is their country. Everyone is capable of obtaining this attribute. Great men like Gandhi, Nehru and Bose had hearts filled with patriotism for it was their patriotism that urged them to carry on their national struggle for independence. Like a wildfire their passion spread throughout the world, illuminating the hearts of many."

Shelburne congratulates Shamir on winning first place and for his outstanding effort on this project.



Shamir Ibar, 7th grade student at Shelburne Middle School, placed 1st in the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest at the Thomas-Fields Post #7814.

SCS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN YOUTH ART SHOW

March is Youth Art Month and time for The Annual Juried Youth Art Show, held at the R.R. Smith Center for History. Each March, Staunton City Schools' art teachers get an opportunity to select and send work from some of our best young artists to this art show. All grade levels, preschool through high school, participate in this show, which is viewed as one of the highest honors for our visual arts students. This year's show kicked off on the first Sunday in March with an opening reception, when students and their families were invited to the gallery to come see their artwork on display.

Art teachers, Tina Purdy and David Campfield, worked with the elementary and preschool students. They selected a number of pieces from preschool and each elementary school for the show. The elementary students worked to explore and create different forms of artwork such as collages, watercolors, still life with bottles, and geometric abstracts. Mr. Campfield said, "I am extremely pleased with all the students' art."



Jayln Kier, Ware 4th grade student, shows off his artwork.



Grace Coyner poses by her artwork with Mr. Campfield.

Shelburne Middle School was represented by the artwork submissions of ten students: 8th graders Amed Corona, Josh Fitzgerald, and Noah Pelletier; 7th graders Shamir Ibar, Jake Morris, Morgan Painter, and Grace Warren; and 6th graders McKenzie Brown, Anthony Colon, and Anna Maria Cumbo. Art teacher, Mrs. Gutshall, congratulated each of her students on their awesome work and creativity.

Robert E. Lee High School students participated under the guidance of their art teachers, Mrs. Kyra Wilson and Mrs. Sherri Cizek. Mrs. Wilson's students crafted ceramic busts. Those submitted to the exhibit were: Sally Abouzied (12th), Dylan Giovine (12th), Ryleigh Coltrain (12th), Dustin Ramsey (12th), and Madelyn Knight (12th). Mrs. Sherri Cizek also had five students submitted their art work: Jake Riddle (11th), Caden Tyrrell (10th), Angel Contreras (11th), Breona Swift (11th), and Haley Thompson (10th). Mrs. Wilson said, "It is always a pleasure to have your students' work be seen by others."



Sally Abouzied created a ceramic bust for the Annual Juried Youth Art Show, held at the R.R. Smith Center.

COLLEGE SIGNING DAY AT LEE

On Tuesday, March 18, seven Robert E. Lee High School seniors signed their letters of intent to play football at the college level. Excitement was in the air as friends, family, and school staff looked on to see these students commit to attend college and play for such schools as UVA College at Wise, Lackawanna Junior College, Dean College, Bridgewater College, Christopher Newport University and Shenandoah University.

Robert E. Lee High School's Varsity Head Football Coach, David Tibbs, looked on with satisfaction and pride as seven of his players moved on to the next level of their academic and athletic careers. Those signing were: Dylan Giovine, Leemen linebacker, who will be attending UVA College at Wise and is undecided on his major; Tarren Clayton, Leemen defensive end, who will be attending Lackawanna Junior College and majoring in sports marketing; Javon Chisley, Leemen quarterback, who will be attending Dean College and majoring in communications; Collin Spears, Leemen running back, who will be attending Dean College and majoring in business; Hayden Groff, Leemen tight end, who will be attending Bridgewater College and is undecided on his major; Trenton Burdick, Leemen kicker/punter, who will be attending Christopher Newport University and majoring in finance; and Deven Cox, center for the Leemen, who will be attending Shenandoah University and majoring in physical therapy. "This is what we work so hard towards daily, to get these guys to the next level and provide them with the opportunity to go to college. This opportunity is not to be taken lightly. It's up to each one of them what they do with it," said Coach Tibbs.

Robert E. Lee High School congratulates these students and wishes them the best as they look toward the future.



Seated: (L to R) Dylan Giovine, Deven Cox, Collin Spears, Javon Chisley, Tarren Clayton, Trenton Burdick, Hayden Groff. Standing: Coach Tibbs.