

N Central Christian School NEWSLETTER

Vol. 6 No. 4

Summer 2010

Central's 49th class graduates



Paul McAtee gives a thumbs-up before the ceremony.



Emma Hooley and YeaEun Hwang prepare for the processional.



On May 30, 2010, thirty-five graduates celebrated with families, faculty and staff. Student speakers were Emma Hooley and Jack Lyons. Dan Hooley, Emma's father and pastor of First Mennonite Church in Canton, gave the commencement address, "A Risk Worth Taking" and used a bucket of eggs in a creative illustration about risk and faith. The previous evening seniors led a time of reflection and memories during the Senior Program.

Inside this issue

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Finally, brothers, whatever is true,
whatever is noble, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,
whatever is admirable—if anything is
excellent or praiseworthy—think about
such things.

Philippians 4:8 (NIV)

Central Citizens

Melissa Kreis, Jack Lyons

Given to one male and one female who have demonstrated Christ-centered values, appreciation for academics and learning, leadership and respect by peers and involvement in co-curricular opportunities.

Cum Laude 3.800 - 3.869 GPA

Emma Hooley

Magna Cum Laude 3.870 - 3.979 GPA

Kara Marang, Katrina Schmid

Chloe Schrock, Brennan Ujcich, Kaitlyn Wenger

Melissa Kreis, Jack Lyons

Summa Cum Laude 3.980 - 4.0

Kaitlyn Wenger, Dustin Yoder

The Daily Record Teenagers of the Month

An award given to one male and one female based on leadership, scholarship and attainment.

Outstanding Musician

Stacey Yovichin

Participates in Concert Choir and Orchestra. Excellent singer and instrumentalist. Dependable with good work ethic and solid sightreading skills. Music ensembles would not be as good without this person(s). Enthusiastic about making excellent music.

Outstanding Choir Member

Elizabeth Dutcher, Ben Lehman

Must be in Concert Choir and Varsity Singers, respected for vocal abilities, dependable, enthusiastic about keeping the excellent choral tradition at Central, and a capable and competent sightreader.

Outstanding Instrumentalist

Emma Hooley, Jack Lyons

Must be in Orchestra, respected for instrumental abilities, dependable, enthusiastic about keeping the excellent orchestral tradition at Central, and a capable and competent sectional leader.

High School awards

TEAM+S (Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science)

Varsity A team: Isaac Clay, YeaEun Hwang, Sam Kim, Melissa Kreis, Jack Lyons, Katrina Schmid, Brennan Ujcich, Garret Weaver

Varsity B team: Jon Davis, Donna Horst, Chloe Raber, Mary Ramseyer, Daniel Park, Jana Sleutz, Kelly Steiner, Clinton Weaver

JV team: Isaiah Breckbill, Holly Kreis, Marissa Krier, Jonnie Martin, Sam Miller, Sarah Miller, Sonali Patel, William Troyer

Science Olympiad

Isaiah Breckbill, Isaac Clay, Holly Kreis, Fritz Lehman, Jonnie Martin, Matthew Neuenschwander, Chloe Raber, Mary Ramseyer, Katrina Schmid, Chloe Schrock, William Troyer, Brennan Ujcich, Clinton Weaver, Garret Weaver, Justen Woodrich

STUCO

Ben Lehman, Jack Lyons, Kelsey Hilty, Jephtha Miller, Jenna Ramseyer, Erin Steiner, Olivia Steiner, William Troyer, Kaitlyn Wenger, Kiernan Wright

Campus Ministries

Elizabeth Dutcher, Emma Hooley, Melissa Kreis, Jessica Lepley, Katrina Schmid, Chloe Schrock, Raina Workman, Stacey Yovichin, Nevin Zook

Perfect Attendance

Jenna Beacon, Isaiah Breckbill, Austin Galbraith, Jordan Gray, Minah Kim, Todd Mann, Amber McEwen, Dorothy Miller, Jephtha Miller, Chloe Raber, Mary Ramseyer, Matthew Shetler, Jana Sleutz, Alison Stutzman, Ty Young



Roman Gingerich Award

This is the highest award that Central presents to senior athletes. Given to a senior who best exemplifies some or all of the following: positive mental attitude, coachability, sports participation, achievement, leadership, citizenship and Christian influence and attitude.

Named after a long-time physical education teacher and coach at Goshen College.

Sandy Mullet, Dustin Yoder

Carol Schloneger Award

Presented to a senior in honor of Carol Schloneger, a former athletic secretary at our school who died at a young age of cancer. She was always willing to help and went well beyond the call of duty. Carol also had a very willing spirit about her that made her indispensable. The award is presented to a senior who exemplifies these characteristics.

Katrina Schmid

Central Christian Business Scholarship

This scholarship is funded by Hummel Group and Westfield Insurance. The applicant must have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and must be used for a 4-year degree majoring in a business-related field.

Jordan King, Ben Nussbaum

Senior Athletic Plaques

Justin Gehman, Emma Hooley
Chase Monroe, Sandy Mullet, Erin Steiner
Kaitlyn Wenger, Dustin Yoder, Stacey Yovichin

Akron Beacon Journal Scholar Athlete

Justin Gehman

OHSAA Scholar Athlete

Kaitlyn Wenger, Dustin Yoder

Given to a senior with the highest GPA and at least four varsity letters. Sponsored by the State Farm Insurance Companies and the OHSAA.

Wayne County Hall of Fame Inductees

Sandy Mullet

Presented to a male and female who were outstanding athletes at Central. Inductees were invited to a banquet by the Hall of Fame Board of Directors.

Archie Griffin Sportsmanship

Sandy Mullet, Zach Steffen

In honor of Archie Griffin, a two-time Heisman Trophy winner at Ohio State University in football, played professional football and now is assistant athletic director at OSU. Griffin was always a model of sportsmanship. The award is presented to a male and female who have displayed sportsmanship in our school. The award is sponsored by the OHSAA and the recipient is selected by our Athletic Council.

Special Commendation

TEAM+S, second place in state, nineteenth place in national competition

Concert Choir, #1 in state AA competition

Orrville Chamber of Commerce Awards

Katrina Schmid (foreign language)
Brennan Ujcich (English), Melissa Kreis (math)
Garret Weaver (science), Jordan King (business science)
Jack Lyons (fine arts), YeaEun Hwang (applied arts)
Chloe Schrock (social studies)

Outstanding seniors are recognized by teachers in these disciplines: foreign language, English, mathematics, business, science, fine and applied arts, social studies.

American Math Competition

Jack Lyons

The AMC12 is a 25-question, 75-minute multiple choice examination in secondary school mathematics containing problems which can be understood and solved with pre-calculus concepts.

Senior Class Leadership Team

Jordan King, Jordan Nussbaum
Chloe Schrock, Stacey Yovichin

Class Advisors

Henry Beun, Don Nussbaum

2010-2011 Varsity Singers

The Varsity Singer roster is Alex Bargerstock, Stephanie Darm, Minah Kim, Holly Kreis, Alisa Murray, Matt Neuenschwander, Daniel Park, Chloe Raber, Elise Ramseyer, Mary Ramseyer, Olivia Ressler, Aubrey Schrock, Ben Troyer, Clinton Weaver, Justen Woodrich and Jared Zook.

Recipients of this year's Todd Neuenschwander Scholarship were Alisa Murray and Jephtha Miller. They are pictured here with Joyce (Neuenschwander '73) Taylor and Til Neuenschwander. This scholarship awards \$1000 each to current students returning as seniors who demonstrate active faith, athleticism and leadership.

Central's 50-year celebration

What started as a conversation and a dream is nearing fifty years of reality. When local leaders got together and agreed that a Christian school would benefit the families, congregations and the Ohio Conference of the Mennonite Church, there were no state grants to apply for, no levy to pass. It was up to them and the communities around them to make it happen.

To appropriately celebrate this milestone, the school has called together a planning committee for the 50-year anniversary of Central Christian. The committee, headed up by Edna Ressler, is planning a number of events throughout the 2011–12 school year.

During the next year the committee will gather stories of those who were instrumental in the early days of Central's development and make a DVD. The class of 1962 will be having their 50-year class reunion on graduation day 2012 and will be honored at the graduation ceremony.

Watch the Central Newsletter for future plans as we remember and celebrate God's faithfulness for the past 50 years and more.



Jonathan Keegel Memorial Award winner Jacob Raber and Andrew Geiser Memorial Award winner Stacy Coblentz.

A word from our head administrator

Grateful for an amazing year

We have had a year where students have dedicated their lives to Christ for the first time. We have had the privilege of watching parent-child relationships grow profoundly closer together. We have experienced international students draw closer to God and begin the walk toward future careers that will impact their countries. When I think of changed lives and the ripple effect into the next generations, it is impossible not to be humbled by God's grace to all of us.

I have been amazed at the dedicated, gifted faculty and staff at Central. Their lives that have been consecrated to the work of our Lord produce the Central difference. Central is a place where it is safe for students to develop their God-granted uniqueness, where teachers truly see their students as gifts from God. They recognize the uniqueness of each student and they celebrate their success and failures. The teachers and staff have helped me understand that often the failures of our students develop the greatest learning.

The class of 2010 fills us with anticipation and expectation. They were a fun-loving, gifted and intelligent group. We anticipate and expect to see them beginning and leading businesses, pastoring churches, serving on the mission field and maybe coming back and teaching at Central, continuing the cycle of excellence established at Central. Wherever God leads them, they can be assured we will watch and be encouraged by their lives.

Eugene Miller
head administrator

Middle school awards

Leadership Potential Award

Melissa Nussbaum

Teacher Award

Colton Steiner

Outstanding Choir Members

Jacob Raber, Anna Ressler
Anna Hershberger, Nathan Otto

Outstanding Instrumental Members

Janelle Bargerstock, Jonah Otto
Margie Uhle, Joshua Weaver

Biblical Awards

Joshua Weaver (David)
Jared Sleutz (Jonathan)
Matthew Kline (Caleb)
Anna Hershberger (Hannah)
Victoria Nussbaum (Esther)
Sophia Darco (Ruth)

Andrew Geiser Memorial Award

Stacy Coblentz

Jonathan Keegel Memorial Award

Jacob Raber

Perfect Attendance

Michelle Conrad, Connor Mast, Corbin Schrock, Jared Sleutz, Natalie Swift



On May 6, National Day of Prayer, the entire school formed small groups and prayed for God's peace in the world, in our school and in our families. They also prayed for guidance for world leaders, our president, school board members, school administration, teachers and parents.

After some individual reflections, they met in the gym for a hymn sing and community prayer and blessing.

Spring performances



The elementary school performed the musical *The Sermon on the Mound*. The humor, upbeat songs and a message about God's faithfulness was a hit with the delighted audience. The evening also included hot dogs, lemonade and popcorn which tied into the baseball game theme.



The Whisper is God, a benefit performance for Haiti relief, took the place of the high school spring play this year at Central. Over \$4,000 was raised in this effort which was a blend of music, skits and free expression. The background mural was created by senior Yea Hwang. The panels were removed during the evening to reveal another scene painted behind. It was a memorable evening and the students enjoyed the opportunity to express their creativity in this unique setting.



Middle school students presented *Big Bad* on May 7 and 8. The comedy was set in a courtroom where the Big Bad Wolf, played by Colton Steiner, was tried for various crimes. The judge, played by Matthew Kline, listened to the cases of the three little pigs, Red Riding Hood and other famous victims.

Creative science experiments



Zach Steffen and Paul McAtee demonstrate their experiment to Ethan Stoll and Daniel Marks.

High school students enjoyed working on a project that allowed them to study any science topic that was of interest to them. Working in pairs, they designed a demonstration, wrote a presentation to give to the middle school and elementary school, rehearsed trial runs of the demonstration, and presented them for the younger students.

High school science teacher Dave Risser was pleased with the project. "This was hard work as they had to do their presentations 15 to 20 times, making sure they had sufficient materials and keeping an excited attitude for a young audience. They interacted with the younger students in a positive way, asking questions, gearing down their presentations to their level, and allowing the younger students to respond to their work. I saw this experience as a win-win situation for all involved. We need to do this again next year!"

2010-11 enrollment

If you or someone you know is considering Central Christian School, call to schedule a tour date with the admissions office before the summer fades into fall. For more information, call Bruce Kooker or Doris Risser at the school or contact by email bkooker@ccscomets.org or dorisrisser@ccscomets.org.

ALUMNI LINKS

Vol. 6 No. 4

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A Mennonite voice in Washington, D.C.

Michael Shank is the communications director and policy advisor for U.S. Congressman Mike Honda (Ca-15). Representative Honda, who represents Silicon Valley, Ca, is chairman of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Vice-chair of the Democratic National Committee, chairman of the Congressional Progressive Caucus's Afghanistan Taskforce, and member of the House Appropriations Committee.

From 2007-2008, Michael was the communications director at George Mason University's Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution. At the university, Michael advised the institute's conflict experts on strategic media and policy initiatives related to domestic and international conflicts. In his words, Michael shares some insight about his life journey.

Had you asked me in 1992 when I graduated from Central if I imagined myself in Washington working for the United States Congress, you would've found me disbelieving. Not me, I was interested in the Arts. In fact, I think my pink, pig-suited Wilbur performance in Central's production of "Charlotte's Web" will go down in infamy. Theatre was my thing, inspiring a Bachelor's degree, film in Los Angeles, and a co-founded theatre company in Seattle.

Years later, I'm the communications director and policy advisor for US Congressman Michael Honda, member of the House Appropriations Committee and vice-chair of the Democratic Party. How did I get from Wilbur to Washington?

A bit of background first. I've only ever wanted to work for social and environmental justice (theatre was my preferred medium), a *raison d'être* which rooted early. Being raised Mennonite helped, so too my parents' influence, but it was more accidental. My dad, who taught Bible at Central and preached at Sonnenberg Mennonite Church, suffered a stroke a year before he died. I was eight years old. Unable to speak and write, my dad's disability made an accidental caretaker out of my entire family.

I remember it clearly, sitting beside my father while I helped him write and speak the simplest of words – my name. This role-reversal is hardly how a kid should be spending his youth and its impact on me was profound. I saw myself as a guardian of sorts. Every job, whether I was in the US, Middle East, or Asia, focused on protecting the planet and its people – especially ones whose voice was muted or marginalized.

That's why I'm in Washington now trying to transform the very structures that manifest this marginalization. That's why I'm pursuing my doctoral degree in conflict analysis and resolution. That's why I'm writing this article and why I spent the past three years writing for every newspaper that would publish my conflict analysis.

Because I strongly believe we must do everything within our power to help, like Jesus helped "the least of these" – by feeding the hungry, giving water to the thirsty, and taking care of the sick. Half the world – over 3 billion people – lives on less than \$2.50 a day, with over one billion people lacking clean drinking water.

We have the means to meet this need, but not the sufficient political and public will. This is why we need more Mennonites in Washington – to convey Jesus' commitment to nonviolence, justice, and mercy, and to bear witness to the work Mennonites do worldwide. Speaking truth to power is not easy. It wasn't for Jesus, early Anabaptists, or WWII conscientious objectors, and it won't be now. But if we don't speak up, who will?



Michael Shank '92 with Nobel Laureate Desmond Tutu at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

For all published articles written by Michael Shank, please go to www.michaelshank.net.

Giving warmth a stitch at a time



Glenda (Miller '68) Neely, seated second from the right, with some of the volunteers who participate in a knitting and crocheting ministry in Gahanna.

Glenda Neely is continuing a legacy left by her mother to spread warmth, prayer and the love of Jesus to those in need. In 1990, Glenda's mother was diagnosed with viral cardiomyopathy and given five years to live. Glenda and her sister signed her up for knitting lessons and she began making and donating scarves and hats to a local ministry. She continued this until she passed away in 1995.

One day Glenda was driving home from work and happened to see a homeless person beside the road wearing one of her mother's hats. This was the inspiration Glenda needed to pick up her crochet hook and continue the ministry her mother started.

For the next seven years, Glenda crocheted scarves and gave them to St. Matthew's Church. After she retired, she helped hand out scarves and hats to needy families at Christmas. She started teaching others to crochet and the ministry has grown to a group of almost one hundred. They meet weekly and each finished article has a prayer pinned on it before it is distributed.

Glenda says, "Since 1995, we have made over 17,000 items. We now make hats, scarves, headbands, baby blankets and lap robes. In 2009, we distributed over 6,000 items to 29 agencies. My mother said we could all be one paycheck away from being homeless and may need someone's help. I have never forgotten that."

Notes

Dean Falb '63 retired from a position as agricultural lending officer, and now farms and volunteers at MCC Connections and on the Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team.

Keith Gerber '64 is a mental health counselor at Catholic Charities, Sarasota, Fla.

Dave Hooley '69 is at the University of Findlay where he is assistant professor of chemistry and laboratory manager.

Sheryl (Shaner '76) Seitz is a part-time pastor at Ashley United Methodist Church in Ashley and a full-time student at The Methodist Theological School of Ohio. She is living on campus of the seminary with her husband, Tim, while working on a Master of Divinity degree.

John D. Roth '77, Goshen College Professor of History, has completed his Mennonite book trilogy. In "Practices: Mennonite Worship and Witness" (Herald Press, 2009), Roth explores how the practices, habits and routines of worship form Christian – and specifically Mennonite – identity. The first two books in Roth's series were "Beliefs: Mennonite Faith and Practice" (Herald Press, 2005), and "Stories: How Mennonites Came to Be" (Herald Press, 2007).

Joyce (Sommers '80) Nussbaum graduated with a BA in Social Science on May 2, 2010, from James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Kristi Glick '93 is an assistant professor of art at Goshen College. She received a master of fine arts degree in metal design from East Carolina University. She has worked as a studio artist in Charlottesville, Va., and has had work in national and international juried exhibits in the United States and in London.

Ben Metcalf '99 and Joy Houser Metcalf finished a two-year teaching term at Academia Los Pinares in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Ben taught sixth grade.

Jon Risser '01 plans to pursue his master's degree at the University of Baltimore, majoring in International Law and Peace and Justice issues.

Mark Risser '03 will start a five-year PhD program at The Ohio State University in Statistics (Math).

Anita (Hooley '03) Yoder works as a field manager for Ohio Citizen Action, an environmental nonprofit organization in Cleveland.

Ashley (Speece '03) Harbaugh received a doctorate of optometry from Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University on May 23, 2010. Dr. Harbaugh will be joining a practice in Lancaster, Pa.

Jonathan Mast '04 is a team leader at Tractor Supply Company, Lancaster, Pa.

Kelly Hudson '05 is working at Oriana House, a women's residential correctional center in Akron.

Mary Dunn '05 received a BS degree in nursing summa cum laude from Eastern Mennonite University.

Joel Kratzer '06 earned a BS in accounting business administration summa cum laude from Eastern Mennonite University.

Amanda Kauffman '06 received a BS degree in nursing cum laude from Goshen College.

Tamara Meyer '06 received a BS degree in nursing from Eastern Mennonite University.

Christopher Wesman '06 received a BS degree in business administration from Eastern Mennonite University.

Angie Ross '07, Laura Gehman '08, Jonathan Hershberger '08, Matthew Lehman '08, Dustin Linder '08, Logan Miller '08, Alex Steiner '08, Nick Wesman '08 and Heidi Wiebe '08 graduated from Hesston College in May.

Marriages

Anita Hooley '03 and Ben L. Yoder, August 15, 2009, Canton.

Ashley Speece '03 and Casey Harbaugh, May 16, 2009, Wooster.

Jonathan Mast '04 and Hannah Kauffman Jantzi, June 6, 2009, Lancaster, Pa.

Crystal Steiner '05 and Aaron Martin, January 2, 2010, Harrisonburg, Va.

Births

Micah Joseph, born May 1, 2009, to **Marie (Johnston '99)** and **Joseph Mast '99**, Millersburg.

Kerrilyn Jean, born March 9, 2010, to **Rod '98** and **Susan (Ramer '98) Neuenschwander**, Apple Creek.

Mason Alexander, born April 29, 2010, to Brian and **Jenna (Kratzer '02) Kempf**, Apple Creek.

Kaleb Matthew and Kayla Elizabeth Schlabach, born March 4 to Scott and **Melody (Amstutz '00) Schlabach**, Apple Creek.

Alumni soccer

Central alumni are invited to participate in a soccer game versus Hiland's alumni on Saturday, August 7 at 7:00 pm. Admission will be charged and the profits will benefit both schools.

If you are interested in participating, contact Zach Kooker, zkooker@ccscomets.org or sign up on Central's website, ccscomets.org. A roster will be posted as it becomes available.

Volleyball team serves up fun and fitness at Ida Sue School

Central Christian's volleyball team served up a court full of fun and fitness at Ida Sue School, when ten of the players shared their skills as well as their passion for the sport during Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

Juniors Johanna Eckenrode, Rachel Linder, Alisa Murray and Allison Shetler were joined by sophomore Gabi Nunes, and freshmen Makena Granger, Marissa Krier, Sydney Mast, Sarah Miller and Amanda Raber.

The theme was "Just Like You," to encourage people to think about their similarities rather than their differences so that everyone will welcome people with disabilities into their communities. And that's precisely the way things played out as the players mingled with the students while helping them develop their passing, setting, serving, and hitting skills.

"I had an awesome time," said Johanna Eckenrode. "I really enjoyed seeing their excitement at just being able to touch the volleyball. It was a lot of fun sharing my passion for volleyball with people that had a passion for learning about it." Teammate Alisa Murray added, "The highlight for me was seeing the joy on their faces. I'd do it again anytime. I think it's great for our team to work together to help others. I hope the students at Ida Sue had as much fun as we did."

The ultimate intent is to ensure that people with disabilities are treated as equal partners in the workplace, in the schools, and in the neighborhoods, and that appeared to be the outcome. "I think everyone had a good time," said Nancy Jeffries, adapted physical education teacher at Ida Sue School, "and I know that we all benefitted from the experience."



Central volleyball players (back) Rachel Linder, Johanna Eckenrode, Alisa Murray and Allison Shetler pose with students from Ida Sue after a fun-filled day of volleyball instruction.

Nature's music

Music students in seventh and eighth grade recently expanded their classroom to include several acres. The students wandered across athletic fields, parking lots and into the woods to learn about music naturally—through the songs of birds. Prior to the peak of spring migration, teacher Tim Shue had students listen and identify different bird songs played in the classroom. "Rehearsing notes and learning symbols is really a small part of what music really is, but that's almost entirely what traditional music classes teach," says Shue. "Birdsongs force you to listen differently."

Students were encouraged to use standard musical symbols and Italian terms to describe them, reinforcing academic terms to natural sounds. According to Shue, "Many musical elements happen simultaneously and it can be hard to decipher."

"Learning birds by sight and sound is a challenging hobby that never gets boring," says Shue. From a musician's perspective, it's about connecting to the source of musical inspiration, the songs occurring naturally in nature.

We want to hear from our alumni!

Please send news, announcements and updates to

Alumni Office

Central Christian School

PO Box 9, Kidron OH 44636

or email kconrad@ccscomets.org

Central Christian School

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NEWSLETTER ALUMNI LINKS

Summer 2010

2010 Central Reunions

1965

1970

contact Bruce Hershberger
bhershberger@neo.rr.com

1975

**Saturday, August 7, 6:00
at Das Dutch Kitchen**

contact John and Mae Diller - 330-877-2109

1980

1985

Saturday, August 7

contact Marla Hines
hineszimmerman@embarqmail.com
Michele Sauder
mjsauder@gmail.com

1990

Saturday, July 31 at CCS

contact Jason Nussbaum - nussbaum.jason@gmail.com

1995

Saturday, August 14, 4:00 pm

contact Ryan Steiner - ryan_steiner@hotmail.com

2000

Saturday, August 7, 4:00 pm at CCS

contact Denver Steiner - denver@steiner7.com

2005

May 29, 2010

Looking ahead

Aug 6-7

Mennonite Relief Sale

Aug 7

Alumni soccer game vs Hiland alumni 7:00

August 10

Practice begins for fall sports

August 13

Back-to-School Open House 6:00

Mandatory meeting for parents of athletes 7:00

August 17

First day of classes

August 29

Annual corporation meeting

October 15

Fall Concert "Prelude and Dessert"

October 22

Fall Fish Fry



Stacey Yovichin and Meredith Mease spread mulch at the YMCA on Community Service Day. Central students in grades 5-12 served our community on April 28, working in more than twenty nonprofit agencies across Wayne, Holmes and Summit counties.

The total amount pledged was over \$177,00 and the entire school was rewarded for this accomplishment.