365 Club Donors Continue to Make a Difference Every Day

It was a wonderful winter morning as supporters of the Danville Public School Foundation gathered at the Turtle Run Banquet Center at the annual 365 Club Breakfast.

The 365 Club Breakfast is the signature fundraising event for the School Foundation, where donors pledge at least one dollar per day in support of the 6,000 children attending Danville Public Schools. Mrs. Mandy Mourer, a fifth-grade teacher at Northeast Elementary School, and three of her students, Ava Brown, Cecilia Brown, and Elliott Calvin, explained how their class benefited from each student having their own computer to use in their classroom. This 1:1 program was funded in part by a $10,000 grant from Iroquois Federal Foundation and a $4,381.00 grant from the School Foundation.

Under the direction of Mrs. Jennifer Woodrow, Choral Director at North Ridge Middle School, and her husband David, North Ridge students preformed three numbers from the Lion King Experience. The Lion King Experience is an immersive, project based exploration of theatre making, and was partially funded by a $3,800 grant for the School Foundation.

Without the support of all of our donors, we would not be able to fulfill our mission of providing enhanced educational opportunities for our children.

Thank you to all of our 365 Club donors.

It is never too late to join the 365 Club. If you would like to make a difference every day, just click here:

www.dpsf.org

North Ridge Middle School students perform a selection from the Lion King Experience.

Charles Hall, President of the School Foundation, welcomes our guests.

A video of students playing violins at Northeast School was shown.

Cecilia Brown, Ava Brown, Mrs. Mourer, and Elliott Calvin present about the 1:1 Computer Project.
Davis’ students went on a journey with a 10-year old boy searching for his father in Depression era America, as they read the book *Bud not Buddy.*

Mr. Davis, Liberty School’s music teacher, was able to replace the school’s broken piano.

The Algebra II classes at Danville High School received new graphing calculators for use by all the students.

Mrs. Jones, from North Ridge Middle School, with a new classroom set of the book, *Freedom Walkers,* had her students study the history of the major civil rights movement surrounding the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama.

Mrs. Koerner’s class at Cannon School expanded their Art Class to include works in clay, which students presented to their parents.

A guest artist presenting African Dance performed for students at both Denman Elementary and Danville High School.

Danville High School’s school nurse, Ms. Uplinger, and health teacher, Ms. Wenthe, were provided CPR kits to aid in the instruction of CPR for the students at DHS.

Musical theatre returned to Danville High School with the presentation of *Beauty and the Beast.*

These are just a few of the ways that our donors made a difference in the 2014-15 school year. This school year is on track to be even bigger. All of this is because of you. Thank you for all you do and may you and your families have a very happy 2016!

Thank you for all you do,

Bob Richard
Executive Director

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Celebrating Our Successes at the 365 Club Breakfast
2016 365 Club Members

Wade & Mary Adams
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AQUA Illinois
Dr. Randal & Starr Ashton
AT&T
Auto Zone
Automation International
James and Norma Bailey
Sandra Diveley Batmangelich
Dr. Wes & Sheila Bieritz

Thank You!

Not a 365 Club Member?

Donate Now
Thank you for your support!

Walk of Honor—Building Education Brick by Brick

In Honor of Ronald Henton — Mark Denman
In memory of Thomas Smith
Bill & Kathy Toma – Class of 1965
In memory of William Wayland
William Wayland —Cathy Wenthe
Jill & Judy Wherry Class of 1965

John Wherry—Class of 1924 – Jill Wherry Onderdonk & Judy Wherry Armstrong
Marcia J. Wherry Class of 1961 – Jill Wherry Onderdonk & Judy Wherry Armstrong

Memorial Donations

Ed Bleveans – Norma & Richard Burch
Brenda Cooper – John & Sue Shane
Elmer (Woody) Farmer – Bill & Bev Kelser

Thomas Smith – W. James & Linda Gieseke, Charles & Kim Hall, Bruce & Sharon Meachum,
Bill & Bev Kesler, John & Sally Eakle, Judy & Mel Myers


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Danville Public School Foundation

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Class of ‘44 Geis Sweeps NC Seniors

In September, John Geis, DHS Class of 1944, competed in the North Carolina State Seniors Swimming Championships. John was a member of the DHS Swim Team from 1944-49, winning a bronze medal for the 150-yard individual medley at the Illinois HS Championship in 1949. He had not swam competitively since his days at Purdue University in 1953. Competing in the 80-84 age group, John showed that he did not lose his talent he honed at DHS as he won the 100, 200, 500 yard freestyle and the 50 yard backstroke. Pictured here is John as a swimmer at DHS and with his current medals. Eat your heart out Michael Phelps! If you would like to congratulate John, you may reach him at aigeis@att.net.

Polar Express a Hit with over 2,000 Kids

“Even though I’ve grown old, the bell still rings for me as it does for all who truly believe.” Those of us lucky enough to see the children from Pre-Kindergarten through First-grade experience the Polar Express event this year had no trouble relating to author Chris Van Allsburg’ famous last line of his book.

The Danville Public School Foundation in cooperation with Presence United Samaritans Medical Center Foundation’s Festival of Trees hosted the readings of the Polar Express for children from all elementary schools in Danville and Vermilion County.

For Danville students, their trip began as their train (school buses) arrived at their school where conductors and chefs met them as they boarded to begin their trip to the North Pole (Festival of Trees). Tickets were punched and carols sung as the train made its journey. As the children arrived, they were greeted by cheering elves who led them into the North Pole.

Once there, the children were treated to a tour of the Festival of Trees with over 100 decorated trees and a reading of the Polar Express. Danville Mayor Scott Eisenhauer brought the magic of the book alive.

After the reading was completed, Santa arrived and each child was given a silver bell, the “First Gift of Christmas.”

Over 140 volunteers helped make what is becoming a holiday tradition, a success. Our thanks to those volunteers and to the Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation for sponsoring the event and covering the transportation cost of the buses for Danville Public School children. Thank you also to our donors who help with related costs of the event. Your are making a difference!

Pictures from the event can be seen on the back cover of this newsletter.

Polar Express photos by:
Joyce Knoblauch
Knoblauch Studios
(Photography is on page 5.)