

COMMUNITY ROUNDUP

December 28, 2018

Port Clinton students experience simulated space mission

PORT CLINTON - A group of Port Clinton Middle School sixth grade students recently traveled to the Challenger Learning Center in Oregon to complete a space mission simulation.

The Dec. 20 trip was sponsored in part by a grant from BP. The educational field trip emphasizes STEM to increase student enthusiasm about math, science, and technology.

The Challenger Center specifically designed this simulation program to provide an authentic encounter that increases the principles of teamwork, responsible decisionmaking, problem-solving, and communication.

Students were immersed in a realistic Mission Control and Space Station environment: computer consoles, communication headsets, continuous messages on the loudspeakers, electronic messages, teammates they could only see on video monitors, emergency sounds and flashing lights, and hands-on activities at science stations.

Student participants and jobs for the mission were: Communications Team: Emma Miller, Connor Earnest, Ava DeFreitas, Steele Joseph; Data Team: Ian Schurdell, Amelia Honeycutt, Noah Knecht, Kerynn Christiansen; Navigation Team: Alena Guerra, Aidan Haynes, Bert Fall, Sam Roberts; Medical Team: Ryan Caris, Cheyenne Whitaker, Katie Strobel, Cadence Guerra; Remote Team: Jordan Waddell, Morgan Delhees, Emily Boykin, Elijah Ramsey; Life Support Team: Nisiela Garcia, Olivia Spencer, Nora Rosario, Will Hartlaub; Isolation Team: Andrew Patterson, Ashton Sanchez, Briar Rohrer, Jessie Waddell; Probe Team: Corrine Baker, Ryan Madison, Kayden Thebeau, Simeon Borton.

Diane Zam is the Fleet 6 Science Teacher at Port Clinton Middle School.

Ross musicians, singers earn district honors

FREMONT - Fremont Ross High School will be well represented in Port Clinton this year at the District 2 Ohio Music Education Association Honors Band, Orchestra, and Choir Festival. Each student must submit a recording of themselves performing the required literature. Each student that submits a recording is then ranked in order, so the students who are picked are considered the best of the best.

The District 2 Ohio Music Education Association Festival Band, Orchestra, and Choir will perform at 7 p.m. Jan. 26 at Port Clinton High School.

Representing the Fremont Ross Choir are Estrella Gonzalez, soprano; Sabrina Flores, alto; Noah Brickner, baritone; Aaron Chavez, tenor; Jacob Herr, tenor; Kaden White, tenor, and Noah Wiezorak, tenor.

Attending from Fremont Ross Orchestra are Sophia Biggins, violin; Brystanna Humburg, violin; Morgan Liggins, violin; Abby Nagy, viola; Esperanza Smith, viola; Gage Koenig, viola; Karly Wagner, viola; Jordan Relford, cello; Christian Neiling, bass; Travis Bowlus, bass; Myles Myers, bass, and Hunter Jones, bass.

Fremont Ross Band attending will be Braxton White, alto saxophone; Lillian Clapp, tenor saxophone;

Travis Tucker, trumpet; Abby Wennberg, trumpet; Sam Weiker, trumpet; Olivia Thomas, French Horn, and Bryanna Schermerhorn, euphonium.

Joyful Connections receives holiday donations

FREMONT - The spirit of the season is alive and well with the employees of the Fremont Ag Credit office who delivered a room full of toys for the children to play with while visiting at Joyful Connections. In addition they also made monetary donations to support the agency.

Joyful Connections is an Ottawa County nonprofit providing supervised visitations and exchanges for the surrounding area. They have four visit rooms equipped with toys, games, puzzles and craft items for the families to enjoy together. The children love to find new toys when they visit their parents, which is why this donation is so beneficial to Joyful Connections.

Joyful Connections is celebrating 10 years of service to families and is the only agency providing supervised visitations and exchanges in Ottawa County. For more information or to support the agency, visit joyfulconnections.com or call 567-262-3181.

Clean Lake 2020 grants to reduce algal blooms

COLUMBUS - The two state legislators who sponsored the Clean Lake 2020 Plan announced this month the first round of grants as next steps in the challenge to reduce harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie.

Senate Majority Leader Randy Gardner, R-Bowling Green, and State Rep. Steve Arndt, R-Port Clinton, reported that the Ohio Department of Agriculture was prepared to release \$1.25 million in grants to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the Western Lake Erie Basin. A total of 24 counties in the basin will receive funding support before the end of December.

The department plans to release these funds for staffing and programming, based on the percentage of a county located in the basin. A total of 17 counties are wholly in the basin, with another seven counties partially located in the basin.

An additional \$2.25 million may be provided to counties on a targeted basis in early 2019.



Port Clinton Middle School students Ava DeFreitas and Connor Earnest complete their assignment at the Challenger Learning Center.SUBMITTED