



March 20, 2009

PTO CHILI FESTIVAL

The Washington Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization's recent chili festival was a huge success. The PTO said thanks to the support, attendance and the generosity of the community, the chili festival is successful year after year. The PTO sends its heartfelt thank you to everyone. The PTO also said that they can't begin to give enough thanks to the Washington alumni who graciously loaned the PTO its precious memorabilia to help celebrate the 80th anniversary of the school building.

At the festival, the PTO was able to display memorabilia items ranging from the late 1920s to the 1980s era. The PTO said that it was an honor and a privilege to welcome back Washington's oldest known living graduate, Adele (Avers) Siebert. PTO members will continue gathering memorabilia in order to create a scrapbook project at a later date. Contact Erica Overmyer at 419-665-2054 if you have memorabilia to share for the scrapbook project. You can also call Overmyer if you would like to order the 80th anniversary themed T-shirts.

Thank you also goes to the following "special guest bingo callers," Mayor Rod Opelt, Councilman Matt Damshroder, Russ Zimmerman, Pastor Robert Metheny and Washington School Principal Dwayne Arnold. Thank you to the Washington teachers and staff, Jodie Fleming for her time and talent drawing caricatures, Lindsey Lions Club, Gloria and Sarah Siegfried, Girl Scout Troop 70, Bethel Church Youth Fellowship, Lindsey Volunteer Fire Department for the use of its Web site and Washington School families.

The winners of the themed baskets at the festival are camping basket, Lisa Lieske, of Gibsonburg; crafting basket, Brad Hammer; snow day basket, Nancy Haynes, of Fremont; family fun basket, Traci Zoeller, of Lindsey; spa basket, Crystal Fohner, of Gibsonburg; Buckeye basket, Paula Zimmerman, of Lindsey; sports basket, Adele Wagner; handmade quilt, Grace Meyer, of Findlay; first aid basket, Kay Stierwalt; and chocolate basket, Geller family, of Lindsey.

The PTO said they are grateful to the 120 area business owners for donating so many generous raffle prizes. The Lucky Grand Prize winners received tremendous prizes that were donated courtesy of Wal-Mart; Comfort Inn; Earl Brothers Transmission; Fremont Community Theater; Bench's Greenhouse; Fremont Cycle and Fitness; Attorney Joe Albrechta; Dr. Nelson Smith, DDS; Black & Decker; Metabo Tools; and Toledo Mud Hens.

The winner of the "Hot Ride to School" in a Lindsey Fire Department fire truck is Washington sixth-grader Cheyann Haas. All fundraising efforts from the chili festival directly benefit the students of Washington Elementary by providing educational field trips, school supplies, recognition awards and funding assistance for academic assemblies. Continued support will ensure the success of the youths and the school, said the PTO. Washington is a state-rated "excellent" school for three consecutive years.

The April regular meeting of the Washington Elementary PTO will be at 6:30 p.m. March 31 in the Bulldog Café' at the school. The annual general meeting will be April 2. Agenda items to be covered during the general meeting will be the 2009-10 budget approval and the PTO Board Officer Elections for the 2009-10 school year. All parents and guardians of Washington students are welcome and encouraged to be a part of the PTO. If you have any items to be placed on the agenda, submit them at least 48 hours prior to the general meeting date by calling PTO secretary Toni Pendleton at 419- 65-2026.

The Washington PTO has teamed with the Lindsey Lions Club to offer two annual scholarships. The scholarships are available to two area high school seniors who have attended Washington Elementary School for at least four years and plan to further their education upon high school graduation. The deadline for submitting applications is early April. Students can contact their high school guidance counselor for more details.