

The GreenWaveNews

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Leeds High School Quill and Scroll Honor Society (established October 10, 1947)

International Honor Society for High School Journalists

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LHS wins state safety award



Photo by Maya Everett

Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange (center) presents the 2013 Alabama Safe School Initiative Award of Excellence to Assistant Principal Stephen Hall and Principal Michael Turner in recognition of outstanding safety measures in place at Leeds High School.



By Maya Everett

In a 2005 statewide survey, the majority of Alabama students questioned their safety in school. With the initiatives in place at Leeds High School every child can be certain of ultimate safety.

Leeds High School was honored on September 17th with the Alabama Safe School Initiative Award of Excellence. Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange was on hand to personally present the prestigious award to LHS, one of only eight schools statewide to win recognition.

Assistant Principal Stephen Hall and Resource Officer Dwain Hagan collaborated in formulating a safe school proposal highlighting the three main initiatives that set LHS apart: The Bully Prevention Hotline, Impact Counseling, and the School Connect App.

The first initiative, the Bully Prevention Hotline, allows students to anonymously notify an authority figure of their uncomfortable circumstances. That person would immediately relay the message to administrators at Leeds High School.

Hall stressed anonymity of the messages to assure the student of his/her safety. Information retained from the call such as the class period and time of occurrence allows administrators to keep an eye on the situation.

The second initiative, Impact Counseling, can be referred to as “housekeeping.” It provides the students with a certainty that there is someone available to help them. Administrators and the guidance counselor connect students with this counseling.

The third initiative, The School Connect App, is available not only to students but also to parents. It provides notifications and alerts to keep everyone aware of what is going on in the school system.

Hall noted that the success in maintaining a safe school is due to the school’s mission to be “proactive not reactive. With the recent increase of violence and bullying in school systems nationwide, having a plan is vital.”

“This is not just an individual responsibility but an institutional one. We work in partnership with school-wide leaders, community leaders, law enforcement, and emergency response personnel,” Hall added.

During the presentation, The State Attorney General praised Leeds High School administrators, faculty, and students with recognition of the school-wide safety measures in place at LHS. He reinforced the concept of school safety by reflecting on the shootings at Newtown by adding “it is a reality we have to deal with ... your school takes it very seriously.”

“Ensuring safe schools for our students has never been more important, and this program will help us identify the best practices that schools should be using. I look forward to sharing these best practices with other schools,” Strange added.

LCS Superintendent John Moore joined LHS Principal Michael Turner in praising the efforts of Hall and Hagan. Also present were Senator Slade Blackwell, Representative Dickie Drake, and Councilman Eric Turner, Police Chief Byron Jackson, and Fire Chief Allen Pierce.

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The Vision of Leeds City Schools is Promoting Achievement, Respect, and Success.

Opinions and Viewpoints

Letter to the Editors

Dear 10th Grade English Students,
The students in the self-contained classroom have been practicing writing friendly letters.

These students were in for a tremendous surprise when they sent a letter to Ms. Shannon in the English Department. Shannon encouraged ALL her tenth grade students to write letters to the self-contained students.

Tommy Lee Calhoun, McKenzie Walker, Daniel Guess, and Madalyn Douglas were amazed to receive not just one letter from Ms. Shannon, but a file folder containing more than 25 letters for each student!

The letter recipients sat down and immediately read each and every letter. They took their letters home with them to reread over the weekend!

Thank you Ms. Shannon, and the tenth grade letter writers for showering these students with meaningful communication. You have made the week, month, and year for the students in room 302!

Thanks again!
Val Purser

Photos in this edition were provided by The GreenWave News staff, the yearbook staff, Miriam Turner, & Susan Stovall and Julie Hubbard of Crown Photography.

Loosening the Reins

By Mikal Williams

Students were shocked when returning to school for the 2013-2014 year. The cause of their disorientation? Two of the most controversial subjects in our rule book were addressed and changed in the students' favor.

Male students no longer have to tuck in their shirts. Senior Ray Clark says "[tucking shirts in] caused more problems than it solved" and he is very pleased with not having to do so. Requiring the boys to tuck their shirts in used to be a safety precaution; wearing a long, untucked shirt would make it easier to conceal a weapon. Although this proves to be true, male students argue that being forced to tuck their shirts in can be a hassle or even burden the way they want to express themselves.



Another big change regards the rules regarding the use of cell phones. Students are allowed to use their devices between classes, during the ten minute break, and at lunch. If the teacher gives permission, the students may also use their device in the classroom for class technology activities.

Teachers across the nation have found positive results in using technology to aid in assessing and tracking assignments and educational activities within the classroom.

Sophomore Randel Hitt says, "It opens a door to online research and our School Connect App helps us keep up with everything going on in our academic community."

These changes in our school are creating opportunities for students to become more involved and to be more comfortable. Hopefully everyone will take this opportunity and help Leeds High School continue to evolve.



OUR MISSION

The mission of Leeds City Schools is to develop confident, productive young people and enable them to become independent life-long learners. We will accomplish this through a dedicated professional staff committed to continued learning. A relevant curriculum will be taught based on thinking and reasoning skills. This will take place in a positive environment recognizing the individual differences in children.

The GreenWave News

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Purpose

The focus of *The GreenWave News* is to provide a school and community informational service highlighting activities of Leeds High School. Additionally, the publication seeks to provide a public forum for the opinions of students, the newspaper staff, and faculty. Articles and opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of Leeds High School nor the City of Leeds Board of Education. The editorials are the opinions of the Editorial Staff.

Corrections:

Errors appearing in *The GreenWave News* should be reported to the advisor. If a correction is warranted, one will be published in the next edition.

It Can Wait

By Kelsey Mitchell

September 19, 2013 was National *It Can Wait Day*. On average, 11 teens die every day from texting while driving. AT&T sponsored the National *It Can Wait Day* to encourage people not to text and drive.

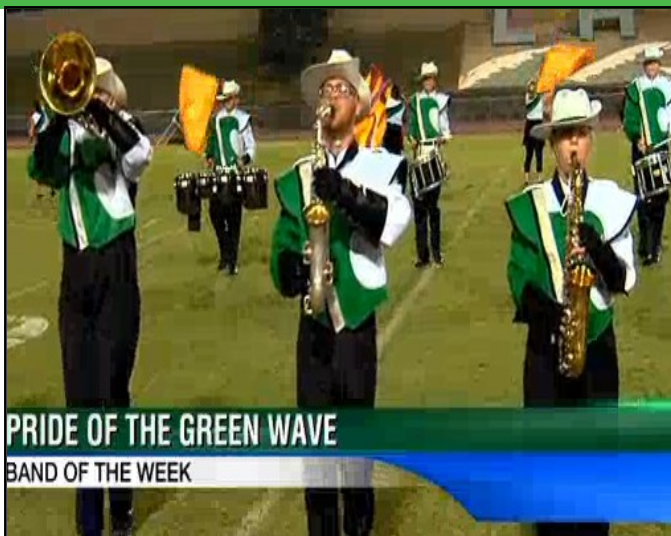
The Leeds FCCLA members and Mrs. Turner's Family and Consumer Studies class worked together to create an event to educate Leeds High School students on the dangers of texting and driving. There were speeches given by students, videos of real life stories involving texting and driving, and a guest speaker.

Throughout the day, 11 students selected for the Mask of Death makeup. They represented the 11 teens who die every day due to texting and driving.

FCCLA representative Evan Kennedy said, "Stop texting while driving because you are endangering your life and the lives of others. It is selfish that you think what you are doing is more important than someone else's life."

Students signed a banner on September 20 pledging not to text and drive. Cars in the parking lot received a "Don't Text" bumper sticker.

Go to www.itcanwait.com to learn more information, take the pledge, and get involved in the *It Can Wait* movement. No text is worth the risk.



Band of the Week

By Rebecca Strange

On September 6th, the "Pride of the Greenwave" Marching Band took to the field and the television screen! The LHS band was announced as Band of the Week on ABC 33/40's Friday Night Blitz.

This year, the band's show theme is "Sunshine of Your Love", featuring the following songs: "Soak Up the Sun", "Blister in the Sun", "Walkin' On the Sun", "Ain't No Sunshine", "Sunshine of Your Love", and "Walking on Sunshine," as mentioned by the announcer.

"We've been Band of the Week several times over the past few years," says band director, Chip Wise. "And it is a credit to the hard work and thousands of hours of rehearsal that our band members put in every season. I think the actual footage that was chosen to be used was a great example of how well the band is marching and playing this year."

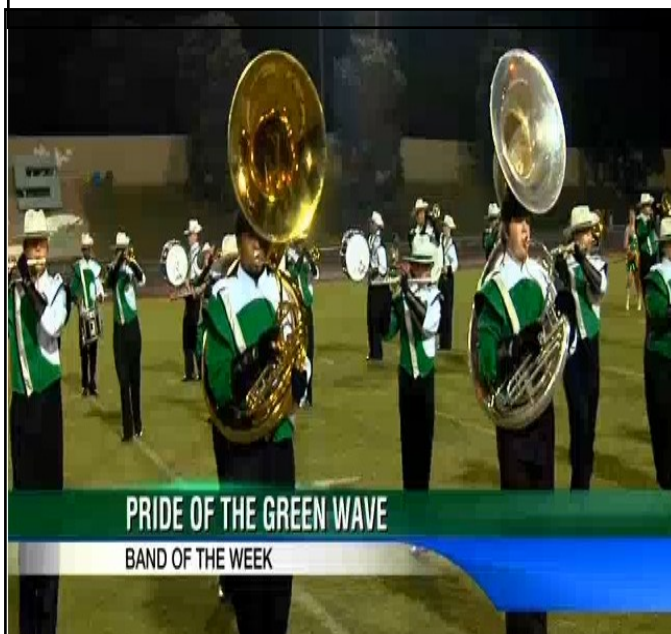




Photo by Jessica Frye

JOHN HENRY: steel driving man

By Molly O'Barr

On September 21st, the Leeds Theater program performed a short play on the life of John Henry. It was at the first time the LHS theater department has had the opportunity to perform this particular play.

The performances were held at the Leeds Historic Depot. The lead, Kyle Taylor, was excellent in the role portraying John Henry, a man who fought for the jobs of his fellow workers.

The cast members and the chorus devoted hours of hard work recreating the struggles of John Henry, the local of Leeds, Alabama, and his victory over the steel drill which tragically, inevitably took his life.

LHS Drama teacher and Director Jessica Frye did an amazing job working with students in putting together this memorable performance for the enjoyment of the community.

Cast members:

Polly Ann.— Tia Garner
Mr. Dabney — Adam Brown
Mr. Shea — Tristan Barnes-Abbot
Jack — Aaron Vakil-Mozaffari
Collin — Ryan Dozier
Giuseppe — Jeremy Mooney
Paul — Garret Karns
John Henry — Kyle Taylor
Mr. Stevens — Connor Jannot
Mrs. Stevens — Ali Chambers
Sarah Jane Stevens — Elise Turner

Chorus:

Allison Beason
Alina Bouch
Jorden Brown
Cayla Cook
Kayla Dorough
Tenielle Garner
Stephanie Jaimés
Haley Mattis
Delateney Odom
Janissi Smith
Hannah Thacker
Gaby Towery



Quill & Scroll International Honorary Society for High School Journalists

Forty-three members comprise this year's staff of *The GreenWave News*.

Students selected for membership must possess a minimum 3.0 GPA, express an interest in writing for publication, and be approved by the local and international committees.

The LHS Quill & Scroll Honorary Society was established October 10, 1947, by the late Mrs. Marie Cromer.

2013-1014 Members:

Aaliyah Abernathy
Taylor Adams
Brandon Black
Daniel Bowman
Adam Brown
Shea Callaway
Tori Carr
Ali Chambers
Jeremy Clark
Cayla Cook
Alexus Davidson
Maya Everett
Marisa Falletta
Emily Farrington
Cayson Files
Austin Glass
Emily Claire Goodwin
Blaise Herman
Jared Hudson
Derika Jones
Evan Kennedy
Sharon McCombs
Kelsey Mitchell
Amber Moore
Shelby Musgrove
Molly O'Barr
Frankalyn Piazza
Courtney Purkey
Kyroon Sierra
Abigayl Smith
Clarke Smith
Sydney St. John
Rachel Stoves
Rebecca Strange
Gaby Towery
Elise Turner
Macy Vandergrift
Samuel Walker
Anna Warner
Kalei Whitson
Jimeria Williams
Mikal Williams
Leslie Zarazua

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society of LHS held the 2013-2014 Induction Ceremony on September 25. Sponsors Terri Leigh Gibson and Catherine Walker welcomed parents and special guests attending to celebrate the achievements of the 34 new members who joined the 16 current members. According to Gibson, "Our total membership is greater than at any other time in recent years."

Gibson added, "Not only is this group exceptionally talented, it is also large in scholarship, service, leadership, and character. to working with this group."

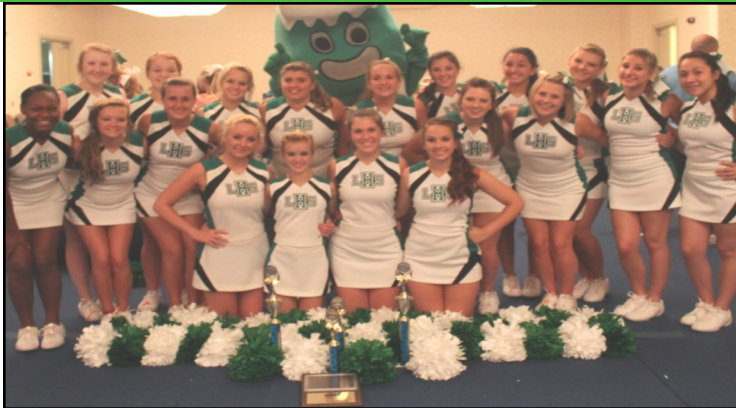
President Evan Kennedy, Secretary Emily Claire Goodwin, and Treasurer Taylor Adams joined 2012-1013 NHS members Monica Blount-Simpson, Shea Callaway, Sebastian Carr, Marisa Falletta, Bradley George, Tristan Henderson, Blaise Herman, Brooklyn Holt, Jared Hudson, Tyler Hunter, Stephon Montgomery, Amber Moore, and Shelby Musgrove welcome new Inductees:

SENIORS

Russell Alicea
Jacob Callaway
Maya Everett
Cayson Files
Kelsey Mitchell
Rachel Stoves
Jimeria Williams
Mikal Williams
Leslie Zarazua

JUNIORS

Cara Anderson
Harley Armstrong
Brandon Black
Alina Bouch
Sarah Brooks
Allison Chambers
Jeremy Clark
Joshua Crocker
Taylor Gomer
Samantha Isbell
Brooke Kelly
Javisia Looney
Abrah Marbury
Raen McCain
Sarah Moore
Clint Musgrove
Molly O'Barr
Caroline Payne
Ethan Phillips
Rebecca Strange
Melissa Thompson
Elise Turner
Isaac Vacheresse
Dejerian Williams
Victoria Wolfe



Cheerleaders win camp awards

By Marisa Falletta

LHS cheerleaders traveled to Destin this summer for our annual camp to learn more cheers and dances for the new season. The cheerleaders were focused and determined.

The team won two amazing awards this year. Our first award was 2nd place in the Game Day Championship — a competition in which the instructors give you scenario in a game and the team either does a cheer or dance to cheer on the team. Our squad also placed 3rd in the Camp Champs extreme routine which is the camp dance.

Senior cheerleader, Amber Moore said, "Having a large squad worked in our favor this year. Someone was always willing to work and put effort into what the squad was doing. Working as a team was a major part in our awards. Even if someone messed up, she still had a smile on her face. I believe that's what led us to our achievements this year."

One big thing about cheer camp is having the chance to bond. This year's squad is very large — there are 19 girls.

Moore believes that this is the closest she has been with a whole team before, but also stated, "There are some bad occasions, but with 19 girls, it's not going to be calm and collected all the time."

This year, Greenie, the GreenWave Mascot, made his first appearance at camp and blew the instructors and judges away. Each day, Evan Kennedy took part in mascot classes and practice runs of skits. At the end of camp, Greenie competed against four other mascots to become the Camp Champ Mascot. He performed his awesome skit and won. Not only did Greenie win the mascot competition, he also made the All-American Team.

This year's camp was a successful experience and the squad owes a huge debt of gratitude to Sponsor Miriam Turner.



FCCLA brings home the GOLD...again

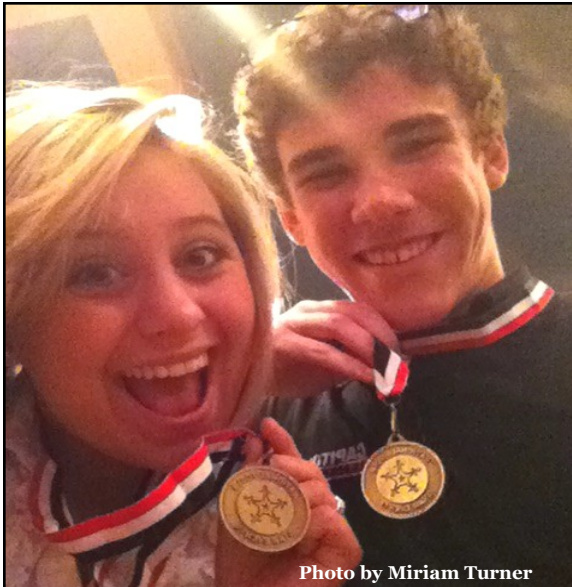


Photo by Miriam Turner

By Elise Turner

“Gold Medal!”... these were the Adam Brown and Elise Turner were waiting to hear on July 11th, 2013. Months of hard work, preparation and practice paid off as they were awarded the prestigious Gold Medals in Entrepreneurship, Senior, at the FCCLA National Leadership Meeting in Nashville, TN.

A few weeks later, they learned that they had received another honor – they were awarded a \$5000 scholarship for having the third highest score in the entire Southern Region.

Last year, this dynamic duo had a perfect score in Entrepreneurship, Junior at the State FCCLA Leadership Conference!

“The only thing that could make this better is if they could indeed actually open an *What’s the Scoop* ice-cream shop here in Leeds as outlined in their detailed project. Then they truly could say ‘Come on in and *GET SCOOPED*,’” remarked FCCLA Sponsor Miriam Turner.

Accompanying Brown and Turner to Nashville were Emily Claire Goodwin, Evan Kennedy, Brooke Woodard and LHS alumnus, Jesse Turner. Goodwin represented LHS and the State as Alabama as First Vice President.

Goodwin and the other state officers had a fast-paced and fun-filled week. Goodwin served as Alabama’s lead voting delegate along with Brown and Turner.

“It’s worth noting that three of the five voting delegates for the State of Alabama were from Leeds High School – Roll Greenwave!” added their sponsor.

Kennedy, who served as First Vice President of Membership for Alabama last year, was a National Officer Candidate at this year’s National Leadership Conference. He won a national top twenty spot. He participated in a grueling process of a panel interview, networking with all national voting delegates, fishbowl, think tank and an onstage speech in front of an audience of thousands!

Kennedy received a resounding ovation when he presented his speech to the Alabama delegation. Although, Evan was not chosen for the National Executive Committee, comprised of only 10 members from the entire nation, he said he thoroughly enjoyed the experience and commented on how beneficial the experience was for him. He was apparently a memorable candidate, as he has been asked to present a workshop at the National Cluster Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, in November.

Woodard, member at large, and Jesse Turner, former FCCLA officer and STAR event medalist, assisted with the FCCLA Knowledge Bowl, an intense Jeopardy type competition testing members’ knowledge in various areas of Family and Consumer Sciences and FCCLA.

Even though the group endured a delayed flight and countless hours attending meetings, they enjoyed eight days in the Opryland “dome”, meeting new people, and making new friends.

“Next year’s FCCLA National Leadership Competition will be in San Antonio, Texas...so get involved now with the LHS FCCLA Chapter and join us in the great state of Texas next summer,” encouraged Sponsor Turner.

National Gold Medal Winners Adam Brown and Elise Turner are joined by Brooke Woodard for a pre-flight photo before taking off for Nashville.

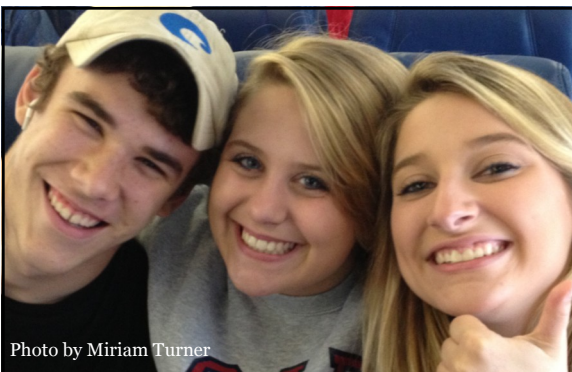


Photo by Miriam Turner



Photo by Miriam Turner

Evan Kennedy, Jesse Turner, and Adam Brown working hard?? or HARDLY WORKING??? at the Opryland Hotel.

FLOATING in the courtyard

By Jimeria Williams

Mr. Pribyl's 4th Period Physics students. Gathered in the LHS courtyard for the most exhilarating and interesting lab ever.

Selected students came prepared with swimming trunks and eye goggles. Others came ready to do the math armed with a calculator and a pencil.

According to Mr. Pribyl, "The objective of the assignment, 'To Float or Not to Float', is to determine whether each volunteer will float or sink in a body of water according to their density calculations. Each volunteer will go underwater three times, once to find the total volume of the water, once holding a bowling ball and once wearing only a life jacket, and swim apparel of course."

Earlier, the class had weighed three volunteers: Cayson Files, Aaron Brown and Tristan Fralick. The students then converted each one's body weight to mass and then added the mass weight of a bowling ball and a life jacket to determine whether the volunteer would sink or float.

To make the lab even more enjoyable, Mr. Pribyl formed the lab into a news story, naming Jimeria Williams the news reporter for the iPhone camera.

Students laughed hysterically when Mr. Pribyl surprisingly stepped onto the platform clothed in swim apparel and eye goggles instead of his usual casual attire and fun character ties. He took a dip in the body of water and ended the class with the physics students repeating after him, "If Mr. Pribyl can do this, I can learn science. I promise to study hard and to do my best."



Photo by Jimeria Williams

Professor Pribyl and Cayson Files assist Aaron Brown in his submersion experiment.



Photo by Jimeria Williams

"The Mad Scientist" Pribyl hands off the infamous hat before taking a dip!



Photo by Jimeria Williams