

This upcoming week is an exciting one for the entire Spartan Community. The Girls Soccer and Boys Football Teams both participate among the elite of Ohio High School sports.

The girls will appear in the "Sweet 16" of the Division II Regional Tournament. The Lady Spartans play Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. at Centerville Stadium vs. perennial power Madeira. This is the deepest the soccer team has advanced since the 2002 State Final 4 appearance.

Orange Crush Fever, CATCH IT; is the theme as the Spartan Football Team prepares to host a Division V playoff game Saturday Night. The Spartans are the #3 ranked team in our football region. Coach Burchfield, players, and staff have already met a number of goals this season. They are undefeated at home, SWBL Champions, and a second consecutive playoff appearance. A community tailgate party has been planned from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. kickoff vs. West Liberty Salem. The Spartan Marching Band and our cheerleaders will participate, food will be available, entertainment and a GAMEDAY broadcast of SPARTANSLIVE.com. Everyone is invited to attend and participate. Get your tickets in advance at the high school, Lebanon City National Bank, and Hometown Marketplace of Waynesville. Thanks to Mrs. Leanne Foley and her National Art Honor Society students who will be downtown this week to either paint or hang banners in merchant windows. Our cheerleaders will also be hanging orange and black ribbons along Main Street.

On Saturday, October 18th, the Boys Cross Country team participated in the Southwestern Ohio Regional Cross Country Meet at Troy. This was the first time our boys have qualified as a team to the regional level. It was a great learning experience. Later that afternoon, freshman Molli Muterspaw represented the girls' team in the regional meet. Congratulations to the Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams on outstanding seasons.

Our athletic teams, school clubs and organizations are a very important component to Spartan Pride Community Wide. They generate enthusiasm for the community and offer our students the opportunity to belong and shine. I support all opportunities for our students to prepare for academic and life-long success.

I was disappointed today as I learned that a number of school levy signs had disappeared or had been damaged over the weekend. Unfortunately, it seems to be a by-product of an election season that has been exceedingly nasty on the national and state levels. The historian in me realizes that political mudslinging has been a part of national politics since the days of Adams and Jefferson. James T. Callender (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_T._Callender) is an infamous figure because of his political tactics. So why was I disappointed? All the exciting events scheduled this week for the Wayne Local Schools and the election next week is really a time to work together as a community and accept differences of opinion. Many other school districts and communities have been divided over political disagreements and escalating tempers. Instead of damaging signs, I challenge all residents to learn as much as possible and make informed decisions regarding all the national, state, local races and issues.

Information links and forums are available to voters prior to the November 4th election:

State Issue Ballot Information for Issues 1-6

http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/upload/publications/election/Issues_08.pdf

Identifying where you vote and what the ballot will look like for you

http://www.co.warren.oh.us/bdelec/geninfo/search/where_to_vote/index.htm

Information regarding the Wayne Local Schools Tax Levy

<http://www.brystin.com/November4/index.htm>

Information regarding the Waynesville Police and Street Levies

<http://www.waynesville-ohio.org/Levy.htm>

SCHOOL LEVY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION

Tuesday, October 28

7:00 p.m.

Waynesville HS Spartan Room

School Administration will be on hand to answer any questions you have concerning the School Levy.

LEVY/TOWNHALL MEETING

Sunday, November 2

6:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church

If you have questions about the Police Levy or the School Levy, Chief Gary Copeland and Superintendent Patrick Dubbs will be in attendance to answer your questions. If you have questions about the meeting please contact Pastor Harvey at 897-1009.

Be sure to vote on November 4th, 2008 in one of the most historic elections in history.