Volume LX No. 7
March 2026

dividends of Learning in Northridge Schools

Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2025

This month we continue the 2025 Northridge Athletic Hall of Fame articles by featuring **Nathan Farmer**, class of 2003.

During his time at Northridge High School:

- Varsity Football 1999 and 2002
- Honorable Mention All SWBL in 2002
- Varsity Baseball 2000-2003
- 4-year letterman
- Overall batting average was around .400 for his 4-year career
- Overall pitching average 15-7
- Threw a no-hitter against Carlisle in 2002
- Struck out 17 batters vs. Carlisle in 2003
- Baseball team MVP 2002 & 2003
- All-SWBL Honorable Mention 2000 & 2001
- 1st Team All-SWBL 2002 & 2003
- 1st Team All-Area in 2003

After high school, Nathan attended Heidelberg College and Urbana University. (Continued on page 3.)

Permanent Improvement Levy on May Ballot
Just the Facts

Dear Northridge Family,

The Northridge Local School District has placed a 2.2 mill Permanent Improvement Levy on the May 2026 ballot and wants to provide clear, factual information about what this means for our community. This proposal is directly connected to a bond that will expire at the end of 2026.

The current 2.4 mill bond, approved by voters in 2002, funded the stadium, middle school gym, and other facility renovations. That bond will be fully paid off at the end of 2026.

By replacing the expiring bond with a lower millage Permanent Improvement Levy, this proposal lessens the tax burden on property owners while preserving a dedicated revenue source for permanent improvements and facility maintenance.

Q. What is the proposed levy for?

A. The proposed levy would provide funding for permanent improvements, including: • Ongoing building repairs and preventative maintenance • Infrastructure updates • Safety and security improvements • Long-term capital needs identified in the districts's 10-year capital plan (such as the Dave Herring Auditorium renovation, etc.). These funds cannot be used for daily operating expenses, including salaries, benefits or general programming.

Q. Why replace the bond?

A. Currently, payments made under the 2.4 mill bond go toward bond debt. Once the bond is paid off at the end of 2026, that funding source will end. Without a replacement levy, the District would lack a dedicated revenue stream for ongoing facility maintenance and long-term improvements. By proposing a 2.2 mill replacement levy, the district can: • Lower overall tax burden on property owners • Maintain safe, functional learning environments • Support the district's long-term capital plan • Avoid introducing a higher tax rate in the future. This proposal reflects long-term planning and fiscal responsibility, allowing the district to reduce the tax rate while continuing to care for its facilities.

We are committed to transparency and will continue to share information as it becomes available. If you have questions, please contact us at 937-278-5885 or via email at djackson@northridgeschools.org or lgreen@northridgeschools.org.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, schools and community.

With care and thanks,
Superintendent *Dave Jackson* and Treasurer *Lori Green*

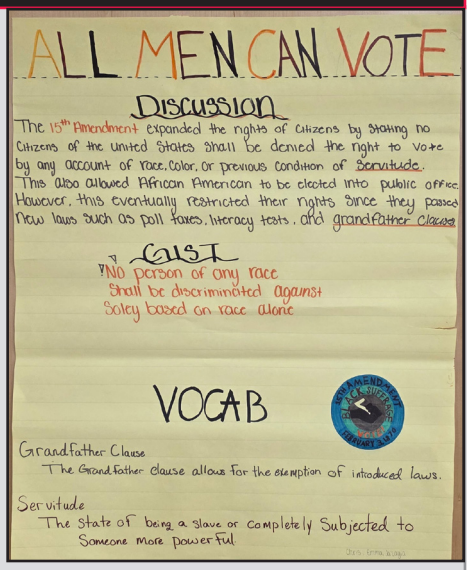
KEY FACT: This Permanent Improvement Levy lessens the tax burden on property owners while continuing dedicated funding for the care, maintenance, and improvement of school facilities.

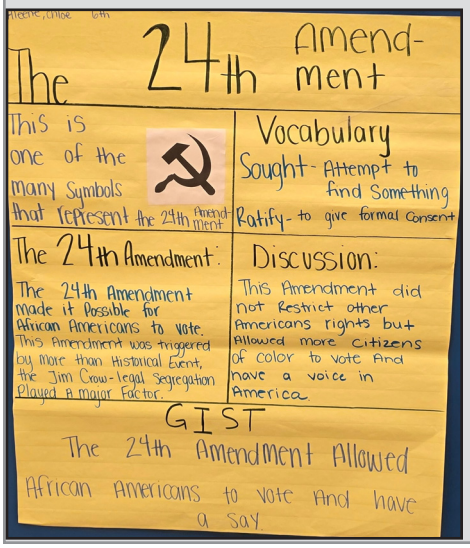
Northridge Community NEWS

The Constitutional Compass

The U.S. Constitution is the foundational document for our great nation, and it's important that students learn about and understand it. Social Studies teacher **Drew Jackson** has been taking the time to dig deep into the Constitutional amendments with his sophomores.

While researching the amendments, the students were instructed to not only explain what the amendment said, but also to discuss, in their own words, their thoughts about what





the amendment was created to do. In alignment with our *District One Plan* focus on vocabulary and summarizing, students chose key vocabulary terms from the language of the amendment that were unfamiliar or not often used, and defined them using everyday language. Finally, students used the comprehension strategy called "G.I.S.T." to create a statement that summarized the amendment and its purpose.

A PAWS-itive Collaboration

At the Polar Bear Career Center (PBCC), no department is an island – or a lonely iceberg! Recently, students in the Business and Manufacturing classes have collaborated to help bring a product idea to life!

Adam Smith's Business class has been exploring marketing skills. Students were assigned the task of promoting a new product. Freshman **Aa'nyah Taylor** took her project to the next level! Her idea: creating a custom tissue box for teachers!

By working with manufacturing students in **Joe Miller**'s Advanced Manufacturing class, a prototype of this product was made possible. Pictured is Aa'nyah holding the model of her idea. By working together, polar bears can take ideas to completion at the PBCC!

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Families are invited to the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28th. The egg hunt will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m., so please arrive early and ready for some fun.

The event will be held at 2251 Timber Lane, entering through the **former** Northridge High School parking lot - currently the Montgomery County Educational Service Center North lot - at the high school football practice field. It is located at the back of the building up on the hill along the left side of the field.

Children should bring an empty basket or bag to collect eggs. Prize tickets may be found inside the eggs and can be redeemed for prizes at the labeled tables. The empty plastic eggs must be left in the collection boxes provided.

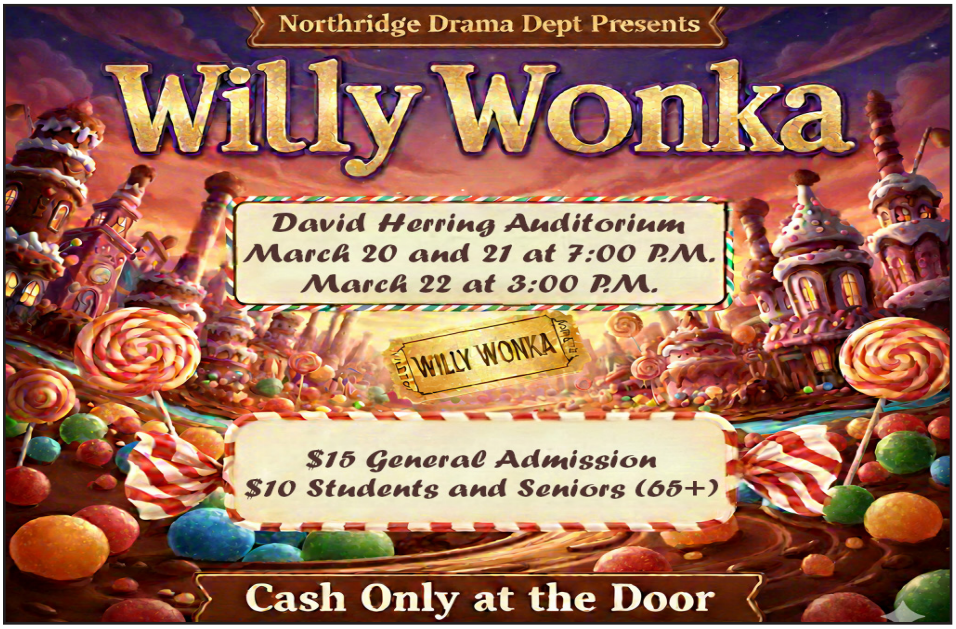
Dress for the weather! In the event of severe weather, including pouring rain with lightening and thunder or snow, the egg hunt will be canceled and not rescheduled.

Parents are reminded to check candy for allergy-related ingredients.

Questions may be directed to **Tina Fiore** at momfiore3@woh.rr.com or via Facebook Messenger.

Northridge Drama Club

The Northridge Drama Club is proud to present Willy Wonka for their spring musical! The drama department is seeking and would appreciate donations of painting supplies (rollers, brushes, paint pans); blue playground, marble, or bouncy balls; and Elmer's liquid glue. They would also love to see you come out and support what is sure to be another fantastic performance!



EVENTS Calendar

8 Daylight Saving Time Begins at 2:00 a.m.
Spring forward one hour!

10 Board of Education Meeting and Work Session - 6:00 p.m.

13 Staff Development
- No School for Students

17 St. Patrick's Day

20-22 Willy Wonka Drama Production

Polar Bears "Living to Serve"

Parks and Recreation Program Instructor **Zane Fessler** at the Polar Bear Career Center (PBCC) has brought The National FFA Organization (formerly Future Farmers of America) to Northridge! This organization seeks to promote leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education for students in grades 5-12. This service organization has the motto, 'Living to Serve', and emphasizes community engagement through service activities.

The Northridge Chapter currently has 21 students enrolled. Their first meeting was held on Tuesday, February 10th, and student members invited 3 guest students to attend as well. Students were excited, devoured the snacks, made Valentines cards for a nearby nursing home, signed up for contest practice, and picked up their officer applications.

After the official meeting closed, they played 4 square in the shop. The students were awesome and helped clean up after the meeting. The club will continue meeting every two weeks, with the first opening ceremonies occurring on February 24th. Students interested in joining should speak to current members, or make contact with Mr. Fessler in the PBCC.

Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2025

(Continued from page 1.)

At Heidelberg College:
- Pitching Record was 6-4
- 65 strikeouts
- 2nd Team All-OAC Pitcher

At Urbana University:
- Pitching Record was 4-0

While pitching at Urbana University he suffered a shoulder injury that unfortunately put him out of the game.

Nathan earned a Bachelor's degree from Urbana University and a Master's Degree from Ohio University. He served as the Athletic Director for Northridge Schools for 10 years. He was also the Varsity Baseball Coach at Northridge H.S. for several years.

He currently works for Butler Township and is an Assistant Baseball Coach at Oakwood H.S. When not working, Nathan enjoys his life with his wife **Tessin** and two daughters, **Jaisa** and **Letty**.

FREE Preschool & Kindergarten Registration Begins Soon

Northridge Local Schools is excited to offer FREE public preschool and welcome a new class of kindergartners for the 2026-2027 school year!

- Registration & Open House: Thursday, April 30th
- Preschool Open House: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Kindergarten Registration Event: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Northridge Local Schools, 2011 Timber Lane

CHAMPIONS

Preschool Eligibility & Registration

- Ages 3-4 by first day of school, potty trained, and not eligible for kindergarten
- Required Documents: Birth certificate, parent ID, custody papers (if applicable), proof of income, two proofs of residency, and child's insurance card
- Register Online after April 30th at **www.northridgeschools.org**. Click on Quick Links then Preschool Questionnaire. After completing the questionnaire, someone will contact you to schedule your child's screening.
- For information, contact **Dana Dixon** (937-759-3884) or **Tiffany Chaffin** (937-275-7469 ext. 4222)

Kindergarten Eligibility & Registration

- Must be 5 years old by August 1, 2026
- Required Documents: Birth certificate, immunization records, parent ID, custody papers (if applicable), two proofs of residency, and emergency contact/medical info
- If living with a friend/relative: A notarized affidavit and two proofs of residency from the host are required

Don't miss this chance to give your child a strong start! Mark your calendar for April 30th!

Class of 2026

NHS Graduation
Saturday, May 23, 2026
8:00 p.m.
Northridge Football Stadium

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Northridge Board of Education
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