

Veterum Unum

Edmund Dye

Wallins Elementary School is the only school left in Harlan County to use a coal burning furnace. These furnaces have long been used as examples of aging school appliances and buildings, but in areas like Harlan, where our culture is important to us, we consider it part of our heritage. Furnaces like these were historically used to heat most buildings in Harlan County, as such they have an important place in our history.

Mr. Brent Noe, who is in charge of maintaining the furnace, arrives every morning at 5:00 am to begin shoveling the coal. These fires burn at over the boiling point of water. This furnace, a Weill Mclain, is the original furnace from 1945.

As a result, it is hard to find parts for the furnace if something tears up. With the age of the system, many would lobby to change it to newer, electric



This original coal burning furnace has been in our family for 71 years, ever since the school was built in 1945. It heats the old part of the school, including the gymnasium.

systems like those in the primary section part of the school. However, no plans are in place to change the system.

SEE "Coal" page 2 to continue:

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Bristol Belcher

The last several months has been a very positive one for Wallins Elementary School. We have had so much success in all the endeavors that our students have participated in. Our Academic Teams and Math Counts teams have had great success with many of our students placing in their individual events, as well as our teams as a whole competing for the top spots in district and regional competitions. **(Our 5th/6th grade Future Problem Solving Team tied for 1st place., our 5th /6th and our 7th/8th Academic Team were District Runners-up, and the 7th/8th Academic Team were Regional Runners-up for 2016, Elementary has not competed in Regionals yet).** I am so very proud of these students and those adults behind them pushing them to be their best! We have had several students score in the top spots during the "Math Counts" Competition recently held in Bell County.....**Our team placed 1st, and Taylor Spurlock won the individual competition overall!** Taylor has now been awarded a 4 year scholarship to the University of Kentucky for his accomplishment. With the many accomplishments in academics, we also had many accomplishments with our Cheerleading and Basketball programs. Our girls basketball program had a great showing during their season **(7th/8th were County Runners-up) and the success continued through the Cheerleading and Boys Basketball seasons (7th/8th Boys Basketball Championship, 7th/8th Cheerleading Championship, 5th/6th Cheerleading Championship, and 5th/6th Boys Basketball Runners-up).** To be the best at what you do, you have to dedicate yourself to the hard work and preparation that it takes to set yourself apart from the rest of the crowd. You must have humility in your success, and continue to work for future success. **I am so very proud of our students and our school! GO DEVILS!**

This Month In History

Jimmy Rouse

February

- 1st, 2003** - Sixteen minutes before it was scheduled to land, the Space Shuttle *Columbia* broke apart in flight over west Texas, killing all seven crew members.
- 2nd, 1848** - The war between the U.S. and Mexico ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In exchange for \$15 million, the U.S. acquired the areas encompassing parts or all of present day California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Texas. The treaty was ratified on March 10, 1848.
- 3rd, 1870** - The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing the right of citizens to vote, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.
- 3rd, 1913** - The 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting Congress the authority to collect income taxes.
- 4th, 1861** - Apache Chief Cochise was arrested in Arizona by the U.S. Army for raiding a ranch. Cochise then escaped and declared war, beginning the period known as the Apache Wars, which lasted 25 years.
- 14th, 1849** - Photographer Mathew Brady took the first photograph of a U.S. President in office, James Polk
- 15th, 1898** - In Havana, the U.S. Battleship *Maine* was blown up while at anchor and quickly sank with 260 crew members lost.
- 17th, 1909** - Apache Chief Geronimo died while in captivity at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.
- 20th, 1962** - Astronaut John Glenn became the first American launched into orbit, traveling aboard the "Friendship 7" spacecraft.
- 21th, 1965** - Former Black Muslim leader Malcolm X was shot and killed while delivering a speech in a ballroom in New York City.

February Birthdays

Charles Lindbergh, George Herman "Babe" Ruth, Ronald Reagan, Charles Dickens, The Boy Scouts of America, Thomas Edison, Abraham Lincoln, Susan B. Anthony, Galileo Galilei, Nicolaus Copernicus, George Washington, "Buffalo Bill" Cody, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Rosa Parks, Shakira, Ashton Kutcher, Emma Roberts, Taylor Lautner, Michael Jordan, Ed Sheeran, Dakota Fanning, Steve Jobs, John Travolta, Jennifer Aniston.

Local Folks

Cassidy Hammonds and Bethany Mitchell

Harlan County School Board member Gary Farmer, believes that Eastern Kentucky needs more beekeepers.

Mr. Farmer has been keeping bees for four years. Mr. Farmer says bee keeping is a low-stress hobby. He said he gets stung about four or five times a year, but it is usually his fault. Mr. Farmer currently has four hives, but usually he keeps eight. Each hive can produce between 15,000 and 30,000 bees, depending on the hive.

SEE "Bees" page 4 to continue: