ASB and Class Officer Elections

Congratulations to our newly elected 23-24 ASB Executive Council: President Ruby Escamilla, Vice President Riley Rodriguez, Secretary Riley Farman, Treasurer Ana Rojas, Publicity Manager Sara Hernandez, and Assistant Publicity Manager Mason Perez.

Class Officer elections will be held May 19th. These positions are specific to each grade band and include a class president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and class representative.

MECLA Hosts Cinco de Mayo Event

By: Paul Firth

The OHS MECLA club hosted a Cinco de Mayo dinner and dance in the OHS corridor on Friday, May 6th.

We served enchiladas, tamales, tacos, rice, and beans from Lighthouse Cafe and Ramirez Restaurant. Everyone was impressed by the quality of the meal. During the dinner, Mr. Pruneda spoke giving some background history of Cinco de Mayo and why it is an important celebration in Mexican culture even though it is not an independence day. The battle of Puebla was a turning point for Mexican forces fighting against French occupation at that time. Many people don’t celebrate it, while others go all out. Mr. Pruneda also spoke about how Latinos in our area need to work together to lift each other up to make the future better than what has come before. His mom, Graciela Pruneda, was a long time (ESL) teacher at Othello High School and made sure that her students took pride in their work and strived for a better future.

After the dinner, the dance was on full blast! Just under 100 students turned out and the dance floor was never empty. The band, Aferrados de Tierra Caliente, played straight through from 8 until 10. A big shout out to Salvador and his crew. They were great especially considering that they packed up and left for Yakima to play for the rest of the night right after they finished.

The MECLA club did a great job planning (since January) setting up, making decorations, and cleaning up. This definitely would not have happened without them. Also a shout out to Mrs. Montejano, Mrs. Wilson, and their leadership students for their support and guidance. They made sure we had everything we needed. Now that we’ve had a successful event, we hope to make this a yearly tradition. Viva la Raza!

Senior Presentations

By: Allison Armfield

Monday April 24th and Tuesday April 25th Senior Presentations were held here at OHS from 6-8pm both nights. These presentations are the culmination of their school experience and High School Beyond Plan and go over students’ experience in high school and their post-high school plans. Each presentation was 5-7 minutes long and given in front of a group of judges made up of teachers and community members. The Judges gave scores/feedback based on the rubric provided and asked questions at the end of each presentation.

This year, the passing grade was raised from a 60% to 80% and our students rose to the occasion with an average score of 89.55%! 266 students were presenting, and only 21 didn’t pass or were a no show. Students who did not pass have the opportunity to redo their presentation for a better score.

Many of our seniors were nervous to present in front of a panel but they worked hard and did a fantastic job. When asked about their presentation, students said, “This was a lot of work but it was worth it.”

Congratulations on this last hurdle before graduation - your teachers and families are so proud of you!

The Royal Ball

By: Elizabeth Sanchez

Saturday May 15 was prom night, and the final dance for our 2023 seniors. This year’s theme was “Royal Ball”, and everybody looked absolutely impressive in their on-theme ball gowns and tuxedos. Prom was located in the back of CBHA, and lasted from 8pm - 12am. We had over 200 students in attendance. This was a junior/senior event, but underclassmen were allowed to attend as the date to an upperclassman.

There were professional photos available for purchase as well as a selfie station for digital photos or boomerangs. Candy and fruit with chamoy, cookies, brownies, other baked goods, and bottled water were provided free of charge, and of course a live DJ!

The music was a mix of popular hits, country music, slow songs, and cumbia so there was a little something for everyone! Teachers and students alike had their time on the dance floor.

Saying goodbye to our seniors will be a bitter sweet experience, but OHS is glad to have given them one final night of fun, music, dancing, and joy.

Special thanks Mrs. Wilson, the class of 2023 parent boosters, and to all of our chaperones for volunteering your time to help chaperone and make such a fun event a success.

Friday, April 28th was our Annual Othello’s Got Talent Assembly! There were 15 acts ranging from singing, dancing, and playing musical instruments with a grand finale of a teacher versus student lip sync battle. The judges were Heidi Kuhn (Mrs. Wilson), Simon Powell (Mr. Rocha), Boss Baby (Mr. Uber), and Howie Mandel (Sean).

Big Tank aka Aaron Ruezga Serna received the Golden Buzzer for his rapping of Post Malone. The runner up went to Grupo C.D.G. for their band’s live performance and the 2023 Othello’s Got Talent Winner was Ben Schenck and his guitar solo. The staff, along with help from OHS Cheer, won the lip sync battle with their routine to Taylor Swift’s “Shake it Off.”

When asked about the talent show, many students had positive feedback and enjoyed watching their peers and teachers perform.

Othello’s Got Talent!

By: Allison Armfield

Photos Courtesy of: Allison Armfield and Photo Booth

Photos Courtesy of: Allison Armfield and Photo Booth
FBLA Goes to State!
By: Matthew Perez

On April 19th-22nd, our FBLA students traveled to Spokane to compete in their State Business Leader Conference against thousands of students! While competing, Melissa Sanchez, Leslie Pineda, and Ruby Escamilla placed 6th for their Partnership with Business Project, Jerry Alvarado-Sosa and Cesar Basurto placed 6th for the website they designed for our local food bank, Steven Carmona placed 7th for Social Media Marketing, and Matthew Perez placed 8th for Organizational Leadership. SBLC provided amazing opportunities to meet students from across Washington and experience new things and our members are already looking forward to next year’s competition!

AVID Night
By: Elizabeth Sanchez

On Monday May 16th OHS held its annual AVID Night celebration, where AVID students are rewarded for their hard work, and AVID seniors say their final goodbyes. Genesis Castro gave a beautiful and moving speech on the topic of expectations, self-priority, and passion. There were many awards given out that night including “Best Inquiring Mind”, “Most Organized”, “Most Improved”, “Best Tutor”, and more!

One of the top awards of the night was given to Mariza Gonzalez, who was chosen out of all of the AVID classes 8th through 12th grade, for “Best All Around Student”. Make sure to congratulate our AVID seniors for their hard work, and AVID seniors say their final goodbyes.

FFA News
By: Meagan Haight

Members competed in State Horse judging in Kittitas on April 26th. This team worked really hard and put in a lot of time studying. We are so proud of all their efforts. Out of 32 teams our team placed 17th and out of 138 individuals competing Abby Durupo placed 30th.

We had our Annual Plant sale April 28th and 29th and May 12th and 13th. It was a huge success and great turnout. We appreciate everyone who came out and supported our Annual fundraiser.

All proceeds go towards FFA yearly activities like state travel, FFA dues, community service events and so much more. This year we traveled to more than 15 different places to compete and came home with banners from 10 of them!

We will be having a fall sale in September selling mums, celosia, and marigolds to help spruce up porches and flower beds. Be on the lookout come next school year for more information.

Staff Spotlight
By: Maria Olmedo

Kevin Hensley was a teacher at Wahitis elementary and McFarland Middle School before coming to OHS and, according to some, also a former astronaut for NASA.

According to Hensley, coaching high school football and soccer is a big part of his life. He says that it’s challenging but also rewarding at the same time because through the grind of practice and the wins and losses, he sees young men start developing their character.

"There’s nothing else like it” says Mr. Hensley. One of Mr. Hensley’s greatest achievements is having five awesome sons - he believes that being a parent is the most important thing you can be in life.

A few words Mr. Hensley would like to say to the students of OHS is a quote from Winston S. Churchill: “Success is not fatal; Failure is not fatal; it is courage to continue that counts.”

Artistic April
By: Meagan Haight

Artistic April is a month where we celebrate students who showcase their artistic skills in various forms. Artistic students are passionate about their craft, whether it’s painting, writing, music, or any other artistic expression. This month, we want to highlight their creativity and the joy they bring to our school community.

Senior: Pedro Francisco-Pedro
Junior: Amaris Mendez
Sophomore: Benji Garza
Freshman: Sawyer Roylance

Wendy Cisneros-Vazquez’s plan after highschool is to either attend Columbia Basin Community College or attend a dental assistant program at CBHA.

Her long-term career goal is to become a dentist, when asked about her goals and plans.

Wendy said “After visiting a dentistry office, I realized that this career was the one I wanted to pursue. I am aware that many people believe that is looks gross or it wouldn’t be a fun job, but from what I witnessed and experienced I believe that the dentistry route is the one for me and could make my future work life enjoyable.”
Soccer

Congrats to the OHS Boys’s soccer team for another great season! The boys made it to the District 5/6 Championship game but lost to East Valley. The team ended the season with a record of 12-6-1.

Tennis

By: Caleb Tovar

At the District tournament at East Valley on Tuesday, May 16th Maleyna Alvarez and Mia Carlson placed 4th overall as a doubles team. Ashton Pruneda and Forrest Royalace placed 2nd overall as a doubles team and will be advancing to a crossover match vs. Pullman on May 28th @ East Valley. The winner of that match will move on to the state tournament in Seattle.

Both boys and girls varsity tennis teams received the Outstanding Academic Award this year: the girls team had a GPA of 3.6 and the boys 3.5. Forrest and Ashton received 1st team all league and the girls, Maleyna and Mia received 2nd team all league.

Apple Blossom Parade

By: Araceli Cedeno-Cortez

On Saturday, May 6, the OHS band traveled to Wenatchee and participated in the Apple Blossom parade. The Apple Blossom Parade is one of the oldest parades in the Pacific Northwest. There were 19 bands and they got 1st place in their division. It was a fun day full of experiences and exciting moments!

Golf

Congrats to Sami Shade (3rd place with a 99), Maria Murdoch (10th place with a 108) and Rachael Bates (1st alternate with a 112)! These wonderful ladies have qualified for the WIAA State Golf Tournament and will be representing Othello!

OHS Boys Golf took second place as a team at the District Tournament on Monday May 15th. Will Parrish, Spencer Lawson, and TJ Murdock are heading to the WIAA State Tournament with TJ Murdock being the District Champion!

Tennis

By: Caleb Tovar

Tennis By: Caleb Tovar

Track and Field

OHS hosted 7 schools for the 2A District Track Meet on May 13th. Thank you to all of our volunteers and local businesses who donated or helped make the day a success!

Kim Alesarz, Samantha Arceola, Abigail Douglas, Bella Garza, Lacey Garza, Josie Gentry, Kiara Haertling, Dayanara Medina, Sonny Su, and Terrill Freeman are advancing to Regionals at Ephrata on May 19th.

Congrats to Othello’s Bella Garza, Josephine Gentry, Abigail Douglas and Lacey Garza for earning All-League honors!

Baseball

By: Mark Bailey

The OHS baseball team closed out another great season! Some highlights include the Varsity Boys team landing 3rd place (8-4) in the league, and 15-8 overall. JV ended the season with a record of 13-5 (8-4 in league) and “C” Team with an overall record of 5-6-1 (1-3-1 in league.)

Sonny Salazar received 1st team All League, while Xyuan Martinez, Jordan Montemayer, and Quade Gonzalez made 2nd Team All League. Honorable mentions for Kal-el Ozuna and Ezra Gonzalez.

Fast-Pitch Softball

Our OHS Lady Huskies advanced to the District 5/6 Championship game against Selah on Tuesday May 16th. The girls lost 11-1 but will play again this Saturday, May 20th in the crossover game against Clarkston. Good luck this weekend, girls, and thanks for a great season!

May Sports Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Boys JV Golf</td>
<td>Boys Baseball</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Boys Varsity Golf</td>
<td>Girls JV &amp; Varsity Golf</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Boys Varsity Golf</td>
<td>Unified Soccer</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Boys Varsity Tennis</td>
<td>Girls Varsity Tennis</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Girls Varsity Tennis</td>
<td>Boys Varsity Tennis</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Girls Varsity Tennis</td>
<td>Boys Varsity Tennis</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Lilac Bloomsday run, also known as Bloomsday, is a 12k (7.46 mi) road race held annually on the first Sunday in May in Spokane, Washington. This race attracts thousands of runners, typically drawing over 30,000 people from across the country and globe. The course starts in downtown Spokane and heads west before heading up the infamous “Doomsday Hill.”

While the course is difficult, and many elite athletes are competing for time, the event is also a fun celebration. Many people dress up in costumes and walk the course, spectators line the streets of Spokane with homemade signs, there are bands at several points along the course, and people even set up concessions to sell popsicles, donuts, and beverages.

Ms. Armfield is involved in the Spokane running community and has participated in Bloomsday for the last decade. “I have been running Bloomsday for the past 10 years and don’t want to lose my streak now! I used to be in much better shape, but this year I just hope to get out there, do my best, and have a good time running with thousands of my friends.”

Mr. Shafer said, “This will be my 8th time to run it. It has become a tradition for me and my family. I run with my wife, while my kids hang out at my brother’s house a few blocks from the route. They sit out and cheer for people. My parents are in a cover band, and they have played at Bloomsday for the last few years. It is fun to see them play. After the race, we all go back to my brother’s house for a cookout.”

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has run Bloomsday for over 20 years, “I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (bloomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the “unofficial” start of spring.”

This is Mr. Firth’s third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!