



Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About

## Fifth Graders Complete DARE Graduation

MCA fifth grade students completed their Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program just before the winter break. Mount Airy Police officers Stacy Inman and Gerald Daniel met with the students for one hour per week for ten weeks and culminated the process of teaching with a graduation. Three students were selected to read essays their about what they had learned on topics ranging from bullying to alcohol and drug abuse. Mount Airy Chick-fil-a owner, Chad Tidd, was the guest speaker. He challenged the students to remain drug and alcohol free as they matured into adults. Congratulations to our fifth graders for completing this important step in their education. Below, fifth graders pose with their DARE certificates, along with Officers Inman and Daniel, and Mr. Tidd.



## High School Variety Show

The MCA High School Performing Arts department recently hosted a variety show starring MCA high school students. Acts included bluegrass and acoustical numbers, an interpretive dance, a stand-up comedy routine, piano and vocal selections, a Broadway show number, and a classic rock band performance. The MCA choir also performed. The sponsor of the show was Mrs. Alicia Merritt.



DARE essay winners, left to right, **Nickel O'Neal, Ariel Spencer, and Addison Hall.**



**Dawson Depetris, Gavin Young, Isaiah Fitzpatrick, Nate Hayes, and Chase Watkins** performed a Pink Floyd rock number at the variety show.



**Emily Marteny** did a stand-up comedy routine about the woes of procrastination.

**Travis Watts and Maggie Glen** performed an acoustical duet. **Travis Watts** also sang and played a solo banjo bluegrass number.





## Science Fair and Research Paper Winners

MCA has an excellent science curriculum, and one of the places where that shines the brightest is our annual science fair in which fourth – tenth grade students compete. Students are taught inquiry based science whereby they are encouraged to ask questions and to learn basic scientific methodology. Teachers help students work through projects that are truly research-based inquiries and not merely demonstrations. Winners from the school fair compete at the regional level, the NC Science and Engineering Fair at Appalachian State University. Several students in grades six through eight also recently competed in the regional level of the NC Student Academy of Science research paper competition. As in past years, our students did very well at the regional level, showcasing our strong science program. The regional competition includes schools from a thirteen county area of Northwest North Carolina. Top winners from the regional competition of both the science fair and the research paper competition will continue on to state competitions in Raleigh on March 24 and 25.

### 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair Winners

Back row:  
**Cameron Shaw  
and Grant Routh,**  
2<sup>nd</sup> row from top:  
**Robert Marshall,  
Leah Shaw, Piper  
Jennings,  
Andrew Hackett,  
Emily  
Richardson,  
Katherine Bray;**  
3<sup>rd</sup> row from top:  
**Sarah Callaway,**



**Sadie O'Neal, Nate Sapp, Wil Danley, and Ryan Hawks;** 4<sup>th</sup> row from top: **Grace Phillips,  
Jacob Smith, Mason Greenstreet, and Cooper Edwards;** Front row: **Starling Bullins,  
Sara Windsor, Madison Lawson, Braxton French, Cooper Mogsinger, Kaya McDowell,  
and Hartly Devore**



### High School Winner

**Jack Bevard** (above) won first place in the high school division with his project about which petroleum products evaporate the most slowly upon being spilled, and thereby create the more severe threat to the environment.

### Elementary Science Fair Winners

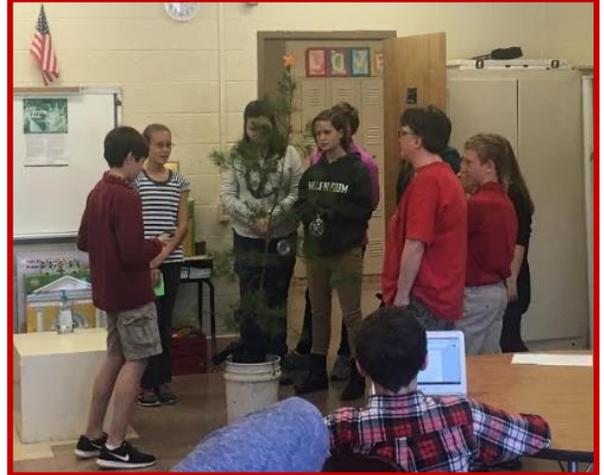
Left to right:  
**Sam Reeves,  
Daniel Sorrell,  
Avery Brintle, and  
KJ Haynie**





## National Junior Honor Society Gets into AKTION

Millennium's National Junior Honor Society hit the road to share Christmas cheer with the AKTION club of Surry Community. This group of special needs adults paired with the sixth – eighth graders from MCA's honor society to paint Christmas ornaments, decorate Christmas cookies, and sing Christmas carols. Just before a pizza lunch, the group collaborated on a skit from Charlie Brown's Christmas. AKTION members also entertained with several musical numbers, complete with sign language and a mandolin. This event was part of the NJHS annual chapter service project and is hopefully the beginning of a lasting relationship.



Left: **Anna Banas** (right of center) sits with AKTION club members as they enjoy holiday snacks. At right, performing in a skit are (left to right) **Jared Brinkley**, **Sara Windsor**, AKTION Club Member, **Cameron Shaw**, AKTION Club Member, **Cooper Motsinger**. Also attending and helping, but just not pictured here, are **Madison Lawson**, **Leah Shaw** and **William Erickson**.

## Student Leadership Council Angel Tree and Food Drive

During the month of December, MCA's Student Leadership Council has been involved with several community outreach projects. SLC sponsored MCA's annual "Friends Feeding Friends" food drive, and the students organized a "hat day" to help promote giving. SLC also decided to partner with the Salvation Army and adopt two "angels" from their annual Angel Tree Program. The children raised money which was used to buy clothes, shoes, toys, and books for children in need. By doing this, the SLC helped to make Christmas wishes come true for a boy and a girl in our community. Student Leadership Council has worked diligently to make a positive difference in our community this holiday season!



MCA's student leadership team: (back row) Sponsor **Claire Draughn**, **Ava Thomason**, **Clara Marion**, **Oliveah Hodges**, **Addisen Key**, **McKinley Gwyn**, **Ariel Spencer**, **Cheyenne Rogers**, **Carter Lawson**, **Aryan Hira**, **Ayden Turner**, **Cohen Jennings**; (front) **Brayden Holladay**, **Garrett Routh**, **Joseph Jones**, **Walker York**, **Logan Wood**, **Carson Bowman**, and **DeVonte' Frazier**.