

WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL
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PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ February 2008

For up to date info visit our website at www.whspfa.org

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From the Office of Principal Tom Gwin

The incidents related to the high school wrestling team have been more than disturbing. As you are well aware, the team experienced three incidents meant to disrupt a very successful team. The first involved damage to uniforms and equipment in the wrestling locker room, the second concerned emails with misinformation, and third incident related to vandalism to vehicles and a mailbox. The school also experienced the written bomb threat during the month of January. At the moment, we do not know if the threat is connected to the wrestling incidents.

While these events have been distressing, I have been more than heartened by the response of the Winchester community. Immediately, the Student Council initiated a fundraiser to obtain funds to replace the uniforms and equipment. The PFA will match the amount raised by the students. The Winchester Sports Foundation will replace the uniforms and provide more financial support if needed. The Police Department has worked collaboratively with the school administration in thoroughly investigating the incidents and the threat, and developing safety plans to ensure student safety. The Fire Department also provided support in terms of safety during the home wrestling match on January 17. Many parents and students (who were not necessarily wrestling fans) came out that night to support the team. While this has been a challenging time for the school, the town of Winchester stepped up in a big time way. On behalf of the wrestling team and the school community, thank you very much.

These incidents remind us that a positive school climate is essential for an optimum learning environment. Given that WHS is becoming more diverse, it is important that the school community considers issues in relation to respect for differences. The acquisition of life skills around respect, acceptance, compassion, communication, and problem solving needs to be an important component of our school mission. To that end, the School Improvement Council is looking at the WHS climate and will be considering student programs to address school climate issues and develop leadership skills. Stay tuned.

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Late Opening and School Cancellations

If a delayed opening of school is called, announcements will be made on:

- A. Radio Stations WRKO, WBZ, WEZE, WBUR, AND WHDH
- B. Television stations: Channels 4, 5, 7, 25 and Cable Channels
- C. For an hour delay, school will begin at 8:45 a.m. for a one and a half hour delay, school will begin at 9:15 a.m., and for a two-hour delay, school will begin at 9:45 a.m.

From PFA President, Carol Cashion

The first few weeks of January have not been easy ones at WHS. The string of serious incidents aimed at the wrestling team has been very upsetting to the students and families involved and to our WHS community as a whole. It is also clear, however, that we are a community that knows how to respond to a crisis and how to support one another until the crisis is resolved. The school administration and the Winchester Police have worked very hard not only to ensure the safety of the students, but to communicate with both students and their parents every step of the way. Just as importantly, the wider student body has rallied to support their peers on the wrestling team, raising money to replace uniforms under the leadership of the Student Council and filling the gym for meets. Day to day, in class and in the hallways, I know that our students have shown that they care. The PFA voted to match the funds students raised, knowing that one of our roles is to support our students as they take steps to support one another. I know we all hope that in February our students' focus will return to starting the new semester well academically, preparing for new performances, competing or cheering for our winter teams, and working on the many extra-curricular projects and activities that are part of the rich daily life at WHS.

Our February PFA meeting will take place at 7:30 on Wednesday, February 6 in the library. Please plan to join us.

CLASS NEWS

Attention All Sophomores!

Do you like to ski, snowboard or tube? If so, join us at the Class of 2010 Ski Trip, on Friday, February 29th, at Nashoba Valley! The cost is \$50 for Skiing and Snowboarding, \$40 for tubing, or \$70 for both! There will also be a private rental charge of \$26 if you need to rent your equipment. We will depart from the high school at 3:30pm and arrive back at the high school around 11:00pm. We will be traveling in **coach buses** and there will be room to bring your own ski equipment. If you have any questions or would like more information please contact Matt Marotta, at marotta.r@comcast.net. Hope to see you there!

SENIOR CLASS NEWS:

The Senior Class of 2008 will be holding a **BAKE SALE** during both lunches at school on February 12th, 2008 to raise money for the end of the year senior activities. If you would like to volunteer to bake for this fundraiser please contact Carly Moran at carlym58@yahoo.com or drop off your baked goods to the Learning Center by 7:45 am on February 12th.

The senior class will be holding its 3rd **ANNUAL CLASS DINNER** to help raise money for their end of the year activities. The dinner for students and their families will be Thursday, March 13th in the Cafeteria. It will be Italian-themed and there will be an A-Z raffle. If you would like to help out at this event please contact Peter Stein at pdsteiners@hotmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE! The 6th **ANNUAL MR. WHS PAGEANT** will be held in the High School Auditorium on Friday, March 30th. Come see the male contestants of the Class of 2008 show their stuff in the five categories of dance, formalwear, beachwear, question & answer, and talent. The six members of the Class of 2008 that will strut their stuff in the pageant will be: Karl Wang, Volya Pavlenkov, Garrett Doherty, Danny O'Connell, Bobby Belotti and Alex Wankowicz. Tickets will be \$8 and will be sold at Bookends and at the door. During intermission there will be a bake sale to help raise money for the senior class prom if you would like to bake, please contact Tess Nicholson at tessnicholson@comcast.net. Hope to see you all there!

FRESHMEN CLASS 2011

The Freshmen Class Semi Formal will be held on Friday evening, February 8th at the Winchester Town Hall. E-Mail has already been sent to all Freshmen Class Parents. Dance contracts will be e-mailed to all Freshmen Class families by WHS Administration in the next few days.

All parents need to sign their children into the dance at the Town Hall. So Parents, instead of heading back home after sign-in, why not take a short stroll to the Freshmen Parent Social at Lucia's Restaurant on Mt. Vernon Street? The Parent Social will be held from 7:30PM to 10:30 PM. Tickets are \$30 and will include a fabulous buffet dinner. There will also be a cash bar. More details to follow on ticket purchase. There is a limited supply.

The Freshmen Parent Social is a great way to connect with other Freshmen Parents, support the Freshmen Class and have some fun! There will be a silent auction and a raffle.

Freshmen Parents: Sarah McKeough, is the Silent Auction Chairperson. Please contact her to donate auction items. Some auction item ideas include, but not limited to, game tickets, get-aways, jewelry or perhaps a few families might get together and create a theme basket. Let's have some fun with this! Please contact Sarah at smckeough@comcast.net.

Would you like to help out with decorations for the Parent Social? Contact Marlene Prates at 781-721-2986. Marlene is the Decorations Chairperson.

Both Sarah and Marlene have great ideas and it will be a lot of fun to work with them!

Details to follow on Parent Social Ticket Purchase.

A Schedule of Winchester School Music Events is now posted on the WHS PFA

website: <http://www.whspfa.org/clientimages/39852/miscellaneous0708/07-08calendarofmusicevents1.pdf>

WHS PFA – Direct Appeal

On behalf of more than 1,000 students who attend Winchester High School, the PFA Board would like to say thank you very much to the 401 families who contributed to the 2007-08 Direct Appeal during the first semester. Your generous contributions enabled the PFA to cover the cost of many important programs and supplies for students and teachers by providing grants to academic departments, the school library, and many extracurricular, enrichment, and support programs.

To those families who haven't yet made a contribution, the PFA Board asks that you please consider doing so now, so that we can plan effectively for the rest of the school year. Additional funds will allow us to provide new and ongoing financial support for programs and supplies during the second semester. Although a contribution of any amount is truly appreciated, the PFA asks that each family consider making a one-time donation for this school year of \$75.00 or more.

For your convenience, the PFA now offers two methods of making a contribution to the Direct Appeal:

- **Check** - As always, you can mail a check with the coupon provided below.
- **PayPal** - Now, you can also make a quick and easy online transaction through a PayPal account that the PFA has set up for the Direct Appeal. If you wish to make your contribution through the new PayPal account, please begin by logging in to the home page of the WHS PFA website at <http://whspfa.org>. On the right side of the home page, you will find the Direct Appeal heading. Under the heading, please click on "more" to view the whole Direct Appeal section. In the paragraph labeled "PayPal", you will find a few simple steps for making an online contribution to the Direct Appeal.

For additional information, please contact Laura Henry at dljshenry@comcast.net or 781-729-9719.

Name of WHS Student(s) _____

Grade(s) _____

Amount of Contribution \$75 _____ \$100 _____ \$125 _____ Other _____

Checks made payable to **WHS PFA** may be sent directly to **Laura Henry, 86 Lawson Road, Winchester, MA 01890.**

The Guide



A Monthly Newsletter from the WHS Guidance Department February 2008

Selective Service Registration

A recent mailing from the Selective Service System's District of Massachusetts office requested that male students be informed of their responsibility to register for Selective Service. The letter states that, "By registering, the student maintains his eligibility for student loans, federally funded vocational training programs, and Civil Service employment opportunities." It explains, "By not registering, he is in violation of the law." The Guidance Department is alerting parents of male students 18 years of age or older, who may be applying for federally-sponsored financial aid programs, that the student must register for Selective Service. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Assistance) asks whether the student has registered with Selective Service. The student becomes ineligible for financial aid if he has not registered. A student may register for Selective Service online at: www.sss.gov.

News from UMass Dartmouth

Steven Briggs, Director of Admissions, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, has sent a letter to the WHS Guidance Department to update the Winchester community on the many new and exciting facilities that have been and are being added to the UMD campus. First, this past September 2007 brought a record enrollment of over 9000 students to the campus. Other news included:

- New majors: Crime and Justice; Women's Studies
 - New research building for Bio Terrorism Research
 - New football field with enlarged seating capacity and lights for night time athletics
 - 4200 beds for undergraduate students— (50% of on-campus housing is new in the past 4 years.) 400 more beds for September 2008.
 - Parking lots enlarged; freshmen can have cars!
- Students can apply online at www.umassd.edu.

NAICU Launches U-CAN

The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) launched U-CAN (the University and College Accountability Network) in Fall 2007. U-CAN (www.ucan-network.org) provides concise, comparable, web-based, and user-friendly profiles of hundreds of private colleges and universities. The profiles contain data on admissions, enrollment, graduation rates, most popular degrees, cost of attendance, financial aid and much more—all

in a common format. The profiles are also highly "clickable" and take students to specific pages of an institution's web site. U-CAN is free and accepts no advertising or sponsorships. Participating in U-CAN are Ivy League universities, liberal arts colleges, historically black institutions, women's colleges, religious and faith-related schools, and many other types of nonprofit, private institutions. The NAICU is based in Washington, D.C. and is a non-profit organization that serves as the national voice of private higher education, representing approximately 950 independent institutions.

More Jobs for Grads

College graduates found about 20 percent more job offers from employers in 2007, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The information, published in *College Bound's* December 2007 edition, noted that 2007 was the fourth straight year in which job offers were up by double digits. NACE found that graduates received higher average starting salaries in 26 of 29 majors it measured. The top salaries went to chemical engineers (\$59,707) up 5.6%; mechanical engineers (\$54,695) up 5.7%; computer science majors (\$52,177) up 2.5%; accountants (\$47,421) up 2.7%; IT/data processing (\$46,966) up 4.9%; business administration/management (\$44,048) up 7.5%; marketing (\$41,285) up 10.3%; liberal arts majors (\$31,333) up 1.2%.

Griffin Museum Holding Juried Exhibition for High School Seniors

The Griffin Museum of Photography is holding a juried exhibition for high school seniors from area high schools. The juried show asks students to "*let their camera be their guide*", asking "How does the camera play a role in the student's artistic expression?" The student may submit work from any genre (i.e. landscape, portrait, still life, etc.) The Griffin Museum is looking for submissions that reflect a student's style or personal idea as expressed through their photography. High school seniors are encouraged to submit one photograph by March 20, 2008. One student will be awarded the Joan Johnson Scholarship, an award of \$1000. Finalists will be exhibited in the Griffin Gallery. Submissions guidelines may be found on the museum's website at www.griffinmuseum.org. For further information, call 781-729-1158.

14th Annual High School

Marine Environmental Symposium

The Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Buzzards Bay, MA, is sponsoring the Marine Environmental Symposium, to be held on April 25 & 26, 2008, to allow students and teachers to participate in workshop sessions with top environmental scientists, representing several of the nation's most noted environmental organizations. Each participant will be exposed to the most current information and have the opportunity to interact with state-of-the-art, high tech equipment that is available to protect our marine environment. A partial list of organizations that will be

About Dynamy

Dynamy is a full-year internship program and is the only residential "gap year" internship program in the U.S. It is designed for students who want to explore the work world, performing meaningful work, before entering college or a career path. The majority of Dynamy interns go on to college after completing their internship experience. Dynamy interns live in apartments as independent adults, get invaluable on-the-job experience in three consecutive nine-week mentored internships, work with Dynamy advisors on clarifying their future personal and academic goals, and have the option of taking up to 12 credits from Clark University in Worcester. Each program begins with a wilderness challenge. Dynamy has sites in Worcester, MA and Santa Rosa, CA, and is currently accepting applications for the 2008 Spring Semester and 2008-2009 academic year. For further information, visit the Dynamy web page at:

www.Dynamy.org

For questions, contact Brian Hopewell, Dean of Admissions, at 508-755-2571.

making presentations at the Symposium includes: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Clean Harbors, Cape Cod Commission, New England Aquarium, U.S. Coast Guard, National Marine Life Center and Coastal Education Association. This program is by invitation only. An invitation may be obtained by contacting the Mass. Maritime Academy Admissions Office at 800-544-3411. A registration fee of \$75.00 is due as soon as possible and includes overnight accommodations and meals at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

Rhode Island College's New Major Eligible for Regional Student Discount

Rhode Island College, Providence, RI, a state supported four-year public college, has announced a new academic major: a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Chemical Dependency and Addictions Studies (CDAS). The rigorous program will include a three semester sequence of research methods, upper level counseling preparation, and a two semester sequence "capstone" experience of practicum and field, supervised internship in Chemical Dependency. All CSAS majors receive the B.A. in Psychology, along with the B.S. CDAS degree. Since this is the only such program at a public college in New England, out-of-state students who are admitted to Rhode Island College as a CDAS major may attend under the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE) cooperative program at reduced-rate tuition. Their website is: www.nebhe.org. For further information about the CDAS program, contact Prof. Tom M. Randall at trandall@ric.edu and/or visit the web page at www.ric.edu.

Connect & Commit, Community Service-Learning

Thank you to everyone who helped make Desserts for Doctors such a success: attendees, dessert-makers, parents who helped with supplies and sought donations from businesses, all who volunteered during the event, and the Octets, the Holden Philharmonic Jazz Quartet, Karl Wang and Ajanthan Arulananam for their musical talents. Thanks to the PFA, Woburn Whole Foods, BJs, Winchester Stop & Shop, Kickass Cupcakes, Susan Schwartz (cooking class for auction) and Richard Howard (photography) for their support. The club raised over \$1,500 for Doctors without Borders and more than 80 attendees enjoyed sensational desserts, a lively auction, live music and good company.

The WHS/Lynch Afterschool Tutoring program is underway, and the enthusiasm of the 25 WHS tutors is reportedly tremendous, with the weekly sessions proving to be a special event for the elementary school kids. Lynch staff and parents are impressed by the tutoring and by results they've already seen. Muraco Afterschool tutors, please remember the start date for tutoring is now January 29, and thanks for your patience.

Organizers of the ABC Bottle Drive forward their thanks to the students and parents who volunteered and helped make their bottle drive in January a success. They were grateful and impressed by your hard work. To see photos and quotes of C&C students at work, go to www.wickedlocal.com/winchester/archive/x1295930635.

Congratulations to the students who represented Connect & Commit for the Fox 25 News Winchester High segment that aired on January 18. C&C leaders Yikun Guo, Martin Demasco, Julian Phillips and Emily deRedon gave great interviews (and we now know that when the cameraman is also the interviewer, you have to talk to a wall!). You can view the results at <http://media.myfoxboston.com/sports/hsfriday.html>.

Congratulations also to the Student Council for their Heifer International fundraiser in December. The classes altogether raised over \$430, which will go towards livestock or livestock care training for families in developing countries. This was the first time they've done this type of service project.

For a chance to meet with representatives of many Boston area organizations about community service opportunities, go to the TeenLife Boston Community Service Fair on Sunday, February 10th from 2-5pm at the Atrium Mall in Chestnut Hill. For more information go to <http://www.teenlifeboston.com>.

In service-learning news, planning is underway for the 3rd annual WHS/English High School Exchange, a service-learning collaboration between Ms. Hillstrom (WHS English teacher), Connect & Commit, Mr. Beyer and Ms. Dubin at English High (Boston), and Teen Empowerment staff. Ms. Hillstrom's grade 9 Honors English classes take part in this 2-day exchange in March as part of their Investigating Injustice unit. Stay tuned for more about the project.

Thanks to all the parent volunteers who made recent service projects possible, including Caren Connelly, Kate Ebbott, Pam Reeve, Rachael Phillips, Karen Demasco, Richard Howard and Brett Cook.

As always, students are welcome at Connect & Commit club meetings every Tuesday from 6:30 – 7:30 pm in the WHS library, as often as their schedule allows, to help plan service projects, meet other students and learn about upcoming opportunities.

Parent help is what makes many of the service activities possible. Parents are encouraged to assist with one or more service events this year, including the following:

- **Saturday, February 2nd - Franklin Park, Winter Volunteer Day**
- **Saturday, February 9th - Marathon Training with Joints in Motion**
- **Saturday, March 1st - Council of Social Concern's Silent Auction**

See details in the current list of service opportunities below.

Please contact me to sign up, to receive updates via the Connect & Commit email list, or for information about the service-related resources available to students, parents and teachers online and in the Connect & Commit office (in the WHS library).

Best wishes from Amanda Gordon, Program Director, agordon@winchester.k12.ma.us, 781-721-7020 x1999

Connect & Commit February 2008 Volunteer Activities

Events

Saturday, February 2nd - Franklin Park, Winter Volunteer Day - 10:00am-1:00pm (9:30am-1:30pm with travel)

Help the Franklin Park Coalition to save the historic, 200-acres of woodlands in Franklin Park by cutting prickly vines that kill young trees. Please wear layers and glove liners under leather palm work gloves (they have work gloves for those who don't). Nylon parkas will get ripped by the thorns, so it's best to wear a big, hooded sweatshirt or wool jacket. Hot chocolate and donuts provided! *Sign up in Connect & Commit office by Tuesday, January 29th; permission slip required.*

Saturday, February 9th - Marathon Training with Joints in Motion - 7:00 -11:00am (6:30-11:30am with travel) Watertown

Come join Joints in Motion, the Arthritis Foundation's marathon team, and help provide road support to these special athletes during their training runs. Volunteers will help at liquid and first aid stations or can run/bike along with athletes as they navigate the marathon course. Volunteers are trained before each session on emergency procedures and have an orientation on helping athletes work toward their goals. Come and help train these special athletes, learn endurance training skills and also get yourself in great shape too! *Sign up in Connect & Commit office by Tuesday, January 29th; permission slip required.*

Saturday, February 9th - Game Day at Women's Lunch Place - 10:30am-12:30pm (10:00am-1:00pm with travel) 67 Newbury Street, Boston

For over 25 years, the Women's Lunch Place has been a daytime community in Boston for poor and homeless women and their children. Bring your favorite game and join the guests at Women's Lunch Place for some fun. At noon we will help serve lunch to our new friends and are welcome to grab a bite ourselves. *Sign up in the Connect & Commit office by Tuesday, February 5th; permission slip required.*

Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 9th & 10th - Winchester Historical Society Film Series- 1:30- 4:30pm Lincoln School, Winchester

In celebration of its 75th year, the Society presents "Then and Now in Winchester, 1933 and 2008", a series of programs contrasting the culture and conditions of society and our town. We can help by ushering and monitoring attendees during the films. Come spend an afternoon at the movies, be captivated by the artistry of a classic film, and help out a valued community organization at the same time. The Winchester Historical Society presents educational programs and exhibits, as well as collects, preserves, and shares materials on Winchester's ever developing history so that present and future generations can understand more fully their predecessors, their community, and themselves. *Sign up in the Connect & Commit office by Friday, January 25th.*

Sunday, February 10th - TeenLife Boston Community Service Fair - 2- 5pm The Atrium Mall, Chestnut Hill

This event, co-sponsored by Google and the Atrium Mall, features 35 well known non-profit exhibitors who welcome teens as individual or group volunteers, interns, and staff. Middle and high school students, youth groups, parents, and teachers welcome! See www.teenlifeboston.com for information.

Monday, February 18th through 21st - Teen Team Works - 10:30am- 4:00pm

Location: Various BOOYAH! Project Sites throughout Boston

Teen Team Works is a 4 day, small group volunteer program designed for high school teens ages 13-18. The program provides opportunities to participate in teambuilding and leadership workshops, while learning about the issues, organizations and communities encountered through volunteer services and action steps one can take in response to what is learned. Group meets at 190 High St. in downtown Boston every day at 10:30am and travels together to the project sites. BOOYAH! t-shirts are provided for you to wear during projects, Charlie cards are provided for transportation to the project and back home, and snacks are provided. *Sign up using application at www.bostoncares.org. Due by February 13th.*

Sunday, February 24th - Special Needs Cross Country Skiing and Snow Shoeing- 11:00am-2:00pm Weston

Come cross-country ski or snowshoe with athletes with disabilities. There will be a hot chocolate/lunch break half way through this three hour program. Skis and snowshoes will be provided if you do not have your own - but you are encouraged to bring yours if you have them. Kid Friendly, 13+. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. With the Newton Parks and Recreation Department. *Sign up at www.bostoncares.org, volunteer projects. Project Leader: Liz Resch*

Saturday, March 1st - Council of Social Concern's Silent Auction

Woburn: at Council of Social Concern and Hilton Boston Help the Council of Social Concern with their annual silent auction fundraiser: from 11:30am-2:00pm, load auction items into the truck at the Council and then unload and take to the auction space at the Hilton Boston-Woburn. Or if you prefer, a Saturday night out with your friends and some free pizza: from 5:30-7:30, walk around and keep track of the winning bid sheets, or help at the auction table from 7:00-9:45 pm. A 1-hour optional training is on Thursday 2/28 at 7:00pm at the Council office. The Council provides services to address community needs for child care, parenting and wellness education, and food assistance. *Sign up in Connect & Commit office by Friday, January 25th; permission slip required.*

Ongoing Opportunities

Ambrose Elementary School – Pennies for Peace project
Ambrose is looking for students who are reading the fabulous "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson who would like to meet with some Ambrose students and staff to get their "Pennies for Peace" project rolling (the fundraiser for building schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan).

American Cancer Society - Relays for Life

Join the American Cancer Society Relay For Life®: a time and place where people come to celebrate those who have survived cancer, remember those we've lost, and fight back against a disease that touches too many lives. Sign up to start a team, join a team or do a survivor lap. Donate to a participant, team or event, or be a luminaria. 1-800-ACS-2345. www.relayforlife.org, 2/15-2/16 Boston College, The

Plex, 3/2 North Suburban Family YMCA, Spin for Hope, 4/11 Tufts University.

Vinson Owen Volunteer – Morning or Afterschool

Provide assistance and encouragement to elementary school students as they use an educational computer program for extra help during one or more of the following times: Monday 2:40 -3:10 pm, Tuesday morning, 8:00 -8:30am, or Wednesday, 2:40-3:10 pm. From January 7 through May; please commit to at least 8 sessions.

The Other Three R's – Serving our planet. Serving us all

Reduce	Reuse	Recycle
Do you know about the MA incentives that promote renewable energy and energy efficiency? See www.newdream.org/consumer/dsire.html	Is there something you need? Something you no longer need? Use craigslist.com to get rid of or find used or free items, and the Freecycle Network (freecycle.org) for all things free fifty-free.	NYC will soon require large stores and retail chains to collect and recycle plastic bags they give to shoppers. What do you do with your used plastic bags? Find a recycling location today!



Winchester Youth Center, 458R Main Street, Winchester MA 01890
781-721-0906, www.wincyc.org

WINCHESTER YOUTH CENTER (WYC)

The Winchester Youth Center (WYC) is committed to fostering leadership skills and a long-term commitment to community service through healthy social and experiential-learning activities for teens.

WYC ART GALLERY & RAFFLE

Thursday, February 7th

7:00-9:00pm

Featuring handcrafted jewelry, photography, pottery, and more

All created by the WYC Peer Leaders

Each \$20 ticket is an entry into a drawing to win an iPhone & an Xbox

Contact the WYC for more information

SUPPORT THE WINCHESTER YOUTH CENTER'S HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TRIP

During February vacation the WYC Peer Leaders will be participating in our third annual Habitat for Humanity trip. This year we will be traveling to Beaumont, Texas to help with their continued rebuilding in response to the damage done by Hurricane Rita. Twenty Peer Leaders will participate in a week-long service-learning project with Habitat for Humanity and help build homes for needy families.

WINCHESTER COUNCIL ON YOUTH

Youth Service Award Scholarships

Our scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors who have made significant contributions to the children and youth of Winchester and other communities. We hope that these scholarships will help motivate the recipients to continue their service to youth through college and beyond.

We are currently working toward fundraising 100% of the expenses for our trip including a \$2500 donation to the Jefferson County Habitat affiliate and Habitat for Humanity International. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

Proceeds from all of the following fundraising efforts will benefit our trip:

The recipients of the scholarships will be honored at the Youth Service Awards Ceremony held in the Town Hall Auditorium on the evening of Wednesday, May 14th. The scholarship applications are available in the WHS Guidance office and at the Winchester Youth Center. The completed applications with recommendations are due no later than 5:00pm on Monday, April 7th.

SCHOOL RELATED NEWS

Have you heard the buzz? **The WFEE Trivia Bee is almost here! Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 6th, and gather a team of three people to join our Trivia Masters for a fun night!** Back by popular demand, our format allows each team to answer 7 questions. The team answering the most questions correctly moves on to the Championship Round. In between rounds we'll include the audience (only those under 18) in a test of trivial knowledge. Send your registration with your tax-deductible donation (\$300 entrance fee) payable to WFEE, the registration form is at http://www.wfee.org/forms/2008_Trivia_Bee_form.pdf. Friends, neighbors and co-workers are often happy to

contribute as team sponsors. Let us know if you don't want to play but are interested in sponsoring a team. Remember, many employers have matching gift programs which can double your contribution. Don't delay, **registration deadline in Wednesday, January 30th!** For more information, contact Genny Soper at 781-721-2562 or gsoper@verizon.net

STATE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION, Thursday February 7th 7:00-9:00 p.m., McCall Library

This annual program returns with Winchester's new Superintendent of Schools, Bill McAlduff and Director Of Pupil Services, Dr. Linda Stapp, who will talk about what is new with special education in Winchester. Opportunity for Q & A will follow.

FEBRUARY SPECIAL EDUCATION PAC COFFEE, Thursday Evening, February 28th, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The PAC holds informal, monthly coffees for parents and guardians of children on IEPs. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other parents and share knowledge, advice and concerns. There's no need to rsvp, just drop in. The February Coffee will be held on Thursday evening, February 28th from 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the home of Martha Stone-Martin at 6 Central Street. Questions? Contact Martha at 781-729-4833 or Winspedpac@yahoo.com. Also see the PAC website, www.winchesterspedpac.org.

SUPPORT THE K-12 ART PROGRAM IN THE WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS!

You are invited to the Winchester Friends of Art's annual PARTY FOR THE ARTS, to benefit the Winchester Public School's Art Program: **ART OF THIS WORLD, March 29, 2008, 8pm- 11pm at the Sanborn House, Tickets: \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door.** Featuring student art work, live music & dancing, cocktails and a silent auction. The auction will include many items, including art work done by students and local artists. For more information contact winchesterfoa@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Boy Scout Troop #507 would like to thank everyone who participated in our fourteenth annual Christmas tree pickup, which took place on January 5th this year. The boys and their families spent a fun-filled day picking up approximately 850 trees and taking them to the transfer station. The boys are proud to provide this service to the town, and your donations help the troop raise money for equipment and trips. Thank you for your support!

Once again the "Fairy Godmother Project" is happening in Winchester. Susan Borges and Dot Butler have partnered with the Boston Public Schools and we are collecting "New or Gently Worn Prom Gowns". We need styles within the past 5 years. Between January 3rd -30th gowns can be dropped off at 30 Wildwood Street on the front Porch. They will be safe - collected regularly and brought inside!! Gowns will be "GIVEN AWAY" to girls with financial challenges. **MAKE HER NIGHT AN ENCHANTED TALE COME TRUE!!!!** We need your help to get Cinderella to the Prom and this will also help you empty your closets. Any questions or for more information please contact: Susan Borges [<mailto:s.borges@comcast.net>]s.borges@comcast.net or Dot butler [<mailto:Butlermail@aol.com>]Butlermail@aol.com

The Winchester Historical Society presents ...

Two Movie Weekends Featuring the Best Films of 1933

In celebration of the Society's 75th anniversary

January 26 and 27

The Marx Brothers in "Duck Soup" and Popeye in "I Eats My Spinach"

February 9

Frank Capra's "Lady for a Day" and Popeye in "Blow Me Down"

February 10

Claude Rains in "The Invisible Man" and Popeye in "I Yam What I Yam"

Time: Showing at 2 p.m; doors open at 1:30 p.m.

Location: Lincoln School Auditorium

Films suitable for all ages; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Admission is free

Programs underwritten by the John and Mary Murphy Educational Foundation

Small group studio classes in drawing and painting in Winchester are being offered by former Winchester High School art teacher and Director of Art, David Ardito. The Spring term of art classes at the Sanborn Cultural Center on High Street in Winchester will start on March 11, 2008 and will run through May 20, 2008. There will be a total of 10 class meetings in each session and classes are held on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Class size will be limited to 5 students. Instruction will include **life drawing and painting** with an emphasis on the development of observational drawing and painting skills and also on expressive drawing and painting techniques. There will also be opportunities for students to develop their **creative portfolios for college admission** and instruction will include portfolio assessment and counseling. Classes are offered on a first come, first serve basis and juniors and seniors will receive priority over underclassmen. David Ardito is an artist with thirty-five years art teaching experience at the secondary level, most recently for nineteen years at Winchester High School. He was the K-12 Director of Art for Winchester Public Schools for nineteen years and is currently on the art education faculty at Mass College of Art. For David Ardito's resume, a registration form and for more information about fees and curriculum please email David at ydpaa@yahoo.com