

**WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**80 Skillings Road**  
**Winchester, Ma 01890 – 2853**  
**Telephone 781-721-7020**

**PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ NOVEMBER 2007**

**For up to date info visit our website at [www.whspfa.org](http://www.whspfa.org)**

*This newsletter was funded entirely by the Winchester Parent Faculty Association. No public funds were expended for the cost of its production or distribution.*

**From the Office of Principal Tom Gwin**

During the first week in October, the faculty was surveyed regarding their feelings about the new schedule. Initially, staff was asked to describe their feelings about the change at the end of the last school year. At that point in time, 51% were in favor of moving to the new schedule, 22% were neutral, and 27% were opposed. After having experienced the new schedule for the month of September, 73% were in favor (including 51% strongly in favor), 14% were neutral, and 14% were opposed.

Teachers were asked how has the new schedule has been advantageous for them. Responses included:

“I think it has had a positive effect on the behavior and attitude of students.”

“More depth can be achieved in 67 minutes.”

“The frenetic pace of the old schedule has been reduced.”

“Students seem less stressed.”

“Students have a longer class time for preparing and presenting individual or team projects.”

“I am able to check for student understanding more frequently.”

“There is more time to teach concepts and relationships.”

“I am able to spend additional time on areas of confusion or to teach skills-in addition to curriculum-without feeling like I have been thrown off my lesson plans.”

“The start of the school year was much smoother than in past years; fewer schedule changes.”

“I have been able to cover more material with the longer blocks.”

The teachers were also asked how the new schedule has been difficult for them:

“Planning tests and quizzes for the same courses so they are given on the same day can be challenging.”

“There isn’t a pattern of how the blocks are distributed throughout the seven day cycle.”

“My concern is with the coverage of material. We will need to follow it closely and see how it is and the end of the year.”

“It’s been harder to keep track of what I am doing from day to day.”

“It’s exhausting to teach four in a row without a break.”

“I am worried that I will not be able to cover as wide a range of topics as before.”

I will continue to survey teachers throughout the year as we evaluate the new schedule. The web tool *surveymonkey* has proven to be an extremely valuable tool in conducting surveys of the staff and analyzing responses. Parents and students will have an opportunity to weigh in on the schedule later in the year.

**MESSAGES FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:**

**DISMISSALS:** A reminder to all parents that if your student is to be dismissed from school, they must be excused with an explanatory note or telephone call from a parent/guardian to the Main Office **PRIOR TO THE DISMISSAL. A NOTE AFTER THE FACT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** A student may also be dismissed from school at the discretion of the Assistant Principal and the School Nurse. Parents will be contacted prior to the dismissal.

**PERSONAL ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT:** Students are not allowed to use a cell phone in school at any time. All cell phones must be turned off. A student in violation of this policy will have his/her cell phone taken away and sent to an Administrator. A parent must meet with an Administrator to pick up the phone. Ipods, walkmans, etc., cannot be used in class but they may be used at lunch.

**VISITORS:** All visitors to the high school, including parents, must check in and sign a Visitors Log in the Main Office. All visitors must wear a visitor’s name tag. Individuals who do not attend Winchester High School or are not on official business but are on the school grounds or in the school building will be treated as trespassers. This offense is a violation of the General Laws of the Commonwealth and carries a fine and/or imprisonment. Police will be notified.

**From PFA President, Carol Cashion**

If you attended the October PFA meeting, you heard an excellent presentation by School Resource Office Dan Perenick and Liz Silva from the Substance Abuse Coalition on teen drinking in Winchester. The conversation that began during their program continued on after the formal meeting was over, and it is clear that as a parent body we want both more information about everything from where students go to drink to how and where they acquire alcohol. Beyond information, it is also clear that we want strategies. How should we respond if we discover our children are using alcohol? How do we help a child who is socially isolated because he or she refuses to drink? Is a little alcohol consumption a serious issue or an expected rite of passage? What do I do when the parents of my child’s friends don’t answer that question the same way I do? The list of questions is long. Officer Perenick, the WSAC, and the PFA will look for ways to continue to the conversation. The first opportunity will be at the next **Parent Conversations**, facilitated by Faye Kurnick, which will take place on Monday, November 19 in the Faculty Meeting Room in the Guidance Area at 9am. The film created by a WHS student that was presented at the PFA meeting will be shown again, so if you missed seeing it in October, please make every effort to attend on November 19.

At the November meeting, we will approve the PFA-funded grants for 2007-2008. Thanks to all of you who have donated to the Direct Appeal. It is very satisfying to be able to help our students and teachers in such a concrete way, as they are full of ideas and enthusiasm for learning and for school and community projects. In the program portion of the meeting, we will hear from Math Department Chair Tom Haver, who will present data on student improvement and student achievement in math at WHS, touching on both the MCAS and the WHS curriculum. Please join us!

**Next PFA Meeting, Wednesday, November 7, 7:30 pm, WHS Library**

# The Guide



## A Monthly Newsletter from the WHS Guidance Department

November 2007

### Financial Aid Workshop

The W.H.S. Guidance Department is holding a Financial Aid Workshop for parents of seniors on Thursday, December 6, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. in the cafeteria. Laura Ortiz, Associate Director of Financial Aid at Tufts University, and an educational loan representative from Citizens Bank will present the program. Ms. Ortiz will provide step-by-step instructions on completing the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA), the form required to apply for all types of financial aid. She will also present information on the *Profile* form required by many private institutions, in addition to the FAFSA. The bank representative will explain the various educational loan programs. A representative from the Winchester Scholarship Foundation will present information on how to apply for scholarships from the WSF, and WSF applications will be available. Students are welcome to attend this informative workshop with their parents.

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### **Plan Now for Free College Goal Sunday...FAFSAday!**

**College Goal Sunday**, scheduled to take place on Sunday, January 27, 2008, at 2:00 pm, is a volunteer-driven effort to provide free assistance to students and families in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA). The program is supported and administered by a volunteer committee comprised of members of the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA). College Goal Sunday workshops will be held at many locations across the state. To learn more about how to participate, go to:

[www.FAFSAday.org](http://www.FAFSAday.org)

which includes specific information about current site locations, coordinator contact information and site directions, or call 877-4CGSMAS.

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### NCAA Eligibility

High school athletes who would like to participate in any sport at an NCAA Division I or II school must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse. Eligibility requirements change from year to year, but the current requirements are 16 core courses in the following areas:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science, including one lab
- 1 additional year of English, Math or Science
- 2 years of Social Studies
- 4 years of additional core courses from any of the areas mentioned above, or from foreign language, non-doctrinal religion, or philosophy.

Students must arrange to send their SAT or ACT scores directly from the testing company to the NCAA. Test scores listed on high school transcripts will not be accepted. It is the student-athlete's responsibility to register with the Clearinghouse, preferably during their junior year. Students may register and obtain additional information on the Web at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net).

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### **Start the Financial Aid Process... Get Your PIN**

Although the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA) cannot be filed until after January 1, 2008, seniors and their parents planning to apply for financial aid can get a **PIN** (Personal Identification Number) now which will be used to electronically sign the FAFSA when completing and filing the application online. Applying for a **PIN** now will avoid holding up the process of filing the FAFSA online after January 1, since it takes 7-10

days to receive the **PIN** by mail. To obtain a **PIN**, students will need to supply their name, social security number, date of birth and mailing address and submit the **PIN** request. Parents of a dependent student must also request a **PIN**, since both parent and student must sign the FAFSA. To obtain the **PIN**, go to:

[www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

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### **MIT's Splash Weekend**

The weekend before Thanksgiving is known as "Splash Weekend" at MIT, an event that has taken place every year since 1988. This year Splash Weekend will be held on November 17 & 18, 2007. It is expected that over one thousand high school and middle school students will converge on the MIT campus where MIT students and other local college students teach lectures, workshops and seminars on everything from Duct Tape Design to Algebraic Number Theory to Harry Potter. Last year, approximately 215 people taught 270 classes for Splash. This year Splash online registration will open around November 1 and is available until Splash Weekend. For more information, visit the MIT Web site, and look under the Educational Studies Program (ESP), or call 617-253-4882.

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### **Out-of-State Tuition Break Through RSP**

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **RSP**, the New England Board of Higher Education's (NEBHE) **Regional Student Program**, that gives thousands of New England college students a significant out-of-state tuition break each year when they enroll in approved degree programs at out-of-state public colleges and universities in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Through the RSP, the New England states cooperate to share academic programs offered by their public higher education institutions and provide eligible New England residents with a tuition break when they pursue approved programs not offered by their home-state public colleges and universities. All 78 New England public colleges and universities participate in the RSP Tuition Break. The NEBHE website [www.nebhe.org](http://www.nebhe.org) features comprehensive RSP information.

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### **New College Financing Tool**

The U.S. Department of Education has announced a new online tool to help students and families financially prepare for college before a student's senior year of high school. The **FAFSA4caster** provides parents with an early estimate of their eligibility for federal student aid, including grants, reduces the time it will take to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Assistance) and clarifies the financial aid process for students and parents. To use the **FAFSA4caster**, go to:

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

and click on the link to **FAFSA4caster**.

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### **On Choosing a Major**

An article, *Choosing a Major*, by Sheila Curran, Executive Director of Duke University's Career Center, in the Fall 2007 *Counselor's Guide*, addresses the issue of choosing a college major. Curran describes the dilemma of guidance counselors who may be caught between encouraging the aspirations of students and assuaging the fears of parents. Curran writes, "...Certainty [concerning career choice] at 18 is rare. If students are looking at higher education as an opportunity to grow and develop in a number of different directions, they may significantly limit their options by following a specific career-related path." She cites a recent survey at Duke University that identified 22% of freshmen as intending to follow a pre-med curriculum. Yet, only 7% of the Class of 2006 actually went on to medical school. Curran

believes that "Delaying the decision on majors may help students enjoy college academics more and open previously unknown vistas." She has co-authored a book **Smart Moves for Liberal Arts Grads: Finding a Path to Your Perfect Career** to demonstrate that students can do almost anything with liberal arts or sciences degrees. Parents who wish to read Curran's article may contact Alice Schellhorn at ext. 1409 to obtain a copy. Curran also writes a column Curran on Careers for BusinessWeek.com.

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**IMPORTANT: Notice to College-bound Seniors and their Parents:**

Please be sure to adhere to the Guidance Office Deadlines when requesting transcripts. In order for transcripts to reach colleges on time, it is critical that the Transcript Request Forms be submitted by the specified deadline.

If a college notifies you that something is missing from your admissions file, check with the Guidance Office about the date that the materials were sent. Remember, colleges manage thousands of pieces of information. Recording and filing them can take weeks. Ask someone to physically check your file, not just the computerized database.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Fall A Cappella Fest, Saturday, November 3rd, 7:00 pm, Winchester Town Hall Auditorium

Once again, it is time for the Fall A Cappella Fest, hosted by the Winchester High School Octets. The Choral division of Winchester Public School's Music Department proudly invites you to hear this exciting concert event on Saturday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm at Winchester's Town Hall Auditorium.

Winchester Public Schools continues the tradition of inviting WHS alumni to bring their collegiate a cappella ensembles. The MIT Logarithms will kick off the evening starting at 7:00 p.m. with a 25 minute set of music from their recently released CD (Doug Fraser, Octets Alum and '06 Logs Alum). Also performing at the Fall A Cappella Fest will be Sigma'Cappella from Hofstra University (John DiPerna, Octets Alum), and McGill's Effusion (Andrew Potter, Octets Alum).

Some of Winchester Public Schools choral ensembles will also perform:

Winchester Girls Chorus under the direction of Ms. Kirsten Neale,

Winchester Boys Chorus under the direction of Mr. Joel Buford, and the WHS Chamber Singers and the WHS Octets (Sabrina Quintana, WPS Director of Music & Director of CS & Octets).

Tickets are available for advanced purchase at Book Ends and through the WHS Music Office, and tickets will be available at the door. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for Senior Adults and students~ages 12-18, and \$8 for children under the age of 12. Or you may purchase a family ticket for \$40. Refreshments and the latest Octets CD, "Do, Re, Me" will be available for purchase during intermission.

### November Music Events, Sabrina Quintana, K-12 Director of Music, Winchester Public Schools [SQuintana@winchester.K12.ma.us](mailto:SQuintana@winchester.K12.ma.us)

- Fall A Cappella Fest, Saturday, November 3rd, 7:00 p.m. Winchester Town Hall
- Winchester High School Orchestra Concert, Wednesday, November 7th, 7:30 pm, WHS Auditorium
- Monday, Nov. 12, Winchester Veterans Day Parade: High School band to march, Octets to sing Star Spangled Banner.
- Caroling on the Commons and Tree Lighting, Thursday, Nov. 29th, 7:00 p.m., 5th Grade Choruses to sing on the Commons, Octets & Chamber Singers to perform near Starbucks. More information to be distributed through music teachers

It is time once again for the **Senior District Auditions sponsored by the Northeastern District of Massachusetts Music Educators Association**. Auditions are scheduled for **Saturday, November 17th at Marblehead High School**. Specific times for the auditions will be given to us after enrollment has closed. Students enrolled in a Winchester High School music ensemble, who are in grades 9-12 may audition. Application forms and information are available on the music office bulletin board outside the music office. Early applications received by October 18th need to have a \$10 check attached to them. Late registration ends on October 30<sup>th</sup> and costs \$30. Please make checks payable to Friends of Music. Information about auditions may be found at [www.northeasterndistrict.org](http://www.northeasterndistrict.org). Specific questions about auditions should be addressed to [SQuintana@winchester.k12.ma.us](mailto:SQuintana@winchester.k12.ma.us).

## CLASS NEWS

Support the Sophomore Class by purchasing a...

### **Thanksgiving Centerpiece!**



Do you want to dress up your table this Thanksgiving? Whether dinner is at home or away, one of our Thanksgiving Centerpieces is sure to make your holiday extra special. Each centerpiece is composed of an arrangement of fresh, autumn flowers and a Winchester Sachems banner, all in a clear, bubble vase. The cost is \$20 per centerpiece, or, for an additional charge of \$5, you can have it delivered directly to your home in Winchester! Know somebody who would like a centerpiece for this season? Give one as a gift! We are now offering the option to give a centerpiece as a gift, whether it be a friend neighbor, or relative. To purchase a centerpiece, simply fill out the order form, which will be sent out in the days to come, and return it with your money directly to the High School main office between the dates of Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Order soon, please!

Fall is here again and Thanksgiving is right around the corner. **The annual Wilson Farms Pie Fundraiser for the class of 2009** is once again underway. The pies for sale this year are apple, pumpkin, pecan, blueberry, pecan, and lemon meringue. Pies will cost \$10 each. We will be taking order forms from now until Wednesday November 7 and the pickup will be on Tuesday, November 20. If you have any questions about this great way to support the junior class while getting a great Thanksgiving dessert, email Tim Mitropoulos ([tmitrop44@comcast.net](mailto:tmitrop44@comcast.net)) See next page for order form.

## Junior Class Wilson Farm Pie Fundraiser

Interested in buying dessert for Thanksgiving or buying some pies? The WHS Junior Class is taking orders from **Wilson Farms**. You have an option of 6 pies to choose from. They are:

1. **Pumpkin** (Thaw and Serve)
2. **Lemon Meringue** (Thaw and Serve)
3. **Apple Hi-Pie**
4. **Boston Cream** (Thaw and Serve)
5. **Southern Pecan** (Thaw and Serve)
6. **Blueberry Hi-Pie**

**Price:** \$10 per pie.

**Payment:** If you will be paying by check, then please make check out to WHS Class of 09. Send order form with money to Tim Mitropoulos, 16 York Road or you can drop it off in the main office of the high school. Last day for orders will be Wednesday, November 7, 2007

**Pick Up:** Pick up pies on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at the High School cafeteria from 2:30 to 5:30.

\*Unfortunately, we will not be able to deliver any pies that are not picked up.

## Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address:(please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Kind of Pies</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Price per pie</u>	
Pumpkin			Lemon
Meringue			Apple Hi-Pies
			Boston Cream
			Southern Pecan
			Blueberry Hi-Pie
<b>Total # of pies:</b> _____		<b>Total Price:</b> _____	

### PARENT CONVERSATIONS

Please join us for our next Parent Conversations, Monday, Nov. 19 at 9am in the Faculty Meeting Room in the Guidance Area. We will continue the conversation that began at last month's PFA meeting about teen alcohol use in Winchester. If you were not able to attend that meeting, all the more reason to come! At the request of several parents, we will show the film created by a WHS student that helped raise good questions and spark important discussion at the PFA meeting. We hope to see you then!

### WHS PFA - Direct Appeal Update

At this time, the Board of the WHS Parent Faculty Association would like to extend a big thank you to the 287 WHS families who have contributed to the 2007-08 Direct Appeal during the beginning weeks of this school year. Your generous contributions will enable the PFA to begin to cover the cost of many important programs and supplies not included in the WHS budget by providing grants to academic departments, the school library, and many extracurricular, enrichment, and support programs for students.

The Board would also like to remind those WHS families who have not yet contributed to the Direct Appeal, to please consider doing so now so that we can meet our fundraising goal early and plan effectively for the entire school year. Although a contribution of any amount is very much appreciated, we ask that each family consider making a one-time donation for this school year of \$75.00 or more, which includes PFA dues.

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](mailto: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**.

**Thank you!**

## Connect & Commit, Community Service-Learning

Please remember to join us for **Journeys to the East on Thursday, October 25**: Students who participated in the Dandelion School Project (the service-learning teaching experience in Beijing) or the Pathways to China program share about their eye-opening, life-changing experiences in this evening of sharing at 7:00 pm in the Social Studies open area. Come for the food, visuals, performance and student reflections.

In other service-learning news, we've been awarded the MA DOE Community Service-Learning sustainability grant this year, which will fund service-learning training for Winchester teachers, curriculum-based projects, and planning for sustaining service-learning in the district. The Service-Learning Mini-Grant Program, as part of this grant, is in place for the third year to fund new teacher projects for up to \$400 and is open to all Winchester teachers.

The Service-Learning and Global Education workshops organized for the district's professional development conference brought together 35 K-12 teachers to explore using service-learning in the classroom to help prepare students as global citizens and to generate service-learning project ideas. One project I aim to work with teachers on this year is "Monarchs in Mexico", bringing together high school Spanish students and elementary students for learning Spanish and creating a bilingual butterfly garden, through which elementary classes can explore life science, migration and geography.

The Connect & Commit club has been busy planning great projects – please see the list below and be sure to mark your calendars for:

- The annual **Giving Thanks Blood Drive** at WHS on **Tuesday, November 20**, from 9 – 3:30; contact me starting November 9 to reserve your slot
- **Desserts for Doctors** – A dessert event and auction to raise funds for Doctors Without Borders tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 6th, from 7-9pm at WHS. Donate homemade desserts to share and to auction, and bid on your favorite—or on a cooking lesson with Winchester chef Susan Schwartz

All 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 like these, meet other students and learn about upcoming service 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, October 27 – WHS Fall Service Day** – 9 – 12:00
- **Saturday, November 3 – Greater Boston Food Bank** – 8:45 to 12:00
- **Sunday, November 4 – Mary Cummings Park Project** – 10 – 12 noon
- **Saturday, November 17 – Mission of Deeds** – 9 – 11 am
- **Sunday, November 18 – Cradles to Crayons** – 12 – 3:00

See details in the current list of service opportunities below.

Many thanks to parent volunteers Lisa Kalfopoulos and Richard Howard for chaperoning recent service trips!

Also, we're still in need of a couple of donated items for the program:

- Basic laptop for office volunteer use
- 2 supportive office chairs (rolling)

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, Amanda Gordon, Program Director, [agordon@winchester.k12.ma.us](mailto:agordon@winchester.k12.ma.us), 781-721-7020 x1999

### Connect & Commit Opportunities for November 2007

\* = An activity that Ms. Gordon or another adult will be supervising

#### Events

\* **Saturday, October 27 – WHS Fall Service Day – 9 – 12:00** National Make a Difference Day! Students meet in front of WHS and disperse to the Griffin Museum, Skillings field and high school areas to trim plants, rake leaves, plant flowers, pick up trash and prepare the school garden for the spring. Sign up in advance; C&C general liability waiver required.

**Saturday, October 27 & Sunday, October 28 – WGBH TV Pledge Nights** Help WGBH's fundraising efforts by taking phone calls during their pledge drive at their Brighton offices. Sat.: 4-7:30pm or 6-11:30pm. Sunday: 12noon-4pm or 3-7:30pm.

\* **Saturday, November 3 – Greater Boston Food Bank – 8:45 to 12:00** Help the Greater Boston Food Bank to provide meals for over 83,000 people each week! The Food Bank helps salvage food that would have gone to waste and sends it to 600+ hunger relief agencies. Volunteers will inspect, sort and repack donated grocery products that are then distributed to people in need. Wear closed toe shoes and clothes you can get dirty. Leaves WHS at 8:00, returns at 12:30. Near Boston's South Bay shopping center. C&C permission slip required by October 26. [www.gbfb.org](http://www.gbfb.org)

**Sunday, November 4 – International Potluck Supper - 5 – 8:00 pm** Help this Winchester Multicultural Network event to run smoothly: help set out food, clear plates and clean up. Chidley Hall at First Congregational Church.

**Sunday, November 4 – Mary Cummings Park Stewardship Project – 10 – 12 noon** Learn about this 200 acre park on the Burlington-Woburn border while helping the Friends of Mary Cummings Park to ready areas for recreational use, clean up trails and maintain the protection of wildlife. See [www.cummingspark.org](http://www.cummingspark.org) for park information.

**Week of Monday, Nov. 12 – School outreach for "Giving Thanks" Blood Drive – Lunch** Volunteers are needed during lunches this week to sign up eligible students to donate blood at the Blood Drive. Check in at C&C office before your shift for materials.

\* **Saturday, November 17 – Mission of Deeds – 9 – 11 am** Select donated furniture and household items from the warehouse and help deliver them to a family in need. In Reading. [www.missionofdeeds.org](http://www.missionofdeeds.org).

\* **Sunday, November 18 – Cradles to Crayons, Quincy- 12 – 3:00** Join forces with other Boston area youth and families at Boston Cares' BOOYAH program during National Family Volunteer Day to make a difference in the lives of poor and homeless children at the Cradles to Crayons warehouse. Sort books, match outfits and pack games. Wear clothing that can get dirty and ONLY closed-toe shoes. Free lunch from 12 – 1 pm. Leaves WHS at 11:15 am, returns at 3:30. C&C and BOOYAH permission slips required by November 9. [www.cradlestocrayons.org](http://www.cradlestocrayons.org)

\* **Tuesday, November 20 – "Giving Thanks" Blood Drive at WHS – 9 – 3:30** Donate blood, if you are at least 17 years old, during the Blood Drive at WHS! Open to all school and community members; staffed by MGH. Sign up by Friday, Nov. 16 for an appointment that falls during lunch, a study hall or after school. Signed permission slip required for students by Friday, Nov. 16.

\* **Wednesday, Nov. 28 – WHS-Muraco/Lynch Tutoring Program’s Tutor Orientation – 2:30 - 3:30 WHS Library** For the Tutoring Program at Muraco Elementary (Tuesdays) and Lynch (Wednesdays) from 2:30 - 3:30 pm. Sign up to tutor an elementary school student once a week after school in this popular program. Tutor orientation is required. Tutoring begins the week of December 3. Must commit to tutor weekly through week of April 14 (no exam weeks or vacation).

**Thursday, November 29 - Holiday Decorating at Jenks Senior Center – 2:30 – 4:00** Join students in decorating the Center for the holidays so seniors and other community members are surrounded by the holiday spirit. They provide the decorations, you provide the creativity! Meet Millie at the Jenks Center at 2:30.

### Ongoing opportunities

**WHS- Muraco/Lynch Afterschool Tutoring Program– Tuesdays/Wednesdays 2:30 - 3:30 pm** Sign up to tutor an elementary school student after school in this popular program. Tutor orientation is required (above) and must commit to tutoring the week of December 3 through week of April 14 (skipping exam weeks and vacation).

**Vinson Owen Afterschool Volunteer – 1 or 2 days per week** Provide assistance and encouragement to elementary school students as they use educational computer programs for extra help after school. From 2:30 – 3:15 pm. Please commit to 8 sessions (once a week for 8 weeks or twice a week for 4 weeks).

**Afterschool Homework Helper - 1 or 2 days per week** Help a 4th grader stay on track with homework at Kids' Corner 1 or 2 days per week in the afternoon or early evening; see Ms. Gordon for possible days and times.

**Be a Carbon Conscious Consumer (c3)!** Pledge today to “Junk Your Junk Mail” at <http://c3.newdream.org> and pass the word along. Just spend a few minutes with the opt-out web forms, sit back, and enjoy the clutter-free benefits for years to come. Our climate will enjoy the benefits of less junk mail too: the production and disposal of direct mail consumes more energy than 3 million cars!

**Donate Your Used Printer Cartridges** Raise funds for the C&C club and reduce waste by dropping off used Laser jet and Inkjet printer cartridges to the collection box in the main hall.



**Winchester Youth Center**, 458R Main Street, Winchester MA 01890  
781-721-0906, [www.winyc.com](http://www.winyc.com)

*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.*

### **The goals of the WYC are to:**

- Provide Winchester teens with their own space that will foster healthy, safe, and enriching alternative activities outside of school hours. This is a place for Winchester teens to engage in substance-free activities and develop healthy social skills.
- Supply valuable work and service-learning opportunities in the community that enhance leadership development through real life experiences.
- Strengthen the relationship between teens and the community and instill a commitment to civic responsibility and community involvement.
- Promote positive and healthy youth development.

## **ROCK FOR YOUTH**

**Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00-11:00pm, Winchester Town Hall Auditorium**

Admission is \$5 for WYC members/\$8 for non-members, Doors open at 6:50pm, There is no re-entry  
Proceeds benefit the Harrison Chadwick Youth Service Scholarships that are awarded to WHS seniors.

### **LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS**

#### **WYC Peer Leaders**

The WYC Peer Leaders are a group of Winchester High School students who are committed to their community and serving as role models for all Winchester teens. The Peer Leaders meet on Monday evenings to work on further developing their leadership, communication, interpersonal, and decision-making skills; plan for upcoming projects; and have a lot of fun. They staff the Drop-in Center after school and serve as Project Leaders for all of the WYC's service-learning projects including all of our special events and community service projects. This group is open to any WHS student who has natural leadership skills and the desire to further develop them. Anyone interested in joining this awesome group is welcome to come in and talk to Rebecca at the WYC.

#### **SSA: Students Spreading Awareness**

SSA is the WYC's peer education group for WHS students. This group hopes to inspire positive change in our world and provide opportunities for students to become active in the community. We identify issues of concern that we feel our peers are uninformed about and spread awareness in unique and interactive ways. Currently we are focusing our efforts on the issue of World Hunger. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact the WYC. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month from 7:00-8:00pm, this month we will meet on November 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **SERVICE PROJECTS**

If you're interested in doing something good for our community, stop by the WYC and find out how you can get involved. All WHS students are invited and welcome to participate in many of the following projects.

proceeds from all jewelry sales go to benefit the WYC and our youth development programs.

#### **PB&J Jewels**

The WYC's first entrepreneurial endeavor is our jewelry business. The Peer Leaders have created beautiful jewelry made of fresh water pearls, glass beads, turquoise, and more. All of our hand-crafted jewelry is on display in the WYC and can be purchased Monday-Friday from 2:00-6:00 pm. The

#### **Lowell Wish Project: Jeans & Sweatshirts Drive**

The Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters are collecting new/lightly-worn jeans and sweatshirts to donate to the Lowell Wish Project. The Lowell Wish Project provides emergency, basic, and seasonal goods to low income families in the Merrimack Valley. Please bring your donations to the WYC any day between 2:00-6:00pm or contact us and we'll pick them up from your home.

### **Woburn Council of Social Concern food collection**

Throughout the month of November the WYC Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Woburn Council of Social Concern's food pantry. Please contact the WYC if you have food items that you would like to donate.

### **Hands Across The Water: Books For South Africa Project**

The Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters assist the Hands Across the Water Project by collecting books at the WYC and going to the collection bin on a weekly basis to help sort and pack the books to be sent to villages in South Africa. Please contact the WYC if you have books that you would like to donate.

### **Habitat For Humanity**

During February vacation the WYC Peer Leaders will be participating in our third annual Habitat for Humanity trip. Each year we travel to a different area of the country to participate in a week-long service-learning project with Habitat for Humanity and help build homes for needy families.

Throughout the fall and winter, the Peer Leaders will be running a variety of events in an effort to fundraise 100% of the expenses for our trip. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

## **SCHOOL RELATED NEWS**

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC FUNDRAISING BENEFIT, Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> Crate and Barrel – New Store, Burlington Mall, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.** The Friends of Music is holding a fun-filled fundraising benefit at the new Crate and Barrel store at Burlington Mall. You will be able to enjoy food preparation demonstrations, food tasting, hot beverage tasting, wine tasting all while shopping for holiday gifts for others and yourselves during a private shopping opportunity during which the store is open specifically for those attending the benefit. **Crate and Barrel will generously donate 10% of all sales made during this benefit to Friends of Music.** Also included at this event will be a raffle. Of wonderful packages assembled and donated by Crate and Barrel. Gather neighbors, do a friends night out, call your book clubs, call your relatives and come get a great start on your holiday and personal shopping at a really fun event, all the while helping to support the music opportunities our children have in the schools. **Tickets are available** for this benefit at the great low suggested minimum donation price of \$10 per ticket. You may purchase these by submitting your name, phone number, number of tickets you want, \$10 per ticket (checks made payable to Friends of Music), and a self-addressed stamped envelope in the container marked "Friends of Music" in the school office or designated room. If you have questions or you are placing your order after November 1<sup>st</sup>, please contact Wendy Jo New at 781-721-1675.

**THINK--EXPLORE—CREATE at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Technology Fair On Thursday November 8<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm** at the McCall Middle School, the Educational Technology Department will be holding its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Technology Fair. Come see teachers, students and ITS staff from your school demonstrate the technology being used to enrich learning in our classrooms. All grades are invited! We'll have exciting giveaways and a raffle for (2) iPod shuffles. Be sure to come early and get your raffle ticket.

**"ABC Dogs" to Visit Griffin Museum November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>** Those colorful painted fiberglass dogs will be visiting the Griffin Museum on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the opening of the William Wegman exhibit. Wegman, famous for his photographic portraits of his pet Weimaraner dogs will be represented by about 30 images within the museum galleries. The "ABC Dogs" will make a two day visit to the grounds of the museum, located at 67 Shore Road in Winchester, giving visitors the opportunity to see all 17 dogs in one place and to view the Wegman photographs. Painted by local artists for the ABC fundraising auction on November 10<sup>th</sup>, the dogs won't be in town long, so don't miss this opportunity to see them all gathered in one place. **Frolic with the Doggies, Friday, November 9, 10 AM until 1 PM**, invites all and especially young dog lovers to the museum for cookies and lemonade – there will be guided tours of the exhibit, activities for children, refreshments, an opportunity to pose with the dogs and best of all, the admission is FREE! Don't miss this community event which brings together art, dogs, children, and dog lovers for a good cause. The Griffin Museum of Photography is open Tuesday through Thursday, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Friday 11:00 am – 4:00 pm; and Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 – 4:00 pm. The Museum is closed on Monday. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$2 for seniors. Members and children under 12 are admitted free. Admission is free to all every Thursday. For more information, call 781-729-1158, or visit [www.griffinmuseum.org](http://www.griffinmuseum.org).

**WINCHESTER ABC FUNDRAISER, THE WAGGING TAILS OF WINCHESTER ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10** You may have noticed some of the 17 life-sized fiberglass dogs on display at various locations in and around town. These dogs are part of the Winchester ABC annual fundraiser and will be auctioned off on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the **Winchester Town Hall**. Whether you choose to bid or just watch, please come and find out how much your favorite dog sells for. You'll meet some of the artists and sponsors and be able to see all of the dogs up close. Tickets for the auction are \$25 at Book Ends or at the door. This gala event will include a 7:30 preview of all 17 dogs together, and from **8:00-11:00 pm** you'll enjoy live music, wine/beer, appetizers and the live auction. Please join us to support this fabulous event! To submit an absentee bid for if you have questions please call Dot Butler 729-8436 or Susanne Inglis 721-5260.

**Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)** [www.winchesterspedpac.org](http://www.winchesterspedpac.org).

**BASIC RIGHTS WORKSHOP, Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> McCall Library 7:00-9:00pm** The Federation for Children with Special Needs will present this important workshop. It covers basic information about state and federal special need laws to assist parents in planning, decision making and monitoring of their child's IEP. We urge all parents of children on IEPs as well as parents of children undergoing evaluations to attend this program each year. Questions? Contact 781-729-3264 or [Winspedpac@yahoo.com](mailto:Winspedpac@yahoo.com). Also see the PAC website above.

**The Winchester Friends of Art** will meet on Monday November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm in the Winchester High School Photography room. The FOA supports our student artists, and any parents interested in the art program and our artists, are encouraged to attend. For more info: [winchesterfoa@hotmail.com](mailto:winchesterfoa@hotmail.com)

**Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)** [www.winchesterspedpac.org](http://www.winchesterspedpac.org).

**NOVEMBER COFFEE, Monday November 26<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00pm** 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 November Coffee will be an EVENING event and will be held on Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-9:00pm, at the home of Deb Guthrie, 5 Standish Lane. Questions? Contact 781-729-7175 or [Winspedpac@yahoo.com](mailto:Winspedpac@yahoo.com). Also see the PAC website above.

**The Friends of Music will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, November 27, at 7:00 pm** in the Winchester High School chorus room. We will hear reports on the Crate & Barrel fundraiser and A Cappella fest and look at planning for the rest of the school year. Friends of Music supports the public school music program from pre-K through grade 12. All are welcome to join us.

**The Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence (WFEE)** is busily making plans for an event packed year. Fundraising events such as The Trivia Bee, The Celebration of Education and The Teacher Tribute Program raise needed funds to support our teachers and students in Winchester's public school classrooms. Pulling off these community events requires the help of many hands. That is where we hope you will come in! WFEE is looking for people to volunteer their time, talent and energy for a variety of tasks, both short and long term! Please contact Betsy Walsh at 781-729-6598 or [walshhome@mindspring.com](mailto:walshhome@mindspring.com) for more information or to jump right in! If you would like to learn more about the mission of WFEE, please visit our website at [www.wfee.org](http://www.wfee.org).

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Enjoy food and friends from all over the world at the **Multicultural Network's Eighth Annual International Pot Luck Supper on Sunday, November 4th at 5:30 p.m. in Chidley Hall at the First Congregational Church, on the Common in Winchester Center.** Bring a main dish, salad, or vegetable from your culture to share with others and meet your neighbors from around the world. Desserts and beverages will be provided. There will be a raffle of gift certificates and items from local stores, craft activities for children, and Chinese Ribbon Dance by artist and dancer Chiao Bin Huang. All are welcome! For more information or to sign up, call the Multicultural Network office at 781-729-7100 or email [office@wmcn.org](mailto:office@wmcn.org).

**Perspectives on Islam, Tuesday November 13 at 7:30 p.m.** – Unitarian Church (478 Main St., Winchester) The Winchester Reads committee has planned an informative evening which will feature a panel discussion. The panel will include Jessica Masse, Interfaith Coordinator of the Islamic Society of Boston, and Sahar Ahmed, Winchester resident and parent. Don't miss this important event, the first of several planned to complement your reading of *Three Cups of Tea*.

**Winchester Ballet Conservatory** is looking for boys who are 7 through 9 year olds to be in party scene at the Nutcracker performance. Please contact: Winchester Ballet Conservatory 781 721 4808

Announcing a great opportunity for high school students in **studio art at the Sanborn Cultural Center in Winchester.** 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. Students will: Develop their portfolio, Improve their observational drawing and painting skills, Draw from professional live models. Students will also receive art school and college admission counseling. There are openings for students in the upcoming Winter session that begins December 4, 2007 as well as the Spring session that begins March 11, 2008. Classes will meet once a week for 10-weeks for a total of 10 classes per session. Students can enroll in one or two sessions. Classes are held from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Sanborn Cultural Center near the Ambrose School on High Street in Winchester. 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 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](mailto:ydpaa@yahoo.com)



### WINTON CLUB Holiday Fair

*To benefit Winchester Hospital*

**MIDNIGHT MADNESS  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 7:00 P.M. TO 12 MIDNIGHT**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 10:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

*Featuring: personalized ornaments, gift wrapping,  
an exciting assortment of holiday gifts and introducing  
the brand new Winton Club cookbook.*

**WINCHESTER HOSPITAL LOBBY  
41 Highland Avenue  
[www.Wintonclub.org](http://www.Wintonclub.org)**

