

WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL
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PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ MARCH, 2013

Visit our website at www.whspfa.org

FROM THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL TOM GWIN

March features the course registration process that kicks off during the week of March 4th. Guidance counselors will visit social studies classes to give out the *2013-14 Student Guide and Course of Studies* and discuss the registration calendar, graduation requirements, new courses, and other important registration-related information. The *2013-14 Student Guide and Course of Studies* is currently available on the WHS Edline website. It includes several new courses including Mandarin 4, Game Development and Interactive Media Projects, Symphony and Jazz Band Advanced Instrumental Ensemble, and Competitive Robotics.

Faculty will make course recommendations for students during the same time period. Teachers make recommendations based on the current course level and student performance during the year. Please consider teacher decisions seriously as courses are recommended that both challenge your children and provide them with the best opportunity for academic success. There is an appeal process if the parent/guardian(s) and student disagree with the teacher recommendation. Course appeal forms are also available on Edline website, and should be submitted to the appropriate director by Thursday, March 28.

Consider your son's or daughter's course load when selecting courses. We are seeing an increasing number of students enrolling in a combination of five, six, and sometimes even seven (yes, seven!) honors courses. This trend correlates with the growing number of WHS students we are seeing with stress and/or anxiety related conditions. A balanced schedule that challenges your student but does not overwhelm him or her is the goal. I purposely made sure that my son had a balanced course load when he was in high school as he was a three sport athlete. There was not time to do it all.

A special evening for parents of incoming 9th graders will take place on Monday, March 4 at 7 pm in the WHS auditorium. The evening includes a presentation from the directors on ninth grade course options as well as a Parent-to-Parent program featuring current WHS students and parents.

March also brings the first round of MCAS testing for 10th graders. English Language Arts testing will take place on the mornings of March 19, 21, and 22. **[See next page for important weather-related update.]** Later in the year, 10th graders will also take the MCAS mathematics while 9th graders will complete a biology MCAS.

I hope you are able to attend our musical, *Promises Promises*, taking place on the nights of Thursday-Saturday, March 7-9 at 7:30 pm in the auditorium. Please come and support our young performers.

Tuesday's (March 19th) ELA MCAS Exam Postponed

Due to the storm forecast for Tuesday, March 19, the state Department of Education has postponed the first day of the English Language Arts MCAS for 10th graders to Monday, March 25. ELA MCAS testing will still take place on Thursday and Friday this week (March 21 and 22). Testing will take place during the first three blocks on Thursday and Monday and the first two blocks on Friday. The order of the blocks is changed on Thursday and Friday. Testing blocks are in bold:

ELA MCAS Testing

Thursday, 3/21 **C F E** D B

Friday, 3/22 **A G** D E C

Monday, 3/25 **A B E** F E

PFA NEWS**From the Co-Presidents**

Jody Collins Skinner and Audrey Loria

March is here and perhaps spring will arrive as well! Congratulations and thanks to our Trivia team, Ed Czeck, Jacki Santoro, and Peter Woolford. They made it into the final round before succumbing to the pressure of the Bee! It was nice to hear that the WHS faculty team won the Bee this year—congratulations to Tom Gwin, David Benedetto and Mark Chase!

The February PFA meeting was well attended and we are very appreciative to our guest speakers from STEM. The PFA meeting minutes are posted on the website following the meetings; please check there to review anything you may have missed.

We'd like to extend a special thank you to the Social Committee for surprising the staff with a "love-ly" Valentine's Day treat. The Social Committee, led by Sue Carney, Denise George and Paula Michienzi, hosts three events each year to show appreciation and support to the teachers and staff. A portion of the PFA budget funds these events on behalf of all the families.

Our next meeting will be on March 6th and the topic of discussion will be the new teacher evaluation system. Dr. Gwin will be on hand to answer any questions about the system. All parents are welcome to attend and you are encouraged to bring your questions and concerns to the meeting. We encourage you to attend—be informed!

We are pleased to report that we have had a few more donations in support of the Direct Appeal, but we still have fewer than 30% of our families who have contributed. Please understand that the PFA would hate to reject grant requests from our staff due to lack of funding! It isn't too late for you to make your donation! We promise to stop asking as soon as our goal has been met! Please click here to access the Direct Appeal page on our web site—you can make your donation via PayPal. Thank you!

CLASS NEWS

CLASS OF 2013 NEWS

Click here http://whspfpa.org/clientimages/39852/miscellaneous1213/Class_of_2013_Activities.pdf for a listing of Senior activities.

CLASS OF 2014 NEWS

Join us for our **Class Dinner** March 14th in the school cafeteria! We will be serving food from "Blue Ribbon"! Watch for an eblast asking for donations to raffle and more details.

Our **Junior Semi-Formal** dance will be April 5th at the Lincoln school. We are still in the planning stage. Any suggestions are welcome. Please speak to any of the class officers with your ideas.

SCHOOL NEWS

COME SUPPORT THE CAST AND CREW OF THE WHS MUSICAL!

The Winchester High School production of "*Promises, Promises!*" opens Thursday, March 7th, with additional performances on Friday, March 8th and Saturday, March 9th. All performances begin at 7:30 pm. Ticket prices are \$15 per person. Tickets are available in advance at Book Ends or starting at 7pm at the door the nights of the show.

Promises Promises opened on Broadway in December of 1968. At that time, third of the show's songs had already been recorded and released by Dionne Warwick earlier that year. They were "I'll Never Fall in Love Again", "Knowing When to Leave", "Wanting Things", "Whoever You Are I Love You", and "Promises Promises". When the show opened, its score was unlike any other written for Broadway before. Burt Bacharach and Hal David were brand new to the theater scene and *Promises Promises* would be their only Broadway show. Their music is characterized by unusual chord progressions, striking syncopated rhythmic patterns, irregular phrasing, frequent modulation, and odd, changing meters. The source material for the musical, the movie *The Apartment*, was strong and topical. The original Broadway show had eight Tony nominations and won two Tony Awards. The Broadway revival opened in 2010 with stars Sean Hayes and Kristin Chenoweth and won two Tony Awards.

Please come see the WHS Curtain & Cue Society bring this musical to life. We *promise* you will not be disappointed!

MUSIC NEWS

WHS Instrumental Concert (Orchestra, Sinfonietta and Symphony)

Wednesday, March 13th at 7:30 pm

WHS Auditorium

ALICE IN FASHIONLAND!**FASHION SHOW BENEFIT FOR WHS ART DEPARTMENT**

Thursday, March 28, 2013, 7-9 in the High School auditorium

The Fashionistas at WHS are having a fashion show! This is a student organized fashion show fundraiser. All clothing is designed by WHS students, Box and Bow of Winchester, and more! Stop by to show your support...and maybe even catch a glimpse of the next Tory Burch or Ralph Lauren. Please click on this link <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F49ADAE2BA31-alice> for additional information.

WFEE NEWS

Congratulations to the WHS Faculty team who won the Big Bee Trophy at the 10th WFEE Trivia Bee. This is the second time that Principal Tom Gwin and teachers Dave Benedetto and Mark Chase have been victorious. The PFA's team, the Quiz-Knows, comprised of Jacki Santoro, Peter Woolford and Ed Czech, also made it to the Championship Round. Holding their own, were The Scholars, composed of Jake Biel, Saavan Patel and George Zhang, representing the WHS Honor Society. Many thanks to all who participated! The Bee raised over \$27,000 for the WFEE Grants Program.

It may seem a little early, but, it is time to start planning your spring garden. What better way to kick off the season than with a visit to Mahoney's Garden Center on Wednesday, March 27th. Stock up on your gardening needs, Easter flowers, gift certificates and spring plantings. Mahoney's has generously offered to donate 10% of purchases made that day to WFEE.

The Guide

**A Monthly Newsletter from the WHS Guidance Department
March 2013**

Course Selection

Course selection for the 2013-2014 school year will begin in March. Students will meet with Guidance Counselors to select courses based on teacher recommendations. Additional scheduling information can be found on Edline or the guidance website.

Counselors will review graduation requirements and the Program of Studies with students in their Social Studies classes and then meet individually with all students after they have submitted their course selection sheets. A confirmation of the classes they requested will be sent home with the student after their individual meetings.

Senior Parents

The Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA) will again be presenting "After the Acceptance" seminars at several area schools in late March and April.

Visit: www.mefa.org for more details and a list of locations

After the Acceptance seminars provide clear, straightforward advice on financing a college education. MEFA representatives will also be available after the program to speak privately with families. Seminar topics will include:

- Payment options and ways to minimize college loan debt.
- Award letters and the billing process
- Working with the financial aid office

2013-2014 Winchester Scholarship Foundation Application Available

The Winchester Scholarship Foundation (WSF) annually awards grants to students residing in Winchester who need financial assistance in order to attend a post-secondary institution. The WSF will award aid even if a student is receiving scholarships from several other sources, as long as it appears that there is a gap between what the parent can fairly be expected to contribute and the yearly costs of the school or college the student will be attending. WSF scholarships are often used to reduce inordinate amounts of loan or campus work. WHS seniors who are graduating in June are eligible to apply for WSF aid. The new 2013-2014 applications are now available in the Guidance Office. Deadline for submission of the WSF application with required tax documents is May 15, 2013. The WSF maintains a policy of strict confidentiality in regard to all information submitted by applicants.

Scholarships

Additional opportunities are posted on Naviance. Transcript requests for scholarships must be made using the form available on the WHS guidance website. Please allow at least 10 days to process transcript requests for scholarships.

How to Spot a Scholarship Scam

A recent article on collegeboard.com highlighted tell-tale signs that a scholarship service is a scam. According to the College Board, "...nearly all available financial aid comes from the federal government or from individual colleges." In Winchester, a significant source of assistance is provided by the WSF (see above) and there are often private scholarships for very specific applicants with particular career interests, or memberships in certain churches or other social organizations. Collegeboard.com lists the following guidelines as a sign that you may be getting duped:

- The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back.

- You can't get this information anywhere else.
- I need your credit card or account number to hold a scholarship.
- We'll do all the work.
- The scholarship will cost money.
- "You've been selected by a national foundation" to receive a scholarship or "You're a finalist" in a contest you never entered.

Scholarship Scams from FinAid.org provides advice on how to identify scams, how to distinguish between legitimate and fraudulent organizations, how to protect yourself from scams, and what to do if you are scammed. The basic rule to follow—"Free money shouldn't cost a thing."

Senioritis

Colleges can revoke their offer of admission. This seems harsh, but many colleges have revoked their admission offers to students due to senioritis. Many college acceptance letters even include warnings to students such as, "Your admission is contingent on your continued successful performance." If your grades start to slip during your senior year, many colleges take that as a sign that you don't want to continue your education. So, don't slump on academics once those college acceptance letters arrive. **Your college performance can be affected.** If you choose to slack off during your senior year, you will not be ready for the challenges of college. Many students who were affected by senioritis in high school required remedial help once they entered college

Sophomore Access To Naviance

Sophomores recently met with counselors in small groups to set up their Naviance accounts. Students completed the *Do What You Are*, interest inventory and results can be viewed in their account. Students and parents share one account so please make sure to ask your child for log in information.

Admission Decisions

Every year students are placed on Wait Lists. Here are excerpts from a Boston Globe article (www.boston.com) which may add some insight as to what to do and what not to do if you find yourself on a Wait List.

Students hope to beat college waiting list

Landing on a college waiting list used to mean that all an applicant could do is, well, wait - and hope.

In-the-know seniors are writing letters assuring admission deans that if admitted, they will go. They're emailing updates on their second-semester grades, spring awards, and other academic breakthroughs. (There's no room for senioritis if you're on a waiting list.)

And they are placing one, just one, well-timed phone call, a step that can spur an admission officer to pull the student's file and disclose whether there is something else he or she can do to boost the chance of admission.

"It's too bad if students don't know to follow up," said Tom Parker, dean of admission and financial aid at Amherst College, which expects to take about 35 students from its list of 1,000. "If you're going to get off the wait list, you're really going to have to demonstrate a significant interest."

Not that this is something many colleges publicize when they inform applicants that they have landed in admissions limbo. While admission deans admit they can be lobbied, they insist that, technically, they do not require any additional information. And schools are quick to say that they do not penalize students who fail to follow up.

Colleges build waiting lists so that they have a reservoir of qualified students to draw from to replace successful applicants who choose to go elsewhere. This year, with finances making it more difficult to predict which students will be able to attend, many colleges are giving themselves a bigger safety net by expanding waiting lists, according to the National Association of College Admission Counseling.

The deadline for regularly admitted students to notify colleges of their intentions is May 1, after which admission officers reconvene to determine who makes it through the ivy-covered gates.

While demonstrating interest and presenting updates often helps in the final rounds of evaluations, tread carefully. Go too far, admission deans warn, and you will snuff out your chances.

Do not stalk admission officers, camp out in front of their office, or flood their inboxes with daily e-mails. ("That's like the kiss of death," said Richard Nesbitt, director of admission at Williams College.) And do not waste money or time flying to campus and expecting an interview this late in the admissions process. "We keep them and file them under supplementary material," said William Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aid at Harvard, which admitted more than 200 students from the waiting list last year and hopes to do the same again.

"They can send in any additional information they want," he said. "But there's no magic bullet here, honestly."

Junior Parents

If you were unable to attend the Class of 2014 College Night, the information presented is available on the Guidance Website.

Ten Steps for Juniors

Excerpted from Dec. '12 College Bound Newsletter

Now that students have their PSAT scores and have met with their counselors they have joined the ranks of 'prospective applicants.' As counselors we want to help get them effectively launched in to the college exploration and application process without overwhelming them. Here is a list of 10 steps that can help students to successfully begin the college search process.

1. Put the emphasis on doing your best work in classes.
2. Take test prep seriously. Whether working with a tutor or self-study,

approaching standardized tests with focus and familiarity pays off.

3. Don't go on a wild goose chase across the country to look at colleges prematurely. When visiting sign up for an official tour and attend an info session whenever possible. Take notes! Taking notes about what you see & hear will help narrow down lists when its time.
4. Choose senior year courses so that you are pursuing your major interests to a high level. Remember, many selective schools look for a fourth year of science and math.
5. Try to take your involvement in one or two activities to a position of leadership.
6. Pick something resourceful to do over the summer. This could be an internship or a job. Schools like to see that you can transfer an interest beyond the classroom.
7. Make sure to return your signed Recommendation sheet and complete your Counselor Form & Parent Brag Sheet in Naviance by June.
8. Select one or two books to read over the summer. Some schools will ask on applications or interviews about a book you've read on your own.
9. Plan out your standardized testing schedule.
10. Remain calm...the application process is just that: a process. It will evolve over the next few months. It should be fun.

Upcoming College Fairs

NACAC College Fair

April 29th – May 1st
 Boston Convention Center
 Boston, MA
 For directions & times visit:
<http://www.nacacnet.org>

North Reading HS College Fair

May 1st
 6:30-8pm
 North Reading HS, North Reading, MA

SAT/ACT Registration

SAT: sat.org/register

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Reg</u>	<u>Late</u>
May 4 th	Apr 5 th	Apr 19 th
Jun 1 st	May 2 nd	May 17 th

ACT: actstudent.org

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Reg</u>	<u>Late</u>
Apr 13 th	Mar 8 th	Mar 22 nd
Jun 8 th	May 3 rd	May 17 th



Winchester Youth Center

458R Main Street

Winchester MA 01890

781-721-0906

www.wynec.com

winchesteryouthcenter@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/pages/Winchester-Youth-Center

The WYC offers a wide range of leadership, service-learning, and good-decision-making activities for WHS students. We encourage all WHS students to check out our website and stop by the WYC anytime to find out how to get more involved in all the cool things that we have going on!

ROCK FOR YOUTH

Battle of the Bands Round 2 Friday, March 1st

7:30-10:30pm (Please note date change)

Winchester Town Hall Auditorium \$10 admission

Featuring the 8 bands that moved on from round 1: 100 Decibelz, Breaking E, The Coppertones, Droopy Tubas, Klangfarbenmelodic Jazz Quartet, Los Pollos Hermanos, Trust Fall, and Wizened Man Face. Audience members will vote to select the bands that will perform in the final show on Town Day eve. Come out to support your friends, listen to some great live music! Contact rock4youth@gmail.com for more info.

SUPPORT THE WYC PEER LEADERS' APRIL VACATION HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TRIP

During April vacation 26 WYC Peer Leaders will be participating in our 8th annual Habitat for Humanity trip. We will be traveling to Franklin, West Virginia to complete a week-long service-learning experience building homes for families in need. We are currently working toward fundraising 100% of the expenses for our trip including a \$4800 donation to Habitat for Humanity. 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:

Dump Runs

Let us take care of your trash on Saturday, March 16th
We are currently selling \$10 dump run vouchers

Raffle tickets

Buy your \$20 tickets for the chance to win:

* iPad mini *

* 1-night stay @ Marriott Residence Inn on Boston Harbor *

- * 4-pack Red Sox tickets *
 - * Live performance by The Dirt Dogs *
 - * Spring Clean-up by Taft Landscaping *
 - * Gift Certificates and more *
- Drawing: April 8th

RELAY FOR LIFE OF WINCHESTER

Saturday, June 22nd-Sunday, June 23rd

Skillings Field

Form your teams, start your fundraising, and join us for the 2nd annual Relay For Life of Winchester!

Register now at www.relayforlife.org/winchesterma

Relay For Life is the signature fundraising event of the **American Cancer Society**.

It unites communities across the globe to celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones, and fight back against this disease.

Last year we had 300 participants and raised \$60,000. This year our goal is to raise \$75,000.

Please join us for this amazing community event and help us create a world with less cancer and more birthdays!

Please contact winchesterrelay@gmail.com for more information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FUNDRAISER AT WILSON FARMS

Wilson Farm Day for the Winchester Public Schools will be **Tuesday, March 5th**. Wilson Farms will donate 20% of the pre-tax subtotal for anyone presenting this flyer at check out.

www.whspfa.org/clientimages/39852/miscellaneous1213/Wilson_Farms_Flyer.pdf

Shop Wilson Farms on March 5 and show your support!

PLAY BALL!

With “pitchers and catchers” reporting and the Red Sox back in the news, it is time to finalize plans for spring baseball and softball. Registration is OPEN for baseball (ages 6 – 15) and softball (K – 8th grade) for the spring season. Players must be registered by March 15, 2013 in order to be guaranteed a roster spot. Please go to www.sybs.org for more information or to register online.

Players who register after March 15, 2013 will be assigned to a team on a space available basis.

NEWS FROM THE WINCHESTER COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

Summer Chamber Auditions – March 3, March 25, and April 7

The Summer Chamber Music Festival at WCMS will be held this year from July 8 to July 19. This in-depth, 2-week program is for students age 7-18 with three years of playing experience. All orchestral instruments, pianists, and classical guitarists are welcome. Auditions will be held Sunday, March 3, 1-6 PM; Monday,

March 25, 5:30-9 PM; and Sunday, April 7, 1-6 PM. Call the school at 781-721-2950 to make an appointment and for more information.

Open Mic Night at Starbucks – Thursday, March 7, 7:00-9:00 PM

Join us for Open Mic Night at Starbucks, 542 Main Street, Winchester. Hosted by Winchester Community Music School and singer/songwriter Mike Verge. Open Mic Nights occur the first Thursday of every month and we welcome performers, families and friends for this lively, emceed coffee house event. Individual or small duo/trio performances are encouraged. We welcome all ages, all instruments, and all types of music. Bands are welcome but must be acoustic. Free and open to the public. For information, call [781-721-2950](tel:781-721-2950) or visit www.winchestermusic.org.

Faculty Recital Series with Aimée Tsuchiya – Monday, March 11, 7:30 PM

Winchester Community Music School will present the sixth concert in its 2012-13 Faculty Recital Series on Monday, March 11, at 7:30 pm. The concert will feature Aimée Tsuchiya on piano with Annegret Klaua, violin; Karen Oosterbaan, violin; Anne Bennett, cello; and Nick Upton, cello. The performance will include works by Debussy and Brahms. A “Meet the Artist” reception will follow. Admission is free and open to the public. For further information on this and other WCMS events, call [781-721-2950](tel:781-721-2950) or visit www.winchestermusic.org.

Fat Tuesday Blues Jam – Tuesday, March 12, 7:30-9:00 PM

Join our Underground Faculty Band with host Tim Gartland for a Blues Jam session at WCMS. Our Fat Tuesday Blues Jams are fun, spontaneous, and a great way to experiment with new techniques and skills in the company of fellow musicians. All instruments & vocalists are welcome! Amps, pianos, drums, and PA system provided. \$7 for participants, spectators free. Open to the public. For more information, call [781-721-2950](tel:781-721-2950) or visit www.winchestermusic.org.

Two-Piano Student Concert – Friday, March 15, 7:30 PM

Join us for an evening of four-hand and two-piano works performed by WCMS students. Graciously hosted by M. Steinert & Sons in Boston, the concert will be held at Steinert Hall, 162 Boylston Street, Boston (overlooking the Boston Common). Free and open to the public. Music will include works by Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Bach, Haydn, and Gershwin.

FRIENDS OF THE WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

“A Storm Too Soon” Cape Cod author Michael J. Tougias will show a power point presentation at the Winchester Public Library about his January 2013 released book, “A Storm Too Soon” on **Wednesday, March 20th at 7:00 pm** (snow date March 21st). Tougias is the best-selling author of 19 books including “Overboard”, “The Finest Hours” and “Ten Hours Until Dawn”. His latest book is the 2007 true story of a remarkable rescue at sea.

Mr. Tougias will have copies of his books available for sale and autographing. The program is approximately 1.5 hours in length and will be held in the large meeting room on the main floor of the library located at 80 Washington Street in Winchester.

“Can the Internet Make You Go Outside?” Tuesday, April 9 @ 7:00 pm, Winchester Public Library
Lexington environmental and travel writer Meg Muckenhoupt discusses how technology is changing our view of parks and open space, and how individuals and organizations using the Internet, Smartphone apps and other technology can help more people connect with parks, farms and forests. She will introduce and demonstrate her Smartphone app, **“Green Space: Boston”** in which categories are included for wildlife, rare plants, splash parks, picnic areas, handicap access, etc. The application also includes recommendations and must-see hidden treasures such as the secret, prohibition era tennis court built in the Middlesex Fells that is still available for use today. Users can search for the nearest park or take notes on where they would like to go next. The app also includes information on which service organizations have taken special care of specific parks. The author will also have her book **“Boston’s Gardens and Green Spaces”** available and will discuss habitat preservation, botanical interest and community needs in her examination of public spaces throughout the greater Boston area.

Both programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Winchester Library and the John & Mary Murphy Educational Foundation. They are free and open to the public. No reservations are required.

WINCHESTER LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The Winchester League of Women Voters is soliciting issues-centered questions to be asked of the candidates for the Winchester School Committee at the Day at the Races Candidate Forum. There are 4 candidates for the 2 vacancies on the School Committee: Michael P. Galvin, Christian D. Nixon (incumbent), Susan Verdicchio and Brian A. Vernaglia. The public is invited to submit issues-centered questions to candidatequestions@lwvwinchester.org by March 6, 2013. All issues will be screened by a League panel to eliminate duplicates and to ensure civility and fairness to all candidates. The **Candidate Forum will be held Sunday March 17, 2-3 pm**, at the Winchester High School Auditorium. The Forum will also be broadcast by Winchester Cable from March 18 – 25, 2013. Voters are encouraged to vote in the Town Election on Tuesday March 26, 2013. Polls are open 7 am -8 pm.

WINCHESTER COOPERATIVE THEATER PRESENTS:

Come be a part of our world!! The Winchester Cooperative Theatre presents “The Little Mermaid” featuring the singing, dancing and acting talents of 63 fourth through sixth graders. March 15th @7:30pm, March 16th 1:00pm, March 17th 1:00pm & 4:00pm, March 23rd & 24th 1:00pm & 4:00pm. For tickets go to <http://www.winchesterchildrenstheatre.com/> or call 781-721-PLAY. Cost is \$15/ticket--appropriate for children ages 3 and up

NEWS FROM THE WINCHESTER MULTICULTURAL NETWORK

Black History Month/Traces of the Trade has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 3

2:00-4:00 p.m. in St. Mary’s School Hall, 162 Washington St.

Co-sponsored with St. Mary’s Church

In the PBS documentary *Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North*, Katrina Browne discovers that her New England ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. She and nine cousins retrace the Triangle Trade, explore the ways in which slavery impacts our nation even today, and gain powerful new perspectives on the black/white divide.

James DeWolf Perry, Executive Director of the Tracing Center, will introduce the film and lead the question-and-answer period following the screening. He was nominated for an Emmy award for his role as the principal historical consultant for the documentary and appears throughout the film as a descendant of U.S. Senator James DeWolf of Bristol, R.I. (1764-1837), the leading slave trader in U.S. history. Since the film's premiere, James has spoken across the nation and abroad about his family's, and the nation's, historic role in slavery. You won't want to miss this important program.

Due to the recent snowstorm, Nemo, the Winchester Multicultural Network had to reschedule its community conference, **Winchester in Transition- WIT 2013**. The new date is Sunday, March 10 from 12:30-5:00 p.m.

Sol Gittleman, Tufts University Professor, will still be the dynamic keynote speaker. Gittleman is a former Provost, celebrated lecturer, and passionate historian of American immigration. As a longtime Winchester resident, he will focus on what Winchester was like in the 1960s and how it has transitioned into our current community.

WIT 2013 participants will have a choice of two of four sessions led by professional facilitators: Stress, Accessibility, Class, and the Changing Face of Winchester/Demographics.

Those who have already registered for WIT on the originally scheduled date do not need to re-register, and the new date allows people who were not able to attend on the originally scheduled date to join the conference. The WIT 2013 website, www.GetToWit.org has all the updated information.

“Deepening Your Multicultural Understanding”

“Deepening Your Multicultural Understanding,” the Multicultural Network's annual workshop, will be held on Saturday, March 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 478 Main St. The workshop is free to anyone who lives or works in Winchester, but space is limited so early registration is encouraged. The workshop will be facilitated by Amy Cipolla-Stickles who has more than ten years experience in multicultural training and leadership. For more information, call Gloria Legvold at [781-729-8247](tel:781-729-8247) or Sandy Thompson [781-729-8063](tel:781-729-8063). To reserve a place, email office@wmcn.org.

SPRING AND SUMMER FUN AT WRIGHT-LOCKE FARM

Wright-Locke Farm announces the 2013 season of Farm Education for elementary students. We will hold morning and afternoon sessions during April vacation week and summer vacation for Kindergarten through Second-Graders and Third through Fifth-Graders. Get to know our chickens and lambs, lend a hand with the farm chores, help prepare our garden, learn about life on a farm and have a lot of fun doing it. Days will be full of crafts, games, tasty farm snacks and of course, wagon rides.

For more information, please go to our website at <http://WLFarm.org> and look under the Education menu for information on how to register. Early registration for Farm Friends runs from February 1-28 and general registration begins on March 1.

Meanwhile, come on over and enjoy our community farm. Visit our chickens, buy our farm-fresh eggs, and wander around and enjoy the serenity of a farm in the winter.

NEWS FROM THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MAXIMIZE YOUR COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID

This one-night workshop is a must for **all** parents of college-bound high school students, **especially freshmen and sophomores**. We will demystify the college financial aid process and teach you how to access the more than \$140 billion in financial aid dollars, monies that are even available to “high income” families and business owners. Strategies will be presented that will help you protect your assets by maximizing your eligibility for aid, effectively lowering your college costs. You will learn the optimum time to set the strategies in place (*Hint, best before junior year*) and why, if you wait until the financial aid deadline to file your forms, you may miss out on the full amount of aid for which you might qualify. You will also learn how to minimize the impact of the equity in your home. A free comprehensive analysis will be available for those attending the class. For more information about College Funding Advisors, please visit www.collegefundingadvisors.com.

131-BF-04A	Wed. March 6	\$21/single
131-BF-04B	Wed. March 6	\$25/couple
Winchester High School,	Skillings Rd.	7-9pm

COLLEGE ESSAY BOOT CAMP

Instructor: John Halbrooks

The thought of beginning your senior year—with the attendant pressures of maintaining good grades, playing sports, taking the SAT’s, squeezing in college visits, applying for financial aid and filling out college applications—is stressful enough without worrying about writing the dreaded “college essay”. This course is designed to minimize your stress by helping you finish your college essay before you finish classes your junior year. Together we will work through a process of self-discovery that will free you up to write a clear, meaningful, perhaps even passionate essay that will give college admissions officers a very good sense of just who you are. Before classes end, you will breathe a sigh of relief knowing that you have in-hand an essay you can confidently include with your college applications. In this course, we will discuss and dissect a variety of creative approaches that will prepare you to tackle this writing project with confidence. We will meet twice as a class, with follow-up critiques by e-mail. Two sessions

John Halbrooks is a long-time editor/writer for business magazines (Inc., Club Business International, Purchasing), and has contributed freelance articles to many others, including Boston Magazine, Parade, and TWA Ambassador.

131-BF-05A	Thu. March 14 & 28	7-8:30PM
Winchester High School	Skillings Rd.	\$99