

# McCall Middle School Parents Association Newsletter

## October 2006

From the Principal

Evander French, Jr.

I am pleased to welcome the following recently hired staff members to McCall Middle School for the 2006-2007 school year: Barbara Carr, Special Education Secretary, Dianne Cohen, Special Education Teacher, and Chris French, Christine Kowalski, and Michelle Zavez, Special Education Teaching Assistants. Additionally, this year we will have permanent substitute teachers assigned to McCall middle School called "Instructional Support Staff." These capable people are: Kalli Baker, Karen Comeau, Elaine Fleckenstein, Armand Lavoie, Patricia Minihane, and Mario Pedi.

**Energy Conservation:** The Town Manager and the Energy Management Committee (I am the School Department's representative on this committee) forecast a **41%** increase in energy costs (electricity, natural gas, fuel oil) for the current fiscal year over last year. This increase translates to **\$826,424**. The school buildings account for **70%** of these energy costs. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to do everything we can to conserve energy. In a late summer meeting, the Winchester School Committee voted to support the following recommendations from the Energy Management Committee: **1.** To lower the heating set point in the heating season in all school buildings where practical from **68 degrees to 66 degrees**. **2.** To raise the set point in the cooling season where practical from **72 degrees to 76 degrees**. These recommendations have been adopted by the municipal side of our town government as well. The Energy Management Committee estimates that there is a 4% cost savings for every degree lowered or raised. A two degree lowering of the set point from 68 degrees to 66 degrees across the town will save **@ 103,016!** Before we know it, the heating season will be upon us. Please make sure your McCall student (s) is dressed warmly during this time of the year, wearing coats, long sleeve shirts, sweaters, or sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for your support of our efforts to conserve energy.

**Good News:** Thanks to generous donations from the McCall Middle School Parents Association, the John and Mary Murphy Educational Foundation, the second year of a "Healthy Choices" grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and local businesses, we will be able to offer our students an extensive extracurricular activities program once again this year. Special thanks are in order to the following businesses for their support: Allstate Electric, Bay State Dental Specialists, Book Ends, Covaris, Inc., Dunkin Donuts, Fresh Touch, Kidstock Creative Theater, Litho-Craft, Millwork, Inc. Builders, Radar Media Group, Inc., Rotary Club of Winchester, Salter Healthcare Inc., The Piano Studio, W. Allan Wilde and Son Insurance, and Yoga Mandala. At the time of this writing, staff members were applying to advise/direct the following activities: Art Club, Chess Club, Community Service Club, EnKa Fair Marching Band, Homework Club, International Club, Intramurals, Jazz Band, Math Team Grade 7 and 8, Math Team Grade 6, Newspaper, Outdoor Club, Photography Club, Prime Time, Boys and Girls Select Chorus, and Student Council. In addition, Cydney Ambrose will serve as advisor to the Yearbook, Kidstock Creative Theater has donated a Drama Club Advisor, Cathy Alexander of the Winchester Cooperative Theater will direct the Fall Musical, "Once Upon a Mattress," and the Youth Center under the direction of the Recreation Department will be open on regular days of school until 5:00 p.m. and on early release days (school dismissed at 11:10 a.m.) until 3:00 p.m. Most of these activities began by the end of September. Students should listen to the morning announcements to find out the days and times of the meetings. In the **November** Parents Association Newsletter, we will provide you with a list of all of the activities along with the names of the advisors and when and where the activities meet.

**Parent Conferences:** This year, we will have three Early Release Days in October (October 25, 26, and 27) and March (March 14, 15, and 16) for Parent Conferences in Grades 6, 7, and 8. By the middle of October, you will receive information from your McCall student's Core Team regarding how to sign up for an October conference. Since there will be a large number of these conferences taking place, please be sure to follow the parent conference guidelines established by each Core Team, including the amount of time allotted for each conference. If you need more time to meet with a teacher or a Core Team, please contact your child's Guidance Counselor to arrange such a meeting for you. Guidance Counselor assignments are as follows- Grade 6- Mrs. Melissa Suvak or Mrs. Christine Nunziato-Bonenfant, Grade 7- Mrs. Rebecca Jacques, Grade 8- Ms. Shareen Dolan.

Please note the following administrative matters

- Students may purchase lunch tickets on **Wednesday mornings from 7:00 to 7:40 a.m. in the McCall Cafeteria**. Each individual ticket costs \$2.75, a week of tickets costs \$13.75, and two weeks of tickets cost \$27.50. Please pay by check to the Winchester School Lunch Program. Since we will be moving to a new high tech system by early November, you shouldn't purchase more than two weeks of tickets at a time. As more students purchase lunch tickets, the lunch lines will move much faster!
- A list of this year's McCall Middle School Core Teams is included with this newsletter for your information and convenience.
- The October Calendar of Events includes designated (\*) no homework days due to religious holidays, long weekends, or vacations. Teachers have been asked not to assign homework, tests or quizzes on these dates, nor should special programs including field trips be planned for these dates.

### Notes from the Nurse, Joan Wallwork, RN

Welcome to all new and returning families to McCall. I am in the Health Office every day, and I look forward to meeting you and getting to know you.

If your child has any allergy or asthma symptoms, please make sure they are properly medicated before coming to school so they will be more comfortable. Parents are asked to call me if their children require emergency EpiPen to be kept in school as new guidelines from the Department of Public Health require completion of Emergency

forms, including one signed by a physician. Please let me know of any other health concerns as well. Parents of students with food related medical issues are invited to tour the cafeteria and meet the Lunchroom Supervisor. Please call me if you would like to participate in a tour.

If medications are to be given during school hours, please pick up a permission slip outlining instructions for the medication. Any prescription medications administered by a school nurse must be in a pharmacy labeled bottle with the student's name on it.

If your child has any health concerns, please call me any time at 781-721-7026, Ext. 1119 or email [jwallwork@winchester.k12.ma.us](mailto:jwallwork@winchester.k12.ma.us)

#### **From the Library, Jane Henchey**

**Literary Lunch:** On November 2nd Mrs. Pickering class will participate in the next Literary Lunch. This month the event will take place at the McCall library. In preparation, students and seniors are reading [A Break with Charity: A Story About the Salem Witch Trials](#) by Ann Rinaldi.

**Book Fair:** Please note that this year the book fair will be held from October 24 – 27th. Students will have the opportunity to visit the fair with their English classes. The book fair will be open October 25th, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, during the parent conferences. I am happy to announce that again, BookEnds will be providing the fair.

**Classes:** Classes have been in to use the library for research; Ms Hebda's classes have been investigating careers in science. During class we discussed evaluating information, plagiarizing, taking notes, and creating bibliographies. Mrs. Burke's foreign language classes researched important French and Spanish people. Grade 6 students have all come, with their English teachers, for orientation and book talks. Mrs. Migausky's 7<sup>th</sup> grade English classes also came to the library to hear book talks and check out books.

If you are interested in volunteering in the library, but were unable to attend the coffee hour, please contact Gina Kurban at [ginakurban@comcast.net](mailto:ginakurban@comcast.net).

#### **McCall Math Team**

Are you a sharp math student? Want to be a better one? The McCall Math Team is where you'll find interesting math problems and a chance to learn some extra math in both cooperative and competitive situations. Top scoring students are announced when the scores are known after each competition. Information is at <http://www.imlem.org/sch/winchester/>, where you can also subscribe to a mailing list to know about upcoming events and problems.

The McCall Math Team took second place in the Eastern Massachusetts Math League last year out of over 50 schools, and McCall also took first place in the Boston Metro MathCounts competition.

The math team meets weekly through the year, with 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> grades on one day and 6<sup>th</sup> grade on another. Competitions are open to all students, regardless of attendance at weekly practices.

#### **WASHINGTON TRIP - Grade 8**

At our Open House on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, the eighth grade parents voted to proceed with the annual Grade 8 trip to Washington, DC. The Winchester School Committee is scheduled to discuss this trip at a meeting in the near future. If the WSC approves, the trip is scheduled for Monday, March 26 through Friday, March 30, 2007. All eighth grade students will be given an envelope containing essential information about this trip and deadlines for payments. World Strides Tours will be coordinating all arrangements. Please read the information in the envelope very carefully. The total cost of the trip will be \$703, which includes Trip Cancellation Insurance. [All payments should be sent to World Strides](#). You may contact their office at 1-800-468-5899 or call Jack Squeglia at McCall (781-721-7026x1103) if you have any questions, concerns, or if you need another registration form.

#### **PARENT CONVERSATIONS**

The news is disturbing! We thought we were doing the right thing- covered every base. Our son/daughter was having a "few friends" over. We know these kids - we plan to be at home. No problem. Right? Wrong! Unfortunately, according to a recent article in the Globe (please see below) being home is just not enough. "A THIRD OF CHILDREN AGES 12 TO 17 SAID THEY HAD ATTENDED PARTIES WHERE DRUGS AND ALCOHOL WERE AVAILABLE DESPITE PARENTS BEING AT HOME..."

Let's talk!! Join us for the first of our scheduled monthly meetings of "Parent Conversations" on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 AM at McCall. Our children are bombarded daily by messages to get involved with risky behaviors. Let's get their year off to a good start by being proactive. We hope to see you on the 4<sup>th</sup>, and, oh yes, bring a friend! (Please take note of a change in meeting day.) We would also appreciate some feedback as to whether generally Wednesday AM works for you, or if you would prefer another day and /or an evening time. Thank you very much.

**"SURVEY FINDS PARENTAL IGNORANCE, Published on August 17, 2006**

**Author(s):** Naila Moreira, GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Parents may be badly mistaken if they believe their mere presence at home prevents teenagers from drinking or using drugs out of their sight. A third of children ages 12 to 17 and almost half of 17-year-olds said they had attended parties where drugs and alcohol were available despite parents being at home, according to a survey by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University. Half of those surveyed said they attended parties, with or without parental..."

**(Complete article available through [www.Boston.com](http://www.Boston.com) for \$2.95 – do a search on the title.)**

## McCall Middle School Core Teams- 2006-2007

| <b>Grade 6</b>    |   |                                    |                                    |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                   | <b>All Stars</b>  | <b>A Team</b>                      | <b>Champions</b>                   |
| <u>English</u>    | Beverley Daniel<br>Room- DB02   | Emily Chatfield<br>Room- DG01      | *Linda Pickering<br>Room- DG02     |
| <u>Math</u>       | Larry Farelli<br>Room- DB08   | Jacque Murphy<br>Room- DG07        | Frank Row<br>Room- DB07            |
| <u>Science</u>    | *Lanie Higgins<br>Room- DB04  | *Tara Kosinski<br>Room- DG05       | Marebeth DiMare<br>Room- DB06      |
| <u>Soc. Stud.</u> | Marvin Williamson<br>Room-DB01  | Dennis Kronenberg<br>Room- DG08    | Evelyn Galatis<br>Room-DG04        |
| <b>Grade 7</b>    |   |                                    |                                    |
|                   | <b>Globetrotters</b>  | <b>Olympians</b>                   | <b>Marathoners</b>                 |
| <u>English</u>    | Tara Donner<br>Room- C204   | Sara Gollogly<br>Room- C205        | Annmarie Migausky<br>Room- A202    |
| <u>For. Lang.</u> | Phil Day- Room- A302, Tina Burke- Room- A314, Grace Tringale- Room A209, A211- each teacher serves all three 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade teams. |                                    |                                    |
| <u>Math</u>       | David Middleton<br>Room- C211   | Steve Heckley<br>Room- C212        | Rob Leonard<br>Room- A211          |
| <u>Science</u>    | Jim Gogolos<br>Room- C209   | **Jane Gehron<br>Room- C207        | Rob Leonard<br>Room- A211          |
| <u>Soc. Stud.</u> | Eleanor Stroud<br>Room- A212  | **Erika Guckenberger<br>Room- C210 | Annmarie Migausky<br>Room- A202    |
| <b>Grade 8</b>    |   |                                    |                                    |
|                   | <b>Gold Team</b>  | <b>Silver Team</b>                 | <b>Platinum Team</b>               |
| <u>English</u>    | Vijaya Sundaram<br><br>Room- C112   | Peggy Walker<br><br>Room- A312     | Jason Van Dinter<br><br>Room-C104  |
| <u>For. Lang.</u> | Paul Arena- Room- A311 and Veronica Lindmark-Room A209- each teacher serves all three 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade teams.                        |                                    |                                    |
| <u>Math</u>       | Lauren Campbell<br>Room- C111   | **Jack Squeglia<br>Room- A103      | Sue Marchese<br>Room- C110         |
| <u>Science</u>    | Henry Toulmin<br>Room- C107   | Katie Hebda<br>Room- A313          | Sue Marchese<br>Room- C110         |
| <u>Soc. Stud.</u> | **Ken Tully<br><br>Room- C105   | Kyle Ambrose<br><br>Room- C113     | Jason Van Dinter<br><br>Room- C104 |

\*Team Leader, \*\*Co-Team Leader

### McCall Parents' Association Board 2006-2007

|   |  |                                  |  |
|---|--|----------------------------------|--|
| Co-Presidents   | Patty Castro                                   | 756-0098                         | <a href="mailto:apcastro@mac.com">apcastro@mac.com</a>   |
|   | Martha Sampson                                 | 721-5143                         | <a href="mailto:msampson@sampsonlaw.com">msampson@sampsonlaw.com</a>   |
| Secretaries   | Mary Doherty (PM)<br>Robin Wolf (AM)           | 721-7887<br>721-0817             | <a href="mailto:olsen_Philip@hotmail.com">olsen_Philip@hotmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:robin.wolf@comcast.net">robin.wolf@comcast.net</a>   |
| Treasurer   | Joan Wyrwicz                                   | 729-3774                         | <a href="mailto:wyrfam@aol.com">wyrfam@aol.com</a>   |
| Corresponding Secretary   | Patty Shepard                                  | 729-9762                         | <a href="mailto:pattyshepard@comcast.net">pattyshepard@comcast.net</a>   |
| Box Tops  | Mary LaMuraglia                                | 756-0060                         | <a href="mailto:mlamuraglia@comcast.net">mlamuraglia@comcast.net</a>   |
| Building & Grounds  | Evelyn Giller                                  | 756-1903                         | <a href="mailto:Gillerre@comcast.net">Gillerre@comcast.net</a>   |
| Direct Appeal   | Debe Holland                                   | 729-3917                         | <a href="mailto:debe.Holland@comcast.net">debe.Holland@comcast.net</a>   |
| Enrichment  | Caren Connelly                                 | 756-0019                         | <a href="mailto:caren_Connelly@verizon.net">caren_Connelly@verizon.net</a>   |
| Gifts   | Cheryl Lauretano                               | 729-8709                         | <a href="mailto:tennis4@comcast.net">tennis4@comcast.net</a>   |
| Library/Book Fair   | Gina Kurban<br>Mary Doherty                    | 721-7690<br>721-7887             | <a href="mailto:ginakurban@comcast.net">ginakurban@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:olsen_Philip@hotmail.com">olsen_Philip@hotmail.com</a>   |
| Newsletter<br>E-Newsletter/Notices<br>E-Data Base   | Patty Shepard<br>Linda Eberth<br>Becky Miranda | 729-9762<br>729-0794<br>729-0913 | <a href="mailto:pattyshepard@comcast.net">pattyshepard@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:leberth@comcast.net">leberth@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:dbmiranda@comcast.net">dbmiranda@comcast.net</a> |
| Open House  | Lisa Craig<br>Anne Lucas                       | 729-2744<br>721-6055             | <a href="mailto:lisa.t.craig@comcast.net">lisa.t.craig@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:ducks-in-a-row@comcast.net">ducks-in-a-row@comcast.net</a>   |
| Parent-to- Parent   | Tracy Troiano                                  | 729-4334                         | <a href="mailto:Tracytroiano@aol.com">Tracytroiano@aol.com</a>   |
| Policies  | <b>One Opening</b>                             |                                  |  |
| Publicity   | <b>One Opening</b>                             |                                  |  |
| School Store  | Carol Breen                                    | 729-2824                         | <a href="mailto:mccallstore@comcast.net">mccallstore@comcast.net</a>   |
| Special Ed  | Eve Coffey<br>Patty Shepard                    | 721-1669<br>729-9762             | <a href="mailto:ejcoff@comcast.net">ejcoff@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:pattyshepard@comcast.net">pattyshepard@comcast.net</a>   |
| Teacher Luncheon  | Martha Werler<br>Margen Kelsey                 | 729-6517<br>729-7259             | <a href="mailto:werler@comcast.net">werler@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:margenk@comcast.net">margenk@comcast.net</a>   |
| Technology  | Ann Corcoran                                   | 729-8789                         | <a href="mailto:corcoran44@verizon.net">corcoran44@verizon.net</a>   |
| 8th Grade   | Diane Brewster<br>Margie Ohnigian              | 729-6296<br>721-4847             | <a href="mailto:dgbrewster@comcast.net">dgbrewster@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:ohnigian@comcast.net">ohnigian@comcast.net</a>   |
| Coordinators of Activity Night Chaperones   |  |                                  |  |
| 6th Grade   | Cindy Hale                                     | 721-2458                         | <a href="mailto:cindy@otwadv.com">cindy@otwadv.com</a>   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade   | Lynn Bailey                                    | 729-6136                         | <a href="mailto:lynn.bailey@comcast.net">lynn.bailey@comcast.net</a>   |
| 8th Grade<br><a href="mailto:Katie.Edwards@verizonbusiness.com">Katie.Edwards@verizonbusiness.com</a> | Katie Edwards                                  | 721-5535                         |  |
| 6th Grade Phone Book  | Mary LaMuraglia                                | 756-0060                         | <a href="mailto:mlamuraglia@comcast.net">mlamuraglia@comcast.net</a>   |

#### From the Co-Presidents, Patty Castro and Martha Sampson

Thank you to all the McCall faculty and staff for the smooth opening of the new school year. The students have settled in quite nicely.

Open House was well attended. We would like to thank Anne Lucas and Lisa Craig for coordinating the refreshments in the cafeteria. Thank you to the many parents who contributed cookies, brownies, fruit and snacks for the evening.

**Direct Appeal:** Each year the McCall Parents Association raises funds through a Direct Appeal to cover the MPA budget. The McCall Parents' Association budget covers a wide range of school programs including extracurricular clubs, intramurals, enrichment, professional development for the teachers, the monthly newsletter, library support, and much more. The goal of the appeal this year is \$44,000. Although a contribution of any amount is very much appreciated, we ask that each family consider a contribution of \$75 or more for the year.

If you did not make your donation at the Open House, please consider making your contribution as early in the school year as possible. Early contributions help us with our planning for the year. Contributions may be dropped off at the McCall main office or sent to Debe Holland, Asst. Treasurer, 332 Highland Ave, Winchester, MA. Thank you!

**Volunteer Information:** There are still volunteer opportunities available on our Parents' Association Board, the library and the school store. Don't forget to volunteer to chaperone the School Activity Nights.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Phone Book:** If you would like to be included in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade phone book and missed your opportunity to sign up during the Open House- it's not too late. The deadline is October 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Mary LaMuraglia at [mlamuraglia@comcast.net](mailto:mlamuraglia@comcast.net).

**Electronic Newsletter:** To receive the McCall Parents' Association monthly newsletter by email please sign up today on the McCall Parents' Association webpage: <http://home.comcast.net/~mccallparentassociation/index.html> or send a request to: [mccallparentassociation@comcast.net](mailto:mccallparentassociation@comcast.net)

**Next Meeting- Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM in the McCall Library:** We will continue our monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of the month, and will be arranging for guests to speak on various topics throughout the year. Watch the newsletter or check out the emails to find out what's planned for upcoming meetings. Hope to see you on the 10<sup>th</sup>! Please contact us with any questions or comments.

Patty Castro  
[apcastro@mac.com](mailto:apcastro@mac.com)  
781-756-0098

Martha Sampson  
[msampson@sampsonlaw.com](mailto:msampson@sampsonlaw.com)  
781-721-5143

**Open House Thank You:** Thank you to the many volunteers who contributed the delicious refreshments for the Open House in September: Nalini Ambady, Lynn Bailey, Lia Borrelli, Michele Candrian, Carol Cashion, Sharon Ciano, Eve Coffey, Louise Connelly, Ann Corcoran, Lauran Goodrich, Tara Grasse, Jan Koss, Sandy Latzanakis, Florence O'Brien, Rachel Roll, Emily Rudin, Loren Schipani, Anne Sharp, Saravthe Sivasithamparam, Robin Smith, Virginia Valdez, Robin Wolf, Joan Wyrwicz, Pat Urick Zegas, and anyone we may have inadvertently overlooked! Your kindness is much appreciated. If anyone is missing a platter or serving piece, please contact either Lisa at [lisa.t.craig@comcast.net](mailto:lisa.t.craig@comcast.net) or Anne Lucas at [ducks-in-a-row@comcast.net](mailto:ducks-in-a-row@comcast.net). Lisa Craig and Anne Lucas, Open House Coordinators

### Box Tops, Mary LaMuraglia

McCall participates in the General Mills BoxTops for Education program. This is an easy way for us to earn money for the school. Simply cut out the box tops from the products that you buy and deliver them to the Main Office. There is a manila envelope marked Box Tops near the teachers' mailboxes. Each Box Top is worth a dime, and every little bit helps!

Also, if you like to shop on-line, you can help earn additional money for McCall by enrolling in the BoxTops for Education Booster Club. You can do this at [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com). Designate McCall Middle School as the school you want to benefit, and then do your on-line shopping through the BoxTops Marketplace, and McCall will receive a commission for each purchase. There are more than 200 participating vendors, including L.L. Bean, Office Depot, flowers.com, Target, Barnes and Noble, Orbitz.... and on and on! If you have any questions or would like to help, please e-mail Mary LaMuraglia at [mlamuraglia@comcast.net](mailto:mlamuraglia@comcast.net)

### McCall Wish List, Kathleen Campbell and Carol Samson

The McCall Wish list is a list of teachers' requests for items needed in the classroom but not included in the school budget and is funded entirely through parent contributions. These items include videos, science kits, workbooks and textbooks for the Core subjects. Last year we were able to purchase 3 additional LCD projectors for classrooms; bringing the total to 8. The Wish List has also funded items for the art department, library, physical education, foreign language, technology, family and consumer science, the guidance office and the learning center.

The Wish List is available online at the Winchester Public Schools website, at [www.winchester.k12.ma.us](http://www.winchester.k12.ma.us), under McCall School Middle School and Wish List. To view the open items, select 'views' in the top right corner and choose 'by grade, open items first'. The wish list offers families an opportunity to fund any of the items listed.

To donate, simply e-mail either Kathleen Campbell or Carol Samson and tell us what you would like to purchase. Or you can make a donation and direct it to your child's teacher(s), team, library, art, music, language arts, special education, etc., or the general fund. Please make your tax-deductible donations payable to the McCall School Wish List. You can place your donation in the McCall School Wish List mailbox in the front office or you can mail it to Kathleen Campbell at 60 Salisbury Street.

Please contact us with any questions or comments at [bcsamson@comcast.net](mailto:bcsamson@comcast.net) and [kathleenc@comcast.net](mailto:kathleenc@comcast.net). Thank you

**October Special Education PAC Coffee:** The PAC holds informal, monthly coffees for parents and guardians of children on IEPs or 504 plans. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other parents and share knowledge, advice and concerns. This year we will hold some coffees in the morning and others in the evening, and we will sometimes hold coffees geared toward particular age groups. The Winchester Special Education Procedures Manual and other reference materials are available. There's no need to RSVP, just drop in. The October coffee will be for parents of **Middle School and High School age students**. It will be held on **Wednesday, October 18th, 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm**, at the home of Jill DiOrio, 5 Central Street. Questions? Call 781-721-6138, or contact [winspedpac@verizon.net](mailto:winspedpac@verizon.net).

**Special Education PAC Meeting, Tuesday, October 10, 2006 at 6:30-9pm, McCall Middle School Library:** Please attend our first meeting of the year. **6:30pm** Meet and welcome Winchester's new Director of Pupil Services, Dr. Linda Stapp. **7pm** PAC kick off meeting to review plans for the 2006-2007 school year and discuss items of interest. Please come support the PAC in its efforts to drive important issues that concern our child(ren). Questions? Please contact Eve Coffey, (721-1669) or Carolyn Hintlian, (729-3264), or email [winspedpac@verizon.net](mailto:winspedpac@verizon.net).

**McCall Yearbook Information and Order Form available at:** <http://home.comcast.net/~mccallparentassociation/Yearbook.pdf>

### McCall Mosaic Subscription Form

Please fill out the form below if you would like a subscription to the McCall Mosaic, McCall's student newspaper. The Mosaic will be mailed to your house each time an issue comes out. The cost for a year-long subscription is \$25, but the Mosaic gratefully accepts any donations above that amount. Please make checks out to "McCall Student Newspaper." Return completed forms and checks to the mailbox of Tara Donner, faculty advisor to the Mosaic, in the main office.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Winchester Youth Center (WYC) 458R Main Street, Winchester MA 01890, 781-721-0906**

**Mission:** The WYC is committed to providing young people opportunities to be positive role models and contributing members of their community through healthy social and experiential activities. The WYC is conveniently located on the backside of McCall Middle School adjacent to Manchester Field and the Skate Park.

**DISCOVER:** Discover, the WYC's middle school youth group, is a great opportunity to make new friends, participate in programs, activities, and discussion groups on topics that are important to you, and have fun on a school night. All members will be given a participation contract to review and sign with their parents. This group is open to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and will meet on Wednesday evenings October 4, 11, and 18 at 7:30-8:30.

**LITTLE BROTHERS & SISTERS:** This is a select group for 8<sup>th</sup> graders who attend Discover, want to participate in community service, and aspire to become Peer Leaders. Our Little Brothers & Sisters will be selected this fall by the Peer Leaders who will serve as their mentors for the remainder of the school year. The Little Sisters & Brothers will volunteer in the Drop-in Center after school; participate in numerous community service projects such as **Halloween Window Painting**, the Books for South Africa project, Breakfast with Santa, and Town Day Road Races; learn what it means to be a Peer Leader; participate in fun activities with their Big Brothers & Sisters; and attend weekly meetings on Wednesday nights from 7:00-7:30. Anyone who is interested in this program should come to Discover on Wednesday evenings.

**ABS:** The new Anti-Bullying Squad (ABS) is up and running! The ABS volunteer in small groups after school from 2:15-2:45 to help prevent and diffuse bullying activity and to encourage their peers to "Think Twice, Be Nice". Their job is to be student leaders and role models and to help all WYC and McCall community members achieve the goal of true respect for one another.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE - Halloween for the Hungry:** On Sunday, October 29 the WYC Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters will be "trick-or-treating" for non-perishable food items for families served by the Woburn Council of Social Concern. Please be on the lookout for them in your neighborhood! If you're interested in doing something good for our community, stop by the WYC and find out how you can get involved.

**WYC DROP-IN CENTER:** The Drop-in Center is open every day after school from 2:15-5:00pm and will be open from 11:15-3:00pm on the early release days October 25-27. Please note: there is no phone for student use at the Drop-in Center. **If your child spends time at the Drop-in Center s/he must turn in a signed Drop-in Center Contract.**

The Contract can be found at: <http://home.comcast.net/~mccallparentassociation/WYCCContract.pdf>

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Activity Night: Friday, October 20 will be the date of this year's first 6<sup>th</sup> grade Activity Night.** The WYC co-sponsors monthly activity nights for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders with the McCall Middle School Parent/Faculty Association and Student Council. Participants are welcome to hang out, play games, or watch a movie in the Drop-in Center and listen to the DJ spin records for the dance in the gym. Admission is \$7 at the door, all students must enter through the McCall front door by the Auditorium.

**WYC TUTORING:** The WYC offers a tutoring program for middle school Math, Science, Foreign Languages, English, and Social Studies. The Peer Leaders provide one-on-one tutoring in the Homework Room at the WYC. All sessions are from 3:00-4:30pm, five session coupon books are available for \$100. Please contact the WYC for more information.

### **WYC ART CLASSES**

**From Trash to Treasure:** Come to the WYC on Tuesdays from 3:00-4:30 to create your own Trash Art! Open your minds and train your eyes to see beauty in the things that we discard everyday. Some items may be re-decorated to serve a new purpose or spiffed up to be re-used. Other items may be used to build something for an entirely different use or as an art piece. Create art, have fun, and help to preserve our environment; all in a few afternoons! Five sessions for \$50, contact the WYC for more information.

**Beginners Watercolor:** The WYC is offering a watercolor painting class for middle school students on Wednesdays from 3:00-4:30. Learn how to make hard and soft edges to get the look you want in a painting. Understand how water-based paints work and how to create colors through translucent layering. Learn how to control watercolor paint to create landscapes, designs, postcards and more! Five sessions for \$50, contact the WYC for more information.

**WINCHESTER COUNCIL ON YOUTH:** The Council on Youth is an official Town committee that acts as an advocacy group for our youth population and works to meet the needs expressed by Winchester teens. The Council's membership consists of both youths and adults who are invested in supporting, advocating for, and fulfilling the needs of young people. The Council on Youth is currently searching for two 7<sup>th</sup> graders and two 8<sup>th</sup> graders to serve on the Council and represent their peers. Applications are available at the WYC and in the McCall main office.

## **Community News**

**Parent to Parent presents: An Evening with Superintendent Jim Marini** - Dr Marini will engage in an open dialogue with parents of elementary, middle and high school children about a wide range of issues that concern them. You may contact us at our website [www.parenttoparentwinchester.org](http://www.parenttoparentwinchester.org) or speak to your PTO's Parent to Parent representative if you would like to identify specific questions in advance for Dr. Marini to address that evening. Please join us on Thursday, October 26, 2006, 7:30 PM at Winchester High School.

**Public Library, Molly Wiellette: 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Graders** - To recognize the public library theme for October, please join us for a shared reading of Kathryn Lasky's book, The Capture, "1 in the Guardians of Ga'hoole series. The library will be talking about nighttime and creatures of the night. We will obtain copies of the book for your pick up after Oct.1 for an October 30th round table discussion at 3 pm. Call (781)7217-7171, ext.26 for Molly Wiellette or email [MWiellette@minlib.net](mailto:MWiellette@minlib.net) to sign up.

**T.A. Barron is coming to BookEnds.** He has written the popular series LOST YEARS OF MERLIN and the GREAT TREE OF AVALON. He will be at the store Thursday afternoon, October 26th at 4:00.