

MMS NEWSLETTER

Mystic Middle School
January 2006

204 Mistuxet Avenue, Mystic, CT 06355



MUSIC NOTES:
From Mr. Hilbie

Fifth Grade Jazz Lab Band

The Mystic Middle School Fifth Grade Jazz Lab Band is an ensemble which invites all fifth grade students who play any instrument to participate in this jazz band setting. We will rehearse every Tuesday morning before school beginning January 31, 2006 from 7:30 - 8:00 AM.

Jazz Lab Band

The Mystic Middle School Jazz Lab Band is an ensemble which invites sixth, seventh and eighth grade students who play any instrument to participate in this jazz band setting. We will rehearse every Wednesday morning before school beginning February 1, 2006 from 7:30 - 8:00 AM.

For Your Information:

- The February 15, 2006 Band Concert for Eighth Grade Band is cancelled!
- A notice will be distributed the week of January 16, 2006 regarding the recording of Practice Time Sheet beginning the third grading period.
- Jazz Lab Band and Fifth Grade Jazz Lab Band notices will be distributed the week of January 16, 2006.

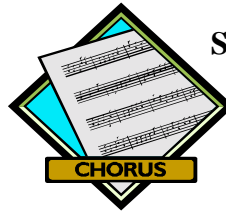
StoneRidge Concerts

On Tuesday, December 13, 2005, the members of the *Flute Trio* (Amanda C., Janna D. and Fiona S.), the *Rathbun Trio* and the *Mystic Middle School Jazz Band* shared their musical talents with the folks living at the StoneRidge Retirement Community. Thank you for bringing holiday cheer to our neighbors, friends and family.

Nathaniel Ryan

On December 16, 2005, the fifth graders attended the Nutcracker Ballet at the Garde Arts Center in New London, CT. As a part of our interdisciplinary unit, Mrs. LaChance had the students paint nutcrackers. Our thank you gift to the Eastern CT Ballet Company, who graciously invited us to their performance, was the beautiful painting of the Nutcracker by Nathaniel Ryan. Thank you for sharing your artistic talents.

From Mrs. Gilbert:



Select Choir Performs

The select choir had a great time performing at the Mystic Stroll this holiday season. We are looking forward to our upcoming performance at the Olde Mistick Village in February. We have been invited to perform at the "Cabin Fever Festival" on **Saturday, February 25, 2006**. The stores will be open with good things to eat, the annual Chowder Cook-off will be a treat and different performances and events will take place. Please come out and join us for a fun family day!

ACDA Choral Festival

Good luck to Pat K. who will be traveling to New York City in February to perform with a National Honors Choir at Carnegie Hall!

Six Flags Adjudication

Yes, it's time to start thinking about the end of the year music trip. Please watch for upcoming information on this exciting festival and day at the park.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

This is the second year Student Council has collected Halloween candy on November 1st and sent it to soldiers, this time to Iraq. Can you picture the size of a copier paper box? Now picture thirteen of them! That's how much candy was donated. Over 300 pounds! Once again, the generosity of MMS students has overwhelmed us!

The VFW gave us the names of five CT soldiers and we divided the candy between them. We've just gotten two thank you letters from one of the soldiers. He's a marine on his third tour(!) in Iraq. He's an articulate, intelligent, young man. We wish we could share his letters with you in this newsletter - but they're each 5 pages long. He wrote about his career path, his latest mission, and was so appreciative of the candy - and so popular with his fellow soldiers! His dedication to help protect our freedom and to help establish it elsewhere were evident in every word he wrote.

He said they all love to get mail, so if anyone would like to write, please let Mrs. Sullivan or Mrs. Selinger know.

He also said they don't have any running water where he's stationed so they "shower," as he puts it, using baby wipes. And they go through a lot of razors because they shave with cold, bottled water (ouch!)

The members of Student Council would like to ask for the generosity of our MMS students and families once again. Please send packaged disposable razors or baby wipes - or both - to school. We're devoting the month of January to collecting as much as we can to mail to our "adopted" service man. Thanks! -Nancy Sullivan



CHICKEN DINNER

"Everything Old is New Again"
Walk into the 1930's and enjoy
radio skits, big band/jazz music
and singing!

Chicken, Rice, Salad, Dessert, Beverage
Only \$7.00 per person!!!
Friday, January 27, 2006
5:00-7:30 P.M.

Stonington High School ~Commons Area
Proceeds Benefit the SHS Music Department
For tickets call Deb Prachniak 599-4182

ATTENTION 8TH GRADE PARENTS!

The Stonington High School scheduling process will begin in March. Please make note of the following important dates for 8th grade parents.
More specifics will be forthcoming in the mail.

*Wednesday, March 1, 2006, 6pm at Mystic Middle School:

Your Child, Your HS: What You Can Expect at SHS

*Monday, March 13, 2006, at SHS:

Incoming Parent Information Night at SHS (time tbd)

CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTS FOR 5TH, 6TH, 7TH, AND 8TH GRADES!

The CMT will be administered to grades 5-8 this year.

Tentative test dates are March 3rd through March 17th. ***Parents are reminded of the importance of attendance and arriving to school on time during testing!!!*** More information on the testing, along with a detailed test schedule, will be mailed home to each student.



CITRUS SALE

A huge "Thank You" goes to all of the parents, students, staff and any other people that helped with the citrus sale. Everyone had a big part in the success of this sale. From the selling, to the tallying of the orders, to the waiting (and waiting!)(AND WAITING!) for the delivery, to the unloading and the distribution of the fruit. After all was said and done, I believe that everyone was happy with the fruit that they received. We absolutely could not have done it without all of the help that we received. Will we do it again next year?!!! As crazy as it seems, we probably will, just a little bit differently! Stay tuned until the fall.... Thank you again one and all! -Pam Mola and Paula Bovino

COME GET INVOLVED!

Your PTO needs you! The next meetings will be held at MMS in the library on **Monday, March 13th** at 7pm and on **Monday, May 8th** at 7pm.

You can opt to do a little or to do a lot. Every little bit is greatly appreciated by many and helps keep you involved and informed about your child and the school.

"AMERICAN PIE": AN OPERA FOR TWEENS & TEENS!



Through the generous support of an anonymous donor, the Stonington Free Library is proud and excited to bring live opera to children and their families. Opera Express, an Education and Outreach Program of the Connecticut Opera, presents an understandable, non-intimidating, and FUN program, specifically intended for a younger audience. No fancy dress required!

"American Pie" for grades 5-12 and their families, will be held on Saturday, February 25 at 1:30 p.m. in the Pine Point School auditorium, 89 Barnes Road, Stonington, CT. Seating will begin at 1 p.m. Have a slice of some of the greatest music written by renowned classic American composers. Songs by Bernstein, Menotti, and Copland will make your heart soar as you experience the best of this classic genre of music. FREE & open to the public; NO registration required. Contact Heather Gillies @ 535-0658 for more information.



LIBRARY NOTES & QUOTES

The library is in need of any unwanted camcorders. The students use them for a variety of projects. Please contact Mrs. Chapman at MMS (536-9613) if you have one you would like to donate. -Karen Chapman



COME SKATE THE NIGHT AWAY!

The MMS PTO is hosting two skate nights in March and hopes to see a great turnout! Both skate nights will be held at the Galaxy Roller Rink in Groton. The first skate night will be for the 7th and 8th grade students from MMS and Pawcatuck Middle School. It will be held on Friday, March 10th. What a great way to meet new friends!

The second skate night will be for the 5th and 6th grades from MMS only and will be a family night. More details will follow in the next newsletter! A huge thank you goes out to Fran Cabral for setting this up for us!

SCHOOL STORE OPEN ON THESE TUESDAYS

The MMS store is still in business every other Tuesday during lunch. We've got some great new items including clarinet and saxophone reeds, unique pencils, interesting erasers, fun pencil grips, exciting pens, locker mirrors, carabiner clips for backpacks, notebooks and much, much more. Please remember to send your child in with some extra money on these following dates: **January 24, February 7 & 28, March 7, 21.** All proceeds benefit the MMS PTO.

Stonington High **WOVEN THROW BLANKETS** are available to anyone at a cost of \$50 each. They make great graduation gifts! Please call Terri Rathbun at 536-4095.

ATTENTION!!

Please do not allow students to wear roller sneakers or "heelies" to school. Thank You!

COMING EVENTS

January 27th - Chicken Dinner SHS
Feb. 3rd - 2nd quarter report cards
Feb. 20-24 Winter break
Feb. 25th - Cabin Fever Festival- Mystick Village
Feb. 25th American Pie opera- Pine Point
March 10th - 7th & 8th grade Skate Night
March 13th - 7pm PTO Meeting MMS
March 24th - 5th & 6th Grade Skate Night
May 8th - 7pm PTO Meeting MMS
June 9th - 8th Grade Graduation Party

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER...

Please use it!! **Next deadline will be March 1st!** Please email any material for the newsletter to mkyffdodd@hotmail.com.

Please just copy your file onto the email or type it as an email. Do not send your file as an attachment if it is not in Microsoft Word. I may not be able to open it. Material may also be put in the MMS

Newsletter mail slot at MMS or mailed to 59
Wolcott Ave., Stonington, CT 06378. Thanks!
-Marion Dodd, Editor

**Look for your next MMS newsletter at the beginning of March. Submissions must
be received by March 1st !!**

Many thanks to Tuition Management Systems of Warwick, RI for generously donating the printing of
this newsletter! www.afford.com

**“Do not go where the path may
lead; go instead where there is
no path and leave a trail.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson**



**“Those who do nothing are
never wrong”
Theodore de Bouville**



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