

# THE MESSENGER



## LIGHT A CANDLE FOR PEACE

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Fall Family Fun</i>	2
<i>Disability Awareness</i>	2
<i>MS Team Building</i>	3
<i>UE Community Service</i>	3
<i>Golf Tournament</i>	4
<i>Artist in Residence</i>	5

### CALENDAR EVENTS:

- 9/25 All School Photo—Spirit Day
- 9/25 WHMS 5th Annual Golf Tournament 1pm
- 9/28 Yom Kippur  
*No School / Enrichment Available*
- 10/3 Book Fair Begins
- 10/3 Friends Fall Family Fun Day 11 a.m.—3 p.m.
- 10/7 Parent Education B'fast—7:45 am
- 10/12 Columbus Day  
*No School / Enrichment Available*
- 10/13 MS Food Drive Begins
- 10/15 MS to Albany Institute of History and Art
- 10/18 MS to UN

On September 21, the entire WHMS community gathered together to *Sing Peace Around the World*.

Students from the primary to the middle school, faculty and staff took part in the event, along with nearly 50,000 Montessori students worldwide. WHMS joined the chorus to “*Light a Candle for Peace*.” Marla Bracco accompanied on the violin.

At 10:42 a.m. we connected with Montessori Schools from around the world as part of the United Nations International Peace day for 2009!

“*Light A Candle for Peace*” was sung continuously, starting in New Zealand and finishing in the Hawaiian Islands 24 hours later.



## WHMS — A HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDING

*NYSERDA applauds Woodland Hill for their commitment to achieve their energy reduction goals.*

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority presented WHMS with a High Performance Building plaque on Tuesday, September 22. The plaque recognizes the energy efficiency and environmental sustainability investments the school has made while constructing its 11,000 square foot addition.

As part of its commitment to reduce energy costs and protect the environment WHMS anticipates their energy consumption to be decrease by more than 22,800

kWh. That is the equivalent of the electricity consumed each year by three single family homes as well as avoiding approximately 50 kW of peak summer demand.

“The High Performance Building Plaque presented to the [WHMS] today underscores the integral role of schools throughout the state play in teaching young students the importance of energy efficiency and environmental conservation,” said Francis J. Murray Jr., President and CEO of NYSERDA.

The New Construction program has awarded 16 High Performance Building plaques to participat-

ing customers throughout the State.

Susan Kambrich said, “The Woodland Hill Montessori School community is committed to environmental stewardship. We are pleased to be presented with the High Performance Building Plaque in recognition of our dedicated efforts.”

Pictured below with Susan are James Church from Senator Roy McDonald’s office and Priscilla Richards from NYSERDA



## FALL FAMILY FUN DAY - OCTOBER 3



The 5th Annual Fall Family Fun Day will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2009 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Music by Andy the Music Man, Craft Fair, Carnival Games, Bouncy-Bounce, Musical Petting Zoo, and more throughout the day!!

Admission: \$5/child in advance \$7/child at the door.

No charge for children under 3 or for parents!!!

Admission includes:

- Unlimited use of bouncy slide
- Unlimited carnival game play

- Arts & craft table
- Performances by Andy the Music Man (11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1:45 – 2:30 p.m.)
- Admittance to Craft Fair featuring high-quality hand-crafted items

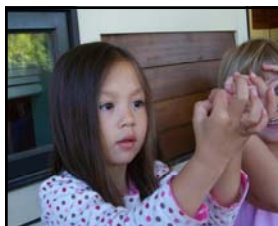
Available at additional cost:

- Food – Hot dogs, Macaroni & Cheese, Veggie Chili, popcorn, cotton candy, caramel apples & more
- Bake sale
- Family photographs by Thea Coughlin
- Face Painting
- WHMS Apparel

Visit [www.woodlandhill.org](http://www.woodlandhill.org) for more information



## DIVERSITY AWARENESS



Lili Loveday, a Developmental Disabilities Public Educator, visited WHMS with some of her puppet

friends for an informative awareness program.

The *Making Friends* presentation is an educational program to help students to understand the visual, auditory and physical disabilities that may affect some of our family members or friends.

As an example, Lily explains that Jason, a puppet who wears leg braces and uses a crutch to walk, can see, hear, smell, touch taste and think. People with disabilities have the same feelings as other



people . Nobody likes to be teased.

Lily taught the students some simple signs that people with hearing disabilities might use to communicate.





## MS ATTENDS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

“Our team building trip was a very successful event and a great way to start the year,” says MS teacher, Cora. “We all got to know each other (and ourselves) better during our brief stay at Camp Beckett. We were fortunate to have such great weather!”

Students also commented on their experiences at Becket:

“I learned a lot about my friends (old and new), solving problems with others and what I can do. It was definitely worth it and a good way to start the year.” ~*Sierra W*

“I learned about myself

and my self-confidence.”  
~*Lilly*

“I learned I had more leadership skills than I realized.” ~*Lucas*

“I learned about team building and I learned more about my classmates.” ~*Molly*

“I think the trip was worth it because we learned a lot about communication.”

~*Sierra C.*

I learned that when you are in the back of a canoe, you should be prepared to get wet! ~*Erik*



### CHILDREN CROSSING!

Please exercise extreme caution when driving up the hill during car line! We try very hard to keep the line moving. When you pull up, please proceed to the end of the sidewalk. The staff will escort children to the first ten vehicles in line. After the children get into the vehicles, the first ten cars will pull out and then all cars in line will move up to reposition themselves. During car line times, please do not pull in front of any vehicle in line, **DO NOT MAKE U-TURNS.** For the safety of our children, PLEASE SLOW DOWN!

*“Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed.”*

Dr. Maria Montessori

### Woodland Hill Montessori School

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## THE UE COMMUNITY SERVICE AT THE FARM

As part of their community service, and community building project, the students in the upper elementary recently visited the Regional Food Bank’s Farm to harvest vegetables that will be donated to local pantries.



# THE 5TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHMS held its 5th Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, September 25, 2009 at the Van Patten Golf Course, Clifton Park.

Many thanks to....

## Golf Tournament Committee



Patrick Cartwright and Michael Cavanagh Co-Chairs and S. David Devaprasad Susan Kambrich Howard Kibrick Sue LaVigne

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**WANTED!**  
**Volunteer Basketball Coaches**  
WHMS needs coaches for our elementary and middle school basketball teams.  
Please contact Meg if you are interested in sharing your skills with the students in grades 3 through 8.  
The season runs from December through February.



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## Middle School Coffee House.....



*Thank you for your support!*

# ARTIST IN RESIDENCE ~ LILAH MONTGOMERY

WHMS Art Collective

New York.

Lilah Montgomery is a graduate of the Parsons New School of Design (and WHMS!), and has been a frequent and popular guest at Woodland Hill.

In a letter to parents, Lilah writes,

*“The Native Americans utilized the environment around them both as a medium and also as inspiration for artwork that was emotionally and spiritually evocative within their cultural narrative and traditions.*

*Deep respect for their surroundings, but also sheer*

*necessity dictated that no part of what the Native Americans took from their environment went to waste. Keeping Iroquois culture in mind, I would like to provide the young, modern inhabitants of Upstate New York a platform to visually express their relationship with the ever-broadening environment around them. It will be interesting to see the form that their own cultural legacy manifests when the students at WHMS drawing upon on their own experiences and imaginations, truly express themselves and their values.”*

The lower el, upper el and middle school students are studying North America and the history of the United States. As part of this study, we hosted an artist-in-residence who is working with our students to examine and create art typical of the Iroquois of

