



# THE MESSENGER

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## WHMS WINTER SHOW

Students from Primary to Middle School staged a musical performance on Friday, December 10. As part of the school-wide study of Africa, the Primary students were transformed into wild animals! To be more precise, a herd of elephants, a troop of monkeys, a dazzle of zebras a group of giraffes and a pride of lions.

Elementary Chorus, Glee and Dance Teams surprised us with a Secret Agent dance routine and a Chanukah song in a Major Key.

Students in all grade levels charmed the audience with the help of Cathy Schane-Lydon, Charles Austin, Marla Bracco, Nieves Gonzalez and Dan Sedia. The show included a rock concert, violins and vocal songs to end the calendar year.

## CALENDAR EVENTS:

- 12/20-12/31 **Holiday Recess**  
*No School/Enrichment Available —*  
**NO ENRICHMENT on 12/ 24**
- 12/25 Christmas
- 12/26 Kwanzaa
- 1/1 New Year's Day
- 1/3 Classes resume
- 1/3 Financial Aid Forms Available
- 1/4 WHMS Spelling Bee practice 3 p.m.
- 1/5 WHMS Spelling Bee 3 p.m.
- 1/5 Peaceful School Committee Mtg. 3:30 p.m.
- 1/6 8th Grade UN Presentation
- 1/6 Safety Committee Mtg. 3:15 p.m.
- 1/6 WHMS Ski Club begins
- 1/10 Winter Extracurriculars begin
- 1/11 Dr. Randy Cale - *Friends*
- 1/12 Tech Committee Mtg. 3 p.m.
- 1/22 **Open House** 12:30-3 p.m.
- 1/24 Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 2/3 Chinese New Year
- 2/4 **Financial Aid** Forms Due





Thank you to all of the families who have donated to the **Susan LaVigne Scholarship Fund.**

As of today, over \$7,550 has been raised!

Donations are still being accepted. To donate on-line, go to [Woodlandhill.org](http://Woodlandhill.org), click on **Giving at WHMS**, then *Donate Now*.

- The Abbott Family
- Anonymous
- Kathryn Allen and John Baackes
- AtLee and Christian Bender
- Berolzheimers and Farvers
- Dr. & Mrs. Jerry and Darlene Bilinski
- William Bracken and Linda Delfs
- Jack and Gloria Brilling
- Janeen and Lorne Browe
- Rob, Christine and Justin Bruck
- Liz and Tim Cahrenger
- Mitch Cohen & Anne Marie Haber
- Jim and Emmy Cole
- Kelly Conroy and Jax Conroy Armstrong
- The Day/Schettino Family
- Marianne DeMario and Paul Simeone
- Emil and Pat DeToffol
- David Devaprasad and Tracy Berger
- Sean and Jennifer Edmunds
- Diana and David Ehrlich
- Michael Endler and Lise Hafner
- Rebecca, Peter and Jean Endryck
- Susan and David Evans
- Bob and Tamara Gatchell
- The Haggerty Family
- Susan and Jim Kambrich
- Mayor Joe Keegan and Mr. Mark Wochinger
- Robert and Jocelyn Kivort
- Vincent and Kara LaBella
- The Lang Family
- Lisa and PJ LaVigne
- Sue LaVigne, in memory of Mary Berger
- The Ledet Family
- Olga Litvak
- Peter and Diane McCorkle
- Dick Melita & Kimberly O'Brien
- Marion Newton and Chris Heller
- The Oberting Family
- Meg Parascandola
- Betty F. Pine
- Moira Klingaman Rienzo
- Tobi and Gary Saulnier
- Jolanta Slepska and Sestilio Botti
- Kathy Smith
- Phillip and Karen Sparkes
- Terrence X. Tracy
- Charles Weissman and Susan Weaver

Jim Cole, Emmy's husband, joined the fun with a *cooking-making* **marathon** in Emmy and Jodi's class.  
Thank you, Jim!

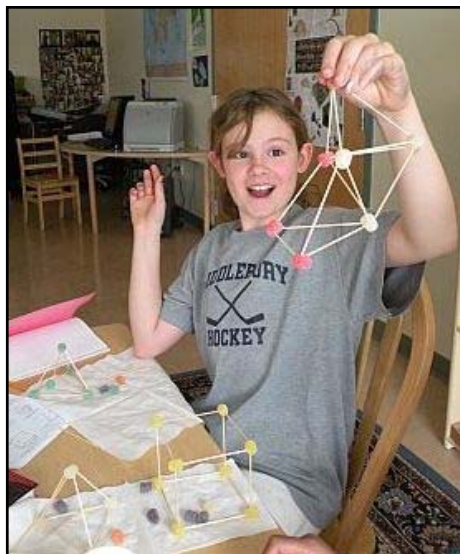


# UPPER ELEMENTARY NEWS

## Working with Primary students



## Platonic Solids



## Egyptian Studies



**Woodland Hill  
Montessori School**

100 Montessori Place  
North Greenbush, NY 12144



**Leadership Circle**

Anonymous  
 Sara and Michael DeLeonardis  
 Marianne DeMario and Paul Simeone  
 Cheryl and Evan Eckman  
 Michael Endler and Lise Hafner  
 Frederick and Laura Galt  
 Bob and Nina Green  
 Sarah Hazel  
 Debbie and Jonathan Ripchick

**Investors**

Robert and Jocelyn Kivort  
 Vincent and Kara LaBella  
 Kathryn and David McCorkle\*  
 Cyril and Lydia Rodriguez\*  
 Koethi Zan and Stephen Metcalf

**Benefactors**

Christopher and Natasha Bang  
 Chris and Susan Calyer  
 Christine and James Chung  
 Joan D. Couch\*  
 Pat and Emil DeToffol  
 Laura and Geoff Dunn  
 Diana and David Ehrlich  
 Susan and David Evans  
 Fernando and Olga Febus  
 The Gernert-Dott Family  
 Susan and Jim Kambrich  
 Joshua and Laura Mandel  
 The Fogel Family  
 David and Nancy Picchione  
 Tobi and Gary Saulnier  
 Target *Take Charge of Education*  
 Connie Walsh & Michael Slik,\*  
*in honor of Eleanor and Frances Toomey*

**Friends**

Nancy D. Allen\*  
 American Clothing Recycling Co. Inc.  
 Joseph Apuzzi\*  
 Michael Ardman and Cheryl Bovair  
 Niranjani Baji and Vinita Shekhar,  
*in memory of Mr. K. Bhimarao*  
 Tacim Bang,\* *in honor of Nicholas Bang*  
 Leah Blind  
 Esther Bruck\*  
 Liz and Tim Cahrenger  
 Wai Kin Chan and Shujing Jiang  
 Jake Colwell  
 Dora & Jerry Connolly,\*  
*in honor of John Patrick Altman*  
 Terry Cunningham\*  
 Christian Day and Carmel Schettino  
 Terry Dott\*  
 The Earley Family  
 Mrs. Lauretta Eckman\*  
 Mary-Jo Ehrlich  
 Janet and Jason Eveleth\*  
 Rachel and Ted Eveleth  
 Green Fiber  
 Cassandre Hall  
 Danielle and Jake Hall  
 Cora and Scott Heiser  
 Laura and Holland Hopson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Karl Klein,\*  
*in honor of Caroline and Julia Galt*  
 Thomas Lail and Tara Fracalossi  
 Ye Liu and Zhigang Qiu  
 The Ma Family  
 Heidi and David Nathanielsz  
 Marion Newton and Christian Heller  
 Maria Papa  
 Meg Parascandola

The Peaceful Center

Moira K. Rienzo  
 Janis Rink  
 Maggie and Luke Schmonsky  
 Olaf and Cora Stackelberg\*  
 Peggy & Larry Suck,\*  
*in honor of Ty Ardman*  
 Nancy and Norman Tellier\*  
 Patricia Ward\*  
 Brad White and Jill Augustine  
 Kevin and Jean Wynne

Thank you to all those  
 who have donated so  
 far!  
 We have raised  
**\$21,758!**

Make your gift on-line now at  
[www.woodlandhill.org/  
 giving-at-whms/annual-fund/](http://www.woodlandhill.org/giving-at-whms/annual-fund/)

\*denotes WHMS Grandparent

# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

WHMS Middle School students perform **community service** throughout the school year. Recently, students had the opportunity to help the Regional Food Bank’s Holiday Hunger Appeal at Crossgates Mall. On Tuesday December 21, from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m., students volunteered to accept donations for the Food Bank from passers-by. Thanks to Dan, Julie, Will, Dylan, Lucas, Geoffrey, Nick, Chris R., Tori, Jonathan and Rebecca and Rebecca’s brother, Orin.

This was a great way for the students to achieve their two hours of community service for this semester.

The Middle raised \$212. Due to purchasing power and other factors, the Food Bank can purchase **\$12 worth of food with every \$1 raised**. So the net effort by the students is \$2,544 worth of food.



## Regional Food Bank

of Northeastern New York

Go Middle Schoolers!

*Mary Jane (parent of Dylan Couch, 7th Grader)*



The Annual Middle School Raffle was a **huge** success. Thanks to the **generous donations** and ticket sales, students raised over \$1,000 to help fund the cost of their year-end trip. They drew the winners during their holiday party on Friday, December 17.

**Congratulations** to all of the winners!

## LOWER ELEMENTARY

*Cello Music Courtesy of Lower El students Anya Bennett and Ava Bashant. Both girls are students of Cello Teacher Lydia Zotto, a WHMS alumna.*



Julie and Kristi’s class took a walk to visit our neighbors at **Branson Manor**. The class shared some songs and some holiday cheer.



### Official Rules

WHMS will conduct the 2011 Spelling Bee in accordance with the "Rules for Local Spelling Bees," provided by the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

On the next two pages, you will find an abbreviated version of these rules. PLEASE read them, as they explain how the Bee will progress and how the winner will be determined.

"Spell It!" -- the 2011 Scripps practice guide -- is available as a PDF on the WHMS website.

#### **WHMS Spelling Bee:**

**Wednesday, January 5, 2011 at 3:00 PM**

#### **Information sessions & practice bees:**

**Monday, December 13**

**&**

**Tuesday, January 4,**

**from 3:00-4:00 PM in the Gym**

*Spellers (and students who are undecided about participating!) may attend one or both practices.*

The Spelling Bee is open to all Upper Elementary and Middle School students.

Our school's winner will advance to the televised Capital District Spelling Bee on Wednesday, February 9 at 5:00 PM at Proctor's Theatre in Schenectady.

### Support the WHMS Basketball Teams!

- 1/4 Grades 6-8 WHMS vs. Brown School @ home 5 p.m.
- 1/8 Grades 6-8 WHMS @ St. John's, Valatie. 3:45 p.m.
- 1/8 Grades 4-5 WHMS @ Troy CYO 5:30 p.m.
- 1/9 Grades 4-5 WHMS vs. Hebrew Academy @ home 2:30 p.m.
- 1/15 Grades 6-8 WHMS @ Troy CYO Center 12:00 p.m.
- 1/16 Grades 2-3 WHMS @ Averill Park 1:00 p.m.
- 1/18 Grades 6-8 WHMS vs. St. Mary's Waterford @ home 5:00 p.m.
- 1/23 Grades 4-5 WHMS vs. Duanesburg @ home 2:30 p.m.
- 1/25 Grades 6-8 WHMS vs. East Greenbush @ home 5:30 p.m.
- 1/30 Grades 4-5 WHMS vs. Duanesburg @ home 2:30 p.m.
- 2/1 Grades 6-8 WHMS @ Brown 5:00 p.m.
- 2/6 Grades 4-5 WHMS @ Troy CYO 10:30 a.m.
- 2/13 Grades 6-8 WHMS vs. East Greenbush @ home 3:30 p.m.
- 2/19 Grades 6-8 WHMS vs. Troy CYO @ home 2:30 p.m.
- 2/20 Grades 4-5 WHMS @ Duanesburg 4:00 p.m.
- 2/26 Grades 4-5 WHMS vs. Troy CYO @ home 2:00 p.m.

## MONTESSORI AND ME!

Woodland Hill Montessori School welcomes the return of *Montessori & Me*, a **Parent-Child** Play and Discussion Group, which will run for seven Wednesdays, starting on January 26. The one-hour playgroup will meet from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. from Wednesday, January 26 until Wednesday, March 16 and is led by a **Montessori-certified teacher**.

Each week, there will be a presentation of a Montessori theme or lesson, followed by a discussion period while the children play. The first week will focus on an *Introduction to Montessori Philosophy*. Future weeks will focus on the *Montessori Environment; Practical Life; Language Development; Basic Math & Sensorial Exercises; Culture, Science, Art & Music Exercises;* and *Montessori in the Home and Beyond*.

There is a \$50 participation fee per family. To register, or for more information, contact Kris Gernert-Dott at 283-5400 ext. 12 or [kgernertdott@woodlandhill.org](mailto:kgernertdott@woodlandhill.org).

