

# THE FORUM

*Mount Greylock Regional School District  
Lanesborough and Williamstown, Massachusetts*

DECEMBER 2005



## AFTER PROM 2006

The After Prom 2006 Committee is gearing up for an exciting year, and we need your help. Come join us on Monday, December 12, at 7 p.m. at The Williamstown Saving Bank to join in the fun. Our goal is to provide the Class of 2006 with an opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments at a safe, fun-filled evening in a drug- and alcohol-free environment after the prom.



In the past, the After Prom event has given our seniors an extension of a memorable evening by providing bus transportation to and from Eastover Resort in Lenox, where they dine, dance, swim, play games, enjoy entertainment and win prizes. Since the event is offered free of charge to seniors and their guests, we rely heavily on the assistance of parents and the generosity of our communities.

In order to continue this fourteen-year tradition, we need your help with everything from auction to event. Whatever your talents and the amount of time you can invest, we want to hear from you. Please contact Cara Miller at (413) 822-7670 or [cmiller392@adelphia.net](mailto:cmiller392@adelphia.net). Check out our website at [www.mgrhsafterprom.com](http://www.mgrhsafterprom.com) for more information.

**Vision Statement** – Mount Greylock is a spirited educational community that celebrates human differences, recognizes individual abilities, and challenges its citizens to strive for academic excellence and to realize their full potential and aspirations. We provide a curriculum and environment that includes and supports all members of the school community. With respect for diversity, we provide a physically and emotionally safe environment. We promote the integration of school and community, based on a mutual commitment to and a passion for lifelong learning.

## MT. GREYLOCK PTO

In keeping with the PTO's efforts to enhance communication within the Mt. Greylock community, we have recently expanded the PTO listserv. Our list now includes the e-mail addresses of everyone who returned a form (in the summer packet) to MGRHS, giving the school permission to share their email address with the PTO. We now have 475 addresses on this list, thanks to the efforts of webmaster Pat Dunlavey.

If you would like to be added to the listserv, go to:

[www.greylockcommunity.org/pto](http://www.greylockcommunity.org/pto) and follow the instructions for subscribing. You can "unsubscribe" at any time.

About the Listserv - The purpose of the PTO listserv is to provide a timely and efficient way to communicate information about matters of interest to the entire Mt. Greylock community. This is a moderated list. We hope to limit email messages to once a week, unless something arises that needs immediate communication.

Submitting a Message - If you would like to submit a message to the listserv, please send it to: [mtgreylockpto@greylockcommunity.org](mailto:mtgreylockpto@greylockcommunity.org). It will be reviewed by one of the list moderators (co-presidents of the PTO) to ensure that it is a matter of general interest and will either be sent out to the

list or returned for revision. Please send your messages as far in advance as possible, so we can try to group messages together. (Note that replies will be addressed to the person who initiated the message, not to the mailing list.)

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Nancy Nysten  
([nnylen@williams.edu](mailto:nnylen@williams.edu)) and  
Anne Hogeland  
([hogeland@adelphia.net](mailto:hogeland@adelphia.net))  
Co-presidents, Mount Greylock PTO

*Purposes of the Mount Greylock PTO:*

- Promoting the education and well-being of Mt. Greylock students*
- Developing coordinated efforts among teachers, staff, parents and the community for the benefit of Mt. Greylock students*
- Facilitating financial support for school programs*
- Acting as a resource for parents, educators and community members*
- Coordinating volunteer efforts in support of students*

**The next meeting of the PTO will be held on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. in the school library.**

**Everyone is welcome to come!**

The mission of the Mount Greylock Regional School District is to serve its communities by helping all students progress toward responsible citizenship through an educationally challenging environment.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PTO FUNDRAISER!**

This winter, the Mt. Greylock PTO is planning a "services auction" to help raise funds to improve the school's website. We will build on the successes of last year's event - and have a great list of items to get us started. Date and location are yet to be determined by the committee, but we're thinking about a "cabin fever" brunch in the late winter where we can connect with friends and share the many talents of the Mt. Greylock community.

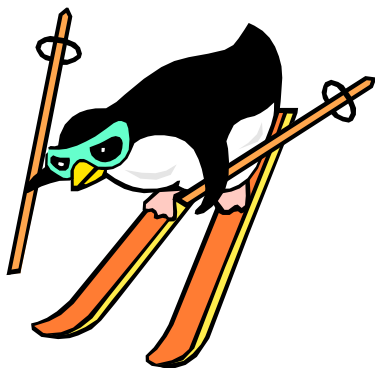
If you are interested in helping out in any way, large or small, please contact:

Nancy Nysten, 458-5688  
[nancyn@williams.edu](mailto:nancyn@williams.edu)

or

Anne Hogeland, 458-5966  
[hogeland@adelphia.net](mailto:hogeland@adelphia.net)

## **GET READY FOR SKI SEASON**



Organize your skis!  
Purchase a hand-crafted wooden ski stand. It will hold six pairs of skis.

Proceeds will benefit the MGRHS cross-country ski team.

Cost is \$40. To purchase, call Jan Salzer-Ogden at 442-2338 or contact a cross-country ski team member.

Thank you for your support!

## **EARLY BIRD SPECIALS FOR ON-LINE READERS**

For reading The Forum on-line...

- \* You have the opportunity to purchase fruit through the Citrus Sale, which helps support the arts programs here at Mt. Greylock. Twenty-five pounds of seedless navel oranges, sweet red grapefruit, or a combination of the two, can be purchased for \$25. The fruit comes directly from Mixon Fruit Farm in Bradenton, Florida, and will be delivered between December 5 and 7. The deadline to order is Monday, November 28. Please stop in the District Office to place your order. Checks should be made payable to FOA (Friends of the Arts).
- \* You are reminded that winter sports physicals are due by Monday, November 28. Please make sure your child has had their physical completed before November 28.

From: William Travis-

## Accolades



### Thank you to...

- Rachel Daniels for more than 40 years of service to Mt. Greylock, (including Williamstown High School). She has retired as Treasurer of the District, effective October 2005.
- Otto Wied for his maintenance of the Greenhouse, including a summer reorganization and clean-up.
- Beth Nesbit and her work in the College & Career Center.
- Students from the Student Council and JCL who acted as guides during open house events this fall.
- Laura Wagner, Williams College junior, overseeing Greylock/Williams tutoring program; twenty-three Williams College students are involved.
- John Elder, a senior who is an IT technician involved with technical support for faculty, school committee and student productions; JavaJive; Get Acquainted Concert; dramas and musicals. Thank you also to Ray Dushaney for training student technicians.
- Micah Couture and Karen Rondeau-Brigham for their cards and visits to the administrative offices.
- Student Council members who sponsored the donation collection for Hurricane Katrina relief.
- Several students who helped in the Pittsfield postal office pantry food drive.
- Trudy Ames, Blair Dils and Liza Barrett for the Slam Poetry event, bringing Taylor Mali to Mt. Greylock.
- Marjorie Keeley and JCL for hosting and competing in the most recent competition and winning significant awards in many categories.
- Evan Dethier for putting together the first local school TV program which aired on Channel 17 and WilliNet.
- Jim Schultz for filming and editing for broadcast on WilliNet the weekly MG football games.

- John MacDonald for the donation of a digital camera.
- The Clark Art Institute for the offer of an upright piano; and to Lyndon Moors for follow-up.
- Ouisa Fohrhaltz, Marlene Walt and Lyndon Moors for conducting the Get Acquainted Concert.
- The Grade 8 team teachers for hosting Grade 6 students for a Shakespeare & Company performance and lunch.

### Congratulations...

- To the Girls' Soccer and Girls' and Boys' X-C running teams for making it into post-season competition.
- To Ray Miro who published a wrestling technique article in the *USA Wrestling* magazine.
- On the performances of Shakespeare & Company's "Much Ado about Nothing" which were held on November 9 & 10.
- Community Visitors' Days were held November 14, 15 & 16.

### MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS' CERTIFICATE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Mount Greylock Regional School District's senior, Kejia Tang, son of Xingning Zhau and Shaohua Tang of Williamstown, Massachusetts, received the Certificate of Academic Excellence from Superintendent William D. Travis at the November School Committee meeting. This award is made available to each district by the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents to honor a senior for academic accomplishments and community service.

Kejia Tang is currently ranked first in his class. He has participated in a very rigorous program including eight AP courses and three courses at Williams College. He is an accomplished writer, having won first place honors for three years running at the annual Hoosic River Writing Competition. He is first violinist in the Massachusetts Western District Senior Festival Orchestra and was a participant in the Tanglewood Institute Young Artist Piano Program. Kejia is the President of the Student Council and a representative to the Greylock School Committee. He participates in several community events and is active in church events.

# Updates...

## Water Update

The School Committee voted in November to proceed with the hook-up of Well #2 on the Mount Greylock campus as a source of potable water. After a review of engineering firms, Gary Swanson was selected as the design engineer and construction supervisor. Design work could be completed in December of 2005 and the well hook-up work completed this winter. Progress updates will be provided in the next issue.

## School Building Committee Update

The School Building Committee invited four architectural design firms to visit the district and expand on their written proposals to do a feasibility study on building renovations. Two firms, Margo Jones with MHFH and The Mount Vernon Group, made presentations on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Dore & Whittier and DRA made presentations on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Each presentation was followed by a rigorous interview process by Building Committee members.

Committee members held two additional meetings to select a finalist to recommend to the School Committee. Dore & Whittier was the highest rated architectural firm for the Mount Greylock project. The School Committee approved this recommendation on a unanimous vote. The Building Committee has done a wonderful job in moving our facility review forward. Within the next few weeks, Dore & Whittier teams will be on site assessing the Mount Greylock facility. They will document existing conditions and deficiencies, conduct space needs assessments, and review enrollment projections. In conducting this work, they will work with the various stakeholders--staff, parents and students--to discuss needs, desires and priorities. Watch for future updates as the Building Committee has an ambitious timeline to bring this project to the public.

## Test Results Profile

- Five Student National Merit Semifinalists
- Six National Merit Commended Students

### Class of 2005 Mean SAT Scores

	<u>Verbal</u>	<u>Math</u>
Mt. Greylock	567	547
State	520	527
Nation	508	520

### SAT II Mean Scores

	<u>Mt. Greylock</u>	<u>Nation</u>
Writing	638	605
Literature	631	589
U.S. History	639	599
Math IC	604	586
Math II C	635	670
Biology E	594	595
Chemistry	677	628

### Students Taking AP Tests in Eleven (11) Areas

<u># of Exams</u>	<u># of Students</u>
1	42
2	23
3	26
4	5
5	3

### Spring 2005 MCAS Test Percent Advanced and Proficient

	<u>Mt. Greylock</u>	<u>State</u>
Gr 7 Eng/LA	74%	66%
Gr 8 Math	45%	39%
Gr 8 Sci/Tech	36%	33%
Gr 10 Eng/LA	71%	65%
Gr 10 Math	69%	62%

**DEADLINE FOR JANUARY ISSUE OF  
FORUM - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>**

Articles may be emailed to  
[pakmach@adelphia.net](mailto:pakmach@adelphia.net).  
It can be a word document  
attached to your email or  
typed in the body of the email.

It isn't necessary to format, as it  
will change when inputted into  
The Forum.



# LUNCH LINE MENUS



Mount Greylock Regional School  
1781 Cold Spring Road, Williamstown, MA  
Judith Richardson, Cafeteria Manager

## DECEMBER 2005

Thursday	1	Ham & Cheese Croissant, Tomato Soup, Milk & Fruit
Friday	2	Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potato, Carrots, Milk, Fruit
Monday	5	Spaghetti, Caesar Salad, Milk, Fruit
Tuesday	6	Chicken Fajita Wrap, Milk & Fruit
Wednesday	7	IN-SERVICE DAY
Thursday	8	Baked Potato Bar, Chili, Cornbread, Broccoli, Milk & Fruit
Friday	9	Chicken Burger Deluxe, Oven Fries, Milk, Fruit
Monday	12	Turkey Club, Chips, Pickles, Milk, Fruit
Tuesday	13	Hamburger, Oven Fries, Beans, Corn, Milk & Fruit
Wednesday	14	Deli Bar, Milk & Fruit
Thursday	15	Taco Salad, Corn, Milk & Fruit
Friday	16	Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potato, Mixed Vegetables, Milk & Fruit
Monday	19	Meatball Subs, Oven Fries, Green Beans, Milk & Fruit
Tuesday	20	Oven Baked Chicken, Mashed Potato, Stuffing, Carrots, Milk & Fruit
Wednesday	21	Calzones, Salad, Milk & Fruit "Happy Holidays!"
Thursday	22	Ravioli, Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, Milk, Fruit
Friday	23	Grilled Chicken Burger, Oven Fries, Corn, Milk, Fruit



**MEAL COST: STUDENT \$2.50 & ADULT \$3.50**  
**ALL MEALS INCLUDE THE FIVE FOOD GROUPS**

# DECEMBER 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Mini College Fair - College & Career Ctr - Library - 8:30 - 9:15 a.m. ----- School Committee - Library - 7 p.m.	Half Release Day - Dismissal 11:45 a.m.		High School Casual Dance - Gymnasium - 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.	Junior District Festival Auditions - Westfield State College (Snow Date is 12/17/05)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	PTO Meeting - Library - 7 p.m.		School Council Meeting - 4 p.m. - Library ----- Financial Aid Information Night - Library - 7:00 p.m.	Joe Sicotte's Sr. Project - "Disney from the Heart" Musical Review - Auditorium - 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Joe Sicotte's Sr. Project - "Disney from the Heart" Musical Review - Auditorium - 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Joe Sicotte's Sr. Project - "Disney from the Heart" Musical Review - Auditorium - 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	December Vacation	December Vacation	December Vacation	December Vacation	December Vacation	

# JANUARY 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
	New Year's Day Holiday	School Committee - Library - 7 p.m.				Senior District Festival Rehearsal - UMASS - Amherst - Snow Date is 01/08/05
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
	PTO Meeting - Library - 7 p.m.		School Council Meeting - 4 p.m. - Library			Senior District Festival Concert - UMASS - Amherst - Snow Date is 01/15/05
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
	Martin Luther King Holiday		Middle School Winter Concert - Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.			
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
			Senior High Winter Concert - Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.			All-State Festival Auditions - Algonquin Regional High School - Snow Date is 02/04/06
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				