

Middle School Dance: THIS FRIDAY

The Middle School Student Activities Organization will hold its annual **St. Patty's Day Dance this Friday, March 11 from 7-10p.m. in the Cafeteria.** The fee is \$4.00. The dance is for Mt. Greylock Middle School students only. A bus will leave from Lanesboro Elementary at 6:45 p.m. and return students to Lanesboro at 10 p.m.

SAO Raises Money for School in Afghanistan

-Ginny Abuisi

The Middle School is raising money to donate to the Peter Goodrich Memorial Fund. Peter was killed in one of the planes of 911 and was a graduate of Mt. Greylock. The Memorial Fund is underwriting the building of a school for girls and boys in Afghanistan.

The Student Activities Organization (SAO) is participating in this effort by selling paper school houses for \$1.00 each and posting them on a Middle School wall. So far this "school for a school" effort has raised around \$300—our goal is \$500. If we reach that goal, Mrs Kaiser promises to dress like a baby for a day. SAO members have been selling schoolhouses at lunch. If you want more information, contact Ginny Abuisi: GAbuisi@mgrhs.org

TSUNAMI CHALLENGE

-Mary Angelo-Roberts, Karen Rondeau-Brigham,
Couture

Noli Couture & Micah

We are challenging the Middle Schoolers to donate any loose change they may have to the Tsunami collection point. Noli and Micah challenge you to donate \$50. When this amount is reached, they will donate \$50 of their popcorn earnings. So come on, drop your loose change in the container located at the popcorn sales table during break time. Help our middle school become Global citizens.

TONIGHT: 8th GRADE PARENTS'

INFORMATION NIGHT

Parents of 8th grade students are invited to an information night, Thursday March 10, 2005, at 7:00PM, in the Bruce Carlson Library at Mt. Greylock Regional High School. Middle School Guidance Counselor P.J. Pannesco and Vice Principal Ellen Kaiser will present information about the high school program and course selection for 9th grade. The program will be followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be served.

ATTENTION 8th Graders:

Course Selection Sheet DUE (Friday)

Middle School Guidance Counselor P.J. Pannesco will be making presentations in 8th grade English classes the week of February 28, to begin the course selection process for the 2005-06 school year. Students will receive a Program of Studies outlining potential coursework available and a course selection sheet that must be completed, **signed by a parent, and returned to their respective English teachers by Friday, March 11, 2005.** Students should consult with their teachers about recommendations for taking applied, honors and specific sequences courses, or Advanced Placement coursework. If you have questions or concerns about what is recommended or what your child would like to take, please leave a message with Linda Callahan at 458-9582 x162 and P.J. will return your call.

Change in Science Sequence

-Shawn Burdick

The science department met on 8 December 2004 and unanimously agreed to change the suggested course sequence for honors level science students. Rather than going into honors chemistry in the 9th grade, honors students will now take honors physics in 9th grade. There is no change for non-honors 9th grade science students, who will continue to take physical science.

The primary benefit is that all students will now take all three sciences: Physics/physical science in 9th grade, Chemistry in 10th grade, and Biology in 11th grade.

Since the change to modular science texts was instituted in 2001/2002, regular 9th

grade students have primarily received instruction in physical science before entering chemistry in the 10th grade. However, the honors level 9th graders have jumped to honors chemistry without having the same physics background. Many students have avoided physics completely in high school. In addition, the study of physics strengthens and reinforces math skills. Finally, this change will allow more flexibility for juniors and seniors to schedule science electives, and take all AP sciences as second year courses.

Helpful Hints, From the Principal's Office

The mound of unclaimed clothing, books, backpacks, etc. continues to grow. Since every article belongs to someone, students and parents are encouraged to check the lost in found in the foyer in front of the principal's office **before March 15** when items will be passed along to a local charity organization.

W'town Elementary BOOK SWAP

NEEDS BOOKS

If you have 5th or 6th grade level reading books and would be willing to donate a few, WES students will put them to good use. We're hoping to hand out 1-2 free books to every elementary student at our upcoming annual Book Swap. Book Collection boxes are in WES front lobby or send in your donation with a younger sibling. We are accepting donations through Monday, March 14.

Thank you, Betsy Barnard (458-5136)

It's Budget Time

The Mt. Greylock Regional School Committee will be meeting every Tuesday in March to discuss the school's budget for next year.

Budget Meeting Schedule:

- Tues, March 15, 7pm in School Library
- **Tues, March 22, 7pm in School Library is the**

Public Hearing on FY 2006 Budget Adoption

Check-out the financial projections for Mt. Greylock put together by Williams College and a summary of their Feb. 8th presentation at this website:

www.williams.edu/outreach/mgrhs/

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GOINGS ON

Mon, March 14, 7:00pm: PTO meets in school Li- brary

Wed. March 23: EARLY RELEASE

Sun, April 10, 3:00: An Afternoon in Scotland in the auditorium (rescheduled from Jan 23 due to snowstorm)

Look for The Beacon on the Mt. Greylock website under MSNews: www.mgrhs.org

Please send items for the next issue of The Beacon by 3:00pm Tues, 3/15/05 to debbydane@aol.com (or call 458-0168) or to Stomberg@adelphia.net