



# Shoreham-Wading River High School

Home of the Wildcats

Fall/Winter 2007

## CLASS

### HAPPENINGS:

The **Class of 2008** is planning their senior trip, which has been approved by the Board of Education. Currently they are organizing room assignments, collecting down payments and finalizing plans for the trip to Florida. Fifty nine excited seniors signed up for the trip.

The **Class of 2009** is well under way in preparation for their annual Chinese Auction in March that will raise funds for their Junior Prom in May. For homecoming this year, the class decided to sell SWR Wildcat blankets, these blankets will be sold throughout the year to raise additional funds for the Junior Prom. At the present time solicitation of donations for the auction are the main priority of the Class of 2009 and would welcome any donations from the students and staff.

The **Class of 2010** is sponsoring a Harlem Wizards basketball game on January 5. For tickets go to [www.swr2010.com](http://www.swr2010.com). Students and parents can now stay informed with 2010 current events via the website.

The **Class of 2011** held elections in November. Class meetings are the first and third Thursday of the month in Room C225. They are planning on selling flowers to be delivered during House Group on Valentine's Day. As always, they welcome any parental involvement.

## High School Parent-Teacher- Student Association Executive Board:

President: Pat Giacalone 744-2095

Vice President: Cindy Garruba, 929-0031

Recording Secretary: Cindy Franck, 744-0216

Treasurer: Kathie Appel, 929-6820

Corresponding Secretary: Lindsay Giacalone 744-2095

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Thanks to the support and assistance from our staff, students, and community, my first two years at Shoreham-Wading River have afforded me the opportunity to assess many of the wonderful programs that we offer our students. Part of my initial vision for our school was to improve the environment of our building by bettering our student management policies and procedures as well as instituting improvements in our instructional program. Revising the system for calculating GPAs, initiating an SAT Methods test-prep program, and implementing our new student management system, Infinite Campus have proven to make head way in our goal to better serve the students at Shoreham-Wading River High School.

As we forge ahead in year three together, I find it important and valuable to continue to describe some of the goals and visions I have for this school year. In an effort to improve the overall quality of the education we provide for our students, I have set into motion a critical review of our electives and house group programs. The goal of the review of the electives is to determine ways we can enhance the experience for our students in order to better prepare them for the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The house group review is to assist us in making important strides in returning the program to its original greatness. The high school faculty used Superintendent's Conference Day in November to begin to work collegially on these two initiatives.

Each year I am more and more amazed by the support and enthusiasm of the students and the community for the Community Relations Holiday Projects. I want to thank everyone again for all of their help. Everyone's efforts make the experience even more rewarding for each of the students involved and even more successful for each of the families who benefit from the many collections, fundraisers, and other good deeds the Holiday Project provides for them.

I hope you and your family enjoy the season, and I look forward to seeing you at the many events in the coming year.

*Ismael Colón*

**ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL**—Several High School students have been selected to participate in the All State Music Festival. The students are: **Julia Clancy, Jessica DeLalio, Madeline Fayette, Arielle Lubin, Myung-Jin Lee, Michelle Pagano, Alexa Terry and Sam Verneuille.** **Jane Moldovan and Alan Sweet** were selected as an alternate. The festival was held in Rochester in November.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM

Congratulations to **Elvira Miceli and Susannah Hendrey** who were named semifinalists in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program.

More than 2.1 million juniors entered the competition by taking the 2006 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. These students now have an opportunity to continue in the Merit Scholarship competition.

Kudos to **Christopher Biscardi, Megan Flynn, Qing Li and Arielle Lubin** who were named commended students in the competition. All of these students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive assessment.



Late Breaking News...  
Natalia Hubbard was nominated for special scholarship consideration in the National Merit Scholarship Competition.  
Congratulations Natalia!

# What's Happening in the HS?

Students in Mr.

Tomaszewski's **AP Physics** class have been busy researching high-energy cosmic rays. BNL physicist and Stony Brook University professor, Dr. Helio Takai, visited the class in November and presented the MARIACHI project and cosmic ray science in general. Some scientists feel that they have determined the possible origin of these high-energy particles.

Over 12 schools on Long Island are involved in the MARIACHI project and most of the equipment installed in our physics room is provided by this project. For additional information, go to [www-mariachi.physics.sunysb.edu](http://www-mariachi.physics.sunysb.edu).

In recognition of **Veteran's Day**, Ms. Squillace invited Lt. Pete Adesso to share his experiences in the Vietnam War. The solemn ceremony began with a brief history of Veteran's Day followed by a wreath-laying ceremony and the playing of taps. Lt. Adesso gave a riveting and evocative presentation, specifically regarding his involvement in the Tet Offensive.



Business teachers, Mrs. Burke and Mrs. Cosgrove, were selected to give a presentation at the **55<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Education Conference** in Albany this past October regarding the Business Computer Applications course offered at our High School. The presentation was well received and they have been invited back next year to present this model program again.

**Eva Raparia, Shreel Joshi, Kerry Ferrell and Elvira Miceli** represented SWR's *Brainstormers* in the *Long Island Challenge*, where they faced Sachem North. The students, along with advisor Mrs. Gianfalla, 35 student spectators and our Wildcat mascot, traveled to NY City for the competition. The competition was filmed in front of a live studio audience at the Hotel Pennsylvania. It was a great experience for all the students. The competition will air on Channel 12 on Jan. 26.

Congratulations to over 120 students who were awarded with a Principal's breakfast in honor of their academic achievement and being named to the **Principal's List** for the first quarter. The students all earned a special hall pass to be used in lieu of the teacher generated pass. *Way to go—keep up the good work!*

The High School **Mathletes** competed at their first meet this year on October 22, 2007. **Pelle Hall, Chao Xu and Qing Li** each answered five correct questions out of six. **John Kongoletas and John Kirkland** each answered four correct out of six. All of the other fifteen students who attended that meet at Mt. Sinai HS each scored at least one point. Shoreham-Wading River competes in Division I of the Suffolk County Senior High Interscholastic Math League. Of the sixteenth ranked positions, the four SWR teams competing are ranked at 4, 5 and 6. The Mathletes are coached by Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Teixeira

The Shoreham Wading River High School community services program, **Nexus**, is off to a great start this year. The students have already volunteered at Head Start pre-schools in our area and attended a fundraiser for Canine Companions for Independence. Upcoming events include the HIV/Aids Peer Education training for students in grades 10 thru 12 as well as our annual holiday visit to a local nursing home.

High School Social Studies teacher, Mr. Kevin Mann, was nominated for the **2008 State Farm National Service-Learning Practitioner Leadership Award**. This prestigious award is given to a practitioner who has prepared young people to lead and serve, through his direct work with youths, and by nurturing other practitioners to expand their service learning and knowledge.

Mr. Mann developed and teaches the Community Relations course in the HS, which is open to all seniors. His service does not end there. Mr. Mann is actively involved in the LI Regional Service Learning Network, which provides key support and assistance for the Hope Children's Fund, and the Summer Service Academy at Stony Brook University to name a few. Each year Mr. Mann, along with the Network, runs a major conference, free of charge, open to all teachers and administrators, to hear major speakers on Service Learning. *Congratulations and Good Luck on your nomination Mr. Mann!*

Mrs. Blasko's **Computer Graphics** students have been busy. As part of their course work, students entered a SADD poster contest. (Students Against Destructive Decisions.) Congratulations to the winners, **Ken Myers and Kaylan Pecker!** (Last year the class also had two winners.)

Fifty five of Mrs. Blasko's computer graphics students also entered the Appel Auto Flyer Contest as one of their community projects. There were so many great entries, it was a tough decision. **Nicole Molinaro's** flyer was selected as the winner. Congratulations Nicole!

On Wednesday, December 5th, the Long Island Woodworkers' Club accepted a donation of 40 wooden toy airplanes from Mrs. Blasko's **Design and Drawing for Production** class from last year. The woodworkers' club members donate their time and materials to make toys that they in turn donate to the Marine's Toys for Tots Program, the Morgan's Children Center in Plainview and various other programs. This year's students thought it would be great if they could help make more wooden toys to donate to their cause. The club was founded in 1990 and it's members share a common interest in woodworking at all skill levels from beginners to professional. For more information on the club you can visit their website at <http://www.liwoodworkers.org>



# Guidance Information...

## **SAT Method Test Prep:**

Students can now study for the SAT online. Simply log on to [http://methodtestprep.com/sign\\_up.php?regtoken=tkn.98349193](http://methodtestprep.com/sign_up.php?regtoken=tkn.98349193).

Fill in the required information, first and last name.

Then enter your personal password, e-mail address and create a member ID using your first initial and last name. The referral code should appear in the box. If not, just type in: **tkn,98349193**.

**HS Financial Aid Night:** There will be an informative meeting on Monday, January 7, at 7 PM in the HS Library. Guest speaker, Ms. Catherine Malnichuck, will present helpful information about processing the FAFSA form.

### FAFSA NEW PROGRAM (FAFSA=Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

FAFSA "4caster" gives an estimate of eligibility for federal financial student aid and allows you to develop a PIN #, which you may use to file your FAFSA on/or after January 1, 2008.

You can access this new program by going to either of the following websites:

[www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov) or [www.FAFSA4CASTER.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA4CASTER.ed.gov)

The 2008-2009 Course Book will be distributed in House Groups soon after the Winter Recess. Please take time to look the book over carefully and discuss course selections with your child. Students will begin meeting with counselors, by grade level the end of January to make their course selections.

### HELPFUL WEB-SITES

**www.fastweb.com** – scholarship site, fill out a brief profile on yourself and they will email you scholarships that fit your profile.

**www.petersons.com** – college research and scholarship information site.

**www.collegeboard.com** – Similar to Petersons site, but all have slight differences.

**www.nymentor.com** – Financial aid information about colleges in New York State.

**www.nycareerzone.org** – Answer a series of questions about your interests, and it will give you a list of careers that meet those interests. It's fun, try it!!

**www.ope.ed.gov/security** – This site is important for researching the safety record of colleges.

**www.commonapp.org** – Approximately 275 colleges allow

students the option of using the Common Application. You need only to fill out one application and send photocopies to each of the colleges to which you are applying.

## Community Relations Class - Holiday Project '07...

Students in Mr. Mann's Community Relations class have been busy collecting supplies and planning events to raise money for the needy. They hope to provide food, gifts and Christmas trees as well as purchase fuel oil for needy families. Students joined the Rocky Point Lions Club in collecting food donations for soldiers in Iraq. In addition, some of the funds raised will go to the Hope Children's Fund, and Habitat for Humanity. We want to thank local businesses who have contributed to the holiday project, including a \$1500 donation from Bridgehampton National Bank. Bella Gusta and McDonalds and of Wading River contributed a percentage of sales from a recent *special events night*. Other events included food and clothing drives, date auction, selling song spots, collecting cans, cheesecake sale, a benefit dance and a senior social.

This year Ms. Pensa's Life Skills class participated in the fundraising by selling *Holly Hops*. Holly hops, chocolate lollipops, were sold along with a mini candy cane and a tag attached to allow students and staff to write a personal holiday message.

**PRESS RELEASE:** The Community Relations class will be holding a 1960's theme benefit dance on Friday, January 25, to raise money for HP'07. Travel back in time and enjoy music and refreshments. Help HP'07 achieve their goals. Tickets are available for \$7 per person., call to reserve your tickets today. **Adults only please.**

Phone (631) 821-8184, Fax (631) 821-8162, or e-mail [KMann@swr.k12.ny.us](mailto:KMann@swr.k12.ny.us)



# DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Dec. 14 Progress Reports Mailed Home  
21 Coffee House  
Dec. 24-Jan. 1 **Schools Closed—Winter Recess**  
Jan. 5 Harlem Wizards Basketball Game, 7 PM  
7 Parent's Financial Aid Night, 7 PM  
9 HS Music Showcase, 7:30 PM  
9 Parent Teacher Student Assoc. Mtg., 6:30 PM  
17 8th Grade Parent Night, 7 PM, HS Auditorium  
21 **Schools Closed—Martin Luther King Day**  
22-25 Regents and Midterms Administered  
25 End of 2nd Quarter  
25 Community Relations Benefit Dance  
Feb. 1 2nd Quarter Report Cards Mailed Home  
6 Parent Connection Meeting, 7 PM  
13 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 6-8 PM  
18-22 **Schools Closed—Late Winter Recess**  
29 3rd Quarter Progress Reports Mailed Home  
Feb. 28-Mar. 2 Senior Trip



Shoreham-Wading River  
Central School District  
Shoreham, NY 11786

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