



# MSA Weekly News

November 21, 2008

Volume 2, Number 16

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## Web Links of Interest

Atlanta Community Food  
Bank

*Where do all those canned  
goods go?*

Georgia ETA

*Other parent workshops*

MSA Sports Calendar

*The most current information  
when it comes to MSA Sports  
Schedules*

MSA Home Page

*Find everything you need to find  
about MSA is here*

MSA PVA Web Site

*Learn what is going on with  
your PVA*

## Pie, Pie, Me – Oh – My

It's nap time here in the office. We all just ate a nice big Thanksgiving dinner at the Upper School and the Middle School has finished putting leftovers into the fridge in the office, leaving behind a trail of brownies (they go really well with pumpkin pie). I don't think I need one more thing to eat! I'm so sleepy I'm having a really hard time focusing on writing this article. It's a good thing I get the rest of the newsletter together before I work on this piece ... of pie, I mean this article (sorry, can't stop thinking about it - yummmm). I'll probably pay for eating the pumpkin pie later when it sits in my stomach like a rock!

Anyway we've had lots of other excitement this week like the Severe Weather Drill we did on Wednesday. We practiced what we should do in case of tornado or some such weather, so you may have heard something about that – especially Lower School students, because if it is safe and there is time, they are supposed to walk down to the Upper School to be in an interior area. Also, our Upper School Biology students took a field trip to the Landfill behind our school and waved at us from on top of the hill. Apparently that was an interesting trip!

Keep in mind that next week is a short week with early dismissal on Tuesday and no school Wednesday through Friday. Because of that we will not have a Weekly Newsletter next week.

**Have a Happy Thanksgiving!**

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## Congratulations are Definitely In Order

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga has accepted **Chris Magill**.

**Zach Yurfest** has been accepted to Oglethorpe University.

Georgia Southern University accepted **Sam Coil**.

The following students have received scholarship offers from the indicated schools:

**Jack Trantham** – Webster University

**Emily Elkind** – Reinhardt College

**Michael Moquin** – Reinhardt College

CONGRATULATIONS to Everyone!



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## Join us for College Day

MSA Weekly News  
Archives  
*Catch up on past news*

MSA Current Calendar  
*School Calendar on the MSA  
website*

## Contact Us

<http://www.millsprings.org>  
[charwood@millsprings.org](mailto:charwood@millsprings.org)

**Mill Springs Academy**  
13660 New Providence Rd  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
770-360-1336



Friday, December 5, 2008 is **COLLEGE DAY**. This event will take place in the Upper School Great Room from 10:30 – Noon. All parents are invited.

We are expecting about 20 college admissions representatives from Georgia and around the Southeast to be here to give out information about their schools. Please join us for this exciting and informative event. (from Susan Day, Counselor)

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## Nelle C. Lewis Memorial Teaching Garden



Next time you drive by, make sure you get a good look at the beautiful garden in front of Lower/Middle Schools. In appreciation of the school allowing their Troop to meet on campus, the Mill Springs Girl Scout Troop #3032 went to work in the Memory Garden last weekend. Although the weather wasn't very cooperative, the girls were able to re-plant, re-mulch and clean up the area honoring Nelle C. Lewis, mother to school founder Tweetie Moore. Thanks Girls it looks beautiful – Nelle would be proud of you. Pictured sitting: **Jasmine Steinway, Hanna Bowler, Esme Smith**. Standing: **Victoria Sheffield, Caleigh Moore, Parron Berger**. (from Barbara Bowler and Christine Steinway, Leaders Troop 3032)

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## Grandparents' Day is Soon!



*Remember – Grandparents' Day is coming – Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> in the Student Activity Center from 9:00 to 11:00am. Make sure you have sent in a response to Leila Smith in the development office. Keep in mind, the breakfast is for *the Grandparent only!* Grandchildren will meet with them after the breakfast for pictures, classrooms tours, etc. If grandparents are in need of assistance, please make sure you have notified Leila. Also, there are two shuttles for transporting grandparents to and from parking lots, gymnasium and school buildings. Please contact **Leila Smith** in the Development Office with questions.*

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## A Study of Mexico

Chet Burnes' 6<sup>th</sup> grade geography classes have been studying Mexico and learning about "El Dia de los Muertos", "the Day of the Dead". As part of the lesson they decorated sugar skulls with the help of Judy Shurling, **Levi Smith's** mom. To follow is an excerpt from **Phillip Ganter's** paper on the Day of the Dead.

"The Day of the Dead is a celebration to honor the dead spirits of your family. Day of the Dead is celebrated in Mexico on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Another word for Day of the Dead is El Dia des los Muertos. Mexicans celebrate with lots of colorful flowers, lots of candy, and give out skulls made of sugar. Anybody can eat the sugar skull and it is 100 percent natural sugar.

In order to celebrate, Mexicans must make food items shaped like skulls. The most vivid and moving Day of the Dead celebrations take place on the island of Janitzio in Lago de Pátzcuaro. Families visit the graves of their relatives. At the gravesites, family members engage in sprucing up the gravesite, decorating it with flowers, setting out and enjoying a picnic, and interacting socially with other family and community members who gather at the cemetery. The families tell stories about the person who died.

The feast portion of the holiday is on November 2. In the early morning they have a supper and they called it "Bread of the Dead." Eating the bread, Mexicans believe, will bring a person good luck.

I think the Day of the Dead celebration is important because it is nice to tell stories to family members and others about the family member who has passed away." (from Chet Burnes 6<sup>th</sup> grade Geography Class)



Chet's 5<sup>th</sup> period class pictured:  
**Quint Foster, Eric Siegel,  
 Daniel Schmidt, Loren  
 Whitfield, Jared Brigito,  
 Paolo Gatica, Grey  
 Scheinman, Paul Bain, Jonah  
 Swartz, Bryan Baloh**

## Homecoming Week Activities

### Homecoming Activities

December 1 – 5

Mill Springs Mustangs vs. Howard Hawks



<b>Monday</b>	Decorating Day
<b>Tuesday</b>	Crazy Hat/Hair Day ( <i>NO hair coloring</i> )
<b>Wednesday</b>	College/Pro Sports Team Day ( <i>wear favorite team top with school uniform bottom</i> )
<b>Thursday</b>	Spirit Day/Pep Rally ( <i>spirit tops allowed with school uniform bottom</i> )
<b>Friday</b>	Homecoming Day <i>See additional information <a href="#">HERE</a>.</i> Cookout – 3:00pm Varsity Girls – 4:00pm Varsity Boys – 6:00pm King & Queen announced between games

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## Guess Who is Behind that Gala Mask????



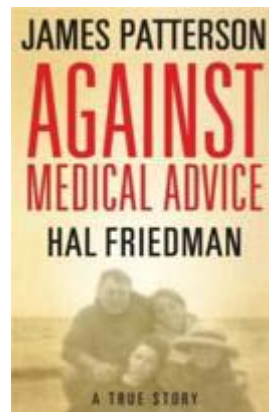
Guess Who???

The lucky **winner** of last week's Mask contest and \$5.00 Gala Bucks is our Business Administrator, Lavone Rippeon! She guessed correctly that behind the mask was Cynthia Traylor, Assistant Principal from the Upper School. All the correct answers were put into a hat and one name was drawn.

Each week between now and the February 7<sup>th</sup> "A Night in New Orleans" Gala, you will be given the chance to guess which MSA staff member is behind the Gala mask! All MSA Parents are eligible. If there are multiple winners any given week, there will be a drawing of one name from all of the winners. The lucky winner will receive \$5.00 in Gala Bucks which can be used towards the purchase of a Gala ticket! Email **Your PVA President** with your guess today! (from Michelle Bergeson) *Pictured: GUESS WHO?*

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## What are YOU Reading??



Last week we shared Brenda Fitzgerald's recommended reading list. This week the school received several copies of James Patterson's new book "*Against Medical Advice*", which he writes with a father Hal Friedman. You may have heard of Patterson, he has written many best-selling fiction books. This new book however is a true story of how a family struggles with the sudden onset of Tourette's Syndrome and OCD in their 5 year old son Cory. These books are being passed around through the staff when everyone has had a chance to read, we will put them into the MSA Library for parents to check out. From what I have gathered from those currently reading it, it is a gripping story that helps one understand what the family has to deal with.

If you are reading something that might be of interest, please let me know and I will be glad to share your review with our community.

Next newsletter will give Robert's Reading List.

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## Did You Know ... ???



The pilgrims probably ate fish, clams, lobster, venison, berries, watercress, dried fruit and plums for their meal with the Indians.

The last Thursday in November was not proclaimed a holiday until 1863 by President Lincoln and named Thanksgiving – 240 years after that bountiful harvest of the pilgrims and Indians, that we think of as the First Thanksgiving.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving Day.

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## THE Scoreboard

### Basketball Scores:

11/18 - MSA **31** @ Cottage School **45**

11/20 - MSA **46** @ Heirway Christian Academy **50**

HOME	12:48	GUEST
12		9
BONUS	PERIOD 4	BONUS
FOULS	PLAYER	FOULS
5	8 16	3
SCORE	MATCH	SCORE

### Wrestling Stats:

The 2008-09 Road Warrior Mustangs opened their season in fine fashion last night on the road at Weber School. The Mustangs fought hard against both Weber and Mt. Vernon Presbyterian School and came away victorious in both meets. The entire roster shone as the Mustangs took control of the mat. Team Captain **Scot Perkins** led the effort with two decisive wins, first a pin vs. Weber and the other a 15-1 Major decision. Every member of the team contributed at least one win to the team's scores. Newcomers **Jason Maza** and **Aaron Bradsher** each contributed two wins in their debut performances. Congratulations! (from Coach Chet Burnes)

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## U/PU/CA Transportation during Exam Days

For U/PU/CA students during final exams  
Monday – Thursday, December 15 – 18



The 14-passenger white MSA bus will be travelling down the "late bus" route after exams are dismissed. The cost is \$15 per rider. The bus will pull out of MSA at 11am. **Contact William Turner** via email if you'd like more information or to reserve a spot. (from William Turner)

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## The Bulletin Board

If the school had a bulletin board, here is what you would find on it:

Mon, Nov 24 – 8:15am – **PVA Meeting**

Tue, Nov 25 – 9:00am – **Grandparents Day** – SAC

Tue, Nov 25 – **Early Dismissal**

12:15 – Lower/Middle carpool

12:30 – PreUpper/CommArts/Upper carpool

12:45 – Bus Departs

November 26 – 28 Thanksgiving Holiday  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**

Dec 1 – 5 Get Ready! **Homecoming Week** is coming!  
It will culminate with a basketball game against Howard School on Friday. There are special events each day of the week check out the schedule [HERE](#).

Wed, Dec 3 – **CommArts Festival** – Russia (If you have never been to one before, you should go!)

Fri, Dec 5 – **College Day** – 10:30 – Noon in the Upper Great Room

Tue, Dec 9 – **Holiday Market** – PreUpper Great Room



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## Cares and Concerns of our Community

Please keep the following from our Community in your thoughts and prayers.



**The Klupchak Family**

**The Smith Family**

Please **email me** at any time with individuals you would like to include on our list as their needs arise. For privacy, I will only list names and claim ignorance if you ask me for details.

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## Character Quote of the Week



A man of honor regrets a discreditable act even when it has worked.

- H. L. Menken

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Please consider the environment before printing.

If at any time you wish to not receive further MSA Weekly News editions please just 'reply' with that information in the email to [charwood@millsprings.org](mailto:charwood@millsprings.org)