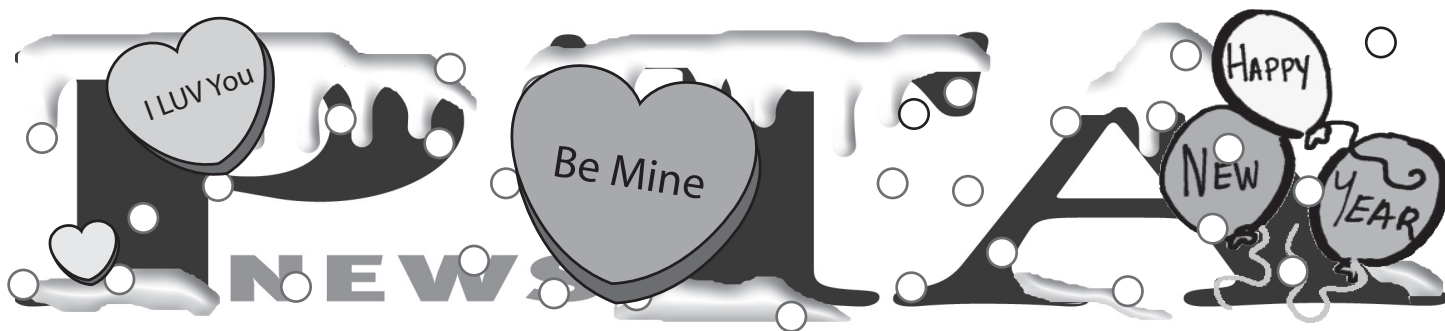




A PUBLICATION OF THE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION • FAIR HAVEN NJ • JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2013

From the PTA President

Welcome back to school. I hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays and I wish you all the best in 2013. May this year be filled with health, happiness and good fortune for you and your families.

I feel very fortunate to live in such a great community. I have often heard our town being referred to as "Mayberry by the Sea". When I first moved here I had the address changed on my license. When the license arrived in the mail the town was listed as Fair Haven. I must admit that it rings true. Fair Haven is a little piece of heaven on Earth and I am thankful to be a part of it.

During the past few months I have realized what community spirit really is. I watched as parents volunteered in many capacities to help our children and the great school system. I witnessed moms hanging scarecrows in the rain, volunteers manning tables at Harvest Fest, parents dancing like bees and watching over the hive at the Honey Bee assembly, Knollwood students reaching out to one another and tying yarn bracelets on their peers during the Connecting the Dots assembly, adults smiling as children chanted over and over "don't clear your board" during Bingo, volunteers soliciting businesses to donate items or purchase ads for the House Tour, families opening up their homes to allow us to have a House Tour and an outpouring of donations from the school community for Ronald McDonald House and victims of Super Storm Sandy. All that, and it is only January. I can only imagine what the next few months will bring.

The PTA has many great events planned for the remainder of the year. Our first ever evening event is scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd at Navesink Country Club. This is guaranteed to be a fun night. Art Appreciation will be held for kindergarten through 4th grade. Parent volunteers will teach the students about various artists and watch as the students create their own masterpieces. There will be Book Fairs held at both schools. As well as, additional PTA sponsored assemblies. Back by popular demand will be Lunch with a VIP, Family Fun Ice Skating, Sickles Art Day, the Art Show at Knollwood, Understanding Challenges Day, 5th Grade Babysitting, as well as Social Dance and Etiquette. And there is plenty more in the works.

Thank you to all of the parents that have volunteered so far this school year. Our children and schools are lucky to have you. For those who would like to get involved, please contact me at laurafhpta@gmail.com. The more the merrier!

Laura Nolan

January PTA Meeting

January 17th, Sickles APR, 1:15pm

Meet the new Sickles' principal, Susan Alston.

Dancing with the Stars

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

Mark your calendars now for the Fair Haven PTA's first evening event! Held this year at Navesink Country Club, the theme will be "Dancing with the Stars" featuring three local couples dancing for your votes! Who are the very brave ladies and gentlemen in Fair Haven stepping up to tango, salsa or rumba on Saturday March 23rd? The



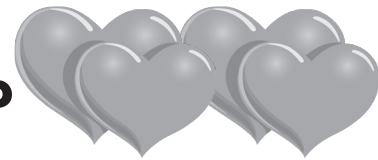
competition will be fierce, but the cause is worth every twirl, shimmy and dip! Stay tuned for more details and remember, you don't have to dance like a star to dance with our local celebrity band, The Haven. Who will win the Mirror Ball trophy? Be sure to be there to find out. Any questions please contact **Bennett Coleman** at bennettcoleman@mac.com.

Mark Your Calendar

The Fair Haven PTA, and the Rumson PTO, will be hosting **Dr. Michael Thompson** on **Tuesday, January 8th** at **7:00pm** in the Forrestdale gymnasium. **Dr. Thompson** is a world-renowned author, clinical psychologist and international speaker. He has authored nine books, the most well-known being—*Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys*. Other titles include: *Speaking of Boys, It's a Boy*, *The Pressured Child*, and *Best Friends, Worst Enemies*. **Dr. Thompson** will be speaking to parents about the emotional lives of boys. He will be providing information on how to raise boys, who can grow into emotionally well balanced men. This is a must attend event for parents of boys.

MAKE A DATE WITH YOUR SWEETHEART!

Sickles' Valentines Day Lunch with a VIP



Our Second annual Lunch with a VIP will be celebrated in February at Sickles School. Students are able to invite one special person to have lunch with them. Their VIP needs to bring lunch for both the student and themselves. Due to space limitations, each student is allowed only one guest. We ask that all guests are to be 18 years or older. The schedule is as follows: 1st graders are scheduled for February 4th, 2nd graders are scheduled for February 5th and 3rd graders are scheduled for February 6th. Details are to follow. We look forward to another successful event! Please look for the pink flyer that will go home with the students in January. Volunteers are needed for the VIP Luncheon, **contact Kristi Stephan at kristi.stephan@hotmail.com** if interested. ✍

Charitable Giving Updates

The Charitable Giving Committee would like to thank everyone for your help with the two collection drives that have occurred so far this year. The first collection drive gathered much needed items for Ronald McDonald House (RMH) in Long Branch, and the second



RMH always welcomes home-cooked dinners (cooked at your home and brought to RMH, or cooked on-site at).

If you and a group of children are interested in cooking and/or bringing a meal, please contact the Charitable Giving Committee for details. Its easy, fun, and makes a

big difference!

Please keep collecting those aluminum pop tabs! There is a collection box for them in the main office at each school. If you have questions **contact Rachel Griffin at griffinfive@gmail.com, Jen Amabile, theamabiles2verizon.net, or Stephanie Giardino at sgiardino@hotmail.com.** ✍

collection drive of toys, games, books, and mittens/hats, helped to comfort students who have been displaced by Hurricane Sandy. All items got into hands in need very quickly and were much appreciated by all.

If you are interested in lending a hand during this holiday season, or during the winter months of January and February, please know that the

Fourth Grade Art Appreciation

Friday, February 1, 2013

Please consider volunteering for this fun day spent with your fourth grader!

Meeting and details to follow.

Any questions, please contact, Tracy Rehder at trehder@yahoo.com



Sickles Art Appreciation

New this year, the PTA introduces Art Appreciation Days for Kindergarten through 3rd Grade, mirroring the popular 4th Grade Program. Below is the daily schedule by grade:

- **AM Kindergarten**—Tuesday, January 8th, 9:00am–11:00am
- **PM Kindergarten**—Tuesday, January 8th, 12:00pm–2:00pm
- **First Grade**—Wednesday, January 9th, 8:30am–11:30am
- **Second Grade**—Thursday, January 10th, 8:30am–11:30am
- **Third Grade**—Friday, January 11th, 8:30am–11:30am

Students will be learning about several different artists and participating in projects, based on those artists as they rotate through multiple classrooms. Additionally, one classroom will serve as a game and snack room. Watch for notices to donate food in the coming weeks if you would like to contribute to what promises to be a wonderful day. Please keep in mind that paints, as well as other materials, will be used, so please have your child dress in comfortable casual OLD clothes to school when it is their day. For questions, please **contact Bennett Coleman at bennettcoleman@mac.com.** ✍

Box Tops! Box Tops!

Congratulations to our current Sickles classroom box top leaders:

- Mrs. Brown's class with 792 box tops
- Mrs. Spano's class with 399 box tops
- Mrs. Kennedy's AM class with 367 box tops



Go Green Fair Haven!

Cold-weather Green Activities to Enjoy this Season
from *The Huffington Post*

There's a lot to love about these chilly winter months—an excuse to curl up inside and read a book all weekend, eat yummy warm foods, and head to the slopes for some skiing or snowboarding. Better start embracing snowy activities. Better yet, embrace green ones that are less damaging to the environment:

- Save up your fruit and veggie scraps during the winter season to create the coolest snowman on the block. Get creative and choose eco-friendly options like rocks or bark instead of coal for Frosty's eyes. Or, go really material-free and decorate your yard with snow angels—you only need your body for that!
- Ditch the gas-guzzling snowmobile or car and hit the slopes for a fun day of sledding. Arguably, wooden sleds are better than plastic ones. Or, do some recycling and make your own!
- Get outside this winter for some free, green fun. Grab your friends and neighbors and embrace the season with a snowball fight! Don't forget to build the forts!
- Turn off your cell phone, computer and television and curl up on the couch with a good book. Make use of your local library!
- Get outside and hit a (fully frozen) lake or ice skating rink with family or friends. Not only is it great exercise but all you need is a pair of skates to be on your way.
- If you're one to hit the slopes in winter, why not do a bit of research on which resorts are taking the leap to become more environmentally friendly. Check out TreeHugger to get some eco-friendly skiing and snowboarding tips.
- If it is too cold outside to have a snow fight or go ice skating, invite everyone indoors for some old-fashioned board game fun.
- When it is too cold outside for outdoor activities but you're itching to get out of the house, why not venture out to an art gallery or museum and treat yourself to some cultural and educational fun? 

THINK RECYCLE

Did Santa get the family some new electronics? Are you not sure what to do with the old, outdated versions? Recycle them and help our school earn some money. The PTA is accepting cell phones, laptops, and ipods. Drop off items at 34 William St.

Questions, contact Josephine Lindgren at (917) 816-1119.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Mel Brown and **Elle Riva** made a great night of family fun possible. Everyone had a blast at Bingo on November 16th.

A special thanks to our MC, **Rich Phillips**.

Britt Garrison and **Lauren Steets**, and their entire committee, for their many months of hard work planning the Holiday House Tour. What a great day!

To all of the homeowners, who graciously opened up their homes to make the House Tour possible.

We can't thank you enough!

Jen Amabile, **Rachel Griffin** and **Steph Giardino**, our Charitable Giving chairs, for kicking off the year with a collection for Ronald McDonald House and then a collection for Sea Bright and Monmouth Beach students displaced by Super Storm Sandy.

Donna Ridgeway for, once again, managing the Used Clothing Drive. The PTA was able to donate warm clothing to local residents affected by the recent storm through Sea Bright Rising. The money raised from the remaining clothing was also donated to Sea Bright Rising.

Nelson Ribon and **Tom Famulury** for taking time out of our busy schedule to attend our December PTA meeting. Your presentation on the report card changes was very informative.

February PTA Meeting

Thursday, February 21st, Sickles, Room 120, 1:45 pm

All are welcome!

Friends of Different Learners

Coming in February

SUMMER CAMP FAIR

Monmouth County Library, Eastern Branch
1001 Route 35, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

Please check the PTA website for date and time.

For more information please contact Kathleen Beausoleil at kathleenbeausoleil@yahoo.com or Ellen Ashinoff at eashinoff@gmail.com.



PTA First Floors a Success!



On Friday, December 14th, eight gracious Fair Haven homeowners—**The Buckley Family, The Cross Family, The Formisano Family, The Lustgarten Family, The Phillips Family, The Santos Family, The Singleton Family, and The Uzzi Family**, invited the public into their beautiful homes to taste delectable offerings from our areas finest chefs, and enjoy the décor, stunning tablescapes and floral designs. A huge thank-you to our House Tour committee:

Britt Garrison and Lauren Steets (Co-Chairs); **Bennett Coleman, Melanie Brown, and Karen Gyimesi** (journal); **Heather Kaiman** (volunteers); **Patti Coughlin and Vicki Cohen** (chef coordinators); **Michelle Buckley and MaryAnne Strulowitz** (floral décor); **Tara Jordan and Heather Gorman** (tabletop designs); **Suzanne Butler** (reservations); **Julie Davis and Marybeth Joyce** (journal home descriptions); **Kristen Canavan** (house photography); **Jen Halcrow** (first prize coordination); **Cathy Goldin, Nelson Press and DeSantis Creative** (marketing materials). We must also thank the wonderful house captains and volunteers that were stationed at the tour homes. In addition, a huge thank-you to **Sycamore Landscaping** for sponsoring the Grand Prize and the following families who contributed to the first prize raffle: **The Bogardus Family, The Strandberg Family, The Uzzi Family, The Donlon Family, The Halcrow Family, The D'Aponte Family, The Duffy Family, The Ern Family, The Presti Family, The Demcsak Family, and The Rehder Family**. A final thank-you goes to our event sponsors, **Merrick Construction, Heritage House/Sotheby's, and the Better Housekeeping Shop**. It was a wonderful day for our community. ✍️

Family Fun Update...

Save the Date: Family Fun Ice Skating at The Armory.

Saturday, March 16th, 4:30pm–6:30pm

Contact Mel Browne at browns717@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

Thanks to all of the volunteers that made **Family Fun Bingo night** a success.
Fun was definitely had by all!

JANUARY/FEBRUARY CALENDAR *

- 1/1: School Closed, New Year's Day
- 1/2: Schools reopen
- 1/8: Dr. Michael Thompson (speaker), Forrestdale Gym, Rumson
- 1/8–11: Art Appreciation, K–3, Sickles
- 1/17: PTA Meeting, Sickles APR, 1:15pm
- 1/21: Lion Dance Plus Assembly, Sickles
- 1/23–24: Single session, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 1/29–30: Kindergarten registration, Sickles, 8:45am–11:15am
- 2/1: Fourth Grade Art Appreciation, Knollwood
- 2/4: Mayhem Poets Assembly, Knollwood
- 2/4–6: Sickles Valentines Day Lunch with a VIP
- 2/21: PTA Meeting, Sickles, Room 120, 1:45pm

*Dates are subject to change

Super 50/50

We are kicking off the New Year with the Fair Haven PTA Super 50/50 raffle.

Tickets are \$10 each.

The drawing will take place at our Spring Event on Saturday, March 23rd.

Winner need not be present to win.

Look for a ticket order form to come home shortly with your child.

Questions? Contact Marie Noglows at marie.noglows@comcast.net.

Coming Soon...

The Fair Haven PTA is working closely with the Rumson PTO to bring **Rachel Simmons** to the area in the near future. **Rachel** is an author, educator and coach, helping girls and young women grow into authentic, emotionally intelligent and assertive adults. She is the author of *Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls*, and *The Curse of the Good Girl: Raising Authentic Girls with Courage and Confidence*.

More details on this event to follow.

Congratulations to the House Tour Raffle Winners!

- Karen Saad was the lucky winner of the Grand Prize, \$3,000 worth of landscaping.
- Stephanie Ricotta is sure to enjoy the First Prize she won—dinner for 10 prepared in her home.

