

PTA President's Letter

Well, in my last letter to you all, I presented a challenge to the parents of Fair Haven to bring on the "brilliance"—and boy—did you ever!

We have had a fabulous beginning to the new school year—full of support, momentum and many volunteers. The PTA is feeling the love! Our Harvest Fest went off wonderfully and I think it was a very cool day spent with many local families and friends. The first Food Drive for Lunch Break was super successful and we helped fill up Lunch Break's pantry for the busy season almost upon them. And, lastly, our Used Clothing Drive resulted in a town-wide cleaning frenzy as the final days of the drive quickly approached! All in all, September and October came and went in a big blur of new school schedules and fall activities!

That being said, November and December don't slow down much either, do they?! Thus, as we start to roll into the (sometimes) hectic holiday season, let's pause to make

it meaningful also. Please consider being a part of the Charitable Giving "Adopt-a-Family" Program where your child can add a gift to a family's basket from Lunch Break. Check out the cool wares from the many Fair Haven "artsy and talented" at the Holiday Gift Fair. Or purchase a new Fair Haven Schools Discount Card for someone special in your daily comings and goings.

But most importantly, take some time to take a few collective deep breaths and enjoy the most important people to you—your family. That's really what it is all about.

*"We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give."
—Winston Churchill*

Best,
Tracy Rehder

Kindergarten Registration Next Year...

**December 14–15, 2011,
8:45 am–11:15 am, Sickles**

**CHILDREN MUST BE 5 YEARS OLD
ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 15, 2012**

**Please call Theresa Zdeb, Sickles school
secretary, at 741-6151 to give
student's name and information any time.**

PTA Meeting

November 17th, 1:45 pm, Sickles Library.

Guest speaker: **Marianne Waldman**, Reading Specialist, Sickles School, will be sharing information on the reading program at Sickles and would love to answer questions from parents!



Fifth Annual Holiday Gift Show!

**Saturday, November 5th, 10:00 am–3:00 pm
Knollwood All Purpose Room**

Get your holiday shopping done early! We have lots of new and exciting vendors this year along with your returning favorites.

There will be goodies and coffee for purchase.

Check out the PTA website for a list of our vendors.

Hope to see you there!


Thank you to all of our volunteers for helping make this a great event!

**Contact Peggy Dengler at bdengler@verizon.net
if you would like more information on
being a part of this year's show.**

New Fundraiser: Recycling!



This year we have a great new fundraiser that is easy and green! Don't know what to do with those old cell phones or ink jets, what about an old camera? No worries, we are working with "Think Recycle," to

make sure these electronics are recycled correctly all while earning some money as we do it. Look for more information soon, as well as special boxes where you can drop off your electronics. If you have any questions please feel free to **contact Josephine Lindgren at josephine-casey@hotmail.com**. By being green we can make some green. 



Volunteers Needed...

COMPUTER GEEKS

Do you like working with computers and databases? We need your help as we streamline the PTA with our new software! Please **contact** **Tori McAndrews** at mcandret@mac.com if you are interested.

KNOLLWOOD BOOK FAIR

The Knollwood Book Fair is coming in April. Volunteers are needed for many small jobs. If interested in helping out with this fun event, please **contact** **Debbie Gerbman** at dgerbman@comcast.net or 383-8575. ✍

Box Tops for Education

We're off to a great start this year with our Box Tops for Education Program. Here are a few reminders:

- Please tape box tops to the forms sent home (Sickles only) or create your own form.
- If submitting in baggies **please count the box tops and clearly mark the amount on the front of the bag.**
- Please sign up at www.boxtops4education.com. The school automatically receives credit for each person who creates an account. Also, their online shopping center has added more stores. So if you are an online shopper, please login first to the Box Tops site, go to the online store and shop. The school will receive a percentage back from each purchase.
- Not sure what a box top is or looks like? Log in to www.boxtops4education.com and find out.

Last year we had our biggest submissions by far. At Sickles School alone, we sent in over 19,000 box tops! To put that in perspective, the most we had ever submitted before was about 600. Congratulations again to **Mrs. Bennett's** first grade class last year who sent the most in—a total of 3,721 box tops. Well done. Let's keep up the great work! Questions? **Contact** **Sharon Everett** at 936-0422. ✍



This year's Harvest Fest fundraiser was an incredible success and a great time was had by all who attended the event. Thank you to our volunteers! We could not do it without you! Congratulations to this year's contest winners and to all of our entrants. The pumpkins and the pies were as creative and delicious as ever!

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

- 1st Place:** "Space Ship" by **Jenna McGuigan**
- 2nd Place:** "Angry Birds" by **Peter Stypa** and **Evan Davis**
- 3rd Place:** "Dog House" by **Debbie** and **Jamie O'Donnell**
- 4th Place:** "Angry Birds in Action" by **Andrew Appezzato** and **JP Davis**

APPLE PIE CONTEST

(Judges: **Marion Carolan, Nelson Ribon and Tracy Rehder**)

- 1st Place:** "Lucky Apple Pie" by **Sarah Stypa**
- 2nd Place:** "Caramel Apple Pie" by **Ella Campbell**
- 3rd Place:** "Rustic Apple Pie" by **Sharon** and **Meghan McGuigan**

*A big thank-you to our Pumpkin Decorating and Apple Pie Contest prize sponsors: **Distinctive Toys, Fairwinds Deli, Cups-n-Cakes, Lollies, River Road Books, Tavolo Pronto and Sugar Rush!***

Discount Card Fundraiser

Discount Cards are coming just in time for the holidays! The PTA is happy to announce the roll out of our new Discount Card fundraiser. With the purchase of the Discount Card you will be able to enjoy price reductions at local vendors, such as Fairwinds Deli, Athlete's Alley, Sickles Market and Flair Cleaners, just to name a few. Everyone in the family will want one of their own and they are the perfect holiday gift. Keep an eye out for order forms in your child's backpacks. Any questions, please **contact** **Heather Boyle** at hboyle@hotmail.com. ✍

Back-to-School Staff Luncheon Thank You!

Let us "Give Thanks" to all of our parents who generously contributed to the Back-to-School Staff Luncheon:

Cathy Alescio, Evelyn Baker, Vicky Bogardus, Heather Boyle, Laurie Bratone, Kim Browne, Gladys Calabrese, Marianne Carroll, Gail Child, Bennett Coleman, Katherine Conway, Dee D'Aponte, Aileen Davis, Ann Donlon, Suzie Drummond, Gina Ern, Robyn Etzler, Katy Frissora, Sarah Gavlick, Debbie Gerbman, Heather Gorman, Rachel Griffin, Jen Halcrow, Liz Hewson, Judy Horan, Becky Kaplan, Carol Lane, Lisa Longley, Jennie Lucci, Carrie Marxen, Kerry McGuire, Nancy Medrow, MK Moscardelli, Laura Nolan, Sheilah Olson, Sandi Papa, Suzanne Presti, Kathryn Quaglia, Tracy Rehder, Karen Ramage, Laura Samuels, Maryanne Sharkey, Fran Smith, Lauren Steets, Stacey Strandberg, Danielle Turoczi, Lynn Volker and Kirsten Ward.

Go Green, Fair Haven!

GREEN HOLIDAY TIPS FROM CAMPUS RECYCLING (UNIVERSITY OF OREGON)


It's easy to disregard the waste reduction habits we use throughout the year. A fun holiday season doesn't have to be a wasteful one. Americans throw away 25% more trash—an additional five million tons—between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve.

Consider the following tips for a greener holiday. They help lessen the impact of the holidays on both the earth and your pocketbook:

- Send holiday greetings to family and friends via e-mail. If you prefer to send hand-written notes, make your own cards with paper you already have. Or look for holiday cards printed on recycled paper.
- Eliminate envelope waste by sending postcards or folding and sealing notes so you can address them on the outside.
- Print holiday party flyers on recyclable pastels—bright red and green paper are hard to recycle!
- For holiday parties, use reusable glass or plastic ware, and cloth napkins.
- When shopping for gifts and holiday food, carry your own canvas bag or backpack, or reuse shopping bags.
- Instead of material gifts, give gifts of your time or expertise. Consider gift certificates for restaurants, movies, babysitting, etc., or give consumable items such as baked goods.
- If you buy gifts, look for durable and re-usable items and resist the latest "fad". Purchase gifts from local vendors, or that were made locally. Consider gifts made from recycled materials.
- Wrap gifts in fabric, comics or your own decorated, reused paper. Create special cloth gift bags or decorated boxes that can be reused and traded among family members each year.
- Make gift tags or decorations from last year's cards.
- Reuse recyclable and recycled-content boxes and packing for mailing gifts.
- Consider alternatives to a cut tree, such as a live tree, decorated house plant, or artificial tree.
- Recycle any holiday waste from your household.
- Make a New Year's resolution to buy recycled products for your office and home.

If you have any questions please **contact Nenita Kilper at kilpers3@mailhaven.com**. 

FHEF Fundraiser

The Fair Haven Education Foundation's biggest fundraiser will be held Saturday, November 19th, 8:00 pm–12:00 am at the Knights of Columbus. This year's party theme is "Boogie Nights, Super 70's Dance Party." The cost is \$50 per person. There will be live music by "The Haven," food, a raffle and prizes. Space is limited. Only 200 tickets will be sold. Your prepaid reservation locks in your spot. Please **RSVP to Suzie Drummond at 842-5121 or suziedrummond@mac.com or via Pay Pal at fhnjef.org**. The goal of the Fair Haven Education Foundation is to prepare our children for their future success by investing in innovative projects that enhance the academic environment at the Sickles and Knollwood Schools. 

Family Portrait Fundraiser

The Family Portrait Fundraiser was a huge success!

Thank you to all the families that participated.

Tina DeAngelis at Visual Xpressions deserves a huge thank-you for generously donating her time. A reminder for all participants: The special FHPTA ordering dates are November 7th, 8th and 10th at the Visual Xpressions Studio. Orders must be placed by November 10th to ensure delivery for the holidays.

For more information please **contact Laura Nolan at laurafhpta@gmail.com**.

Friends of Different Learners

The Friends of Different Learners, which is being chaired by **Ellen Ashinoff** and **Kathleen Bousoleil**, has two meetings coming up in addition to the monthly meeting.

The monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am at Panera Bread in Shrewsbury.

- **November: Sensory Issues in the Classroom**
Tuesday, November 29th, Shrewsbury Borough School, Library. (Please check the PTA website for time.)
An Occupational Therapist from Power Play Pediatric Therapy Center will be giving ideas on ways to address sensory issues in the classroom.
- **January: Intro to IEP's**
(Please check the PTA website for date, time and location.)
Learn about Individual Education Plans with **Jennifer Grenger**, Fair Haven's own Anti-bullying Coordinator. The discussion will focus on the components of an IEP.

THANK YOU!

Bennett Coleman and Karen Saad and Team for an unbelievably fabulous Harvest Fest!

Beth Sanville, Lauren Steets and Adriene Makstein for all of their tireless work spent on the Directory.

Heather Boyle for single-handedly organizing the new Fair Haven Discount Card.

Donna Ridgeway for yet another successful Used Clothing Drive!

Cathryn Danielczyk and Kerri Kostulias for a fantastic and fun night of Bingo.

Cheryl McBarron, Courtney Kemler and Maureen Schmid for organizing the Fall Food Drive and the "Adopt-a-Family" Program for Charitable Giving.

Andrea Wigington for organizing and running the Third Grade Science Club.

Laura Nolan for superbly coordinating the Family Portrait fundraiser.

Tina DeAngelis from Visual Xpressions for providing memories through her portraits.

Peggy Dengler, Beth DelVecchio and Tori McAndrews for organizing another lovely Holiday Gift Show.

Kim Browne for expertly coordinating our Membership drive.

Josephine Lindgren for restarting our "new and improved" Recycling program!

Marie Noglows for organizing our Second Annual Super 50/50.

Beth DelVecchio and Carolyn Riley for staying non-plussed with our many duplication requests!

Kerry Maguire for seamlessly organizing all of the Kindergarten Art volunteers and multi-grade Library volunteers.

Jennifer Sullivan and Vanessa Barry for planning all of our upcoming Cultural Enrichment programs.

Sharon Everett for supervising the counting of our thousands of box tops rolling in!

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER CALENDAR*

11/5: Holiday Gift Fair, Knollwood APR, 10:00am–3:00 pm

11/9: FHEF Meeting, Knollwood Media Center, 8:00pm

11/10–11: School Closed, NJEA Convention

11/17: PTA Meeting, Sickles School, 1:45pm

11/19: FHEF Event, Knights of Columbus, 8:00pm

11/23: Single Session Day

11/24–25: School Closed, Thanksgiving

12/7: FHEF Meeting, Knollwood Media Center, 8:00pm

12/8, 9, 12, 13: Single Session Days, Conferences

12/23: Single Session

12/26–1/2: School Closed, Winter Break

*Dates are subject to change

Charitable Giving

This Holiday season, Charitable Giving and Sickles school will be "adopting" families through Lunch Break's Holiday Giving program. Each classroom will "adopt" a needy family and be able to choose an item to donate based on that family's needs. Grouping together to donate an item is welcomed and encouraged.


Knollwood school will also have a chance to help support teens at Lunch Break. Students will be given bags they can decorate and supply an item a teen would enjoy. (nail polish, makeup, sports cards, gift cards etc)

We look forward to helping spread some holiday cheer! Watch for more information coming this month. 

REMINDER...

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on **December 8th, 9th, 12th and 13th** at both Knollwood and Sickles School.

Super 50/50 Tickets

Super 50/50 tickets will be on sale soon! The winner will take home half of the gross proceeds. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the Gift Show on Saturday, November 5th, from 10:00am–3:00pm at Knollwood. The raffle will continue until the PTA Luncheon on Saturday, March 24th, when the winner will be announced. **Contact Marie Noglows at marie.noglows@comcast.net** if you have any questions. 

Luncheon Volunteers Needed!

Are you a great organizer? Do you have an eye for making a theme come to life? Do you love to work with a roomful of fun and fabulous ladies? Yes?! Super! The Spring Luncheon committee needs your help! There are subcommittees to lead and much work to get done! Come and join the fun.

Contact Bennett Coleman at bennettcoleman@mac.com, at 383-7153 or Megan Pelino at mpelino@comcast.net, at 842-1121.

Sickles Art Gallery News

Visit the Sickles Art Gallery to view masterpieces from our budding artists. November will feature wonderful pieces created by **Mrs. Kampe's** and **Mrs. Boccino's** students. December's creative artwork will be provided by the young artists in **Mrs. Moriarty's** and **Mrs. Wall's** classes, both morning and afternoon sessions will be displayed. The Art Gallery is located in the main hallway on the first floor of Sickles School. 