



# MTHS Newsletter

## Metamora Township High School

December 2009



### Students Start on Journey to Oz

The yellow brick road, Dorothy, Toto, the Wicked Witch are all images made famous by the 1939 MGM musical *The Wizard of Oz*. Now,

those images/characters are coming to MTHS! Plans have been in the works since last spring for this year's school musical. On Tuesday, December 2, the journey to Oz officially begins with an audition information meeting. Any high school student can audition for the show and should attend the meeting in Rm. 200 at 7:30 a.m..

In past years, the cast was comprised of singers/actors who also served as dancers for some musical numbers. This year there will be a dance troupe that will perform all dance numbers.

Although some singers/actors may be asked to dance, the majority of movement will be left to the dance troupe under the direction of Mrs. Devery McCoy. Dance auditions will be held December 10 from 6:30-8:00 p.m..

Director Kathy McCormick estimates a cast between 50-60 students with parts for both singers and non-singers. Students will choose one audition song and read for one part during the auditions, which will be held December 14 and 15 from 3:30-6:00 p.m.. All audition material will be handed out at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. After the meeting, students can pick up audition packets in Rm. 209. Audition packets will also be available on the school's Drama web page after December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### MTHS Holiday Concert To Benefit Easter Seals

The Choral and Instrumental Music departments will join together in a concert of holiday music on December 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the MTHS Auditorium.

The choirs will take you on a journey around the world this Christmas season. Your journey will begin in the hills of Africa as "Noel" is sung through the countryside, you then go on a sleigh ride and hear the wonderful Christmas carol "Jingle Bells" sung in varying styles, and finally the choirs will conclude the journey with a stirring selection entitled "Hope for Resolution."

The Instrumental Music department will include traditional holiday music played by the Symphonic Band under the direction of Mr. Chris Render. Dr. Parks and The Metamora Wind Ensemble will present some "non-traditional" holiday music for the concert in preparation for their performance at Bowling Green State University. The ensemble's selections will include 3 movements from Persichetti's "Divertimento for Band", a transcription of a choral piece by Laudrisen, and ending their portion with "Children's Dance" from Howard Hanson's "Merry Mount Suite."

The concert is free and the public is invited. Cookies and punch will be served after the concert. There will be a free-will donation basket to benefit Easter Seals.

### National Honor Society Helps With Operation Santa

On Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 22 senior members of the National Honor Society traveled to Midwest Food Bank in Peoria to help with Operation Santa. The students spent three hours filling bags with candy, assembling packing boxes, and stuffing stockings for our servicemen.

All involved felt that this was an excellent way to commemorate Veteran's Day and

show our appreciation for our troops. During the time they were there, 5120 stockings were stuffed and packed for shipping. National Honor Society also made a monetary donation sufficient to ship 75 stockings to our servicemen. Thanks NHS members for giving up a portion of your day off to help with a worthy cause.

## Christmas Break

December 21, 2009 through January 3, 2010



### Josten's

will be here December 3rd during lunch for a ring service day. You can have your ring cleaned, sized or order a ring on this day.

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★ Life Skills Employee of the Month ★

★ The OCTOBER honoree is Ashley Lasswell. Ashley works in the office assisting the staff in shredding the paper for recycling. Ashley will receive a gift certificate to Dairy Queen. Congratulations Ashley! ★

★ ERIN BILL will receive the honors for the Employee of the Month of NOVEMBER. Erin works in the kitchen wrapping the sandwiches and laying them out for the lunch lines. Erin works very hard and is very dependable. Congratulations Erin for working so very hard at earning this honor and award. ★

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**ALL CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL:** Seniors Lindsay Herman and Brianna Lampe were unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference VB selections. Also selected to the first team was Morgan Obery. 2<sup>nd</sup> team selections include seniors Krista Polanin and Brittany Wernsman and junior Taylor Matson.

**PEORIA JOURNAL STAR ALL-AREA VOLLEYBALL TEAM:** Seniors Lindsay Herman and Brianna Lampe were selected to the seven-member volleyball all-area volleyball team. Congratulations to these ladies and to the varsity team on a very successful 30-5 season!



**Pam Siefken speaks to Digital Imaging Class**

Professional photographer Pam Siefken was a guest speaker in the Digital Imaging at MTHS class Thursday,

November 12. She covered a variety of topics including photographic composition with people and animals, computer editing techniques, lighting, cameras and lenses, unique techniques, trends in the field, and the business aspect of operating your own business. Mrs. Siefken also brought in many examples of photos she has shot recently to emphasize her points.

After a question and answer session, groups of students worked on arranging other groups of students for photos using the techniques they just learned. Students in this project based class taught by Doug Osterloo learn digital photography theory, techniques, and Adobe Photoshop editing skills.

**Marching Band Has Successful Season**



The MTHS Marching Redbirds ended yet another successful season with two exciting performances. At Grand Nationals, the band performed alongside some of the finest bands in

the nation and achieved a solid Division II for the third consecutive year. The Marching Redbirds "officially" ended the year supporting our football team at the state final game with a combined a unique, never before seen finals halftime performance with the Geneseo marching band which included a thrilling "drum battle" between the two bands.

**2010 All-State Musicians**



Congratulations to the seven MTHS music students who were chosen to participate in IMEA All-State. Instrumentalists, Craig Rude and Kristin Dattilo were selected to perform in the All-State orchestra. Clarinetist, Katie Frantik, and flutist, Megan Mihelick were chosen for the All-State band. Vocalists, Calen Gutwein, Jenny Winkler, and Zach Schrouf will sing with the All-State choirs. These fine young musicians will perform at the annual state conference of the Illinois Music Educators Association in January. This is the largest number of MTHS musicians ever selected to All-State!

**GFWC ILLINOIS YOUTH ART TALENT CONTEST**

Sponsored by Metamora Women's club through GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs.

Division I - 4th 5th and 6th grade students  
Division II - 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11, and 12th grade students.

\*The media can be pencil, pen and ink, collage, mixed media, or pastels. All entries must be an original work. The maximum size is 20" x 24" with mat. NO GLASS.

\*There MUST be a card on the top right hand corner on the back of the entry with the following information: Student name, address, zip, telephone number and grade in school, media used, sponsoring club's name and district number, the chairman's name, address, and phone number.

\*Sponsoring clubs will submit the winning entries to the district art chairman who sends the district 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners to the state art chairman. All entries sent to state will be displayed at the State Convention in May where a club member will pick them up and the entry will be returned to the artist. State winners chosen from district entries will receive a monetary award which should be used for art supplies, an art scholarship, or purchase of a piece of Illinois art.

\*Metamora Woman's Club is awarding the following prizes:  
Division I - 1st place \$10, 2nd place, \$7.50, and 3rd \$5.  
Division II - 1st place \$20, 2nd place \$15, and 3rd place \$10.

Please contact Arlene Rush (367-2423) to make arrangements for getting the entries into her hands for judging. The deadline is January 15, 2010.

**GFWC ILLINOIS YOUTH WRITING CONTEST**

Sponsored by the Metamora Women's Club through GFWC Illinois Federation of Woman's Clubs.

There are four divisions:  
Division I - Grades 4, 5, and 6  
Division II - Grade 7, 8, and 9  
Division III- Grades 10, 11, and 12.

\*Youth may enter one poem and/or short story. Authors must be of amateur status (earnings from writing must not be greater than \$500 annually). Manuscripts may not have been published prior to the competition and must be the original work of the author. All entries must be in English.

\*A first, second, and third in each division and each category will be submitted to the district chairman who will then in turn who will select winners to send to state competition. One entry in each division of poetry and short story may be submitted to the state chairman for further judging.

\*The rules include:  
entries must be type-written, double-spaced with minimum margins of 1" on all four sides, one side only on 8 1/2" x 11" paper, short stories are limited to 2,000 words, poems may be any style; minimum length is 8 lines and maximum length is 50 lines.

\* Entries MUST have the following in the top right hand corner of EACH page: name of author, grade in school, email address, mailing address, and telephone number, name of local club, district, and state, plus the title of the manuscript.

Manuscripts will not be returned - authors should keep a copy. Metamora Woman's Club is awarding the following prizes: 1st place - \$10, 2nd place - \$7.50 and 3rd place - \$5. Please contact Arlene Rush (367-2423) to make arrangements for getting the entries into her hands for judging. The deadline is January 15, 2010.