



# The Eagle Eye



Mercer County School District #404

November, 2011

## “Seussical”

The High School Music Department is presenting "Seussical" on November 3rd & 4th at 7pm. It is a musical collaborating many of the Dr. Seuss books such as Cat in the Hat, Horton hears a Who, The Grinch, and Green Eggs and Ham. It will start at 7:00pm each night.



Tickets for the "Seussical" can be purchased now from

cast members or at the door. Cast members include Sam Whan, Michael Bowen, Trevor Hartman, Kathryn Ricke, Mahaylee Bennitt, Shana Struble, Nick Jones, Trenton Higgins, Carlie Olson, Ryan O'Leary, Maura Karr, Sarah Nation, Tyson Carey, Rachel Hermanson, Kaylee Mohammadi, Lynzee Mohammadi, Maria Nation, Sydney Hess, Kendra Nelson, Jackie Olson, Abdul Wali and Kylie Artcher.

## Veterans Day Parade

The Junior High Band will be marching in the Veterans Day Parade in Aledo on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The parade travels down College Avenue to the courthouse starting at 10:40am. Come on out and see our Junior High Band!

## November Calendar

2-Nov	12:30 PM	"Seussical"- Matinee (MCIS & MCJH field trip)	23-Nov		NBE School Party (Fall Party)
	6:30 PM	Dist. Geography Challenge -MCIS music RM	24-Nov		<b>2pm Holiday Dismissal</b>
3-Nov	7:00 PM	High School Musical - "Seussical"	25-Nov		<b>NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Day</b>
4-Nov		<b>SIP Early Dismissal 1PM</b>	28-Nov	TBA	<b>NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break</b>
	7:00 PM	High School Musical "Seussical"			JH Wrestling (practice starts)
5-Nov	TBA	IMEA District 2 Jazz Festival Dunlap HS		5:30 PM	HS Girls Basketball (V/FS) @ Fulton
		IMEA District 2 Elementary Festival Dunlap		5:30 PM	JH Boys Basketball vs. Rockridge
	TBA	HS Cross Country (Varsity) IHSA St. Finals	29-Nov	TBA	Mr. Mojo All School Assembly
7-Nov	9:00 AM	HS School Assembly -MWAH		6:00 PM	HS Boys Basketball (V/FS)@ M/R
	5:30 PM	JH Boys Basketball @ AlWood		6:00 PM	HS Wrestling (V/FS) vs. IVC/St. Bede
8-Nov	5:30 PM	JH Boys Basketball vs. LaHarpe	30-Nov	5:30 PM	JH Boys Basketball (@ M/R JH)
9-Nov	7:00 PM	Board of Education Meeting		6:00 PM	HS Girls BB(V/FS) @ West Prairie
10-Nov	9:00 AM	HS Veterans Day Assembly	4-Dec	2:00PM	MCJH Winter Concert—JH Gym
	4:00 PM	FFA Crops Contest@ Avon	11-Dec	2:30 pm	MCHS Holiday Concert--MCHS Auditorium/Gym
	5:00 PM	Apollo Movie Night - Monsters Ink	14-Dec	6:30 pm	MCIS Winter Concert—MCIS Gym
11-Nov		<b>NO SCHOOL Veterans Day</b>			
	10:40 AM	Veteran's Day Parade- JH Band marches - College Ave			
12-Nov		IMEA District Festival @ Augustana College			
14-Nov	6:00 PM	HS Girls BB (V) ROWVA Cranberry Tourn.			
	6:30 PM	Geography Challenge (Regional @ United Elementary)			
15-Nov	5:30 PM	JH Boys Basketball (vs. Abingdon)			
	6:30 PM	Apollo PTO meeting			
	7:30 PM	HS Girls BB (V) ROWVA Cranberry Tourn.			
16-Nov	11:16 PM	HS Girls BB (V) ROWVA Cranberry Tourn.			
17-Nov	5:30 PM	JH Boys Basketball @ ROWVA			
	7 p.m.	Music Theory Beatles 2 Concert			
18-Nov		<b>SIP Early Dismissal- 1PM Dismissal</b>			
21-Nov	5:30 PM	JH Boys Basketball @ Knoxville			
22-Nov	6:00 PM	HS Girls BB (V/FS) vs. Macomb			

## REMINDER

School will dismiss at 2pm on November 23rd for Thanksgiving break (Individual building dismissal times may vary.)



## IMEA District II Music Festival

The Mercer County Choral Department is proud to announce Intermediate and Senior High students participating in this year's Illinois Music Educator Association's District Festivals.

The IMEA District 2 Elementary Music Festival will be held at Dunlap High School on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Selected to sing in the 150-voice Elementary Choir are the following 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus students: Phoenix Becker, Erica Gowdy, Malia Mullen, Andrew Phillips, Destinee Russell, Dameon Sanders, and Colton Smith. Toni Redlingshafer, Dunlap Valley Middle School, will be the guest conductor of the Choir. A public concert will be presented at 3:00 pm in the Main Gym. Admission will be charged at the door. The bus will depart MC Jr. High in Joy at 6:45 am and MC Intermediate School in Aledo at 7:00 am. The bus will return to MCIS at approximately 6:00 pm and MCJH at approximately 6:15 pm.

The IMEA District 2 Music Festival will be Satur-

day, November 12<sup>th</sup> at Augustana College. Auditions were held in October to qualify for participation in the Festival. MCHS Choral student selected to sing in the IMEA District 2 Junior Mixed Chorus is Kylee McCreight, soprano. The Junior Mixed Chorus will be directed by Mr. Ben Luginbuhl, Normal Community HS. The Junior Concert will be at 4:00 pm in the Carver Physical Education Center. Admission will be charged. MCHS Choral students selected to sing in the IMEA District 2 Senior Chorus are Sierra Struble, soprano II, Daryl Steinbeck, tenor I, Sam Whan, tenor I, and Marty Rind, bass I. The Senior Chorus will be under the direction of Dr. Allen Hightower, Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. The Senior Concert will be at 6:00 pm in the Carver Physical Education Center. Admission will be charged.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL PARTICIPATING STUDENTS!**

## Junior High Christmas Concert



Mercer County Fine Arts Department to hold Christmas Concert December 4, 2011. The Concert will begin at 2:00pm in the Jr. High Gym in Joy. The band, chorus and Vocal Adrenaline will be performing. Art work will be on display by Mrs. Meece's Art classes. There will be cookies and punch served in the cafeteria immediately following the concert. A big thank you to the Music Boosters who help with the expenses for the punch and cookies. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending to start your Christmas season.



## Mercer County Jr. High to attend IMEA events in November

On November 5 14 students from the Jr. High will be traveling to Dunlap School to participate in Jazz IMEA. They will rehearse all morning and afternoon and have a concert at 3:00. These students were selected and it's quite a privilege to be able to attend this event. Then on November 12 the following students auditioned and were selected to attend Concert IMEA at Augustana College: Taylor Carey, Megan Nelson, Brinae Ritter, Heather Whan, Katie Hanson and Emily Struble. Congratulations to those students and good luck.

## Mercer County School District #404

### Mercer County High School Foreign Exchange Students visit Holocaust Museum

Abdul Wali from Pakistan and Simona Pociute from Lithuania are visiting foreign exchange students at Mercer County High School this year. Wali is living with the Myron and Kelly Higgins family of Aledo, and Simona lives with the Joel and Jen Miller family of Aledo. Recently, they visited the Holocaust museum in Skokie Illinois. There, they met a Holocaust survivor named Joe Koek.



Simona with Joe Koek, Holocaust survivor

Joe's Bio is below.

*"Once I really am in power, my first and foremost task will be the annihilation of the Jews"*  
**Adolf Hitler**



### Joseph B. Koek Jewish Survivor

Joe Koek was born in The Hague, Netherlands, in 1930. He had a happy life; a lovely childhood with a wonderful Jewish family. He had a mother and father and two sisters who loved him. After the Nazi invasion, everything changed.

His parents made the difficult decision to have their children hide in the Dutch underground during World War II. At only 11 years old, Joe felt there was no way to prepare for the separation from their parents and they only had 24 hours notice. His father told them a lady would come pick them up and that is exactly what happened. The children would never see their parents again.

While their parents were arrested and deported to a concentration camp, the three children

were moved from location to location as they waited for the Allied victory and Holland to be free again. One hiding place was a three story building where a school occupied the first floor. A family resided on the second and Joe, his sisters and several other Jewish hideaways spent most of their time on the top floor. During school hours, they had to be so quiet they couldn't wear shoes or use the bathroom.

Joe couldn't play like a normal kid or even fight with his sisters like a regular kid. He learned how to knit because it was quiet and would kill time. He played cards and Monopoly, but learned to keep his voice low.

Joe Koek always seemed to have luck in avoiding the Nazis. Once, he broke his leg and was hospitalized. This tragedy turned out to be a good thing when the Nazis invaded the farm country looking for families committing a "crime". If the family hiding him would have been caught, they would have been killed for hiding Joe. Since he was in the hospital, they were safe.

Finally, the war was

over and he and his sisters were survivors. They realized their parents were dead. "The Red Cross told us they had information they were killed in a concentration camp, but I never wanted to believe that," he said. "I always thought they were alive and looking for me. As time goes on, you realize the information from the Red Cross must be true and you eventually understand there is no point in continuing to hunt for them."

Eventually, he moved to Amsterdam and then to Chicago, where he still lives today. He reunited with his sisters (one who still lives in Amsterdam and one who lives in Chicago). After years of counseling, he realizes there are some questions that never will be answered.

Today he enjoys his family, talking to students about his experiences in the war so they might learn from it and volunteering at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center.



**"In Remembrance There Is Life"**



Wali with Joe Koek, Holocaust survivor

**Mercer County School District #404**

**Toddler Time is Back!!**

Toddler time is back! All families with children ages birth to 3 are invited to attend our play group. FREE sessions will be held monthly at Apollo and New Boston Elementary Schools.

Please join us for a morning of

fun for you and your little ones! Activities will include parent sharing, reading, music and art.

**Apollo Elementary**

Wednesday, Nov. 16

10:00-11:00 AM

**New Boston Elementary**

Thursday, Nov. 3

9:00-10:00 AM

Feel free to attend one or both as your schedule allows. Pre-school age siblings are also welcome. RSVP's are appreciated. Contact Nancy Mowen at (309) 587-8141.



**Murphy's Law – John Murphy, School Resource Officer**

This month I would like to call attention to our annual Veteran's Day Parade held on 11/11/11 at 10:45 am.



If anyone is interested and willing to show support for all of the brave men and women who have served this great nation please come and be a part of this years' parade. The parade will start in the 200 block of N. College Avenue in Aledo and march to the Mercer County Courthouse. The Junior High Band will play followed by

a welcome from Commander George Baxa (VFW Post 1571). A prayer and wreath presentation will proceed guest speaker Major General Mark MacCarley. After closing ceremonies the parade will continue to the east side of the VFW for a dedication ceremony for the Armed Forces Memorial Park.

The Armed Forces Memorial Park began as a vision from the Aledo Police Benevolent Association. Our vision for the creation of this park was not only to raise funds for worthwhile causes such as : the annual Shop With a Hero Program every Christmas, our annual

elementary school project, our Senior Citizen Appreciation Month and our annual \$500 scholarship to a graduating Mercer County High School senior, but to honor the dedication and sacrifices our troops have made to this country throughout its' history. In doing so we have turned this fundraiser into a project the entire community has assisted and supported with not only their generous donations but labor, materials and time. We are proud and thankful of our community for what has been accomplished to this point and excited to have Major General MacCarley on hand to assist in its' dedication.

**Mojo UP – "Leaders taking a Stand Against Bullying"**

On November 29th, Mr. Mojo will be presenting Mojo UP, "Leaders Taking a Stand Against Bullying." He will present at the high school, junior high, and intermediate schools.

The impact of bullying in the schools are: poor attendance, high dropout rates, struggling to make Adequate Yearly Progress, increased fights, students experiencing depres-

sion, low self-esteem, and an increase in discipline problems due to cyber/social media outlets. Mr. Mojo's key messages that our students will learn:

- ◆ The definition of bully, bullied, bystander, promoter and MOJO Maker.
- ◆ How to heal the pain from being bullied or being the bully
- ◆ What cyberbullying is and how to avoid

making a life changing mistake.

- ◆ Easy ways to handle bullies, bystanders and promoters.

There are several local organizations helping sponsor this assembly: Royal Neighbors through "Authentic Voices," a program ran through the Mercer County Junior High School led by Brenda Dunn of the Mercer County Crisis Center, Aledo Masonic Lodge, and the Kiwanis Club.

**Illinois Elks Children's Care Clinic**

The Illinois Elks Children's Care Program, in cooperation with Rock island Elks Lodge #980 and Orthopedic and Rheumatology Associates PC, will sponsor a **FREE** orthopedic assessment clinic for any child age 0-21 on Thursday, November 17th, 2010 from 2:30pm to 4:30pm at the offices of Orthopedic and Rheumatology Associates PC—520 Valley Drive, Moline. Further information may be obtained by calling 1-800-272-0074 between 1-4pm M-F. Attendance is by appointment.



# News from the Eagle's Nest

New Boston Elementary News

## Book Fair / Fundraiser Orders

New Boston Elementary School is combining the Family Night Book Fair with the Fundraiser order pick up again this year.

The date for these events is November 15<sup>th</sup> and the times are as follows:

The Fundraiser pick up will begin at 3 P.M. and end at 7:00. Parents or another adult must pick up the orders as nothing can be sent home by bus.

If you are unable to be there please arrange for

someone else to pick up your order.

The Book Fair will begin Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> and will end Friday morning, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Family Night will be Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Volunteers are needed to help with these events. If you are interested in helping, please call the school at 587-8141.

Thanks for all your help!

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER ????



We need your help. In order to keep the information current in your child's emergency file, we will need you to let the office know immediately if you have a change of address or a change of

telephone number.

THIS INFORMATION IS VITAL TO OUR ABILITY TO REACH YOU IN CASE YOUR CHILD IS ILL, SCHOOL IS DISMISSED EARLY OR THERE IS ANY KIND OF SCHOOL EMERGENCY.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### – School Bus Traffic Laws

You must stop before meeting or overtaking a school bus loading or unloading passengers on a two lane roadway. A warning will be given at least 100 (200 feet in rural areas) in advance of a stop. The stop signal arm will be extended after the school bus has come to a complete stop. You must then come to a complete stop.

You must remain stopped until the stop signal arm is no longer extended and the flashing lights are turned off or the driver signals you to pass.

Your driver's license or vehicle registration will be suspended for three months if you

are convicted of illegally passing a stopped school bus. If you receive two such convictions within five years, your driving privileges will be suspended for one year. In addition to the suspensions, violators will be fined \$150 for a first conviction and \$500 for a second or subsequent conviction.

**Note:** It is illegal to use a cell phone, in any manner, while driving in a school zone.

\* This is quoted from the Illinois Rules of the Road

## Important Dates



November 14 –18 Book Fair

November 15 - Fundraiser Pick Up and Family Book Fair Night 3- 7 P.M.

November 23 - Fall Parties 1 – 2pm --- 2:05 Dismissal

December 9 --- NBE Winter Concert 7 P.M. – Jr. High Gym

## Colder Weather is on the Way!



Soon "Old Man Winter" will be here with all of the cold

weather changes.

The students will be expected to have their winter gear with them at all times as recess will be held outdoors as many times as possible.

It is recommended each student have boots, (shoes should be brought to school along with the boots as wet boots should not be worn in the school) snow pants, winter coat, gloves or mittens and a warm hat with them each day.

An extra set of dry clothes could be sent with your child also.