

# J. M. S. News. . . by Donald F. Gately

## November 10, 2008

Quote of the week for  
November 10, 2008

"Always do right—this will gratify  
some and astonish the rest."

- *Mark Twain*



### Parent Survey

On Friday mornings we play music at the beginning of the day.

***What song should we play next week?***

You get to choose!

<http://www.tigersurvey.com/survey.php?survey=8015>

*Click on the above link to vote! Results to follow next week!*

*(SEE THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR LAST WEEK'S SURVEY RESULTS)*

### Staff Recognition

This past Wednesday evening, seven members of our middle school staff were honored for their years of service to our school. A lovely ceremony was held in the auditorium in which each staff member was individually recognized and presented with a small gift by our superintendent, Mr. Henry Grishman. Family, friends and colleagues joined in this celebration of loyalty and dedication to our schools.

Thousands and thousands of children's lives have been touched by the lives of these dedicated individuals who work with them each day. Think about it. Every adult can name three or four people who they encountered during the time they were 11-13 years old (some of us even remember every teacher we ever had). So, these people are important indeed. And in a way, their loyalty to the children of Jericho is a testament to the work all of us do. At the end of the day, it's the relationships that make the difference in the lives of young people. I hope that you join me in congratulating and thanking the honorees of Jericho's staff recognition event and in wishing them many, many, more years of loyal service to our community.

**In honor of:**

25 Years:	David Venuti
20 Years:	Pat Minikel, Maryann Morris
10 Years:	Patricia Bany, Beth Brill, Laura Diehl, Evelyn Goldman

### Youth Ice Hockey Registration

The Town of Oyster Bay Parks Department will be holding Youth Ice Hockey registration for the Town of Oyster Bay residents ages 6 to 13 on Thursday, November 13, 2008 from 5pm to 9pm at Town Hall South, 977 Hicksville Rd., Massapequa and Saturday, November 15, 2008 from 9am to 12pm at Syosset-Woodbury Community Park, Jericho Tpke., Syosset. Please click on the following link for additional information:

<W:\Flyers\icehockeyregistration.pdf>

## You've Got Homework. We've Got Help!

Live online homework help is just a click away! This service (provided by Tutor.com) is now available every day at [www.jericholibrary.org](http://www.jericholibrary.org) from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. You can access Homework Help by clicking on the icon and entering the barcode number from your Jericho Library card. Please click on the following link for additional information <W:\Flyers\HomeworkHelpDemoFlyer2008.pdf>

## Middle School "Toys for Tots" and "The John Theissen Children's Foundation"

The Middle School will be collecting toys for the "Toys for Tots" Program run by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve as well as "The John Theissen Children's Foundation" **starting November 10<sup>th</sup> through December 19<sup>th</sup>**. The mission of the Toys for Tots Program is to collect **new, unwrapped, toys** during November and December and to distribute those toys as holiday gifts while simultaneously providing a message of hope to needy youngsters. The John Theissen Children's Foundation offers sick and needy children toys throughout the holiday season and fulfills patient's (ages birth to 18 years old) wish lists throughout the year. Please drop off the toys in **Ms. Bany's office, Mr. Wiener's office or in Mr. Kahn's classroom, #210**. Your generosity and kindness will help make someone else's holiday a special one.



Crime Stoppers and the Nassau County Police Department are seeking the public's help in connection with a Home Invasion that occurred in Jericho on September 26, 2008. Please click on the following link for additional information: <W:\Flyers\HOMEINVASIONJERICH0149-08.pdf>

***HELP SOLVE THIS CRIME.***

## Math Scholars Named

The Institute of Creative Problem Solving for Gifted and Talented Students at SUNY College at Old Westbury is proud to announce that **Salina Wu** and **Peter Zhou**, both 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at our school, are among the 75 students this year to be named Long Island Young Scholars of Mathematics and have been accepted by the Institute to pursue mathematics and science studies.

To qualify for this honor, the 75 students who were selected for the Institute's three divisions each consisting of 25 participants, competed against 800 of the top ranking students nominated from school districts on Long Island. Selection by the Institute implies that a student is among the top one-tenth of one percent in math of all students on Long Island in his or her grade.

## Canned Food Drive

The Middle School Community Service Classes will be **collecting cans and non-perishable food during the week of November 17-21<sup>st</sup>** for a non-profit organization known as **RockCANRoll**. The **RockCANRoll** volunteers distribute the items to local agencies and into the hands of children, seniors and families who live with hunger and poverty. Please drop off the cans and perishable items in the box located in **Ms. Bany's office**. We greatly appreciate your support.

## Middle School Yearbook Dedication Form

Parents, this is your only opportunity to make your child's yearbook extra special. For only \$10.00 you can place a dedication permanently printed in your yearbook. There is a maximum of 25 words. Space is very limited, therefore, it will be on a first come, first serve basis. Click on the link on the Middle School Homepage to view and print the form. **The deadline to submit your dedication and payment is December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008.**

## New Sixth Grade Leave Replacement Teacher at the Middle School



Ms. Diane Stile is thrilled to join the 6<sup>th</sup> grade staff at Jericho Middle School as a leave replacement. She has been a teacher for 17 years and has taught 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades in the Rockville Centre School District. Ms. Stile enjoys spending time with her husband, Marc, and their two children, Christina and Jason. Some of her free time activities include camping, hiking, trips to New York City and scrap-booking. Ms. Stile is looking forward to her new position teaching science and math at the Middle School.

## Jericho Middle School Parents Survey "Results from last week's poll"

Choice	Total	Percent
<b>1. Who should be the next President of the United States?</b>		
John McCain	<u>40</u>	50%
Barack Obama	<u>40</u>	50%
<u>Total Number of Choices</u>		<b>80</b>

## Staff Members of the Week



### Will Martinez - Physical Education Teacher

Mr. Will Martinez has been a physical education teacher at the Middle School for the past 7 years. He coaches football, middle school basketball, and girls and boys 8<sup>th</sup> grade baseball. You can also catch him in the weight room where he is an instructor for the Strength and Conditioning Intramural. Mr. Martinez is married and has a 2 year old daughter, Lia. He likes long walks on the beach, is a sports fanatic and loves working with the students and staff in Jericho.

### **Jackie Leonard - Learning Center Instructor**

Ms. Jackie Leonard has been working in the Jericho Middle School Learning Center for ten glorious years. She is currently a Co-President of the Jericho Learning Center Instructors. Ms. Leonard enjoys traveling during school breaks. She has been to Alaska, Ireland, Scotland, Hawaii, and many cruises to the Caribbean. Ms. Leonard is married to Rick, who is a New York City Firefighter. They have a lovely daughter named Kim, whom she is very proud of. She enjoys getting involved in fund raisers for different charities. Some of her hobbies are hiking, crocheting, reading, and cooking for the holidays. When Ms. Leonard is not working with her students, she is organizing the Holiday Cookie Swap or helping plan for the next Learning Center event.



### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

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|----------------------|--|
| <b>Nov 10-Dec.19</b> | <b>Middle School Toy and Canned Food Drive</b>   |
| <b>November 11</b>   | <b>Schools Closed</b>  |
| <b>November 18</b>   | <b>SEPTA Meeting: Stress Reduction for High Stakes Testing with Kids having Special Needs - Speaker: Dr. Glenn Pollack</b> |
| <b>November 19</b>   | <b>Middle School Report Cards Emailed</b>  |
| <b>November 19</b>   | <b>Middle School Winter Concert I, Chorus/Orchestra will be performing in the Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.</b>                  |
| <b>November 20</b>   | <b>Board of Education Meeting - Middle School Library - 7:30 p.m.</b>  |
| <b>November 21</b>   | <b>Middle School PTSA Meeting and Principal's Coffee Hour-MS Library-9:00 a.m.</b>   |