

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

October 27, 2008

Quote of the week for
October 27, 2008

"Life shrinks or expands in
proportion to one's courage.

-Anais Nin

*The Diary of Anais Nin,
volume 3, 1939-1944*



S.A.D.D. (*Students Against Destructive Decisions*) Next week is Red Ribbon Spirit Week and, as we have done in recent years, we will have special Dress-Up Days as part of the "festivities." Listed below are our Dress-Up Days. We encourage all students to participate in this worthy program.

Red Ribbon Spirit Week
Jericho Middle School **S.A.D.D.**
invites you to join our
RED RIBBON WEEK CELEBRATION
October 27th -31st, 2008

Monday, October 27th
"Team Up Against Drugs"
Wear your favorite Sports Team Clothing

Tuesday, October 28th
"Hats Off To A Drug Free World"
Wear your favorite HAT

Wednesday, October 29th
"Don't Let Drugs Take You Down a Slippery Path"
Wear Your Favorite Slippers
(Rubber soles for safety, please)

Thursday, October 30th
"WEAR RED DAY"
Wear **RED** to Show Your Drug Free Pride!!!

Friday, October 31st
"SAY BOO TO DRUGS!"
Celebrate Halloween with a Creative Costume
(School Costume Guidelines Apply)

Guidance Department News

We welcome back our 8th grade guidance counselor, Meredith Richman, who was on leave the past few months for the birth of her daughter. Danielle Hill, our very conscientious leave replacement guidance counselor, will now be moving forward to our high school. We wish Danielle the very best and thank her for doing one incredible job!

Spelling Bee Winners

How do you spell anomalous? Let's ask 8th grader, Christina Chen, who won the school spelling bee, with Michael Shen coming in 2nd place, on Friday, October 17th in front of a packed auditorium. Finalists from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade competed to be named the Jericho Spelling Bee Champ. Christina will now go on to compete in the Nassau County competition and hopefully on to the State level. We all wish her good luck!

Middle School Dance Update

Our middle schoolers certainly can rock the house! On Friday, October 17th, the Sixth Grade Student Council and their Advisors, Ms. Collins and Ms. Gilbert, sponsored the middle school dance. With a DJ, pizza, soda and old and new friends, this event will be remembered by all who attended.

"Halloween Safety"

As another Halloween approaches, the Nassau County Police Department is requesting your cooperation in spreading the word to young people that the holiday is for fun, not for mischief.

In addition to increasing marked and unmarked street patrols with the intention of holding vandals accountable for their behavior, the Nassau County Police Department has made available **online**, an activity book entitled "Halloween Safety." This can be found on the Nassau County Police Department website www.police.nassaucountyny.gov, along with many other informative Public Safety pamphlets, by clicking in the Public Service Information box.

Through everyone's efforts, we want to ensure that Halloween may be an enjoyable and safe time for all.

Book Fair

The Jericho Middle School PTSA will hold its annual Book Fair in cooperation with the Jericho Middle School Library on **Tuesday, October 28th** and **Wednesday, October 29th**. With the assistance of our middle school librarians, Pat Minikel and Joan Kearon, we have arranged for Scholastic Book Fairs to bring a large selection of paperback books to the middle school for our youngsters to buy. Your child will visit the Book Fair during his or her English class. In addition, we also invite parents to visit the Book Fair, which will be located in the **Middle School Library from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** **Books make perfect holiday gifts for everyone.**

Middle School Welcome and Information Night - October 29, 2008

A group of administrators will be leading a special presentation night at the Middle School on October 29th beginning at 7:30 p.m. Student translators will be present to help any parents in need. The following Jericho administrators will be present: Donald F. Gately, Principal; Joseph Wiener and Pat Bany, Assistant Principals; Todd Benjamin, Social Worker; Rhonda Starr, President, PTSA; Kerri Schmitt, Guidance Counselor; Maureen Clemente and Martha Sammartano, Student Team Advisors. For additional information please click on the following link: W:\Flyers\WelcomeandInfoNightflyer2008.pdf

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. You can pick up a copy of the form in the Principal's Office. The deadline to submit your dedication and payment is December 5th, 2008.

JERICO MIDDLE SCHOOL WELCOMES A NEW STAFF MEMBER



Mary Leissing, Secretary - Guidance Office

Mrs. Mary Leissing has been in the Jericho School District for the past ten years, working in Human Resources. She has been married to her husband, Ted for 26 years and they have two children, Nicole age 22 and Matthew age 20. In her free time, Mrs. Leissing enjoys spending time with family, traveling and cooking. She is looking forward to working with students and staff in the Guidance Office in the Middle School and we are delighted to have her.



Sex Offender Registry Notification/Cureton Level - 3 Revised

The Nassau County Police Department is utilizing this form to notify you as to the existence of a registered sex offender in your area. The Police Department can release information on Level 3 (*high-risk*), Level 2 (*moderate-risk*), and Level 1 (*low-risk*). While the exact address on Level 3 offenders can be provided, the law provides that only 'an approximate address based on zip code' can be provided for Level 2 and Level 1 offenders.

As outlined by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, which oversees the Sex Offender Registry Program, persons or organizations receiving information may disseminate it to others at their discretion. It is presumed that any information received from the Registry will be used responsibly to promote public safety.

For general information concerning the New York State Sex Offender Registry or the New York State Sex Offender Registration Act (SORA) you can find helpful explanations, statistics, FAQ's and a searchable Subdirectory of Levels 3 and 2 Sex Offenders at: <http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us/nsor/>

Staff Members of the Week

Barbara Inguanti - World Language Support Teacher

Barbara Inguanti is a World Language support teacher in the middle school and high school. She has worked in Jericho since 2001. Before coming to Jericho, Ms. Inguanti taught nursery school in Glen Cove, created a bilingual program in Roosevelt, and worked in New York City at Lincoln Center. She has two grown children and lives in Locust Valley. Ms. Inguanti enjoys creating digital mandalas, doing yoga, and spending time with her family.



Denise Gandolfo - Learning Center Instructor

Mrs. Denise Gandolfo is a Learning Center instructor at the Middle School and has been working here for the past 8 years. Denise is married, has three children, Cayla, 16, Nick, 12, and Lucas who is 9, and lives in Oyster Bay. Her days at our school are very fulfilling working with all the students.



DATES TO REMEMBER

October 28-29	Middle School Book Fair
October 28	SEPTA Meeting Middle School Library - 7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The speaker will be Janice McQuaid. The program is entitled: Pay Attention! Understanding and Managing Attention Controls.
October 29	Middle School Welcome & School Information Night - MS Library - 7:30 p.m.
November 4	Schools Closed - Superintendent's Conference Day
November 6	Middle School Yearbook Portraits Retakes
Nov 10-Dec.19	Middle School Toy and Canned Food Drive
November 11	Schools Closed
November 18	SEPTA Meeting: Stress Reduction for High Stakes Testing with Kids having Special Needs - Speaker: Dr. Glenn Pollack
November 19	Middle School Report Cards Emailed
November 19	Middle School Winter Concert I, Chorus/Orchestra will be performing in the Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.
November 20	Board of Education Meeting - Middle School Library - 7:30 p.m.
November 21	Middle School PTSA Meeting and Principal's Coffee Hour-MS Library-9:00 a.m