



THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER

March 16, 2012

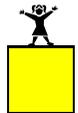
*“Some people talk in their sleep. Lecturers talk while other people sleep.”
~Albert Camus*

Dear Friends,

I was recently reading an article by Craig A. Lambert ~ Deputy Editor of Harvard Magazine and he was discussing Professor Mazur’s (Balkanski professor of physics and applied physics) work on the trend of moving “active learning” to the college lecture hall. “The trend toward ‘active learning’ may overthrow the style of teaching that has ruled universities for 600 years.” And I thought ~ “They’re catching up!”

March is always the time I begin to look at the “state of the union” of our school. I am beginning to make the transition for writing formal observations of classroom lessons and moving into the process of writing formal evaluations. Bandfest, String Jamboree, our annual Happy Hollow Talent Show, the annual Spelling Bee, the 5th grade play rehearsals, academic presentations including our 4th grade immigration museum and the day-to-day lessons that are the heart of the current grade level are in full swing. Parent conferences have begun wherein each child’s individual achievements and areas of need are presented, discussed and used to inform future learning. We are in the heart of the year! At its core is active learning in each of our 20 classrooms and in all specials and related subjects taught around those rooms.

Our school is the type of place that Professor Mazur dreams that colleges will one day be for all students! Our dynamic staff keeps getting better all the time. They are true practitioners at their craft and to that end always learning ~ always trying something new. It is the nature of this elementary school because our young people are still the groups that we as a society strive to engage. No parent wants a bored or unhappy learner, and while they are in the formative years, we all work to ensure that this is not the case.



To codify what has begun to shift is that in all of my observations both formal and informal, I see extremely active classroom settings ~ more than ever before. Lessons are segmented so that students no longer sit for long periods of time. Small group learning is happening throughout the day and all staff are involved in making it happen so you see it all over the school. Through the Response to Intervention (RTI) model in conjunction with the work of our curriculum directors, math coaches, reading specialists, classroom, special education staff and the TA staff, all are creating a more fluid instructional pathway that moves in and out of small group, individual and computer assisted formats.



The most widely used pedagogical technique from teacher to student is in an inquiry-based format ~ not telling ~ engaging our students in a dialogue that promotes thinking levels of analysis around a given subject. Another is the think-aloud techniques where staff demonstrate their thinking and by



doing so ignite enthusiasm for students to do the same. Then students share their thinking with their peers and we have the kind of learning that Mr. Lambert was dreaming will happen at the college level. “Perhaps the key is to coax students not only out of their rooms, but into each other’s minds. If learning is indeed a social experience, then a ‘party school’-of a certain kind just might offer the richest learning environment of all.” ~ Around the halls of Happy Hollow, the party has begun. Lessons end with group shares. Students are discussing their thinking, their work and our “state of the union” is strong.



We have assembly meetings where we share as a school and our students are engaged in a type of community service/service learning beyond their classroom settings. These things as well as the Bandfest, String Jamboree and talent show are making for lively, inquisitive learners. They are actively involved in their learning process. Professor Aladjem, executive director of the Bok Center and lecturer on social studies at Harvard University said, “The live classroom is still the best medium for a student to truly be known as an intellectual being and to engage with other such beings. You learn from your peers in all walks of life. Students have always hidden in their rooms, social media can keep them in their rooms longer.” We need active learning more than ever before and collaborative, small group think exchanges as commonplace educational strategies.

At the end of each formal lesson, I collect student comments about the lesson to later share with teachers. I am sharing a cross-section of comments all demonstrating active thinking, thinking about one’s learning or metacognition and realizing success. In the words of our students ~ active learning is alive and well! Enjoy!

“In a way, this kind of word study seems like doing a puzzle. It’s fun!”

“I like taking the quiz on the computer because it is just easier, you know?”

“This book is just one I like. I don’t know if it is challenging or not, it is just fun.”

“Ms. _____ likes to do things like this (cutting the words for word study). She thinks of ways to make it interesting.”

“I can do it because I understand how to use the Change Diagram.”

“I did some of this last year, but I think this is harder. I get it though.”

“I like when we get to practice like this because then you feel like you really understand.”

“I liked when we talked about the directions because they were easier then.”

“I like thinking this way because it is kind of like a game; you have to guess and see if you’re right.”

“I know my work is right, because I check it like Ms. _____ said. She likes us to do that.”

“Well, it is really addition and subtraction in a fancy way. Well, I know that because Ms. _____ showed us and we practiced in our group.”

“I am writing to my mother. Ms. _____ tells us to say compliments so I am telling her I like her chicken. And she also pushes me on the swing and I like that. That’s how you tell a compliment.”

“I am making a quiz... I know it’s not on the list, but Ms. _____ said we could. So I was thinking about pizza and thought other people might want to, too. Do you want to take my quiz?”

“You can just look over there and see how to spell ‘friends’. We can look around the room to find words like that.” She pointed to a line in a song that that was written on chart paper and hanging on the wall. It read, “Make new friends but keep the old ones.”

“Well I know how to spell some of these words and some I just have to think about them. ‘Do you want fur to be long/short, brown/white, and black, blue, green?’ I think it is like a poem... Ms. _____ likes a lot of words.”

“I love my e-portfolio! It just looks good! See? I think it looks real or something!”

“I know it is a metaphor because it is what it says. It is not like something else.”

“I chose this metaphor because I can run fast. I am a cheetah! Yeah!”

“The Tech Workshop is great because the computer makes it fun for everyone. We all love it! We talk about it and share all of our stuff with each other. You learn more that way.”

“I like the rubric because it tells me how to get the grade I want ~ which is an /A/.”

“We all know how to choose the right book because we use the ten word try. We need to see if we don’t know ten words in the first few paragraphs or page. Then we decide if the book is too hard or too easy. If it is easy, we can think about it in bigger ways ~ write some more comments on what we think using the text. It’s good when we meet with our groups too. Everyone has something to add.”

“I like the computer work because it shows you right away what you need to do... I am not worried about the test because Mr. _____ makes us know it before we have a test.”

“What if we made a poster together about the list?”

“I think a poster helps everyone. These things are important.”

“Do you know what light colors are called? ~ Not pastels! They are tints! Want to learn about them, read my book!”

“My book is a dog book. I know about them, but I liked to create unity with the dog. See?”

“I am doing shoes and socks. It’s kind of different. I don’t know how I thought of it. I just wanted to do something different and I looked down and thought shoes and socks. That’s a theme and it shows the unity when I use the same colors and things on the other pages. That’s about it.

“Do you want to know how to make a flip book? I am going to do another one and so this is what you do. You have to put it like a taco on a plate. See?”

“Well, I know we are safe and Mr. ____ makes sure of it. We take care of each other too.”

“I think it is good to know how to do this. I could kind of do something like it before, but I made it up so it might not have been the right way. Mr. _____ has us do it the right way. Then we practiced it in groups.”

“I get better all the time. It is fun to get better. We all are.”

“We have to listen because it is always important...Then we work together. It’s fun!”



All best,
Jim Lee

This and that from the principal’s office:

~Service Learning and Community Service Projects completed since our last newsletter ~

Service Learning Projects:

Ms. Chan’s Class engaged in a service learning project around respectful listening. They collaborated and taught the school about this type of listening at a whole-school assembly through a series of skits.

The Dolphin Tale Group ~ These girls were busy learning about protecting ocean life and raised money by making and selling crafts and books for Clearwater Marine Hospital. From Ms. Chan’s Class ~ **Erin Greenberg**; From Ms. Morrison’s Class ~ **Anna Dong, Makayla George, Caitlin Newton, Sarina Patel and Mia Wong.**

Community Service Awards:

Our Student Council led us in a community service project: Anton’s Cleaners commends Happy Hollow School for being part of those who worked to collect more than 56,000 coats in the 2011-12 drive! Thank you student council for leading us in this amazing event!

Many more projects in the works!

A HUGE Thank you goes out to Karen and Chris Wuerfl, Karen Huges, Jeanne Brown, Tracy Scheidemantel and Pam Bonaguide for the outstanding Annual Happy Hollow Talent Show. As always, there were many more involved too and I hope you know that all efforts were and are appreciated. The students had the opportunity to shine and shine they did~ bright as ever! Thank you so much!

As always, remember to visit the Happy Hollow and District Calendars for upcoming events.

Monday, March 19	All School Assembly	Gymnasium 9AM
Tuesday, March 20	MCAS Grade 4, ELA – Long Composition	
Wednesday, March 21	MCAS, Grade 3, ELA	
Thursday, March 22	MCAS, Grade 5, ELA	
Friday, March 23	MCAS, Grade 3, ELA	
Monday, March 26	MCAS, Grade 4, ELA	
Tuesday, March 27	MCAS, Grade 5, ELA	
Wednesday, March 28	MCAS, Grade 4, ELA	
Thursday, March 29	MCAS, ELA Make-ups	
Wednesday April 4	5 th Grade Play	Gymnasium 10am & 6pm
Friday, April 6	No School –Good Friday	
Saturday, April 14-22	No School-Spring Break	
Monday, April 23	Classes resume	
Monday, April 23	All School Assembly	Gymnasium 9AM
Monday, April 30	Sol Y Canto-Cultural Enrichment	Gymnasium 10AM
Monday, May 7	All School Assembly	Gymnasium 9AM
May 8 – May 17	MCAS	
Monday, May 21	All School Assembly	Gymnasium 9AM
Monday, May 28	No School-Memorial Day	
June 6-7	PTO Book Fair	
Wednesday, June 6	End of Year Picnic	Playground 5:30

Green Team Tips and Announcement

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Green Team Meeting in March

The Wayland Green Team is looking for parents, students and teachers to continue our efforts to make, real and lasting changes in our schools that will conserve resources, protect the environment and our kids over the long-term.

If you would like to learn more, please check our website at www.waylandgreenteam.org, email us at info@waylandgreenteam.org, or come to our next meeting, Monday March 12, from 4:00-5:30pm, in the library at Happy Hollow School.

Thank you. -Wayland Schools Green Team

HEALTHY HOLLER



NEWS FROM THE HEALTH ROOM March 2012

All School Head Lice Screening



- A big **“Thank you”** to all the parents who came and screened for head lice on February 28, 2012. We could not do it without you!
- **Our next check will be Tuesday, April the 24th, at 8:45am, after April vacation.**
- Please contact Elizabeth Curtin at escurtin@comcast.net if you are available to help with this very important screening.

Check your child!



- Please continue to check your child’s head at home as part of their daily routine. There continue to be cases of head lice in our community.
- Please review the following websites for information and/or call the Happy Hollow health room if help is needed.
 - www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html
 - www.headlice.org

Strep throat



- **We continue to see strep throat across all grade levels.**
- **Strep throat:** Please observe your children for symptoms of headache and stomach aches. They may or may not have a fever or complain of a sore throat. These are symptoms that we see in elementary age children, and may be a sign of a strep throat infection. Please be sure to see your health care professional. Letters are sent home to parents if we know of a case in your child’s classroom.

3rd grade parents:



- A letter went home with your child via their backpack last week. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires that all 4th grade students have a current physical on file for 2012-13 academic school year. Please send these in when available.

Snacks and water:



- Please be sure that your student eats a healthy nourishing breakfast every morning. If possible, they should have a morning snack also available. Students should be encouraged to drink plenty of water throughout the day to be well-hydrated.

Please contact the health room with any questions and/or concerns.

Thank you

Jeanne MacDonald RN

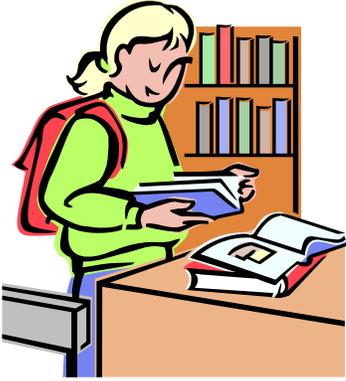
jeanne_macdonald@wayland.k12.ma.us

508-358-6051

CURRICULUM CORNER

STORIES FROM THE LIBRARY:

From the Library Media Center



Brian Lies Visit

A **huge thank you** to the PTO for sponsoring our recent author visit. Brian Lies spoke with all the classes and shared his journey from second grade art work to published author and illustrator. His message of "Practice makes better" resonated with students and teachers alike. Your donations to the PTO allow us to provide such enriching experiences for the students. Thank you.

Massachusetts Childrens Book Award

Students in **Grades 4 and 5 recently voted for their favorite book** in the annual Massachusetts Childrens Book Award Program sponsored by Salem State University. Each year, students in Massachusetts grades 4, 5, and 6 may choose their favorite book from a list of twenty-five books nominated by teachers and librarians. To be eligible to vote, a student must have read at least five books from the list. This year 45 Happy Hollow students read the required amount and were able to vote. Their votes were sent to Salem State and will be tabulated with all the other participating schools. The winner will be announced in May and certificates sent to the classrooms

Elizabeth Bryant,
Library Teacher

MUSIC BEATS:

March Music Notes—Mrs. Calkins, Music Teacher

Grade 1 First graders will participate dramatic expression and movement activities, focusing on steady beat and vocal expression. They will be introduced to the musical staff and notation through stories, visuals and “lines and spaces” activities and continue practicing rhythmic literacy skills. Irish songs and dances will help them get in the mood for St. Patrick’s Day.

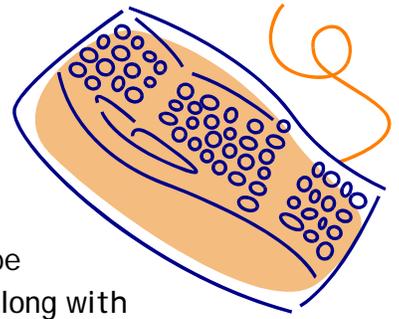


Grade 2 Second Graders will work collaboratively in small groups to compose original rhythm patterns. Then, they will perform them for the class. They will also be introduced to the musical instrument families through a variety of interactive activities and games. An Irish folk melody will provide the framework for improvising melodies and rhythms on percussion instruments.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at susan_calkins@wayland.k12.ma.us

Bytes from Technology Grades 1-3:

1st Grade - Students are currently working on creating a penguin graphic organizer using the program [Kidspiration](#). Several key concepts from this project include: linking pictures to categories (think about linking from the main idea to the category then category to the example) and showing picture labels (text under each picture). We will be wrapping up this project in a few weeks ~ look for the penguin project along with further details in your child's backpack.



2nd Grade - Second graders are busy creating an animated butterfly scene using the program [MicroWorlds Jr.](#) This project is our final project in our robotics unit of study. Students need to create a scene and then animate butterflies. Students used the painting center tools to enhance their scenes. They learned to program their butterflies by using commands in the command center. Several of the commands used are: step, turn, pause, shrink and grow. Projects will be shared once completed.

3rd Grade - Students just completed our unit on using on-line resources. Our culminating invention research project involved many skills. Children used several on-line encyclopedias to locate facts, and a picture search engine (picsearch.com) to locate pictures of their invention. Then the students compiled all their facts and pictures into a poster using MS Word. Look for projects to be coming home in the next few weeks. Students have also been introduced to All The Right Type 4 Online, which is our keyboarding program. To access ATRT online - please use the link under the ["For Students" section of the Happy Hollow website](#). Because student data is now saved in the cloud, students can now work seamlessly on their keyboarding skills between home and school.

2011-2012 PTO Events: Happy Hollow

Save the Date

Together We Can Make It Happen!

Dates subject to change

EVENT	DATE/TIME	CONTACT
Cultural Enrichment	Ongoing	Alexia Obar and Seta Abrahamian
Just Like Me	Throughout the year	Jennifer Bonner and Susan Green
PTO Board Meeting	1 st Friday of the month 9:15 am at Loker library	Stephanie Leong
Town-wide Bingo at WMS cafeteria	Mar. 16 (F) at 6:00 pm	Alexia Obar
Lice Checks	Apr. 24 (T) at 8:45 am	Elizabeth Curtin
Earth Day Events	Apr. 28 & 29 (Sa & Su)	Christina Veal and Katrien Vander Staeten
Book Fair	Jun. 6 & 7 (W & Th)	Lynne Cribben and Val Erdekian
End of Year Picnic	Jun. 6 (W) at 5:30 pm Rain Date: Jun. 11 (M)	Nell Getz
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	Jun. 7 (TH) at 9:15 am HH Cafeteria	Stephanie Leong
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	Jun. 15 (F)	Loconzolo/Thompkins

PTO Events



PTO BOARD MEETING – All are welcome!

Friday, April 6, at 9:15 am

Loker Library

The Happy Hollow/Loker Board meets monthly. These meetings are open to the entire membership and everyone is encouraged to attend with any questions, ideas or suggestions. Little ones in tow are always welcome!

ANNUAL PTO BINGO NIGHT

Friday, March 16, 6-8 pm, Wayland Middle School Cafeteria

Unfortunately, we are no longer accepting Bingo forms as we have reached our capacity for attendees. All forms will be returned to those we are unable to accept.

Thank you for your continued support,
The PTO Bingo Committee

PTO News

ATTENTION 5TH GRADE PARENTS

This is a reminder to send in your 5th Grade Activities Fees (the box is located on table outside of the office—make checks payable to the Wayland PTO) and sign up to help with all the fun events!

Any questions, please contact Karin Dussault (kdussault@verizon.net) or Jen Apazidis (jenifer.apazidis@gmail.com).



ENCORE! TALENT SHOW NEEDS HELP

Congratulations to all the performers in the Happy Hollow Talent Show. The children did an amazing job Friday night, and we received so many compliments on their performances.

Now we need your help.

We have been running the talent show for many years (more than you can imagine!) and now it is time to move on. We need a team of 4 people to take over the show. Yes, it is a lot of work but it is for a short time and what do you get out of it? I am still overwhelmed with the pride and excitement each student emanates when they climb on stage for their performance. I am amazed how comfortable they are getting up in front of their classmates to show us their "audition."

Please help Happy Hollow continue the tradition. If we can get 4 people to commit to running the show next year, we are happy to help them through the transition. Contact Karen Wuerfl (kwuerfl@jfwhite.com) or Stephanie Leong (happyhollowpto@gmail.com) if you're interested!

Thank-you for your help, The Talent Show Team (Tracy, Jeanne, Karen, and Karen)



SUPERHERO LICE-CHECKERS SAVE THE DAY!

Our nitpicky lice-checkers have once again saved the day and prevented Happy Hollow from being hostilely taken over by noggin-itching

critters!

We feted our lice-seeking moms and dads with coffee, baked goods, and friendly conversation to ensure that they all went home with a warm-fuzzy, not an itchy-scratchy. **Nell Getz** was our *Lucky Lice Checker of the Day*, as the raffle winner of Amy Simmons' decadent Ghiradelli fudge cake. Excited by her win, Nell said, "It was the best chocolate cake I ever had – I'll go lice hunting any day for that!"

Want your chance to be a superhero lice checker? Like a good party? Then don't miss your chance to join in the fun. Email Elizabeth Curtin (escurtin@comcast.net) and volunteer to be a lice-checker on Tuesday, April 24th, at 8:45 a.m. Save the day, enjoy some friendly conversation, and get the chance to win one of Amy Simmons' delish chocolate bliss bundt cakes!

Do you wish that Nell hadn't left so quickly with her cake? Here's the recipe so that you can bake one of your own.

Amy's Ghiradelli Fudge Cake

Ingredients

2 2/3 *plus* 1 1/2 cups Ghiradelli (or other high-end chocolate) semisweet chocolate chips
1 cup *plus* 3 Tbsp. butter, softened
1 cup *plus* 4 1/2 Tbsp. half-and-half cream
1 cup sugar
8 eggs
2 Tbsp. vanilla extract
2 Tbsp. corn syrup
Fresh mint and/or berries for garnish (optional)

Directions

1. Grease a 10-inch springform pan *well* with butter. Line the bottom with a parchment paper circle and grease that, too! Wrap the bottom of the pan with heavy-duty tinfoil and set aside on a baking sheet.
2. In a saucepan, heat 2 2/3 cups of the chocolate chips, 1 cup of the butter, 1 cup of the cream, and the sugar over low heat, whisking until the chocolate is all melted and the mix is smooth. Remove from the heat and allow to cool slightly.
3. In a large mixing bowl or stand mixer, beat the eggs on high for 3 minutes or until they are light and fluffy. Add the chocolate mixture, one-third at a time, until well blended. Stir in the vanilla and pour into the prepared pan.
4. Bake (on the cookie sheet) at 350° for 45-50 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out with moist crumbs (the top will crack). Cool on a wire rack (the cake will settle).
5. Cover and chill for 1 hour. Run a knife around the outside of the cake before releasing the pan. Invert the cake onto your serving platter of choice (you will not want to have to move it again!), and remove both the springform pan bottom and the parchment.
6. In a saucepan, heat the remaining chocolate chips, cream, butter and the corn syrup over low heat until the chocolate is completely melted and the mixture is smooth. Spread enough of the mixture (slightly more than half) over the cake to completely cover the top and sides, and chill for 10 minutes. Repeat with the remaining chocolate and chill for several hours or overnight. Garnish with fresh fruit and mint.

Happy Hollow Hurrah!

Thanks to...

...the following people who volunteered their time last week for the Happy Hollow lice check:

Rebekah Whitfield, Frederica Ponce, Phil Fantoni, Sally Lehr, Diana Lien, Jiali Wang, Catherine Davies, Michelle Loconzolo, Jen Dennis, Carrie Greenberg, Dave Howe, Ruth Kaplan Murray, Jinglei Whitehouse, Pam Kainz, Lynne Cribben, Ann Marie Aidala, Susan Green, Alexia Obar, Samantha Richter, Jolin Hsu, Maria Martin, Lori Caddoo, and all the others who popped in at the last minute to help out. Thank you especially to **Amy Simmons** for providing our lice-checkers with delicious home-baked goodies and coffee! What a treat!

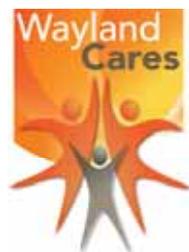
...to **Jeanne Brown, Karen Hughes, Karen Wuerfl, Tracy Scheidemantel** for their hard work putting together this year's Talent Show with their team of volunteers, **Pam Bonaguide, Beth Cushing, Michelle Parsegian, Laurel Gill, Chris Wuerfl,** and **Mary Beth Hagen,** plus the help of high schoolers **Jonah Camiel, Brad Varnum,** and **Matt Poulson.** Bravo!

If there's anyone who's helped out that you wish to acknowledge, please email:

juliesuratt@gmail.com.

Visit us online at happyhollowpto.org

WELLNESS SUMMIT



All adults and middle school and high school students in the Wayland community are invited to attend a Wellness Summit on **Sunday, March 18, 2012 from 1:00-4:00 pm at Wayland High School**. The Summit will feature a series of three 45 minute workshop time slots. During each of these sessions, participants can choose from up to nine topics ranging from a bullying presentation for middle school students, concussions, on-line gaming, social media, nurturing our children's success and health, green products, social yoga for stress relief, among many others. The broad array of information will assure that adults and youth alike will find something of interest to them. It is hoped that attendees will share what they learned with their families and friends. Ideally the impact of the summit will be enlarged through ongoing conversations in a ripple effect. If there is sufficient interest, Wayland School Community Programs will provide fee-based care for children ages four years old through fifth grade. For more information about this, please email Rosemarie_Teti@wayland.k12.ma.us by February 27th.

For a complete program schedule and registration information, please visit www.WaylandCares.org. Registration is requested so that materials can be appropriately prepared.

This program is sponsored by WaylandCares and Friends of Wayland Youth and Family Services.

Press Release March 1, 2012

Contact: Lori Frieling RFrieling@aol.com 508-650-9463 or Cindy Lombardo cindy.lombardo@comcast.net 508-358-5958

Community Invited to Excellence in Action: Wayland High School Grand Open House, March 21st

Come see our beautiful new Wayland High School as Celebrate Wayland presents Excellence in Action: a Grand Open House, Wednesday, March 21st from 7:00 – 9:00 pm.

All are invited to tour the new buildings and renovated Field House including the new WayCam studio, and see firsthand our fantastic high school program. The event will feature performances, educational demonstrations, displays, and presentations of our curricular as well as co-curricular programs. Come meet students, faculty and our parent groups, and see our new facility live and in action.

The Golden Tones will kick-off the program with a performance in the Commons at 6:45 pm. Principal Pat Tutwiler will make opening remarks in the Auditorium at 7:00 pm. Then, attendees will be free to move throughout the buildings for programs and demos in the sciences, fine arts, English, math and business, technology, student performances and more.

Memorabilia, photos, and other items will be on display, and some for sale. If you have items to loan for the display, contact Amanda Demersky at 508-358-0180 by March 10th.

The Celebrate Wayland Committee includes members of the Wayland Public Schools Foundation, WHSPO, CAPA, Boosters, the Wayland Children and Parents Association, the Wayland Alumni Association, the Wayland High School Administration and the School Committee, the High School Building Committee and others. For more information, or to participate, contact Cindy Lombardo, at 508-358-5958, or Lori Frieling, at 508-650-9463.