

# The Marauder

February 2002

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- Classroom News
- Clubs News
- Student of the Month
- Middle School Calendar for February
- How to Help Earn Educational Merchandise
- PTSA News

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## From Mr. Kissinger.....

Dear Parents,

Where is the time going? The school year is officially half over already with no signs of slowing down. Trying to mention all that took place here last month and all that is scheduled for February would be difficult at best and would take up most of this newsletter. Just looking through this edition should be enough to prove this point! The downside to all of this activity is that time compromises are inevitable. I am asking that one of these time compromises not be homework time. Forty minutes of quality instruction is not enough to ensure mastery of a subject. Students need to review and reflect on material in order to firmly grasp it. Even when homework is not formally assigned, no harm can come from rewriting notes, reviewing past tests and rereading texts. These types of learned study habits will pay off in post secondary life as well. A consistent time and place that is set aside daily for study regardless of what may be assigned on a particular night sets in place a strong work ethic and builds self discipline.

While I wish all students good luck for the second semester, I would also like to remind everyone that hard work and determination can create opportunities that have unlimited potential.

Sincerely yours,

Russell Kissinger  
Middle School Principal



## A Special Valentine's Day

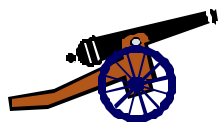
Valentine's Day is a special time for many people. A time when we all think of hearts, candy, flowers, and...in a word...love! Well, this day also happens to be a special birthday for two special people. One is a former quarterback named Jim Kelly and the other is his son Hunter (born on Feb 14th). Hunter was born with a rare disease (called Krabbes) which the Kelly family has been struggling with since his birth in 1997. A foundation called "Hunter's Hope" has since been established by the family to raise awareness and money to fight the disease. In tribute to this noble cause was an effort by 'yours truly' in the form of a musical composition called "Hunter's Hope." The song was first performed at a Hunter's Hope benefit in Buffalo in November of last year and has been requested again for a benefit performance at Chestnut Ridge Park (near Buffalo) on February 14th 2002 to help raise money for the cause. I'd like to perform the song with the chorus here at the middle school before the end of the year.

Miracles rarely happen, but hope springs eternal. This year let's all hope for Hunter...and pray for Hunter's Hope. For more information, check out their web-site: [www.huntershope.org](http://www.huntershope.org)

Sincerely yours,  
M. G. Amend



## Mrs. Bierer's Classroom



The Revolutionary War has been won! For cultural background and practical experience, each student made a hornbook. This helped them understand the economics of the time—expensive and scarce paper and pencils. We even did a little Math on the slate side to show the limitations of the 1700's methods and reinforce the blessing of modern supplies. We

took a bit of tea to learn the feelings of being proper with linen napkins and china tea cups. The controversial Stamp Act was a lively topic of conversation, and some children preferred to "take no tea" in the Patriot spirit of the day.

With a smear of Vaseline on filter papers, each child tested for air pollution in our classroom. Everything appears as it sticks to the experiment—chalk dust, normal dust, and a bit of other excess. This is an interesting process to try in our homes, too.

We have read The Cabin Faced West, a transition from colonies in the East to settling westward territory. Dear Levi followed, exploring a journey even farther West.

Book-It! was participated in with nine class members. Alex Cappon was the highest achiever with 1,619 minutes of reading for December.

## Todd East & S.O.P

We're very excited to be having Todd East come to Williamson on Friday, February 8th. Todd is a very popular entertainer in and around the Rochester area. One glimpse through any local entertainment newspaper and you will find his name listed at several different venues during any one week. Todd will be singing, playing the piano, and sharing his life experiences as a professional musician and a blind man. Todd will be at the Middle and High School during the morning and afternoon and will finish the day with a concert at the Middle School Auditorium starting at 7 pm. Don't miss it!

At the evening concert, Todd East will be joined by the popular a cappella quintet S.O.P (Sons of Pitches), who will be debuting their new CD! All artists will be available after the concert for CD sales, autographs, and good conversation. This will be a fun concert for the entire family and will be free of charge (with a suggested donation of a \$1 at the door). See you there!





## FANTASTIC FRIDAY

*Coordinated by Mrs. Hoody, Mrs. Legler,  
and Ms. Prill*

2002 seconds of silent reading = ? Minutes

We found out the answer during 8th  
period on January 11th.

Students, staff, and administration  
participated in our first leisure-read time.

Fantastic Friday

## Fantabulous Fifth Graders

### Meet the DECEMBER BOOK - IT CHALLENGE!

**Congratulations!** from Mrs. Bierer, Ms. Brownell, Mr. Holowka, Ms. Luke, Mr. Marshall, and Ms. Prill

The following students are responsible for reading a minimum of 360 minutes for the month of December.

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>MINUTES</u>
Allen	Lukas	410
Alquist	Pierce	1,800
Anselmo	Kayla	445
Bigelow	Bob	978
Bowman	Autumn	722
Bowman	Roxanne	630
Buckler	Jason	1,062
Calabresi	Nina	840
Cappon	Alex	1,619
Collins	Michael	451
Darling	Stephanie	360+
Denner	Damiene	406
Eaton	Tyler	720
Gobeyn	Jonathan	360
Godsey	Tommy	540
Hollebrandt	William	360
Istik	Erika	390
Johnson	Katie	3,162
Jones	Kelly	29hrs
La Comba	Michael	2,100
Larson	Kevin	360
Lergner	Carrie	360
Maroselli	Shelby	2,771
Morris	Danielle	360+
Nocerino	Matt	360+
Siragusa	Ryan	383
Steurrys	Christie	1,680
Storrs	Chelsey	360+
Trejo	Darely	930
Wackerman	Jeremiah	960
White	Noelle	375
Wood	Jessica	1,015
Young	Chelsea	400

## Reading Counts! Club

*By Ms. Prill*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**



Corey Baker	50+ points 22 Books 64,754 Words
Diana Horton	50+ points 13 Books 139,989 Words
Bethany Redder	50+ points 13 Books 155,542 Words
Chelsea Young	50+ points 19 Books 103,363 Words

**The above students have met their Reading Counts! goal for the year and are now working on doubling that goal.**

**You may join the Club at any time during the year.**

Beeeeeeeeee There



On Valentine's Day

February 14, 2002

For our Spelling Bee  
10<sup>th</sup> period in the Middle School  
Auditorium

Come support our contestants.

Refreshments

?’s, see Ms. Prill

## It's Not Too Late... to join the Reading Counts Club!

*By Ms. Prill*

**End-of-Year Goal**



Students who meet their goal by June 15<sup>th</sup> may participate in an outrageous outdoor Pizza Party in June and....in a special day-outing in the summer.

If you read a bit below your grade level, your school year goal is 50 points or 300,001 words read.

If you read on your grade level, your school year goal is 120 points or 499,000 words read.

If you read above your grade level, your school year goal is 250 points or 799,001 words read.

I hope I'll C U at our next meeting. Listen to the announcements for the day we'll meet. Ms. Prill

## Art Club

*By Mrs. Wilkinson*



How exciting to have Channel 13 here at school to film our club for the Bright Spot on their 6 o'clock news show. It was fun to watch the camera man/reporter work his way around the art room with all the art club members working on the Proud to Be An American note cards. The spot was aired that very night and everyone looked great! Don Alhart said the Williamson parents should be proud.

We are close to 3/4 of the way to our way to our \$2000 goal raising money for the schools affected by the 9-11 tragedy. Please help us reach our goal. You may buy the note cards at the Apple Crate, Main Street, Williamson, and at the Middle School Office.

And again, thank you to those who have supported us already. We really appreciate it.

## Physical Education News!

*By Mrs. Freischlag and Mr. Mitchell*



In physical education class we have started our basketball unit. So far we have been teaching various skills such as shooting, dribbling and passing. During the unit we will have two shooting contests. The results of the "Hotshot Competition" are;

8th

Lauren Forget  
Mason Verbridge

7th

Paige Johns  
Ryan Dixon

6th

Jawni Winters  
Zach Mogray

5th

Stephanie Follette  
Paul Jenkins

\*High Score—Alexandra Maroselli

## P.E. cont...

As soon as it snows, we will begin our cross country skiing unit. This year we plan on skiing will all grade levels. Please have your child bring warm clothes for class. The following clothing should be brought for physical education class:

- \*Warm Coats
- \*Gloves
- \*Hat
- \*Extra Socks
- \*Snow Pants/Wind pants (optional)

We will provide all equipment.



taken from the application forms signed by a parent and turned in by January 28.



The Talent Show will be held Friday, March 22 at 7PM in the Williamson Middle School Auditorium.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Association is also organizing a trip to see Beauty and the Beast at the Auditorium Center April 11. We have room for 44 participants.

We also continue to accept labels for education sponsored by the Campbell Soup Company. They can be brought to the office or to Mrs. Osborn.

## Ski Club

Ski Club will have their trips to Brantling February 1 and 8. If one of these trips is postponed another Friday will be added.



## International Club

The International Club will meet Thursday, February 7 at 2:15 in Room 13.

## 7th/8th Grade Student Association

*By Diane Osborn*

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Association will hold try-outs for the Talent Show at assigned times Tuesday, February 5, Wednesday, February 6, and Thursday, February 7 from 2:15 until finished. Students will be told their particular time in advance. Their preference time will be

## Used Clothing Drive

SPONSORED BY  
THE WILLIAMSON TRACK TEAM 2002

Breen's IGA  
Wednesday, March 20, 2002  
4:00-7:00 PM



## Williamson Public Library News

It's Movie Madness on the BIG screen at the Williamson Free Public Library! On February 19 from 2-4 pm enjoy a full length feature film complete with free movie munchies! Bring your own pillow, sit back, relax and enjoy the show!

While your at the library-check out the display of Learning Fair Ideas! Also, look for the NEW CD ROM games! Many to choose from. Need something to do during the February break? Adventures never end when you READ-so, don't forget the library. We will be closed Monday, February 18 in honor of Presidents Day. Call us for more information at 589-2048

## Pierced Ears

*By Mrs. Starr*

If you are trying to decide whether or not to allow your child to pierce his or her upper ears, you may want to consider this information from the *Mayo Clinic Health Letter*: An infection in that part of the ear can lead to cartilage damage and permanent ear deformity. The upper ear is made of cartilage, which does not have its own blood supply. Antibiotics tend to be ineffective in treating infections in areas of the body that do not have a blood supply adequate to deliver the medication. If the cartilage becomes infected, it could mean surgically removing the infected portion. The results are not attractive.



### Immunization Reminder from the Health Office

If your child started the Hepatitis B immunization series in January, he or she is due for the second shot in the series this month. If your child has completed the series please be sure that documentation has been sent to the Health Office. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

### A MESSAGE FROM PTSA

I hope everyone had a nice holiday and you are enjoying the New Year!

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped provide refreshments at our holiday concerts. There were so many goodies to enjoy after watching our children perform for us in chorus and band.

Due to a lack of chaperones for 7/8 Activity Nights, there has only been one held. The next date is Thursday, March 7th. Please call me if you would like to help out. If there is anyone who hasn't been called upon and you would like to get more involved, please let me know! The 5/6 Activity Nights have been well attended and the kids have fun playing basketball, dodge ball, ping-pong, chess and other games. All parents are welcome to stay with their kids for an enjoyable time. The last one for this year is Friday, March 1st from 6:30-8:00.

Other events for this year include: Learning Fair, Candy sale, Book fair, Staff Appreciation Day, Festival of Arts and 8th Grade Farewell.

PTSA Meetings for year are held in the Middle School Conference room (in the Art Room/Technology Room/CSE wing, 1st floor rear hallway) at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates: Wednesday, Feb. 13th, Wednesday, April 3rd and Wednesday, May 8th. Our annual election of officers will take place at the May 8th meeting. Come share your ideas and support your PTSA.

Thanks! Aileen Hurlimann  
589-3064

## Student of the Month for January

Student	Grade	Teacher	Reason
Bob Bigelow	5	G. Holowka	Constructive Attitude
Nina Calabresi	5	I. Bierer	Considerate and Helpful
Nicholas Damico	5	J. Luke	Improved Effort
Stephanie Darling	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Brittany Duell	5	J. Luke	Improved Effort, Especially with Homework
Stephanie Follette	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Jacob Garlow	5	J. Luke	Puts Forth Good Effort in All That He Does
Joe Jarnot	5	I. Bierer	Positive Attitude and Friendliness
Joe Moll	5	G. Holowka	Exceptional Effort
Andrew Nacci	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Bonnie Smith	5	A. Bechtold, K. Hoody	Excellent Class Participation
Chelsey Storrs	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Fred Blauvelt	6	C. Abdunnasir	Class Participation in Science
Allison Carnwath	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Christyne Chmil	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Mike Hurlimann	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Jessica Pfaff	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Zach Stohr	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Brian Storrs	6	S. Nellany	Excellent Attitude
Kyle Alward	7	D. Osborn	Well Prepared, Positive Attitude, Participates Often
Billy Callahan	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, Citizenship
Jake DeMarree	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, Citizenship
Sarah Dildine	7	P. Perez	Exceptional Effort, Class Participation
Ryne Flynn	7	K. Hoody	Offering Positive Feedback to Classmates on Written Assignments
Melissa Guilfoil	7	M. Wilkinson	Quiet and Steady; Exceptional Effort
Zach Klaver	7	P. Wackenhut	Demonstrates Exceptional Effort, Attitude, Participation in Science
Nick Remillard	7	S. Nellany	Great Entrepreneurship Helper
Ashley Scott	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, Citizenship
Dan Volpe	7	D. Greco	Constructive Attitude
Stephanie Wright	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, Citizenship
Brandon Barnes	8	D. Greco/ A. Bechtold	Positive Attitude, Positive Role Model
Kyle Bull	8	8th Grade Team	Improvement
Anthony Campisi	8	D. Brown	Constructive Attitude
Justin Cuvelier	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Kaitlyn DeRue	8	8th Grade Team	Effort
Derek DeWeese	8	M. Wilkinson	Exceptional Effort
Josh Ganskop	8	D. Osborn	Improved Work Habits, Improved Attitude, Well Prepared for Class
Justin Heinrich	8	D. Brown	Constructive Attitude
Justin Odle	8	8th Grade Team	Improvement
Allison Smith	8	8th Grade Team	Effort
Allison Smith	8	P. Perez	Exceptional Effort