

# washington WEEKLY News



## Important Dates

### November

- 18** PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm, WES Auditorium - **Changed**
- 19** DEAR: Mustache Day
- 26-27** **No School:** Thanksgiving Recess
- 30** Principal's Coffee, 8:45 am, WES

### December

- 2** Holiday Shop Set-Up, 3:30 - 8:00 pm, WES Gym
- 3** Holiday Shop & Alternative Gift Market, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, WES Gym
- 17** (DEAR): Best Holiday PJ Day
- 22** Washington Band, Chorus and Orchestra Winter Concert, 2:30 pm
- 23** Holiday Party, 2:45 - 3:20 pm

## What Day Is It?

- 11/16:** Day 2
- 11/17:** Day 3
- 11/18:** Day 4
- 11/19:** Day 5
- 11/20:** Day 1

## Weekly News

**Editors:** Soncerae Yeager & Jamie Bissot  
[WashingtonWeekly@gmail.com](mailto:WashingtonWeekly@gmail.com)

**Deadline to Submit:**  
 Tuesday, 5:00 pm

**To sign up for the electronic Washington Weekly News, please contact:**  
 Natalie Kukla  
 at  
[nats98@yahoo.com](mailto:nats98@yahoo.com)

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### Veterans Day Breakfast Social

Chairs: Chad Wertz & John Petulla  
 Set-Up: Mr. Dale  
 Donors:  
 Giant Eagle Market District  
 Shop n' Save  
 Dunkin Donuts  
 Clean-Up:

Thanks to all the Veteran's and family members who pitched in and made clean-up go super fast!

### Veteran's Day Celebration

Chairs: Stephanie Fedro-Byrom & Bonnie Dougherty  
 Volunteers:  
 Cub Scout Pack 28  
 Cub Scout Pack 22

## Quick Links

[School District Website](#)

[WES Website](#)

[Washington PTA Website](#)

District Calendar:  
[2015-2016 Calendar Website](#)

Lunchroom Menu  
[November](#)

## District Links

[High School Renovation Website](#)

[PA State Health Requirements](#)

[Volunteer Clearance Policy Info.](#)

[Emergency Medical Contact/Release Information](#)

## Membership

Chair: CharLynn Wertz  
Volunteers:  
Chris Stengel  
Allison Carey  
Julie Toussaint  
Mrs. Davis  
Mrs. Shetter  
Mrs. Jones

## Directory

Chair: It took a Village!  
Volunteers:  
Mrs. Davis  
Amee Oakes  
Julie Toussaint  
Allison Carey  
Mrs. Shetter  
Mrs. Jones  
CharLynn Wertz  
Kelly Latona  
Ann Deibert  
Banksville Printing

## Read-A-Thon

Chairs: Kelly Latona, Stephanie Fedro-Byrom and Rosie Pesacreta  
Volunteers:  
Stacey Bonenberger  
Anne Diebert  
Kyla Ellis  
Natalie Kukla  
Molly McCullough  
Amee Oakes  
Nancie Tormey  
Julie Toussaint  
Mrs. Davis  
Mrs. Shetter  
Mrs. Jones

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## PTA News

### Drop Everything And Read



*We "Mustache" You to Read*

*Introducing D.E.A.R.'s 3rd Annual*

## Health Services Information

### School Flyers/Blogs

Counselor's Corner:  
[November](#)

FLES Newsletter:  
[Noviembre](#)

FLES Blog:  
[Noticias](#)

Art Studio:  
[Art-BEAT](#)

[Crossing Guard Information](#)

[Crossing Guard Information](#)  
2 Hour Delay Schedule

[Playground Safety Guidelines](#)

[eShare Parent Instructions](#)

[Washington Warms Winter](#)

### PTA Forms & Flyers

[2015-2016 PTA Calendar](#)  
- Updated

[PTA Membership Online Form](#)

[Recycling](#)

[Traffic and Safety Information](#)

[October 21, 2015 PTA Meeting](#)  
[Minutes](#)

### Community Flyers

**Mt. Lebanon Rec Center**  
[Junior Tennis Clinic](#) - New  
Ages 5-8

[Dance Program](#) - New  
Ages 4-12

[Holiday Craft Class](#) - New  
Ages 4-4th grade

**Mt. Lebanon Youth Wrestling**  
[Learn to Wrestle](#) - New  
November, 17 Grades 1-6

**Outreach Teen & Family**  
**Services**  
[Website](#)

### Collections Corner

[Keep on Collectin'](#)

[Loyalty Card Registration](#)

## Mustache Day at Washington!

Thursday, November 19

Grab some black felt or even possibly faux fur and select a mustache from the template that is provided below to make your own mustache. Be creative because when it comes to mustaches, the ideas for stashes are endless! You may attach to your face or use a wooden stick, Popsicle stick, or even a straw to hold it in front of your face.

Most importantly, do not forget to grab your book & **Get ready to Drop Everything And Read!**

### How to Make Your Own Mustache in 3 very easy steps!

1. Gather the following materials:
  - \*firm craft felt
  - \*wooden stick, straw, or Popsicle stick
  - \*scissors
  - \*glue
2. Download & print the printable mustache template [here](#):
3. Cut out the stash you would like to make and glue on a wooden stick.



### Alternative Gift Market



On December 3, along side the Holiday Shop, is the Alternative Gift Market (AGM). The AGM is a service provided by the PTA to introduce our children to the idea of philanthropy, providing a "teachable moment" about the existence of people in need and our capacity to make a difference. Through the Alternative Gift Market, our children and their families can make small donations (\$2) to a charity in honor of a loved one, and then receive a gift card announcing the gesture.

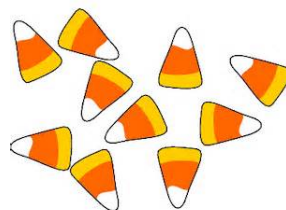
We will send home the flyer the week of Thanksgiving to permit you to discuss with your children the charities we are sponsoring this year.

Each charity focuses on families or children.

~Heather Boylan Clark, AGM Chair

### Treats for Troops - Thank You!

A big thanks to all Washington families for making the Treats for Troops candy donation such a huge success. Because of your generosity, we collected 165 lbs. of candy and more than 175 dental supply items. We'll be packing most of it up to send to Operation Gratitude, which will ship the candy in care packages to our troops serving overseas. In addition, we'll be sending some of the donations to Fisher House Pittsburgh, a home-away-from-home for military families whose loved ones are receiving treatment at



the Pittsburgh VA Hospital.

We are very grateful for the support of Dr. Steven M. Krakora of Western Pennsylvania Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, who donated toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss, and the Mt. Lebanon, Dormont, and Castle Shannon Rotary Club, which is covering the costs of shipping the candy to California. Thank you, for your generosity.

*~Mary Kay Davis & Barb Alsko, Service Project Committee Co-Chairs, Jamie Bissot, Stacey Bonenberger, & Rebekah Krakora, Treats for the Troops Committee*

### Meeting Minutes for October PTA Meeting



The meeting minutes for the October 21, 2015 PTA meeting can be found [here](#).

### Holiday Shop Help

*Washington Holiday Shop is Thursday, December 9:00 am - 6:00 pm.*

The Washington Holiday Shop is scheduled for Thursday December 3. We are extremely excited to offer our students a wonderful assortment of handmade, Repurposed, Recycled, and Re-imagined items all crafted from our very own Washington Elves.



We have some very exciting news! The Washington Holiday Shop will have extended hours to 6 pm for families and teachers to shop.

We need parent volunteers to help make the shop a success please sign up for one of our shifts:

Set-up  
Morning shift  
Afternoon shift,  
After school shift / clean up

If you are available to help during any of those times click here: <http://vols.pt/cLmsgT> to sign up on Volunteerspot.

Thank You,  
*~Amee Oakes, Nicole Gilberg, Molly Simpson, Soncerae Yeager & Julie Toussaint, Holiday Shop Co-Chairs*

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## School News

### Kleenex Boxes for the Library



The library is in need of your used tissue boxes again this year. You may be wondering what the library is doing with all of your tissue boxes. Well, we are using Kleenex boxes as a "backstop" for the books on the library shelves. You can see the before and after photos. These backstops put an end to the frustrating problem of small books sliding out of sight toward the back of the shelves. A backstop keeps

all of the books pushed to the front edge of the bookshelves so students and teachers can easily read the spine labels.

Basically, we need 3 Kleenex boxes for every bookshelf in the library.

That equals a ton, but, with your help, we are getting there! Every one that is sent in helps. If a student brings a Kleenex box to school, he/she can drop it off in the library. Parents can drop them off in the office. Both Mrs. Shetter & Mrs. Jones know I'm collecting them & will send them to library. Thanks so much.

~Mrs. Mascoko, Librarian



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## Community News

### Teen Center

*Meeting to Discuss Possible Reopening  
Monday, November 16 at 7:00 pm  
Mellon MS Cafeteria*

The Teen Center Board invites interested community members to a meeting for a conversation about the Teen Center Program. We will discuss the possibility of continuing the Teen Center program. We are looking for board members, officers, and volunteers.

Questions? Contact: Karen Saulsbery [ksaulsbery@comcast.net](mailto:ksaulsbery@comcast.net), Teen Center Coordinator

### Having "The Talk" About Guns

Don't miss this important information from Mt. Lebanon Chief of Police Aaron V. Lauth:

Here's the scenario...you schedule a play date for after school with your child's classmate. You've asked their classmate's parent the tough questions..."what time should I come pick them up?"... "should I send a snack?"...maybe even, "do you have an extra car seat so my child is safe and secure on the drive to your house?" Have you ever considered asking the parent if they have any unsecured firearms in their home? It's not a question that is regularly thought of or one that is always easy to ask. Consider the following information and decide for yourself if this is an important question to consider asking.

With an estimated 270 million civilian-owned firearms in the U.S. – nearly one for every man, woman, and child – the odds are good that there's a gun (if not several) located someplace where your child spends time. If

that fact doesn't give you pause, this one will: A study published in Pediatrics found that nearly 1.7 million children under age 18 live with a loaded and unsecured gun in the house. It could be on a closet shelf, in a drawer, or under a mattress – where a child can easily reach it. Yet few parents raise the issue of firearms before letting their kid play at someone else's home. "Most parents who own guns are responsible about keeping them locked, unloaded, and stowed away safely," says Beth Ebel, M.D., a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) Council on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention. "Yet nearly 40 percent of gun-owning households with children have an unlocked gun to which a child might gain access."

Since 1988, the National Rifle Association's Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program has been promoting firearm safety in schools and youth groups as well as through law-enforcement agencies. Its main points: If you see a gun, 1. Stop. 2. Don't touch. 3. Leave the area. 4. Tell an adult. MLPD Crime Prevention Officers utilize and teach kids these key points during some of their safety lessons in the elementary schools throughout the district.

Unfortunately, research shows that most kids can't resist the lure of handling a gun, even after they've been warned repeatedly not to do so. "Children can recite what to do if they find a gun and still do the wrong thing when it counts," says Raymond Miltenberger, Ph.D., professor of applied behavior analysis at the University of South Florida, in Tampa. As proof, he cites his studies published in Pediatrics, which showed that 4- and 5-year-olds who participated in verbal safety training didn't follow the correct procedure when they were left alone in a room containing a gun.

When scheduling that next play date, please consider asking about unsecured firearms. It could save your child's life.

Some additional resources on the topic can be found at the following links:

<http://askingsaveskids.org/>

<http://besmartforkids.org/>

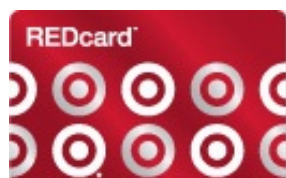
<http://www.parents.com/kids/safety/guns-within-reach/>

<http://www.cnn.com/2013/04/10/living/guns-parenting/>

~Julie Toussaint, PTA President

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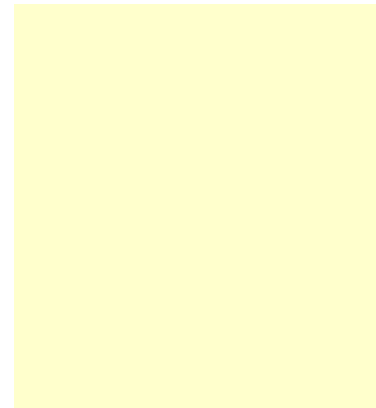
## Keep on Collectin'



The holidays are fast (so fast!) approaching and you probably need to stock up on all kinds of goodies for your busy holiday schedule. Before you spend all that money at our local retailers, remember to register your cards at Giant Eagle, Target, and Shop 'n Save. Just simply using your cards at these stores earns Washington Elementary school supplies, student assemblies, and cash!

(And if you are gearing up to make a lot of family favorite holiday recipes, don't forget to save your Box Tops 4 Education, Labels for Education, and My Coke reward codes. Just drop them off in the collection bin by Washington's front door. I'll do the rest!)

Please email [me](#) if you have any questions or need assistance in registering your cards  
~Amy Olsen & Diana Kierzkowski,  
Collections Corner Co-Chairs



### Washington Elementary School

Principal: Mary Kay Davis

PTA President: Julie Toussaint, [julietoussaint@gmail.com](mailto:julietoussaint@gmail.com)

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