

# Around the Schools

... a publication for and about Westlake City Schools employees

## Section 125 elections

It is time once again for all staff (classified, certified, exempt, fulltime, parttime) to meet with the American Fidelity representative to make your annual elections for our Section 125 plan (medical reimbursement and dependent care). In addition, any individual interested in any other type of insurance coverage offered by American Fidelity may elect/renew at this time as well.

Participation in this program is free of charge as long as ALL employees meet with the representative to either formally make an election or decline participation.

It is each staff member's responsibility to sign up for a time and meet with the American Fidelity representative. Check with your main office for dates and times the representative will be in your building. If you miss your appointment for any reason, you will be responsible to reschedule.

## Fall choir concerts

Tonight is the WHS Fall choir concert at 7pm at the PAC.

The WHS Vocal Music Department also will present the 2009 Show Choir Invitational on Monday, Nov. 2, at 7pm at the PAC. The event features show choirs from North Royalton, Rocky River, Perry and Strongsville, along with special guests the WHS Jazz Band and Westlake's own Company D.

Tickets are \$6 at the door.

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## Make A Difference Day

Through the national Make a Difference Day (MDD) program on Saturday, Oct. 24, schools and community groups can perform new or existing local service projects and gain recognition for volunteers at the same time.

To get involved, staff, teachers or students should register their projects online. After the event, project leaders can submit online reports of their accomplishments for consideration for state and national awards.

An optional day of service in Ohio is Friday, Oct. 23. To register and access materials, visit [http://www.serveohio.org/MDDO\\_MAIN.aspx](http://www.serveohio.org/MDDO_MAIN.aspx). For more information, contact Christine Kane at (800) 808-6325 or [christine.kane@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:christine.kane@ode.state.oh.us)

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## Gifted referral time

The WCSD provides two opportunities each year for teachers and parents of students in grades K-12 to make referrals for possible gifted identification according to the criteria set forth in House Bill 282. The referral periods take place during the months of October and February.

Packets of information and referral forms can be obtained from the main office in each building. From this semester's testing period, referral forms need to be completed and returned to the building's main office by Oct. 23. Questions can be directed to the building principal or to the coordinator of gifted services, Susan Forbes at (440) 250-1269.

## Tolerance resources

Teaching Tolerance is dedicated to reducing prejudice, improving intergroup relations and supporting equitable school experiences for the nation's children. The group provides free educational materials which have won Oscars, an Emmy and honors from the Association of Educational Publishers. To sign up for a free magazine and access teaching kits, classroom activities, resources and professional development opportunities, go to <http://www.tolerance.org/>. You can also order a variety of free Teaching Tolerance materials.



Members of the expanded 20/20 Vision Committee met at LBMS on Oct. 7 to begin the process of finalizing a master facilities plan for the WCSD.

**Around the Schools** is published weekly online by the Westlake City Schools communications department. Please forward information for publication to Communications Coordinator Kim Bonvissuto at the Administration Building, or call (440) 250-1258 or email [bonvissuto@wlake.org](mailto:bonvissuto@wlake.org). Deadline for submitting materials is Wednesday at Noon.

The Westlake City School District is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action agency and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, political affiliation or disability.

## American Fidelity

It's that time of year again when all staff are required to sign up and meet with the American Fidelity representative.

Each building will establish a sign-up sheet, dates and times. It is each staff member's responsibility to meet with the representative prior to the completion of the process in December.

The City of Cleveland sports a 69% illiteracy rate. In 2007, Cleveland ranked 2nd in the national for people in poverty, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Seeds of Literacy, a non-profit organization offering free tutoring in basic adult education and GED preparation, needs volunteer tutors. Since September, their

## Literacy tutors sought

student enrollment has significantly increased each week.

Tutors work individual with students on reading, writing and math skills, offer encouragement and support, and help students develop confidence and positive attitudes about learning.

Seeds of Literacy is the only adult literacy program in Cuyahoga County to be accredited by Pro-LiteracyAmerica. For more information visit [seedsofliteracy.org](http://seedsofliteracy.org). To volunteer for tutor training contact Site Coordinator Linda Worthington at [lindaworthington@seedsofliteracy.org](mailto:lindaworthington@seedsofliteracy.org) or call (216) 661-7950.

## Great Programming on WHBS

- Oct. 19 A: Varsity boys soccer v. Shaker Heights (10/13)  
B: WHS play: 13 Past Midnight (1997)
- Oct. 20 A: Varsity boys soccer v. Shaker Heights (10/13)  
B: WHS play: Les Miserables (2005)
- Oct. 21 A: Varsity girls soccer v. Mayfield (10/14)  
B: LBMS plays: Sweeney Todd (1999)
- Oct. 22 A: Varsity girls soccer v. Mayfield (10/14)  
B: WHS play: Cheaper By the Dozen (1995)
- Oct. 23 A: Varsity football v. Avon Lake (10/16)  
B: The Demon Zone: #8
- Oct. 24 A: Varsity football v. Avon Lake (10/16)  
B: The Demon Zone: #8
- Oct. 25 A: Varsity football v. Avon Lake (10/16)  
B: The Demon Zone: #8

**Program A begins at: 8am, Noon, 4pm, 8pm, Midnight, 4am**

**Program B begins at: 10:10am, 2:10pm, 6:10pm, 10:10pm, 2:10am, 6:10am**

**WHBS sponsor credits begin at: 7:50am, 3:50pm, 7:50pm, 11:50pm, 3:50am**