

MCAS Communicator

an e-newsletter for the staff of the Michigan City Area Schools

October 2013

(Please post for/share with those employees who do not check email!)

Friday's a GREAT Day for a Car Wash - and a Corn Roast!

Don't forget... TOMORROW (Friday, [September 27](#)) is the third annual MCAS Car Wash for the United Way. This year, MCAS is once again in competition with the Police and Fire Depts to see which group can raise the most funds for this great cause. The MCAS Wash will be held in a new location this year - at the MCK Car Wash on Woodland Ave and Rt. 20 across from Naturally Wood. Hours are 2:30 to 6:00 pm. The theme is "Pirates with a Purpose" - and Captain Ed will be there with his pirate ship. Bring the kids! Buc-n-Ear Corn will be available, along with Scurvy Dogs (hot dogs). See you there!

Flu Shots

Working Well will be giving flu shots at MCHS in the teachers lounge on [October 29](#) from 2:30 until 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$21, payable by cash or check. (Please note they do not bill insurance.) Staff and family members are welcome. Please sign up ahead of time with your building nurse if possible; Working Well would like to know how many staff to expect. Thanks!

Grants for MCAS Teachers!

Online applications are available for both the [2013-2014](#) Michigan City Education Foundation Teacher Grants (for K-8) and the Teacher Innovation Grants (9-12). No more paper applications! Teachers may access the online application at the Unity Foundation's website by following this link: <http://uflc.net/apply/teacher-grants/#gsc.tab=0> or www.uflc.net. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, October 4, 2013** at 11:59 p.m.

Reminder: New Form for Travel Requests

Please use this online form when seeking pre-authorization for travel. This replaces the previous travel form attached to the 101.

<http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/shared/forms%20-%20staff/Form572.pdf>

CPR Training for Teachers

CPR training for teachers in need of license renewal has been scheduled for the following dates (all on Thursdays) - 10/17, 11/14, 1/9, 1/14, and 2/20. All training will take place at Mullen and will begin promptly at 3:30 p.m., so plan to arrive a few minutes early. The fee is \$35 cash (please bring exact change) or check (payable to Opportunity Enterprises). To register, contact Linda Bechinski at lbechinski@mcas.k12.in.us. Please note: If you sign up for CPR training, please let Linda know a couple days in advance if for any reason you are not going to be able to make it.

Fellowship Opportunity

Lilly Endowment Inc., an Indianapolis-based private philanthropic foundation, is pleased to announce its Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program for 2014. The Endowment will offer up

to 100 grants of \$10,000 each to Indiana's public and private school teachers (including guidance counselors and library/media specialists), principals and assistant principals for projects of the individual's choice. This fellowship is for YOUR professional growth and renewal... it's the opportunity of a lifetime! Deadline for proposals is **November 1**. For more info: <http://www.teachercreativity.org/>

Teacher Store - Free Classroom Supplies

Great news! Michigan City Area Schools has been approved and added to the database for the Feed the Children organization's "Indiana Teachers' Store". Classroom teachers from MCAS are now eligible to visit the store one time per month and select free items needed for their students and classrooms. The store is accessible on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 PM – 6:00 PM (Eastern Time) at 22365 Elkhart East Boulevard in Elkhart. VERY IMPORTANT: you must have our code number when shopping...it is **1510**. Please note that is only for classroom teachers... administrators, counselors, classified staff, substitute teachers, paraprofessionals, computer techs, media specialists, etc. are **not** eligible.

WAY TO GO

Congrats to Elston Theater Teacher **Aaron Garrett**, who won second place in the "Hoosier Star" contest!

Congrats to MCHS School Resource Officer **Dion Campbell**, who recently received the Leadership LaPorte County "Spirit of Leadership" Award for his efforts in forming and conducting the Michigan City Police Dept. Youth Leadership Academy this past summer.

Congrats to MCHS Social Studies teacher **Bruce Stahl**, whose photograph of a Green Line train leaving the Loop in Chicago was first runner up in a contest sponsored by Trains magazine. Photographing trains has been a hobby of Bruce's for many years! Check out his amazing photo here: <http://mcas.schoolwires.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/Stahl.jpg>

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Imagination Station Concert Benefit

Don't miss MCAS alum Andre Villoch (son of MCHS Teacher Iris Villoch!) and the Pine Elementary School choir as they perform in a Family Concert at Michigan City High School on Saturday, **October 5**. Doors open at 2:00; the concert is from 3:00 - 4:00. Tickets are \$5 (\$15 for a family of 4) and are available at the door or in advance at Imagination Station (1200 E. Coolspring). Call [219-872-6723](tel:219-872-6723) to reserve **today!**
<http://mcas.schoolwires.net/domain/49>

Job & Opportunity Fair

The A. K. Smith Career Center will be hosting a Jobs & Opportunities Fair on **Monday**, Oct. 21 from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. This event, which is sponsored by Congressman Pete Visclosky, will feature a number of employers from across the region, in Healthcare, Manufacturing, Building Trades, and other Technical and Professional occupations. This is open to the public... please spread the word! A flyer is available on our Community Backpack - see the link below:
<http://mcas.schoolwires.net/domain/49>

Coldwater Creek Factory Stores are thrilled to honor the teachers and staff that support our children everyday. **September 28-29** any teacher of school employee with a valid ID or pay stub will receive a special **40% discount** off their entire purchase. This offer is not valid for any other customer during the weekend-our way of saying thank you for all you do. Follow the link below to access the coupon for this event:

<http://mcas.schoolwires.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/Coldwater-Creek-Lighthouse-Place-Teachers-Weekend%20Flyer.jpg>

Boo at the Zoo is Saturday, **October 26th!** Please spread the word to friends and family and students... Michigan City Area Schools will be there passing out candy to all the ghouls and boys! Please note the new hours this year - click the link below for a flyer:

<http://mcas.schoolwires.net/domain/49>

The **Homeward Bound 5K Walk** (to provide housing and fight homelessness) is **Sat. Sept. 28th!** Registration begins at 9:00 with the walk beginning at 10:00 at Washington Park. There is no registration fee, but if you raise \$10.00 in pledges you get a free t-shirt. For more information you call [879-9312](tel:879-9312) or go to www.uflc.net/homewardboundwalk.

Chris Kiser is walking in honor of her sister, Jennifer, in Chicago on Sept. 29th in the **Step Out Against Diabetes Walk**. All proceeds go toward diabetes research and treatment. If anyone would like to make a donation they can send it to Chris at Joy. Checks can be made payable to the American Diabetes Association.

Lakeshore Lanes is forming a new **Teachers' Bowling League**. This league is for any and all skill levels, and you don't have to be a teacher to take part....bring friends and family! This league will be on **Wednesday** evenings beginning Oct. 2, at 4:30 pm. Lakeshore Lanes is at 2820 Michigan Blvd.

CISV Michigan City will be hosting a regional minicamp -- a 3-day camp in which CISVers of all ages from a certain region(in this case all over the midwest)come to have a fun time, learn through activities based on the theme, make new friends from other parts of the country, and just enjoy a weekend with CISV. It will take place on November 8-10th at the Dunes Learning Center in Chesterton. Follow the link below for a flyer that includes info on the price, logistics, and the registration process. Please Register before **October 11th**.
Questions? Contact Dante Cardenas, JB Michigan City President, dante.crdns@gmail.com
<http://mcas.schoolwires.net/domain/49>