Middlebury Union High School Wellness Day 2012:
To Feature Eddie Slowikowski, Miss Vermont,
Katie Levasseur and Community Vendors

There has been much excitement and enthusiasm from our Middlebury Union High School Community, as we look forward to our third Wellness Day, April 11, 2012. The focus of the day is to inspire and to participate in activities for the body, mind and soul. MUHS will begin the day with assemblies that feature a world class runner and inspirational speaker, Eddie Slowikowski, who will present “Make Your Move: Creating Success in Under 4 Minutes.” From 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., the gym will be transformed into a Wellness Fair, featuring 55 vendors and workshop instructors (students, faculty and community members), with displays, demonstrations and activities. The afternoon from 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m., will consist of interactive workshops for students, with in-depth exposure to wellness activities. We have received much support from the community in our endeavor to make this day an exciting experience for all.

Class of 2012 Senior Play “Fiddler on the Roof”

The Senior Class 2012 production of Fiddler on the Roof happened on March 23-25 and was a rousing success! The students, after rehearsing for almost two months, sounded wonderful and the acting was superb. Kids had a great time, one student even said being in the show was the best decision he ever made! The only thing that could top off a wonderful performance is the fact the audience numbers were the highest they have been in a long time, with an average of 300 people attending each night. These high numbers translate to raising over $6400 for Project Graduation. The director and music crew are so grateful for all the support given by parents and the MUHS administration. Photo Left: Cody McGlashan in the role of Tevya (for more photos see page 5)

Reward to be Offered for Information About Graffiti on the Cross Street Bridge

With more graffiti appearing on the Cross Street Bridge in the wake of the Town having incurred a $7,000 expense to remove the first graffiti on the Bridge last fall, the Select board unanimously voted to offer a reward of up to $1,000 for information leading to the apprehension of those responsible for the vandalism. Please contact the Middlebury Police Department at 388-3191.
2012-2013 Peer Leaders Have Been Chosen!

This year, 40 Peer Leaders were chosen for the program! Peer Leaders will begin their training next month as they prepare to welcome the 8th graders for a visitation day this May.

UD3 Parent Night Opportunity!

“Our kids are doing WHAT? What can I do to protect them? Is Facebook safe? Is my child being cyberbullied? What’s texting? Sexting? What’s next?” If you have asked yourself any of these questions or just want to be informed about proactive steps to keep students safe online, then please join us for an evening presentation and discussion with Katie Greer, the Outreach Coordinator for the Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Katie is a former intelligence analyst for the Massachusetts State Police, a recognized expert in internet safety and technology, and featured on CNN and Vanity Fair.
April 16th at 6:30pm, MUMS

ADOLESCENTS AND THEIR TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD: REALITIES AND DANGERS

Middlebury Union Middle School
Monday, April 16, 2012
6:30 p.m.

Due to an increase in the number of serious incidents involving the improper use of the Internet by students in our school community, we have invited Katie LeClerc Greer to give a presentation to ACSU Parents on Wednesday April 16th at 6:30 PM. Katie is a former Intelligence Analyst for the Massachusetts State Police. She is the Outreach Coordinator for the Vermont State Police Task Force on Internet Crimes Against Children and has been featured on CNN and Vanity Fair. She will focus on the latest technology and trends, laws and most importantly what parents can do to protect their children in this ever more complicated world of the internet. www.klgreer.com

MUHS Connections continues to address different teen risk behaviors. In March, we joined the Vermont “8 out of 10” campaign, reminding everyone that over 80% of Vermont teens are tobacco free. In April we will promote healthy practices in celebration of MUHS Wellness Day on April 11, and encourage everyone to enjoy a substance-free prom night. After many months of preparation, we are looking forward to the Middlebury, Vergennes and Bristol collaboration for the Prevention Olympics coming up in May, as well as welcoming 8th grade members of the MUMS prevention group next month.
Green Mountain Boys’ State

Each summer, young men from around Vermont attend the Green Mountain Boys’ State Conference. This program offers training in the practical processes of self government and good citizenship as practiced in a democratic society. This year, the conference will be held at Lyndon State College from June 17th through June 22nd. Eligible candidates must be juniors at their respective high school. Applications are available in the guidance office and must be returned by April 17th. Contact the guidance office at 382-1195 for more information.

Law and Order Cadet Training Program

The American Legion sponsors a week long program each summer to help high school students gain knowledge regarding the training and responsibilities of Law Enforcement Officers. Any interested junior or senior who will be at least 16 years old by the summer may participate. Applications are available in the guidance office and must be mailed to the American Legion by May 11, 2012.

SAT registration

Any students interested in taking the SAT or SAT subject tests on June 2nd will need to register by May 5th. For more information about registration as well as practice questions for the SAT, go to the College Board Web site at www.collegeboard.com

Scholarships

Last June, our community provided over $110,000 in financial support through scholarships to our graduating seniors. The application for these scholarships was distributed to senior advisories last week. Please check with your senior to make sure that they have received the packet. The application should be completed and returned to the guidance office by Wednesday, May 2nd. Please contact the guidance office at 382-1195 with any questions about the application.

Middlebury College Courses

Each semester, Middlebury College offers the opportunity for eligible seniors to enroll in a class. Additional information about this program is available in the guidance office. Students planning on taking a fall course should meet with their school counselor prior to spring break as well as pick up an application. Completed applications are due back in the guidance office by May 18, 2012.
Poetry Out Loud State Finals  
**March 28, 2012**

Congratulations to Olivia Cacciatore!

Olivia, a sophomore, joined thirty-three other high school students from around the state to compete in the State Finals for Poetry Out Loud, the national recitation contest sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. On Wednesday, March 28, Olivia took the stage at the Barre Opera House to recite “Solitude” by Ella Wheeler Wilcox and “Fire and Ice” by Robert Frost. Her third piece, “Full Moon” by Eleanor Wiley, was also prepared in months of practice with Cathy Stoddert, MUHS English teacher and Poetry Out Loud advisor.

Students competing in Poetry Out Loud are evaluated on physical presence, articulation and voice, appropriate dramatization, evidence of understanding, and the poem’s level of difficulty. After a school-level contest, students advance to the State Finals. One winner is then selected to compete at the National Finals, held this year on May 13-15 at the Harman Center for the Arts in Washington, DC. For more information on this great program, visit [http://www.poetryoutloud.org/](http://www.poetryoutloud.org/) or contact Ms Stoddert.

**PAGE TO STAGE**

On Friday, April 6, grades 11 and 12 English classes attended The American Place Theatre’s Literature to Life stage presentation of *The Things They Carried* by Tim O’Brien. This masterwork of contemporary literature of the unforgettable journey and experiences surrounding the Vietnam War was performed by Billy Lyons for the special performance at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ENTIRE CAST AND CREW
On Tuesday, March 13, the author of Ashfall, was the featured guest at four MUHS classes: English with Ashlie Yates, Creative Writing with Cathy Stoddert, and two Earth Science classes with Gayle Weiss. Mike Mullin, who hails from Indianapolis, is on the road promoting his novel, the first in a trilogy, depicting America after the supervolcano from Yellowstone Park erupts.

Mike Mullin shared his philosophy about writing and his approach to writing Ashfall with the students. “I wanted to write a realistic book and that required research. I wanted to write about the aftermath, when the ash cloud clogged air filters, so that anything mechanical would not run, destroying the food supply and people and animals would suffer from silicosis.” He wanted his main character, Alex, to overcome all this adversity and decided that he should know Taekwando to survive. In order to write effectively, Mike Mullin was determined to learn Taekwando himself. “Writing is like Taekwando. It requires concentration and practice. I write every day.” He also wanted to write fiction, “because you get to tell lies. The characters in the novel are based on real people. My brother has a farm in real life.”

The author taught the students how to break an object with a hammer-fist, how to write a novel, and the geology of Ashfall. He read the passage from his novel after the supervolcano erupts and Alex is trapped under his desk, the house is on fire and things only get worse. The students in all of the classes were all in anticipation when Mike Mullin broke a cement paver in half, using Taekwando techniques. Students in the writing workshop left with the beginnings of their own novel.

Congratulations to Sophie McKeever-Parks, Eric Shambo, Abby Beaucage, Leila Mannuljim, Cat Townsend, Ahleiyyatt Mason-Rive and Nik Shashok who won the raffles in the classrooms and the Learning Center for autographed books. Thank you to the four classroom teachers, Marianne Doe and Becky Dayton of the Vermont Book Shop for making this event a success.

(Above photo left: Mike Mullin breaks a cement paver in Gayle Weiss’s Earth Science class)
On Friday, March 16, 2012, Brian Stillwell from the Alliance for Climate Change presented two assemblies at MUHS. This non-profit organization educates students across the U.S. on the facts regarding the warming of the planet, together with positive solutions. “We have the power to shape the future we want to see.” Brian Stillwell’s dynamic presentation demonstrated to students how it takes 21 football fields of the earth’s resources to support one person in the U.S. “We are living large and the U.S. is supersized compared to the rest of the world. These demands take away from the earth’s ability to replenish itself.” The dependence upon fossil fuels has contributed to greenhouse gasses, which are trapped in the earth’s atmosphere. Climate change, with increased heat will lead to more drought, wildfires and flooding. It will threaten human health, as well as food and water supplies, leading to Climate Refugees. In Vermont it could affect sap, snow and foliage. “We are at a crossroads today. What we do now will affect the earth for years to come.” Stillwell spoke about innovation and imagination. He created a scenario of the 40th class reunion in 2052, when “humanity’s carbon output would officially be 0.” He challenged the students. “How are you going to change the world?” DOT (Do One Thing) pledges were distributed to the students; recycle, unplug, bike/carpool, reuse, buy smart. Stillwell sought interest from the students to be part of a School Action Team. For more information go to www.acespace.org.

**ACE BIGGEST LOSER PROJECT**

As a direct result of the assembly, we are announcing our new student ACE Biggest Loser Competition Group here at MUHS. We had interest from 62 students, with approximately 18 showing up to help facilitate this project. We have a chairperson and co-chairs to help organize the beginning of the project. Hopefully, this will be the kick off to a larger project for MUHS! Contact Noah Hurlburt @nhurlburt @addisoncentralsu.org for more information.

The overarching goal is for students and teachers to begin thinking about energy usage and their role in what we use at MUHS.
On Friday March 30, the Early Essential Education Program visited the Alternative Education Program's greenhouse. The Alt. Ed students taught the EEE students how to harvest lettuce and plant spinach. The preschoolers also sampled some fresh carrots and greens. EEE students planted sunflower seeds to take home to put in his/her yards. Everyone enjoyed teaching and spending time with the youngest students in our district.

MUHS Summer School Program

The MUHS Summer School Program will be in its thirteenth year. The focus of this program is on remediation, while many students elect to repeat classes that they earned a C- or below. This year, MUHS is also exploring offering elective credit classes during the five week program. This year’s program will run from June 25th to July 27th, classes meet every day from 8:30a.m. to 11:30a.m..

Each summer, classes are offered in the core content areas, that include English, math, science, and world history. The classes offered are dependent upon student enrollment; higher level courses are not offered during the summer. The classes offered are open to all students who failed a class or earned a grade of a C- or below. Students must commit to attending summer school; they are allowed to miss only two days out of the five week schedule.

This year, the program will be overseen by Co-Directors, Cindy Atkins and Chris Johnstone. They are currently in the process of sending out letters to students who performed poorly in one of their first semester core classes. Registration forms will be sent out to students who struggled in second semester courses later in the spring. Registration forms can also be picked up in the guidance office.
The Addison Central Supervisory Union will sponsor the fourteenth annual STAR Awards Celebration. This annual event honors members of the educational community who have gone above and beyond what is expected and made special contributions during the school year to the education of students in the ACSU.

Mark your calendar with the following date for this year's celebration:

**The STAR Awards**

**Wednesday, May 9, 2012**

**6:30 PM**

**Mary Hogan Elementary School**

Certificates of appreciation are awarded to individuals from all areas of our educational community including custodians, educational assistants, cafeteria staff, teachers, counselors, nurses, bus drivers, administrators, board members, secretaries, parents and community members who have promoted excellence in education.

To select the award recipients, we are soliciting nominations. If you know an individual who has made a special contribution to the education of young people in ACSU during this school year, please send in a nomination form (reverse side of this announcement) no later than **Friday, April 13, 2012**.

Please submit your nomination to the me, Jill Many, at the Superintendent's Office, 49 Charles Avenue, Middlebury, VT 05753 on or before the deadline date. You may also fax the form to 802-388-0024; or email the information to: jmany@addisoncentralsu.org

A committee of board members and school personnel will select final recipients for honors to be awarded at the STAR Awards Presentation Night.

*NOTE: A nominee may receive a STAR Award once every five years (or longer).*

*For a list of previous winners, please call Jill Many at the ACSU Superintendent’s Office at 382-1278, or visit our Web site: www.addisoncentralsu.org*
2012 NOMINATION FORM

Your name: ____________________________________ Phone Number: ________________

Nominee’s Name: ______________________________ Town/School: ____________________
Nominee’s Position (ex: volunteer, custodian, etc.): ______________
Nominee’s years in current position, if known: _____

In the space below and on an additional sheet(s), please respond to the following:

**Special contributions:** What contributions has your nominee made above and beyond his/her job duties?

**“Behind the scenes” impact:** What has your nominee done that others might not realize?

**Additional comments:** Please include any stories/anecdotes pertaining to the nominee that would be of interest and that could be shared at the awards ceremony.

**Please note:**

**Nominations should be specific:** Please be very specific about why this person is deserving of this recognition. Not everyone on the Selection Committee knows everyone who is nominated.

**Nominations should be approx. 500 words.** Nominations received that are significantly over will be edited for the selection committee.

**If you nominated someone before who was not selected** to receive an award and wish to nominate that person again, please provide more information to your nomination form this year.

**If your nominee is selected,** a summary of the following information will be read at the awards presentation. Please provide enough information for this purpose. If your nominee is selected, you have the option of reading the nomination you wrote. Otherwise, nominations will be read by the MCs.

Return this form by **Friday, April 13, 2012** to Jill Many, Superintendent’s Office, 49 Charles Avenue, Middlebury, VT 05753, fax to 802-388-0024, or email this information to: jmany@addisoncentralstu.org

Showing Thanks Appreciation and Recognition
ACT values teen culture as an essential part of the broader community. It provides a fun, safe and welcoming place for teens to hang out, and promote teen contributions through programs, activities, and outreach.

**Drop-in Hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 3 – 6pm

Wednesday and Friday: 3 – 7pm

ACT is open to all youth in 7th to 12th grade from the ACSU school district. Through its Youth Advisory Council (YAC), ACT sponsors dances, fund raisers, community service projects and much more—by and for teens. ACT provides a fun, safe and welcoming place for teens to hang out, be with their friends, listen to music, play foosball, pool, and board games, be creative and do art projects and eat snacks.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**New Teen Center Drop in Hours:** ACT will be open from 3 – 6pm Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. 3-7pm on Wednesday and Friday.

**ACT Will be CLOSED for Spring Break April 23 - 27**

ACT will reopen on Monday April 30 for regular drop in hours.

**UP-COMING EVENTS:**

**Youth Advisory Council Meeting: April 11th from 4:30 to 6pm (pizza at 5:30pm)**

“DREAM - ACT - DO” is the motto of our YAC meetings. Teens decide what they want to see happening at 94 Main and plan, organize and implement their programs and activities.

**Clothing Swap: Wednesday, April 4th from 3 - 7pm.** Come join us at ART (Patricia Hannaford Career Center) for an afternoon of swapping and shopping. The swap offers gently used clothing, shoes, accessories, jewelry, books, CD’s, DVD’s and more. Redeem your points from the clothing drive or bring money and shop very inexpensively. All items are between $1 and $10. Great selection of gently used Prom dresses for $10, $15 and $20.

**Healthy Meals on a Budget: April 4th and 18th from 3:30 to 5:30pm**

Middlebury College student Emma Burk will be hosting cooking classes at the teen center. The cooking classes will focus on shopping, preparing, cooking, and of course eating healthy meals, while being conscious of staying on a budget.

**WANT MORE INFO?** Check our Web site at: [www.addisonteens.com](http://www.addisonteens.com), call ACT at: 388-3910

Co-Directors: Jutta Miska: [jutta@addisonteens.com](mailto:jutta@addisonteens.com)  Colby Benjamin: [colby@addisonteens.com](mailto:colby@addisonteens.com)

ACT is located in the Middlebury Municipal Building; enter on College Street across from Samas Café.
Middlebury Union High School

Inside This Issue
1 Announcements
2 Prevention News
3 Guidance Department News
4 English Department News
5 Senior Play Fiddler on the Roof
6 Author Mike Mullin Visits MUHS
7 ACE Assembly
8 Alt. Ed. & Summer School News
9-10 STAR Awards
11 ACT

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