

## Students rally to support Wa-Hi teacher's cancer fund and Tsunami victims during Conspiracy of Hope concert

Wa-Hi students and staff brought the crowd to a frenzy with a variety of entertaining songs, skits and dances during this week's annual student organized and produced *Conspiracy of Hope Concert*.

Proceeds from the performances were divided to benefit the Dave Meyer Cancer Fund and the Tsunami Victim Relief Fund through the American Red Cross—Blue Mountain Chapter.

Dave Meyer is a social studies teacher at WA-Hi and a veteran performer at *Conspiracy of Hope*. Dave is fighting a brain tumor and is currently on medical leave recovering from his latest surgery.

The Tsunami Victim Relief Fund established through the American Red Cross is a support effort to provide the victims with food, water, clothing, housing and other basic necessities.

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“We can't wait to have him (Dave Meyer) back to full speed. His faith and spirit are an inspiration to everyone.”

*2005 Conspiracy of Hope Commissioners*

- Michelle Enriquez
- Sarah Parnicky
- Jessica Quinn

## January Extra

### What's New?

#### Chamber Singers to perform special concert

The Wa-Hi Chamber Singers will be performing a special performance, Tuesday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Wa-Hi Auditorium.

This performance is a sneak preview of the group's program to be performed at the Northwest Music Educators Conference in Bellevue in February.

The concert is open to the public.

#### District boundary map now online!

[www.wwps.org](http://www.wwps.org)

#### Staff Spotlight - *Norb Rossi*

• Look for Wa-Hi Choral Director **Norb Rossi** as the February *Staff Spotlight* employee. Norb will be featured on cable television stations throughout February and given a video tape for a special keepsake.

## Staff Profile - Count on us!

### Norb Rossi - Walla Walla High School

**Job Title:** Choral Director

**Years in District:** 5

**Birth place:** Tarentum, Pennsylvania

**High School:** Kiski Area H.S. - Pennsylvania

**Favorite Music:** Wa-Hi music students

**Favorite Movie:** *Seabiscuit*

**Favorite Food:** Manicotti

**Favorite Book:** *The Bible*

**Hobbies:** Fly fishing, hiking, reading, walking my dogs, tying flies, and composing

**Most memorable life experiences:** Getting married to Debbie and the birth of my children Paul and Auralee.

**Tell Us Something About Yourself That Nobody Else Would Know:** I met five grizzly bears on a hike. At one time!



## District News Briefs

### Wa-Hi's McBride attends National Science meeting

Wa-Hi Biology teacher **Pamela McBride** recently attended the National Research Partners in Science annual meeting in San Diego, CA.

This professional development opportunity was funded by the \$8,000 grant McBride received last year through the Murdock Charitable Trust.

### Staff & community members join Strategic Plan teams

The district's Strategic Planning Core Teams met for the first time this week to brainstorm strategies linked to desired outcomes of the new Strategic Plan goals. These teams will meet four times (more if the team needs to) to complete this work. These strategies will serve as the road map to accomplishing the district's new Strategic Plan goals.

#### *Strategic Plan Core Teams*

#### **Technology & Facilities Core Team**

- Janis Barton, Technology Director, Co-Chair
- Aron Rausch, Business Manager, Co-Chair
- John Evans, Architects West
- Dan Reid, Opp & Seibold General Construction
- Nancy Withycombe, Principal, Edison
- Ron Higgins, Assistant Principal, Wa-Hi
- Lowell Schneider, Director, Plant Facilities
- Dan Johnson, Director, Facilities Support
- Rick Pummel, Network Engineer, WWPS

#### **Communications Team**

- Mark Higgins, Director, Communications, Chair
- Jim Sporleder, Principal, Garrison
- Laure Quaresma, Principal, Sharpstein
- John Herr, Wa-Hi CTE teacher
- Cindy Gregoire, Bilingual Coordinator
- Jody Schneidmiller, Wa-Hi PTA President, business owner

#### **Teaching and Learning Team**

- Oscar Graybill, Director, Teaching & Learning, Co-Chair
- Len Taruscio, Director, Curriculum & Instr., Co-Chair
- Linda Boggs, Principal, Blue Ridge
- Mira Gobel, Assistant Principal, Wa-Hi
- Dana Jones, Principal, Pioneer
- Judy Peasley, LAP/Title One Coordinator

## In Our Thoughts *Our condolences to...*

- Wa-Hi's **Jeanne Lothspeich** on the passing of her father after an extended illness.
- Green Park's **Mary Palotas** on the loss of her father.
- Sharpstein's **Pat Shaver** on the passing of her husband.
- Berney's **David Talley** on the loss of his uncle.

*Please take a moment to think about our colleagues during this difficult time. You have our support.*

Wa-Hi Art Club Presents

## Kids' Art Day

(Grades K - 3)

Make a special art project for  
your favorite Valentine!

**Saturday, February 12**

11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Wa-Hi Commons

\$10 Registration fee

(Space is limited to 50 children and  
pre-registration is required.)

Call Wa-Hi Art Teacher **Julie Wallace** at 527-3020 Ext. 4667 for a registration form and additional information.

## Muffins with Moms



Sharpstein Elementary School kindergarten student **Nora Eberhardt** and her mother **Kirsten** enjoy treats during the district's "Muffins with Moms" annual program.

Students later read books with their mothers as part of this parent involvement program designed to promote positive relationships with families and encourage reading at home. Each of the district's six elementary schools participated in this activity.

## Sharpstein to host Superintendent's Coffee

Friday, February 11

Sharpstein Cafeteria

7:50 - 9:00 a.m.

This activity is an opportunity for parents and community members to get to know Superintendent Rich Carter. He will discuss issues facing Walla Walla Public Schools and talk about ways they can support efforts to improve district schools.

This will be a very informal setting, so please encourage people to drop in for coffee, juice and sweet rolls.