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## Ruffing Alumni Bulletin

Fall, 2014 Vol. 2 No. 1

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**Letter from the Editor:** Dear Ruffing Alumni (and Parents of Alumni),

Welcome to another issue of the *Ruffing Alumni Bulletin*! I hope you and your families are well. We would like to make sure we are reaching your preferred addresses. At your earliest convenience, please contact Lori Coticchia at Ruffing to update your preferred mailing and e-mailing information (E-mail [lcoticchia@ruffingmontessori.org](mailto:lcoticchia@ruffingmontessori.org), call Ruffing at 440-333-2250, or visit [www.ruffingmontessori.org](http://www.ruffingmontessori.org).)

In addition to the updates in the *Ruffing Alumni Bulletin*, another new resource available to our alumni and their parents is the *Ruffing Parent's Digest*, which is a quarterly e-publication that provides a variety of resources related to Montessori education and parenting. **Each issue features interviews with Ruffing alumni!** In consultation with John McNamara, I also include sources from journals, websites, newspapers, and previous issues of *Ruff Notes*.

The Fall issue of the *Ruffing Parent's Digest* features interviews with Ruffing alums Molly (Noonan) Bachert '95, an emergency veterinarian, and Dan Ertle '11, a senior at St. Ignatius High School. It also includes my article titled "Lobsters for Sale! A Brief, Lighthearted History of Ruffing Fundraising," as well as an extensive summary of Angeline Lillard's book, *Montessori: The Science Behind the Genius*.

If you would like to start receiving a copy of the *Ruffing Parent's Digest* via e-mail, please let Lori know. Thanks again and feel free to contact either Lori or me with any questions, news, or suggestions. We welcome all alumni updates! We are always looking for alumni to interview, as well as alumni who might be willing to speak to our current students about their Montessori experience and subsequent career/life paths.

Sincerely,

Vincent O'Keefe, Ph. D. / [vincentokeefe@centurytel.net](mailto:vincentokeefe@centurytel.net) / 440-930-0960  
Ruffing Parent Resources Coordinator

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### Save the Dates! (Contact Ruffing for more details)

Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014: Annual **Ruffing Book Fair** at Barnes & Noble, Crocker Park. Get your holiday shopping done and help Ruffing at the same time!

Saturday, March 7, 2015: 35<sup>th</sup> Annual **Ruffing Auction**, St. Demetrios Hall, Rocky River. The theme this year is "Ruffing Run for the Roses!"

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## Mac's Pitching Prowess Endures!



Remember this? Mac continues to enjoy pitching to the middle school during recess baseball games. He is now in his 43<sup>rd</sup> year at Ruffing, has three grandchildren in the school, and teaches alongside his daughter, Molly '86.

He always welcomes your visits! If you can't make it to Ruffing, visit him on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/public/John-A-McNamara> or e-mail at [jmcnamara@ruffingmontessori.org](mailto:jmcnamara@ruffingmontessori.org).

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## Ruffing Learning Garden: Class of 2014 Gift



The Class of 2014 gift to Ruffing was a beautiful Sun Dial for the Learning Garden. Its inscription reads: "Nature offers an interior guidance, but to develop anything in the field, continuous effort and experience are required." -Maria Montessori

The Garden also contains a variety of plants, flowers, butterflies, roof gardens, picnic tables, benches, trails, student-made crafts, and (sometimes) Ruffing students. Come visit anytime! Special thanks to Lisa Dadas for all her hard work.



The Ruffing Leadership Fund provides funding for priority projects so that each student has the most fulfilling educational experience possible. Tuition covers 85% of the cost of educating our students; financial support bridges the gap.

**Thank you** to the alumni who have joined the Leadership Fund. During the school year we will recognize everyone who contributes. To donate, checks can be made out to Ruffing Montessori School. For additional ways to contribute, contact Lori Coticchia or visit our website.