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Crusader News

Issue # 2



Parkersburg Catholic High School

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Thank you to everyone who helped PCHS win \$2000 in the Earning for Learning contest with Grand Central Mall!

NHS Tutoring

The students in National Honor Society are offering tutoring in all subjects. Anyone who would like to receive extra help, please see Mrs. Wildt. Scheduling is flexible.

PCHS Astronomers

The PCHS Astronomers have begun the search for pulsars as part of the Pulsar Search Collaboratory, an effort conducted through WVU and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Green Bank, WV. As part of the scientific research, a student at South Harrison High School made a discovery in the spring that was confirmed as a previously undiscovered pulsar. The same can happen here, with a lot of hard work and a bit of luck. Pulsar team meets Sundays at 5:30 P.M. at the school. Some background info can be found on the school website at the "academic" page, or by seeing Mr. Weaver

Quiz Team

The PCHS Quiz Team begins its season Oct. 10 at the University High School tournament. Teams from a wide area are expected to attend. The team practices Sundays from 4-5:30 P.M. Our home meet will be Nov. 14, and volunteers are always needed.

The Day the Music Started

Attention all PCHS students: if you play an instrument, then have we got an important announcement for you. Mr. Clark and Mrs. Held are working on starting a band program!

The practices will take place Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7 to 7:45 a.m. on the stage.

Because this is a new program, each participating student will be asked to pay a small fee of \$75 and provide their own instruments — traditional woodwind, percussion and brass instruments only, please.

More information will be coming home soon, but if you know that you would be interested, please see Mr. Clark or Mrs. Held to be added to the list.

St. Sebastian

St. Sebastian, who lived in the Third Century, is the patron saint of all athletes and the namesake for the new Parkersburg Catholic Fitness and Wellness Center. The new St. Sebastian Fitness Center will be dedicated in November. It is appropriately named after a saint who was born in Gaul and served in the Roman army. He converted many soldiers, was found out to be doing so, and was ordered to be killed by arrows. Archers launched many arrows that pierced his body. He was left for dead but a Christian widow, St. Irene, nursed him back to life. His outstanding strength and endurance are credited with saving his life; thus, he is appropriately named the patron saint of athletes. After his recovery, he went to confront the Roman emperor, Diocletian, about his inhumane and very cruel treatment of Christians. Diocletian named Sebastian a Christian and sentenced him to death by beating. His badly bruised and beaten body was thrown into the sewer, found by a pious lady, and buried near the Catacombs. His relics are believed to be in the Basilica of San Sebastian on the Apian Way that was constructed in 367 A.D. Throughout the Middle Ages, thousands of pilgrims visited his remains at this site. St. Sebastian's feast day is celebrated January 20.

Upcoming Events:

- 10/2– 8th Grade Field Trip
- 10/6– Blood Drive from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. in the gym
- 10/9– Cook Out on the lawn @ lunchtime
- 10/14– PSAT
- 10/16– Mass @ 11:16 A.M. with Fr. Peterson and Girls Go Green for all 8th grade girls @ WVU-P
- 10/20– Builders’ Club Bake Sale
- 10/21– Reconciliation from 9-11 A.M. with Fr. Gallagher
- 10/22– 7th Grade Breakfast
- 10/23– GRADES CLOSE, locker clean out, and West Virginia Wesleyan music concert (Schedule B)
- 10/28– PLAN/EXPLORE Test
- 10/30– REPORT CARDS ISSUED to students and Mass with Fr. Campbell @ 11:16 A.M.
- 10/31– Homecoming football game @ 1:30 P.M. and Homecoming dance in the school cafeteria from 8 to 10 P.M. (grades 9-12 ONLY)

Winter Concert

Mark your calendars now for the PCHS Music Department Winter Concert.

Monday, Dec. 21
St. Mary’s Church in Marietta
7 p.m.



Yearbook

View yearbook photos as the year progresses at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/pchyearbook>.

The yearbook publisher, Herff Jones, held a Yearbook Cover Design Clinic in the library September 23. Many local, and not so local, schools came and worked with professional graphic designers to develop their 2010 yearbook covers. This was a great opportunity for yearbook students to watch and learn as professional graphic artists demonstrated their skills in design.

The economic slow-down has adversely affected our

revenue. Yearbook needs your help to raise funds that keep the purchase price of the yearbook reasonable.

Help in 3 ways:

ORDER YOUR YEAR-BOOK.

TAKE OUT AN AD IN THE YEARBOOK.

REQUEST A PARENTS’ PRIDE AD IN THE YEAR-BOOK.

All this can be done by downloading the respective forms from the yearbook homework page or contacting the office or Mrs. Powderly at 304 485 6341.

Library Corner

ences and to web sites for homework help.

Go to www.amazon.com to see the library wish-list. Click on “wish list,” type in the name Yvonne Powderly, and you will see the PCHS list. It is constantly updated.

The library has a blog, <http://crusaderlibrary.blogspot.com>.

Annual Fruit Sale

Help yourself while helping yearbook fundraising by purchasing fruit. Order forms will be available in October. Orders are due November 1 and fruit will arrive in early December ready for Christmas delivery. Order for yourself, for Christmas gifts, and if you own a business this is a super way to reward your staff or give to customers. Sell \$260 worth of fruit and earn a free 2010 yearbook.



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You can look at reviews of books new to the library and a list of new books added to the library.

Thanks go to Mrs. Schriener, the Earley family, Ms. Vincent, Mrs. Wiseman, and Erin Augenstein who donated books and periodical subscriptions to your library.

National Merit

The faculty, staff and students of Parkersburg Catholic High School would like to congratulate our three National Merit Semi-Finalists — Quentin Collie, Thomas Esker, and Mollie Simonton. These students scored a 204 or higher on the PSAT taken in the fall of 2009. The national average for NMS is 1 in 200 seniors qualifies. The average at PCHS in 1 in 11. Way to go!

Homecoming

Homecoming Week 2009 will be celebrated Oct. 25-31. The theme this year will be Holidays. More details will be sent out in an attachment. The homecoming game will be Saturday, Oct. 31 at 1:30 p.m. at the PHS field. The dance will be that night from 8 to 10 p.m. in the school cafeteria (grade 9 through 12 only).

RAZE Quick Facts

- **RAZE’s goal is to reduce tobacco use among teens.**
- **Fourteen percent of high school students have smoked a whole cigarette before age 13.**
- **If every smoker would smoke one less cigarette per day it would cost the tobacco industry 1-2 billion dollars per year.**
- **At least 19 different types of cancer causing substances, called nitrosamines, are found in tobacco products.**
- **Second hand smoke kills more than 65,000 people annually in the United States.**
- **Each day in the United States, approximately 4,000 kids aged 12-17 try their first cigarette.**
- **Depending on where you live in the U.S. a habit of one pack a day can cost \$1,800 a year.**

GET INVOLVED.



2008-2009 ACT EXPOLORE						
Current Gr. 9	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite	
Nation	14.2	15.1	13.8	15.9	14.9	
W. Va.	13.9	14.3	13.6	15.6	14.5	
County	13.9	14.5	13.3	15.5	14.4	
PCHS	16.4	16.2	15.8	17.6	16.7	
2008-2009 ACT PLAN						
Current Gr. 10	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite	
Nation	16.9	17.4	16.9	18.2	17.5	
W. Va.	16.3	16.3	15.7	17.1	16.5	
County	16.5	16.6	15.9	17.7	16.8	
PCHS	19.5	19.0	17.0	19.0	18.8	
ACT 2009 Grads						
W. Va.	20.8	19.6	21.4	20.5	20.7	
PCHS	22.6	21.8	32.5	21.9	22.6	

The scores speak for themselves! This chart shows where PCHS stands compared to the county, state and nation on standard tests taken each year. Further proof that PCHS students are the best!

Technology Report

Many updates have been made to the technology in PCHS. One new SMART Board has been obtained for Room 106 through a Diocesan Grant, bringing the total number of SMART Boards to ten. We have two IPM boards.

All computers throughout the school have been updated with Microsoft Office 2000. A patch

has been downloaded to allow the opening of MS Office 2003 files, but MS Office 2007 files will not open or print. Please save in Rich Text Format. If you have Microsoft Works, please save in Rich Text Format.

Students have been given their personal user names and passwords. These are not to be

shared! The accounts are a privilege, not a right, therefore they can be disabled if the computer account is not used responsibly.

If you or your company has technology less than 5 years old, that you would like to donate, please call the school. We would be happy to accept it if we can use it!

New AP Courses

Five AP courses are being added to the offerings for students at PCHS. Adding the five brings total AP offerings to ten. Mrs. Wildt is adding English Language and Composition while Mr. Woody is adding World History, American History, Macroeconomics, and Microeconomics. The course

syllabus must be submitted for approval by the College Board. Two have been submitted and the other three are nearly ready to be submitted. The World History has already been reviewed and approved as submitted. This is an excellent opportunity for students to take rigorous courses culminating

with a test in the spring that if scored at a three, four, or five could earn college credit for the student. PCHS continues to strive for excellence in student achievement by providing many opportunities for advancement and success.

Celebrate Mass

The faculty, staff, and students of PCHS would like to invite parents, grandparents, and friends to celebrate Mass with us Oct. 16 @ 11:15 A.M. in the school gym.

Winter Craft Fair

Parkersburg Catholic High School will be holding the 3rd Annual Winter Craft Fair Nov. 28 and 29 from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. in the school gym. In addition to the Craft Show, we are continuing the tradition of Sunday spaghetti dinner and the Christmas performance from the PCHS Bell Choir and new Choir. We hope that you will come and be a part of this year's exciting events.



Food Drive

The students of Parkersburg Catholic High School would like your help in collecting food and monetary donations for the Mountaineer Food Drive. The school that brings in the most pounds of food per capita in the state will win \$1,000 in prize money. Please drop off all donations in the PCHS Main Office. Thank you for helping with this wonderful cause!

Blood Drive

The Interact Club will be hosting its annual fall blood drive Oct. 6, 2009. It will take place in the PCHS gymnasium from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. For an appointment, please contact Mollie Simonton at msimonton45@hotmail.com. As always, walk-ins are more than welcome!



Text 2 Win

\$10,000

for your school!

**Text PCHS to
66861**

between now and Nov. 13

The school with the most
votes will win \$10,000