



YOUR FAMILY...YOUR FUTURE

FALL 2011

PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC NEWS

Celebrating Annual Traditions



Pictured above (left to right): Paige Surico '12, Taylor Topolski '12, Mr. Keith Healy and Lauren Malick '13 at the 2011 Harvest Drive Olympics Tug-of-War competition

www.providencatholic.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Fall Theatre Production2
 Open House
 Celtic Chat.....3
 Shadow Day “Shout Out”
 Shadow Days
 Fall Blood Drive4
 National Recognition
 Band & Color Guard
 Homecoming 20115
 Harvest Drive.....6
 Boys’ Golf7
 Financial Aid & Scholarships
 See the Celtics in Action8
 Save the Date!

Publisher:PCHS Advancement Office
 Editor:.....Jamie O’Brien
 Photographs by:Bruce Burns
 Jamie O’Brien
 Al Wycislo

Sleeping Beauty takes to the Stage

PCHS Theatre Club presented Disney’s *Sleeping Beauty* in early November* at the Billie Limacher Bicentennial Theater in Joliet.

This production was presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). The play was directed by Ms. Michele Hibbott. Other assistants include: Eric Moniger (Technical Director), Rosie Knezz (Choreographer), Ann Waldron (Music Director) and Sandra Krejci (Production Manager). The cast included: Amy Gauger of Lockport (Briar Rose), Eric Connelly of Tinley Park (Prince Phillip), Elena Alvarez of Plainfield (Maleficent), Lexie Krejci of Plainfield (Narrator), Ben Bernecker of Orland Park (King Stefan), Keri Hettinger of Joliet (Queen Stefanie), Justin Anderson of Orland Park (King Hubert), Caleigh Branigan of Frankfort (Flora), Lizzy Stone of Joliet (Fauna), Katie Scott of Homer Glen (Merryweather), Clare Huguélet of Mokena (Blather), Erin Campbell of Mokena (Loyal Guard) and Liz Phillips of Shorewood (Pest).

Loyal Subjects Ensemble and Goon Ensemble included: Katie Deters of Joliet, Alyssa Flanagan of Homer Glen, Genevieve Gerrity of Homer Glen, Hannah Gleason of Plainfield, Allison Hanson of Shorewood, Gillian Madia of Joliet, Emelia Mischia of Monee, Christina McGuire of Frankfort, Abby Persicketti of Manhattan, Carly Prekwas of Mokena, Caitlyn Quinlan of New Lenox, Trisha Schultz of Joliet and Cailee Tylin of New Lenox. Crew included: Heather Baker of Orland Park, Joshua Christianson of Plainfield, John Dutka of Joliet, Alexis Franchini of Joliet (Assistant Stage Manager), Broegan Garr of Orland Park (Assistant Stage Manager), Ian Harder of Channahon, Madi Jager of Mokena, Mary Kate Kozak of New Lenox, Nick Krejci of Plainfield, Kanece Mabry of Joliet, Erin Martin of Minooka (Stage Manager), Colleen Martin of Minooka, Kathleen Melei of Lockport, Dan Salazar of Joliet, Andrew Stone of Joliet, Elisia Venegas of Crest Hill, Brittany Waldron of Plainfield and Zach White of Channahon.

YOU’RE INVITED!

OPEN HOUSE

**Sunday
 November 20, 2011
 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

PCHS invites all grade school students and their families to attend our annual Open House. Guests will have the opportunity to tour the school, as well as gather information about the various academic, spiritual and extracurricular programs that PCHS offers to its students and families. Administrators, faculty, staff and students will be on hand to answer questions.

Call Mrs. Rachel Ellingson with any questions at (815) 717-3160.



*The Sleeping Beauty cast and ensemble take a break from rehearsal to pose for a photo. *If you receive this publication before November 3-6 and would like to attend a performance, please visit the PCHS website for more details.*

CELTIC CHAT
CELTIC CHAT
CELTIC CHAT



Brittany Hallberg

What do you like most about PCHS?

Brittany: "I most enjoy the welcoming atmosphere surrounding my peers and me each and every day."

Matthew: "I really like the small classes and the one-on-one support the teachers offer in the classroom."

Providence Catholic High School freshmen Brittany Hallberg of Tinley Park (Cardinal Bernardin - Orland Hills) and Matthew MacNab of Homer Glen (Homer Junior High - Homer Glen) had this to say...

What activities are you involved in at PCHS?

Brittany: "I am a member of the Augustinian Youth Ministry, Habitat for Humanity and I am currently conditioning for basketball season."

Matthew: "I am involved in Augustinian Youth Ministry, Habitat for Humanity and basketball."

Describe the teachers at PCHS.

Brittany: "The teachers at PCHS are awesome! All of my teachers strive to assist us in any way they can and to make learning as enjoyable, easy, and influential as possible."

Matthew: "The athletic as well as the academic programs are amazing! Even if you do not know anyone here, the minute you walk in you will make friends and become part of the family."

Describe the all-school Masses.

Brittany: "All-school Masses give everyone time to reflect and relax in a comforting environment, which I think is really special."

Matthew: "The school Masses are amazing. I went to public school my entire life and seeing everyone quiet and opening their hearts to God is awesome."



Matthew MacNab

Shadow Day
"Shout Out"

What do "Shadow Day" visitors have to say about their PCHS experience? A student from...

Grissom Middle School said..."I liked that all the teachers and staff are nice and friendly."

Mokena Jr. High said..."Everyone was kind and I was treated like I was already a student here."

St. George said..."It was great to be able to start every class with prayer. All-school prayer was awesome too!"

Cardinal Bernardin said..."I have always heard that PCHS was like a family. It was true! It really felt like a family atmosphere."



SHADOW DAYS

Are you currently an 8th grade student who is considering PCHS for your high school? Shadow Days are held on select Fridays throughout the school year. You will be paired with a current Providence Catholic freshman so that you can experience a day in the life of a Celtic! Come meet our students and faculty, experience some classes and enjoy lunch in the cafeteria. Visits must be scheduled by 2:30 PM on the Wednesday preceding the Friday visit. Below are a list of upcoming Shadow dates for 8th graders (limited to the first 25 students); 7th graders may begin shadowing in January 2012:

- November 4 • November 18
- December 2 • December 9

Visit the PCHS website for a list of the most up-to-date Shadow Days. If you would like to participate in a Shadow Day, please contact Mrs. Ellingson at (815) 717-3160 or email rellingson@providencecatholic.org.

AYM'S FALL BLOOD DRIVE

Providence Catholic High School's largest student organization, the Augustinian Youth Ministry (AYM), recently held its annual Fall Blood Drive. The students, faculty members and even parents at Providence Catholic donated 78 units of blood, which may help more than 230 people in need.

Several individuals made a special blood donation known as a Double Red Cell (DRC) collection. During a DRC donation, a single, sterile needle is inserted to the donor's arm and blood is withdrawn directly into a cell separator. The whole blood is separated into red blood cells and plasma. The red blood cells are then drawn into two separate bags, while the plasma and saline solution is returned to the donor. This "double" procedure may help two individuals in need.



Senior Lauren McCutcheon of Mokena gets her blood pressure and temperature read prior to donating blood.

NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS



Congratulations to the following seniors who were recently named Commended Students in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program. Bottom row (left to right) are Courtney Cleveland of Palos Heights, Meaghan Mormann of New Lenox and Emily Persicketti of Manhattan. Top row (left to right) are Michael Jacus of New Lenox, Jeffrey Marini of Tinley Park, Daniel Santschi of New Lenox and Dominic Sanfilippo of Tinley Park. These bright individuals are among 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation and placed in the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered this competition by taking the 2010 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). "We are very proud of these young men and women who have demonstrated exceptional ability in this highly competitive program. Their commitment to academic excellence is truly admirable," said Principal Don Sebestyen.

Band & Color Guard Place 2nd at Stampede

Congratulations to the Spirit of Providence Marching Band and Color Guard for taking 2nd Place at the Mustang Stampede, a marching band competition that was sponsored by the St. Rita High School Band and its Boosters in early October. PCHS competed in Field 1A against seven other schools and scored 58.15, their highest score of the season.



HOMECOMING 2011 “Born to be Wild”

Homecoming 2011 festivities were held the week of October 10 at Providence Catholic. The students enjoyed fun-filled activities that showcased their school pride. The dress code was relaxed for the week and the students were encouraged to wear themed attire each day. During Friday’s Homecoming Assembly, Mike Lahey of Homer Glen and Katelyn O’Grady of Plainfield were named the 2011 Homecoming King and Queen. The court included King nominees Tim Becker of Homer Glen, Adam Mackay of New Lenox, Dominic Sanfilippo of Tinley Park and Nick Holy of Lemont. Queen nominees included Kristina Graeffen of Mokena, Megan Melaniphy of Homer Glen, Paige Surico of Orland Park and Taylor Topolski of Orland Park. Furthermore, the PCHS community

gathered for the homecoming football match-up where the Celtics defeated the St. Ignatius Wolfpack 54-6. On Saturday, students attended the Homecoming Dance, which featured a “Born to be Wild” theme.



2011 Providence Catholic Homecoming Court



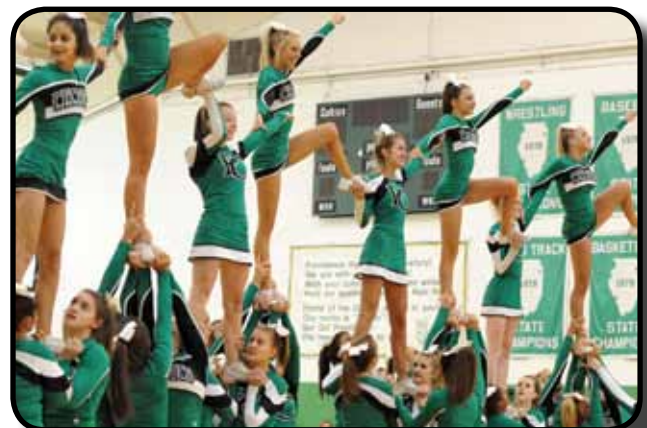
Varsity football captains Sean Fitzgerald, Ryan Ward and Mike Valentino parade into the Homecoming assembly. Also pictured are teammates Chris Salazar and Connor O'Brien.



The Band & Color Guard perform the “Fight Song” and excerpts from their half time show.



The Pom Pon squad amaze the PCHS community with their dance routine.



The Cheerleaders bring out the Celtic spirit in the crowd.

Harvest Drive Brings out the “Fun” in Fundraising

Providence Catholic concluded its Annual Fall Harvest Drive in late September. Through the hard work of students, parents, teachers and patrons who supported the school, this year’s Fall Harvest Drive has generated more than \$410,000 for student programs.

To celebrate this success, the PCHS family enjoyed the traditional spirit-filled Harvest Drive Olympics at the conclusion of this drive. Several events took place, including dodge ball, tug-of-war and an obstacle course. The Olympics concluded with the annual pie-in-the-face-of-a-faculty-member;



Juniors cheer on their classmates during the obstacle course competition.



Freshmen rise to their feet to support their fellow classmates as they compete at the dodge ball event.

this year’s volunteer target was Mr. Chris Tagler, PCHS Economics Teacher.

The 2011 Harvest Drive top-selling student was junior Michael Broderick

of New Lenox who raised \$5,465; this earned him free tuition for the second semester. The second place top-seller who won \$1,000 was senior Katie Morrisette of Joliet; she raised \$2,865. The third place, \$750 prize went to senior Amanda Cornelius and sophomore Tyler Cornelius for bringing in \$1,725 each.

Other top-sellers who won \$300 each were freshman Adam Morrison and junior Grace Morrison of Mokena (\$1,970), sophomore Samantha Irvin of Joliet (\$2,200) and senior Troy Sheppard of Joliet (\$1,300).

Following the Olympics, Mr. Sebestyen, PCHS Principal, drew eleven raffle tickets and named the \$10,000 Grand Prize winner along with 10 other winning tickets totaling \$2,300. Raffle winners

and their winning ticket numbers are posted on the Harvest Drive page of the PCHS website at www.providencecatholic.org.



Senior Student Council President, Dominic Sanfilippo smashes a pie in the face of PCHS teacher, Mr. Chris Tagler.

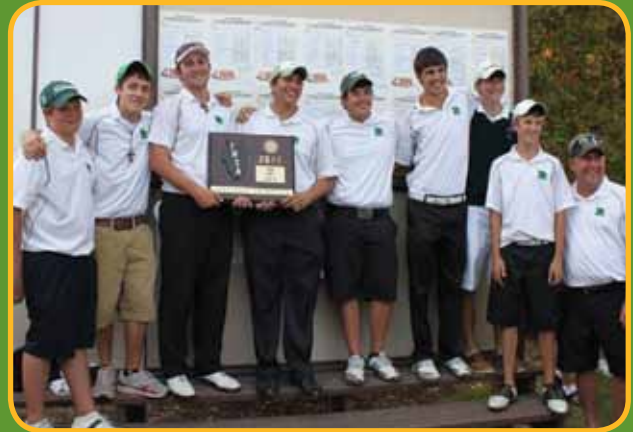
Harvest Drive was initiated in 1968 to raise funds for the school, which was facing a financial crisis. Faced with the prospect of closure, the school sponsored a car raffle and carnival that generated \$15,000 the first year and \$32,000 the following year. Pleased by the results of this fund-raising effort, the officials decided not to close the school. Since then, this three-week fundraiser has grown to generate more than \$400,000 annually to help offset the difference between tuition and the cost of operating the school.



The 2011 Top-Selling students pose with their awards with Principal Sebestyen.

Boys' Golf Team Take 1st at Sectionals

Congratulations to the PCHS Varsity Boys' Golf Team who tied for 1st Place at Sectionals in early October. The team included Telly Korbakes, Casey Labuda, Ryan Utter, Nick Anderson, Mickey Brick and Will McCabe. Telly Korbakes shot a 71 and was the medalist for the event coming in 1st place. Casey Labuda and Ryan Utter each shot a 77, and Nick Anderson shot an 83. On October 14, the team competed at State in Bloomington where they placed 9th. In individual competition, Ryan Utter tied for 4th place with a score of 152 (36-holes). The PCHS Varsity Golf Team also includes Dominic Sanfilippo, David Follenweider, Joe Frontzak, Matt Suenkens and Matt Tucker.



SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

FINANCIAL AID

Over the past few years, PCHS has significantly increased the amount of financial aid available to our families who qualify. All Providence families are invited to apply for financial aid through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment. All families who apply will be considered for PCHS Student Need-Based Aid. Only those families who are registered parishioners in the Joliet Diocese will be considered for Joliet Diocesan Aid.



Through scholarships, the school's endowments and the generosity of the Diocese of Joliet, Providence Catholic High School is able to provide a quality, Catholic college preparatory education to many students at an affordable price. Listed below are the scholarships available to freshman students and financial aid opportunities for those who qualify.

The **Augustinian Service Scholarship** for incoming Providence freshmen will be awarded to one boy and one girl based on service to their parish. Each scholarship is equal to \$2,000 toward freshman year tuition (one-time).

The **Celtic Leadership Scholarship** is awarded to four winners annually. This four-year renewable scholarship is worth \$2,000 per year (up to \$8,000 total). Applicants must be in good academic and disciplinary standing and have applied for financial assistance.

The **Chase "Academic Achievement" Scholarship** for incoming Providence freshmen is awarded to one boy and one girl based on academic ability and financial need. Each scholarship is equal to \$1,500 toward freshman year tuition (one-time).

The **Freshman Celtic Scholar Award** is a one-time scholarship worth \$1,000 awarded to the top fifteen scorers on the Providence Incoming Freshman Placement Exam.

The **Harris Bank "Off to a Good Start" Scholarship** for incoming Providence freshmen is awarded to one boy and one girl based on academic ability and financial need. Each scholarship is equal to \$1,000 toward freshman year tuition (one-time).

The **Kazma Family Foundation Scholarship** for incoming freshmen will be awarded to students who attend a Catholic high school in the Joliet Diocese. Each scholarship is equal to \$5,000 annually. Applicants must be in good academic and disciplinary standing and have applied for financial assistance. Currently Providence Catholic has 18 recipients of this prestigious scholarship.

Providence Catholic High School
Advancement Office
1800 W. Lincoln Highway
New Lenox, IL 60451

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
**U.S. POSTAGE
PAID**
ROCHELLE, IL
PERMIT NO. 40

SEE THE CELTICS IN ACTION!



Come see your favorite Celtic team play for the win! Go to the Athletic Calendar on the PCHS website at www.providencethatholic.org to view all the Celtic home games.

YOU'RE INVITED!

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 20, 2011
10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

- Tours
- Information
- Displays
- Refreshments

PLACEMENT EXAM

INCOMING FRESHMEN
SATURDAY
JANUARY 14, 2012
8 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.

- Required of all incoming freshmen
- \$25 Exam Fee
- Pre-registration is not required

