

1925

# THE PEACEMAKER... *PIECES*

*St. Thomas School community prepares children for life in a respectful and supportive environment by providing a dynamic education centered in Christ.*

## Middle School Study Group Holds Forum TONIGHT For Interested Parents and Parishioners

The Diocese will be holding a special forum tonight, October 4th, at 7 p.m. at Catholic Central High School for parental and parishioner suggestions involving the feasibility of middle schools as part of their overall Catholic School Ministry. Please feel free to attend this meeting and offer your input on this important subject.

## Fall Roller Skating Party



The Home & School Fall Skating Party is scheduled for Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the Plainfield Skating Center. Admission is only one 2-Liter bottle of pop per person (which will be used for Carnival) and skate rental is \$1.50. Please bring the pop

to school, not to the rink! Thanks! See you there!



## CARNIVAL UPDATE

The St. Thomas Carnival is just a few short weeks away on Saturday, October 21. Volunteer Sign-Up sheets went home recently and were due October 2. If you have not yet turned in your purple sign-up sheet, please do so by October 6, so volunteer assignments can be made. We still need lots of volunteer hours to make this event a success. We appreciate your help. In the meantime, reserve the date and join us for lots of family fun right here at St. Thomas. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carla Klump-VanDokkumburg at 451-3221. **Thank you for your help in making Carnival such a fun and successful event!**

## Book Fair Coming!

Mark your calendars—this year's Book Fair is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup> and November 21<sup>st</sup> during school conferences. We look forward to seeing you there! If you are interested in volunteering some of your time for the book fair, please contact Rebecca Shiel at 456-5412. Thank you!



## St. Thomas Student Council Officers 2006/2007

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected to serve as officers and representatives on the Student Council this year. They are:

**President:** Theresa Valente

**Vice President:** Andrea Alfaro

**Treasurer:** David VanderZee

**Secretary:** Shomari Tate

Representatives: Mrs. Michels ~ Ana Corcoran, Mrs. Pieri ~ Ryan Jones, Maddie Zimelis, Ms. Campbell ~ Rachel Syrba, Gabe Yondo, Mrs. Petkus ~ Kaitlyn Carter, Luke Fetterhoff, Mrs. Furtwangler ~ Thomas Nemic, Madeleine Jepsen, Grade 6 ~ Nate Blaszak, Emily Lambert, Grade 7 ~ Alex Mays, Katelyn Crittenden, Grade 8 ~ Matt Fallon, Scott Dripchak.

A special thanks to all the students who volunteered to run for the Student Council. You all did a great job!

## Pesticide Notification

Fertilizer will be applied to the school and parish grounds on Friday, October 6, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. ~ Ted Coon

## ATTACHMENTS



- CLC Network Adult Ed. Opportunities
- GR Civic Theatre Events
- REMC Microsoft Offer
- Parent Resource Network
- Reading Partners
- Resource Program Volunteers
- October Calendar

## New Software Opportunity for Students and Parents

For the first time ever, Microsoft has introduced a new academic licensing program for K-12 students/parents, faculty and staff - and our school is eligible to participate!

Now you can own the most popular Microsoft life-long learning applications for personal use at pricing only available through this program. For example, Microsoft Office Professional is only \$79.00 for a full version. (Not an upgrade). This product is normally around \$499 in local stores. Once purchased, the software belongs to you forever, even if you change schools, graduate, or leave the district for some reason. No longer will students and faculty have issues trying to convert Microsoft Works documents produced at home with Microsoft Word used at school.

To take advantage of this program, all you need to do is visit [www.shoptrc.com/savings/remc](http://www.shoptrc.com/savings/remc). This discount program is administered for our district by TRC, a dealer of technology products to schools and colleges. After ordering you will be prompted to submit via fax or email proof of your academic status with our school. This would include any document that has your name associated with our school (report card, ID card, tuition statement, etc.). Any questions, ask Maryly Skallos, Technology Coordinator.

## Protecting God's Children Awareness Sessions

If you are a new parent or are an existing parent and still need to attend Virtus training, (required for all school volunteers), listed below are dates, times and locations of upcoming Virtus training sessions:

**St. Thomas the Apostle Parish (Grand Rapids)**  
**Wednesday, October 18, 2006 @ 8:30 AM & 6:30 PM**

Holy Family Parish (Caledonia)  
Tuesday, October 24, 2006 @ 6:00 PM  
Thursday, November 2, 2006 @ 6:00 PM

St. Jude Parish (Grand Rapids)  
Wednesday, November 8, 2006 @ 6:30 PM  
Wednesday, May 2, 2007 @ 6:30 PM

If you plan to attend one of these sessions, and have not already registered, please register online as follows:

- Go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org)
- Click "Registration"
- Click "Begin the Registration Process"
- Select Diocese of Grand Rapids as the organization.
- You will be required to enter a UserID and password (of your choice)
- Fill out registration form
- Choose a location

## Emerald Auction Needs You!

The Emerald Auction is approaching fast and we have several committees that are in need of a chair person. Please consider volunteering for one of the positions. The Auction is the only fundraiser for the school. The event is very successful and fun. But we need your help! If you are interested or have questions, please call Lisa Wolf at 742-2807 or Michelle Rohn at 451-3266.

### Co-Chair



### Item Procurement



### Decorations



### Environmental



### Book Writing



### Data Entry



Individual will assist the Auction Chair with planning, coordinating and overseeing all aspects of the Auction. The Co-Chair will become the 2008 Auction Chair. Directs solicitation of donations from local businesses. The Chair contacts previous donors who do not automatically send a donation from the initial form letter sent in the fall. In addition, the Chair identifies and contacts potential new donors. The Chair may also pick up donations.

Designs, procures, and oversees decoration of Auction site. In cooperation with the Environmental Display Chair and/or the Auction Chair, the Decorations Chair envisions a visual theme for the Auction rooms, purchases décor in accordance with the budget and guides volunteers in decorating beginning a few days before the Auction through the day of the Auction.

Works with Mr. Ted Coon and Mr. Don Serba in deciding placement and size of Display tables needed for display of Auction items. The Chair will help oversee set-up of tables on the day before the Auction.

Writes short descriptions of Auction and raffle items designed to catch the Auction shoppers' interest, similar to short catalog descriptions. (No work required the night of the Auction.)

Oversees typing of Auction item data such as donors, item descriptions, values, etc. into Auction database to facilitate book production and checkout functions. (No work required the night of the Auction.)

## Booster News

**NOTE: GAME CHANGE:**  
The 7th/8th Boy's Football game on Oct. 22nd has *changed time* from 1:30 pm to **3:00 pm.**



## Games of the Week

The following have been designated as "Games of the Week":

**7<sup>th</sup> Gr. Girls' Basketball:** *this Saturday, October 7* v St. Paul at St. Thomas 11:20AM

**6<sup>th</sup> Gr. Girls' Basketball:** Saturday, October 14 v St. Anthony White at St. Thomas 10:10AM

The full Fall Sports Schedule has been sent home and is also available on the Web Site. ~ *Helen Vruggink*

## Upcoming Concession Workers

The following families are scheduled to work in the St. Thomas gym concession stand *this Saturday, Oct. 7th and next Saturday, Oct. 14th.* Thanks!

### Saturday, October 7th

9:00 a.m. Benzer  
10:10 a.m. Mirandette  
11:20 a.m. Theriault  
12:30 p.m. Sykes  
1:40 p.m. Skinner

### Saturday, October 14th

9:00 a.m. Fiorenzo  
10:10 a.m. Blanco  
11:20 a.m. Knapp  
12:30 p.m. Colon

## Office Volunteers Needed:

If you would like to spend a few hours each week or every other week helping in the school office, we need you! Volunteers are needed Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. You can help a few hours, half of a day or all day. Responsibilities would include light phone answering, assisting students, and various office duties. Computer knowledge is helpful but not required. Please call Joni Poggi if you are interested at 365-1991. Thank you for your consideration. ~ *Sue Ysasi*

## Calling All Scrap Bookers!

Feel like being pampered? Waited on? Served?

The Girls' Challenge Club of St. Thomas is once again sponsoring a Scrap Booking event entitled, "At Your Service!" *this Saturday, October 7th* from 1-9 p.m. The event, a fundraiser for our Challenge group, will be held in the Church basement. In addition to great food, snacks, desserts, and lots of time and space to scrap book, what makes this event different from other scrap booking events is that our girls are there to offer assistance throughout the day. Whether you would like another plate of goodies brought to your table, shapes cut out, help actually doing your pages...you name it, and the girls are there to serve you.

So, come spend a day having fun and getting pampered at the same time. Cost for the day is \$50 and includes an Italian dinner with home baked desserts, a variety of snacks and beverages throughout the day, a "Scrap Shop" for you supply needs, a Creative Memories Consultant on hand if you want to browse through the latest in supplies, and SERVICE with a smile. It is not too late to register. Please call Chris Alfaro (774-4525) or Kathy Barth (742-0173) to reserve your spot today!

## New Arrival



Congratulations to:

Ken and Jennifer Treece  
on the birth of  
***Regan Marie Treece***

born on Monday, October 2, 2006  
Regan weighed 4 pounds and 12 ounces

Proud school siblings: Chelsea and Veronica

**GO HORNETS!**



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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

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### Depression Screening

On October 5, 2006 Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services will be one of many organizations nationwide to host National Depression Screening Day. All attendees will receive educational materials for themselves or a loved one, free confidential screenings, and a one-on-one assessment with a trained mental health professional. For more information call the Pine Rest Marketing department at 616 455-6500, or visit our website at [www.pinerest.org](http://www.pinerest.org).

### Catholic Central Dance Clinic

The Catholic Central Varsity Dance Team is proud to announce their very first *Movin` & Groovin` Dance Clinic*, open to all students in first through eighth grade! The clinic will be held on **Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at Catholic Central High School**, in the gymnasium. For students in first through fifth grade, the dance clinic will run from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m.! Students who attend the dance clinic on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> also have the opportunity to dance at half time of the Varsity Girls' Basketball Game on November 7, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.! The cost for this clinic is \$15 per child and they will receive a performance t-shirt the night of the basketball game, as well as their own pair of pompoms!

Registration forms are available at the Welcome Information Center near school entrance. Please call Coach Tarah Burgess with any questions and/or late registration at 889-3762.

### Come Be a Saint!

The Women's Aquinas College Volleyball team invites you to come be a part of the court crew for all of our home games. To sign up, please pick up a "Come Be a Saint!" form at the Welcome Information Center in school. Home game dates are: 10/5, 10/7, 10/10, 10/12, 10/24 & 11/2.

### Teacher Appreciation at Costco

Costco Wholesale, 5100 28<sup>th</sup> St., SE, is offering a Teacher Appreciation Day on Saturday, October 14 from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Non members are welcome to tour Costco that day. They are offering a special incentive of \$10 off a membership and a \$10 cash card for our school. This is available to St. Thomas teachers, aides, office personnel, custodians, volunteers and anyone connected to the school. If you are interested, please make sure you mention you are from St. Thomas if you register for a membership.

## Alicat Kitchens is Back!

Please come join us for a mom's PRODUCTIVE night out at Alicat Kitchens on Wednesday, October 18th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

What is Alicat Kitchens? It's a meal preparation kitchen made for all of busy mom's (and dad's)! All you need to do is visit their website at : [www.alicatkitchens.com](http://www.alicatkitchens.com) and register, select your meals (15 different meals each month) and come join us for some actual fun in preparing meals for your family! They all come ready to freeze and I can tell you that once you start going and realize how awesome it is to have healthy, gourmet food at your fingertips.....you'll love making time for this night out!! And, an added bonus is Ali gives a percentage of the profits back to St. Thomas!! Any questions, please call Debi Schueler at 975-2733.



## Youth Ministry Needs

St. Thomas Youth Ministry is looking for donations of any Holy Cards, Prayer Cards, or Medals. We have a special Saint Presentation with guest speakers scheduled for Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, and your items would be shared with the youth that evening. If you need more information, please call Patti Reynolds at 459-4662 x209. You may also bring them to the Parish Office. Thank you so much!  
~ Patti Reynolds

## Earn Money for St. Thomas

Reminder—Family Fare Cash for Class, and D&W School Days are now the same rewards program!!! No coupons needed, and no store restrictions! *Simply shop any of the D&W or Family Fare stores during the designated week, and give our school code upon checkout.* Last year we earned about \$600 through this program with D&W.

### Upcoming Reward Shopping Days:

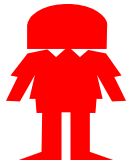
D&W: **TODAY-OCTOBER 7TH** and November 12-18  
Family Fare: October 8-14, & November 26-December 2



## Home & School News

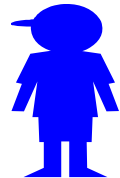
Thank you to Mike and Maureen Muraski for hosting the preschool parent gathering last Saturday, September 30! **The next upcoming grade gatherings are 1<sup>st</sup> grade on October 7th at the home of Scott and Emily Brew and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of Dan and Amy Jaracz.** If you have a 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grader (or both!), don't miss out on this wonderful chance to connect with other parents at St. Thomas. More details are sent home the Monday before the event.

# Destination ImagiNation®



We are officially off and running! Four teams have been identified to participate in Destination Imagination this year at St. Thomas. The teams and the team managers are:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Grade Team:** Carla Klimp-VanDokkumburg and Ellen Mikolay
- **2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** Jennifer Clemens, Denise Deveau, Diane Coil
- **4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Suzanne VanderZee and Angela Yondo
- **6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Donna Valente and Kathy Barth



We currently have two (2) remaining spots on the 1<sup>st</sup> grade team, two (2) on the 2/3 team, four (4) on the 4/5 team and three (3) on the 6/7/8 team. We are actively looking for additional participants for these remaining openings! Also, there are two kindergarten children who are interested in participating, and a parent willing to share the role of team manager for a kindergarten team. If you would be interested in sharing that role and have a kindergartener that would like to participate please let us know as soon as possible. The kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade levels are non-competitive and therefore don't require as much of a time commitment as the higher grade levels. Please consider joining us!!

Teams will begin meeting in October to decide upon a Team Challenge. The months of January and February are probably the busiest as the teams prepare for the tournament in early March. The actual meeting schedule is determined by the team and can vary depending on the nature of the Challenge chosen as well as the complexity of the solution they decide to create.

**The remaining spots will be filled on a first-come basis.** Once they have been filled we will need additional team manager volunteers to form new teams. Please contact Jennifer Clemens at 974-0015 or Donna Valente at 874-1357 **no later than October 9th** if you are interested in participating or have further questions about the program.

For more information on Destination Imagination, check out their website at:  
[www.destinationimagination.org](http://www.destinationimagination.org)



**St. Thomas School Carnival**  
**Saturday, October 21st 6-9 p.m.**

