

# PROVIDENCE



Forty years after New Albany Deanery purchase of school from the Sisters of Providence  
**SUPER SCHOOL LIVES ON!**

PROVIDENCE e-VISION NEWS

November 20, 2012

News for Parents, Alumni and Friends of Providence

[Providence Recognizes Milestone](#)

[STUDENTS IN ACTION](#)

[No Shave November](#)

[Fun Pajama Run](#)

[Collection Drives For Those in Need](#)

[Student Athletes Named To Local All-Area Teams](#)

[News From The Houses](#)

[English Students Take Part In BBC World Class Live Debate](#)

[Dance Team Ready For Winter Season](#)

[Peer Coach Program](#)

## PROVIDENCE RECOGNIZES MILESTONE



[Kickoff](#)

## [PARENT CONNECTION](#)

[Placement Test Date](#)

[ACT Subject Tests Next Week](#)

[Campus Store Open For Christmas Shopping](#)

[Backstage Crew Treat Bags](#)

## [ALUMNI IN ACTION...](#)

[Alumni Toys For Tots Challenge](#)

[Next Year's Reunions](#)

[Breakfast With Santa](#)

[Gala Sponsors, Donations Needed](#)

[Alumni Shirts Make Great Gifts](#)

## [BLUE PRIDE ON DISPLAY](#)

[Ms. Debbie Fackler](#)

[Blue News - Of Old](#)

## [COMING EVENTS](#)

[And Lastly...](#)

## [Quick Links](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[iPad Information](#)

[PHS Jr-Sr High School On Facebook](#)

[Providence Alumni On Facebook](#)

[PHS Prayer Line](#)

[Alumni Association](#)

[House Leadership System](#)

Alumni from the early 1970s and anyone who has seen the photo in the school's history display case might recognize elements of this issue's banner photo. On the morning of Nov. 30, 1972, then-art teacher **Mr. Ray Day '57** unrolled a long swath of butcher paper down the second-floor hallway and quickly wrote out a celebratory message: "We are all together in Providence - Thanks - Super School Lives On!" Students followed behind him and painted in the letters.

Once it dried, the make-shift banner was hung from the front of the school. The student body, faculty, and staff then gathered for a large group photo to express their gratitude that the New Albany Deanery Board of Education had voted the evening prior to purchase the school from the Sisters of Providence and save it from closing. (See photo below in BLUE NEWS - OF OLD)

This month, we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the saving of our school. To honor the event, Mr. Day once again unrolled some butcher paper and wrote out a portion of that message and painted it with students' help. At the end of the All Saints Day liturgy, **Fr. Sonny Day '58** shared his experience of that time with the students, who then gathered out front to re-create the photo. We continue to remain "all together in Providence" as we say thanks for our Super School.

## [STUDENTS IN ACTION](#)

### [NO SHAVE NOVEMBER](#)



Above is a representation of the males who participated in No Shave November.

Judging of the best beard was on Friday, and junior **Jacob Spencer** won a gift certificate. **Mr. Jason Mullis** was credited with "being able to grow a beard like no other."

If you noticed facial hair on a number of male students and faculty earlier this month, it wasn't because the dress code was no longer being enforced.

PHS In Memoriam

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They were participating in No Shave November, a fundraiser sponsored by the *House of Spirit* to support male cancer research. Four faculty and 26 students participated, each contributing a \$10 donation to benefit male cancer research.

## UN PAJAMA RUN

The *House of Honesty* will be holding its second annual Pajama Run & Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 9 a.m. This fun 2-mile run/walk starts and ends in front of the Activity Center, where participants can also enjoy a pancake breakfast after they cross the finish line.

Participants are encouraged to wear their best pajamas to run. Participation and the breakfast are free, but donations for the House's continued support of the New Albany Deanery Hispanic Ministry will be accepted.



Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the fellowship, runners and non-runners alike.

## COLLECTION DRIVES FOR THOSE IN NEED

The *House of Integrity* will hold its Annual Blanket & Coat Drive Nov. 26 through Dec 12. Students can donate new or gently used, clean blankets, coats, scarves, gloves, hats/caps, or sleeping bags by taking them to Room 301. All donations will go toward In Heaven's Eyes at Holy Family Parish.



The *House of Justice* is sponsoring the fourth annual Toys for Tots drive at PHS. The House invites the entire Providence community to pitch in and support this great charity. The campaign will run from Monday, Nov. 26, through Monday, Dec. 10. Each House is challenged to turn in 200 toys. If every House achieves its goal, the entire school will be in spirit wear for the final two days of final exams. The *House of Justice* will be tracking the donations daily and providing updates to the students. The House would also like to challenge the alumni to take part in this competition as well.

Last year PHS was able to donate more than 2,000 toys to needy families in the area and was **the largest contributor to Toys for Tots locally**. The charity is counting on us again for their support. Please help us be able to do the same this year.

The cafeteria staff sponsored its annual Soup Day on Friday. During lunch, students enjoyed a simple meal of soup and sandwiches and were asked to bring in donations of canned goods or bags of clothing. All donations went to In Heaven's Eyes at Holy Family Parish.



The cafeteria staff hold some of the donations to Soup Day.

## STUDENT ATHLETES NAMED TO LOCAL ALL-AREA TEAMS

The News & Tribune has announced its honorary All-Area Teams in several fall sports. In Boys Tennis, sophomore **Will Andres** and senior **Weston Spalding** were named to the News & Tribune Second Team, and junior **Nolan Carrico** received an Honorable Mention at singles. In Boys Cross Country, senior **Murphy Sheets** was named to the News & Tribune First Team. In Girls Cross Country, seniors **Kori Siebert** and **Erin Denis** were named to the News & Tribune Second Team. CONGRATULATIONS!

## NEWS FROM THE HOUSES

The following are updates from the communications liaisons of several of the Houses.

### **Daniel Fernandez**, *House of Integrity*

So far this year the *House of Integrity* has been quite successful. The House kicked off the school year with PHS's annual bonfire and has been building steam since. The *House of Integrity* is also responsible for the blanket drive, providing lots of blankets and coats for the less fortunate through the charity In Heaven's Eyes. In Heaven's Eyes is a nonprofit charity that is based near

Holy Family Parish and provides food and goods for the less fortunate. House members also spend one Saturday every other month making lunches for the needy with In Heaven's Eyes members.

**Erin Duncan, *House of Humility***

The *House of Humility* has had a great start to this year so far by sponsoring the Junior and Senior Girls Powderpuff football game as both a social and service event. The proceeds from the game go to the AfterProm fund, and we raised more than \$700 from the game this year!

Also as a social event, we plan to celebrate the end of each quarter together in some way, such as after the first quarter we had cake and cider together. A spiritual event we are planning is called the Prayer Christmas Tree, which will be put up in the lobby of school after Thanksgiving Break and each day we will put garlands of individual prayers on paper linked together on a Christmas Tree uniting the school in prayer around the holiday season. Each student in the school can write down a prayer on a slip of paper and put it into a box and we will add it to the tree each day.

**Thomas Boly, *House of Justice***

The *House of Justice* is very busy planning and getting ready for our upcoming events. So far this year we put together the Fall Homecoming Assembly, which ended up being one of our funniest yet! And right now we are setting up for the collection for Toys for Tots, which will support underprivileged children this Christmas. Later this year, we will put something together for Saint Patrick's Day and May Crowning. While hard at work, the *House of Justice* is making an impact on Providence and our community.

**Kristan Markland, *House of Truth***

The *House of Truth* has begun our monthly birthday cupcake service project. Every month, we give out cupcakes to people whose birthdays have been within that month. This will continue to go on every month for the rest of the year. We are also planning a live Nativity scene for some time in December, if approved.

**Janelle Marriott, *House of Loyalty***

The *House of Loyalty's* event so far this year was the evening portion of Fall Homecoming. We set up decorations, wrote the script, and planned the walking portion done by the candidates. The events we plan on doing in the upcoming year include writing Christmas letters to Hospice and taking names from one of the local Angel Trees and shopping for them. In early January, we are planning to do educational posters and a spirit wear day on St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's feast day to help others learn about our House's patron saint.

## ENGLISH STUDENTS TAKE PART IN BBC WORLD CLASS LIVE DEBATE



The Honors English 11 classes participated last week in the BBC World Class Live Debate: 'Take a Stand.' Students watched a short video about Malala, a Pakistani girl shot for standing up for her right to an education. A discussion followed covering topics for which they would take a stand. The students then emailed comments related to their discussion to BBC reporters, who posted some of the students' views in the [Live Debate](#) feed.

The students said they enjoyed the opportunity to see students' points of view from around the world and several were surprised at how similar their discussion topics were. Juniors **Tanner Mobley** and **Matthew Welch** noticed that many of the posts in the feed mentioned that students were concerned about equality and equal treatment for all. They said they were also surprised at how many posts there were about child labor, an issue resolved in this country a century ago. The students also were glad to see so much support for the Pakistani girl Malala's actions.

"I was surprised to see so many people said they would stand up (for their point of view on an issue) no matter the consequences," Tanner said.

The students said many are afraid to make a stand for their point of view on social media or among their peers because they might face ridicule. But they acknowledged that the ridicule they might face does not compare to situations in other countries where people's lives might be at stake.

"I go to school where I'm safe, so it's hard to put myself in her place," said junior **Charly Wolford**.

The live debate was part of the BBC's celebration of International Education Week, Nov. 12-16. Live debate topics differed each day of the week.

## DANCE TEAM READY FOR WINTER SEASON

By **Coach Kristina (Moeller) Frakes '03**

The Dance Team is focusing on basketball season after performing at home football games during the fall and competing in two events. The girls placed second (behind New Albany High School) in the Varsity Pom Dance division at JAMfest Mega-JAM in Evansville on Oct. 27. The team placed sixth in the Varsity Pom Division in the Universal Dance Association Floyd Central Dance Championship on Nov. 3.

The team will be going to Providence Retirement home to visit and perform for the residents today. Competition season will start back up in January with the IHSDTA Mt. Vernon Invitational. The team also will compete in two IHSDTA events before competition at JAMfest Super Nationals in Cincinnati in mid-February.

### **PEER COACH PROGRAM KICKOFF**

The Peer Coach program had its kick-off meeting last week. Members of the National Honor Society will serve as mentors and tutors to those in the program.



### **PARENT CONNECTION**

#### **PLACEMENT TEST DATE**

The Placement Test for current eighth graders will be given on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8:45 a.m. to noon. This test is for prospective students of the incoming freshman class for the 2013-2014 school year.

Students should arrive by 8:45 a.m. at the Robinson Auditorium and bring

two No. 2 pencils and a check for \$15 made payable to Providence High School. For more information, please contact the Providence Admissions Office at 812-945-3350 or e-mail [dsmith@providencehigh.net](mailto:dsmith@providencehigh.net) .

## **ACT SUBJECT TESTS NEXT WEEK**

Next week, students in grades eight, 10, 11 and 12 will be participating in an ACT Field Study Testing Program to provide standardized testing data for students and teachers in various subject areas.

In exchange for Providence's participation, ACT will provide an online ACT Prep program for the school. For juniors, testing will take place Blocks 1 and 2 in the Activity Center on Monday, Nov. 26, and for seniors, Blocks 1 and 2 in the Activity Center on Tuesday, Nov. 27. Students in grades eight and 10 will be taking sample tests during various class times throughout the week. All these students should bring two No. 2 pencils and a calculator. Students should also get a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast prior to the tests.

## **CAMPUS STORE OPEN FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING**

The Campus Store will be open additional hours for parents' and our alumni's shopping needs. The store will be open Dec. 4 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. during the placement test.

Enter through the front-center door No. 3 (student entrance), then turn right into hallway. The Campus Store is the first room on the left. Regular business hours are school days from 11:00 a.m. until 1:15 p.m. If visiting during these hours, please sign in at the front office.

## **BACKSTAGE CREW TREAT BAGS**

The BACKSTAGE Crew, a group that supports the PHS Theatre Program, is sponsoring its annual "Finals Care Package" project to help students relieve the stress of finals week. To order a care package to cheer your student on during finals week, [click here](#). Orders must be mailed by Nov. 30, so don't delay.

## **ALUMNI IN ACTION**

### **ALUMNI TOYS FOR TOTS CHALLENGE**

Shopping on Black Friday? Pick up an extra toy or two to support the Providence Toys for Tots drive.

The *House of Justice* has once again challenged the alumni to donate the equivalent of 200 toys (cash or toys).

Last year, **Providence was the largest local contributor to Toys for Tots**, and the group is counting on PHS again this year. Toys can be dropped off at PHS Nov. 26 through Dec. 12. To make a monetary donation, email [advancement@providencehigh.net](mailto:advancement@providencehigh.net) for more info.



## NEXT YEAR'S REUNIONS

Reunion committees should be forming for next year's reunions for graduation years ending in 3 or 8. The Office of Alumni Relations provides various types of support and can cut out a lot of the tedium of reunion planning. So don't be shy! If you are interested in helping plan your get-together, email [alumni@providencehigh.net](mailto:alumni@providencehigh.net) for information.

The Office of Alumni Relations has yet to hear from representatives from the classes of 1968, 1973, 1988, and 1998.

Two classes have upcoming mini-reunions coming up:

- 1960: mini-reunion Dec. 8, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Lakeview in Clarksville
- 1962: mini-reunion Dec. 1, 2012 at Holiday Inn Lakeview in Clarksville

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA COMING SOON

The annual Breakfast with Santa is just around the corner! Scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m., the event is co-sponsored by the Girls Soccer team and the Alumni Association and features, for the first time, a performance by the Popcorn Players at 9:30 a.m. Activities include a continental breakfast, children's crafts, and a free photo with Santa.



Bring your children or grandchildren the first Saturday in December!

## GALA SPONSORS, DONATIONS NEEDED

The annual Providence Gala is scheduled for Jan. 19 at Huber Orchard &

Winery Plantation Hall, and sponsors and donations are needed to make this important fundraiser a success. Funds raised support various programs, so your support is appreciated! To donate an item for the silent auction, sponsor the event, or join the planning committee, email Laura Brown at [advancement@providencehigh.net](mailto:advancement@providencehigh.net).

## ALUMNI SHIRTS MAKE GREAT GIFTS

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift? Providence Alumni golf shirts are on sale in the PHS Campus Store and at all home Boys Basketball games. Just \$35 and available in two styles and various sizes. Get yours today!

Check out the cover photo on the [Our Lady of Providence High School Alumni Association Facebook](#) page to see the different styles. See the story above on Campus Store Christmas hours for more info.

## BLUE PRIDE ON DISPLAY

### MS. DEBBIE FACKLER

For more than two decades, **Ms. Debbie Fackler** has driven to work at 707 Providence Way, but this is her first year working for Providence. The new administrative assistant to the president spent 20 years as office administrator for the New Albany Deanery Youth Ministry Office, which is located in the Aquinas Center in the first floor of the old convent portion of the building.



Ms. Fackler said she was looking for a change of pace when the job opening came about. "I saw it as an opportunity to broaden my horizons and use my skills in different ways," she said.

Her new role is much different than her previous job and includes various responsibilities to assist **President Joan Hurley**. Ms. Fackler said she enjoys the change and the opportunity to work with a much larger group of people as opposed to the office of three in her previous job. "Here, you have a whole team of people working to accomplish a goal," she said.

Ms. Fackler also is eager to continue growing in this new role and using her talents in different ways. "I see a lot of opportunity for this position to grow in different areas," she said.

She also has felt very welcomed by the Providence faculty, staff and student body. "I like the camaraderie of Providence," she said. "I didn't experience

that part of Providence before even though the Aquinas Center is in the same building. It's a really positive, welcoming atmosphere."

Outside of work, Ms. Fackler is an "avid craftswoman" and enjoys art, photography, and sewing as well as hiking and reading.

## BLUE NEWS - OF OLD

**Excerpts from a November 30, 1972 article in the New Albany Tribune, by Eddie LaDuke:**

*"Providence, Providence, your name is glorious. Pioneers, Pioneers, fight on victorious."*

For the past two months that song was threatened with the possibility of being discarded as a golden-oldie as the school it so proudly represented was placed in the same predicament.

Last night in an emotion-packed meeting of the New Albany Catholic Board of Education, the song and the school were given a new lease on life. In a very close vote, 29-25 to be exact, the Board voted to accept the recommendation of the special ad hoc committee which was originally set up by the board to investigate the future of Providence High School.

**Father McNally** (president of the Board of Education) confirmed, following the vote, that the method of financing the purchase and future operation has been left open by the **Bishop (George Biskup)**. "What we have done tonight is gain a committal of the Board to purchase the school and operate it. In essence, Providence has been saved, but the route or method of saving it is still undecided."

The announcement of the results of the secret vote was met with a deafening cheer from the over 1,000 people jammed into the St. Anthony's facility. "With the vote so close and the subject so emotional," stated Father McNally, "I fear that a division in this Catholic community may take place. But we must pray and work together to see that it does not happen."

A lot of cheering, a lot of back-slapping and a lot of congratulations were the post-meeting events including some enlightened comments by those who were members of the Concern People Committee.

Through all of this comes preservation of the school, its heritage, its history and hopefully its future. And that song which begins:

*"Providence, Providence, your name is glorious" will remain on the current list of hits and not be discarded in the golden-oldie file.*



Now, forty years, we are reminded how very close Providence came to extinction. At age 21, Providence High School avoided closure by a vote of 29-25. The day following the vote, Nov. 30, 1972, the student body gathered to celebrate a successful Save Our School campaign. The sign atop the building read: **WE ARE ALL TOGETHER IN PROVIDENCE - THANKS - SUPER SCHOOL LIVES ON.**

During those first 21 years under the guidance of the Sisters of Providence, 3,080 students graduated from Providence. Today, in 2012, Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High School is a vibrant, thriving, mission-filled school. Because of the positive choice made by the community of Catholic parishes on Nov. 29, 1972, an additional 5,434 students are now graduates of Providence!

Thanks to the students, parents, supporters throughout the years, Our Lady of Providence continues its mission, to *"inspire Faith, empower Hope, and strengthen Love, through exemplary Catholic education."*

## COMING EVENTS

Nov. 21 - Website maintenance may affect access today

Nov. 21-23 - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY (No School)

Nov. 24 - PAJAMA RUN-WALK and pancake breakfast - 9:00 a.m.

Nov. 30 - Deadline for student CARE PACKAGES for final exams - sponsored by BACKSTAGE Crew

Dec. 1 - 9 to 10:30 a.m. - BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Dec. 4 - CAMPUS STORE Open - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. for Christmas Shopping.





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