



In the B.L.U.E. Days S.T.E.M. session, students enjoy learning robotics and applying science, technology, engineering and math skills.

## PROVIDENCE e-VISION NEWS

September 12, 2012

News for Parents, Alumni and Friends of Providence

[Students Enjoy Interactive BLUE Days Session](#)

[STUDENTS IN ACTION](#)

[Senior Theatre Student Enjoys Acting Gig](#)

[Freshman Learns Film Production](#)

[French III Students Begin Adoption Process](#)

[PARENT CONNECTION](#)

[College Go Week For Seniors](#)

[Photo Retake Day Next Week](#)

[Sophomore Class Ring Delivery](#)

[ALUMNI IN ACTION...](#)

## STUDENTS ENJOY INTERACTIVE BLUE DAYS

The assignment: Design a robot that can avoid obstacles either through a visual, touch, or light sensor. Sounds like something in a college engineering class, right? Well, it's also the challenge for a small group of students who have been participating in **Mr. Jason Mullis'** Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) session during Tuesday BLUE Days Sessions.

The students use all of the subjects listed in the session's title to build their robot. For example, they use the scientific method to account for the myriad of variables in designing the motorized vehicle. They learn about electronics and digital technology controls as well as computer programming.



They also employ engineering exercises while applying

[Correction: Gene Sartini Field Naming Events](#)

[Alumni Help Needed](#)

[Save the Date...ASAP](#)

[BLUE PRIDE ON DISPLAY](#)

[Welcome Mr. Blakeslee](#)

[Welcome Mrs. Welch](#)

[Reunion Information](#)

[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](#)

[PHS In Memoriam](#)

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concepts in physics and math. "Robotics enables students to 'do' mathematics rather than study it," Mr. Mullis said.

The session has nine participants working on three-person teams to build one of the three available Lego Mindstorms NXT 2.0 robotics kits. The kits will be used to solve various problems, and ultimately the students will design a robot from scratch. Mr. Mullis says he enjoys seeing them problem solve and discover how to apply concepts learned in their various classes. The students enjoy it too.

"I like building things," said junior **Nathan Banet**. "And it's something interesting and new we can do."

"It's cool to be able to program them," said junior **Owen Mattingly**. "We can customize them by using computer programming. And this is just the tip of the iceberg. We've just gotten started."

## STUDENTS IN ACTION

### SENIOR ENJOYS ACTING GIG

Senior **Emalee Aldridge** loves acting and was thrilled to have the chance recently to portray Bob the Tomato from the Veggie Tales series. She wore a special tomato costume and greeted visitors at the Louisville Zoo one recent Saturday for Storybook Character Days.

"It was fun meeting people and seeing people's reactions to Bob the Tomato," she said.

She said she especially enjoyed seeing how children responded to her character, even if it was difficult to return their hugs because the arms in the costume ended midway up her forearm. She improvised by flapping her hands instead.

Emalee's teacher, **Mrs. Ellen Holifield**, recommended her for the part, and Emalee said she earned the Bob the Tomato role because her "height was perfect for the part." She is especially pleased that the zoo staff invited her to return for more character events.

### FRESHMAN LEARNS FILM PRODUCTION

Freshman **Bailey Boyd** hopes to have a career in film



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production, and he is already adding to his resume. Over the summer, he had a role in the short film "Zombie Crush: A Teenage Zomedy" and assisted producers Lawayne and Dewayne Bontrager with production. He spent three weeks in June in Atlanta working on the film, which he heard about thanks to family friend **Guy Tedesco '80**, who does special effects and prosthetics for the twin brother producers.

Bailey also took a Video Production class at the Indianapolis Art Center on Saturdays during the summer in which he learned all the elements of making a film. Bailey wrote the script with the help of the other students in the class and did most of the camerawork for the class project. He said he is grateful for both experiences.

"It helped me a lot with learning and growing in film production because I know that's what I really want to do," he said.

Having had that practice, he recently made a short Halloween film with the help of classmates freshmen **Keenan Wheatley** and **Brandon Tevis** and is submitting it to a Halloween film contest.

## FRENCH III STUDENTS BEGIN ADOPTION PROCESS

Students in French III recently received pet "snails" as part of an international program for French language students known as Adopt an Escargot. The program pairs each student with an empty snail shell that they adopt and use as a source of inspiration in a variety of activities.



Their initial activity was to trans-late

*Mrs. Dottie Zipp returns to play "stork" and deliver snails to French III.*

their new snail's personality description using the French/

English dictionary on their iPads and to name their new pet. This week, they are introducing their snails *en français* to various faculty members and will be taking photos of their snails using their iPads. The unit concludes with an official adoption ceremony.

## **PARENT CONNECTION**

### **COLLEGE GO WEEK FOR SENIORS**

Parents of seniors: The Guidance Office provides a variety of services to help seniors with the transition to college, including a monthly newsletter found on the school website under Current Families/Current Parents/Guidance/[Events & Newsletters](#).

The Life after High School bulletin includes information on College GO Week, Sept. 24-28, during which some colleges waive their application fee to encourage early applications. Be sure to read this bulletin regularly.

Additionally, dates of college visits to Providence are listed in the Life after High School bulletin and in the calendar available on the school website.

### **PHOTO RETAKE DAY NEXT WEEK**

Photo retake day is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 21, for any student who did not have a yearbook/school photo taken during registration or for students who were unhappy with their first photo. All students, including seniors, must have a school photo taken whether or not any photos are purchased. If students are having a photo retaken, they must bring their complete photo packet to the retake session.

Those students who are having photos taken on retake day may dress up. Please refer to the guidelines in the student/parent handbook app on students' iPads for more information.

Senior photos are required in order to keep identification up to date. Senior portraits for the yearbook must also be taken, either at Whylands Studio or Lifetouch, by mid-October.

## SOPHOMORE CLASS RING DELIVERY

Sophomores who ordered class rings from Herff-Jones will receive their rings during lunch on Sept. 25 and can have them resized as this time, if necessary. The Sophomore Ring/Pinning Ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 11. More information will be mailed to sophomore parents in the coming weeks.

## PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Now Providence has a Facebook page just for prospective students and their families. Like Future PHS Pioneers on [Facebook](#) and see photos and video from Football Deanery Night as well as highlights from the first month of school.



## ALUMNI IN ACTION

### CORRECTION: GENE SARTINI FIELD NAMING EVENTS

The football field of Murphy Stadium will be named after longtime football coach **Gene Sartini** on Oct. 12 with a ceremony beginning at 7:30 p.m. The time of the ceremony differs from the last e-VISION.

Kickoff of the Providence vs. Clarksville football game will begin immediately following the ceremony.

All alumni are invited to attend the pre-game ceremony and greet Coach Sartini at a special reception after the game and the City Championship award ceremony.

## ALUMNI HELP NEEDED

Did you know every Providence graduate is automatically a member of the *Providence Alumni Association*? The Alumni Association organizes a variety of fundraising and fellowship throughout the year in part to support the annual Alumni Scholarship given to an incoming freshman. But we need your help.

The Alumni Association board plans and puts on these activities, including JulyFest, and Alumni Night during football and basketball season. The current board includes six active members from the classes of 1999 to 2007 and would like to have more representation from all eras. The

board meets every other month on the first Tuesday at noon at Providence. Attendance can be flexible for those who want to participate in specific activity planning.

"If you are looking for a way to give back to Providence, please consider assisting the Alumni Association board with one of our events this year," said Alumni Association board president **Brad Denman '02**. "Our events are a great way to network with current and past alumni while serving the Providence community!"

For more information, email [alumni@providencehigh.net](mailto:alumni@providencehigh.net).

## SAVE THE DATE: ASAP

Mark your calendars for the *Annual Student Assistance Program* fundraising dinner on Monday, Oct. 8, at Huber Orchard & Winery Plantation Hall. Entertainment will include a once-in-a-lifetime chance to hear professional musicians **Gary Marlin '66** of The Marlins and **Sonny Lemaire '66** of Exile perform on stage together. Marlin has performed with his family's band, [The Marlins](#), for nearly 50 years. Lemaire is a professional songwriter who continues to perform with the band [Exile](#), which had ten No. 1 hits from 1983 to 1993, as well as with the band Selby Mills Lemaire.

The ASAP dinner will begin with a cocktail reception at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7:00. For more information, email [advancement@providencehigh.net](mailto:advancement@providencehigh.net).

## BLUE PRIDE ON DISPLAY

### WELCOME, MR. BLAKESLEE

**Mr. Seth Blakeslee** is thoroughly enjoying his first full-time teaching job, a career choice he discovered after serving in different high schools through AmeriCorps. He joined AmeriCorps after graduating from Hanover College in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in theology and pre-medicine and planned to become an optometrist after his stint with the service

organization.



During his three years with AmeriCorps providing college counseling in high schools in Florida and Kentucky, his plans changed. "I was blindsided by how much I loved working in the school environment and the energy of that atmosphere," he said.

Now, Mr. Blakeslee is teaching Chemistry and seventh-grade science and loves not only teaching but also being part of the Providence community. "I love that so many faculty are alumni," he said. "It's definitely a place I can immerse myself and be a part of it and not be just another teacher passing through."

Mr. Blakeslee also hopes to get involved coaching. He ran cross country and track at his high school in Syracuse, Ind., and at Hanover and hopes to become an assistant track coach. He enjoys running as well as playing golf and tennis.

Mr. Blakeslee lives in Louisville and is engaged to be married to Maggie Stovall, the youth minister for the Catholic Community of Jeffersonville. After their January wedding, they hope to move to Southern Indiana.

**WELCOME, MRS. WELCH**

**Mrs. Diana Welch** is happy to be back in the classroom again. Previously, she taught biology and chemistry as an adjunct professor at North Dakota State University about



17 years ago. At the time, her husband was a military pilot, and the couple moved often, living in Texas, California, and Oklahoma as well as North Dakota. She then enrolled in medical school with plans to become a doctor when she learned she was pregnant even though she had been told she couldn't have children.

Mrs. Welch quit medical school to stay home with her daughter, and the couple later had four more children. About 10 years ago, they moved to Greenville when her husband left the military and got a job as a pilot with UPS. She continued to stay at home with her children and applied for the opening here teaching AP Biology and Honors Biology at the urging of her family.

Mrs. Welch is glad to be teaching at the same school as her daughter, **Dori**, a freshman, and her son **Brogan**, a seventh grader. (The Welches also have three children at St. Mary of the Knobs in grades one, three and five.) She said she is impressed with how well rounded her students are and is amazed at how much in which they are involved. She also is touched by how welcoming the Providence faculty and community have been. "I feel very blessed to be here," she said. "Everybody's gone out of their way to make me feel welcome.

## REUNION INFORMATION

Upcoming reunions include:

- \* **1962:** mini-reunion Dec. 1 at Holiday Inn Lakeview in Clarksville.
- \* **1967:** 45-year reunion Sept. 15, 2012, at Hidden Creek Golf Club.
- \* **1977:** 35-year reunion Nov. 10, venue TBD
- \* **1992:** 20-year reunion Nov. 3, 7-11 p.m., Covered Bridge

\* **2002:** 10-year reunion Oct. 20, Champions Pointe Golf Club

## BLUE NEWS - OF OLD

### Athletic Field Dedication, September 1960

*As we prepare to name the football field after **Coach Gene Sartini**, we take a look back to when the field was first dedicated. The Pioneer yearbook of 1961 recorded the dedication and lists the following as part of the ceremony.*

- **Mr. Frank Zoeller** presented Principal **Sister Miriam Joseph** with the deed to the Providence Athletic Field.



- Members of the Jeffersonville American Legion and Lawrence Capehart Post No. 35 raised the American flag over the field for the first time.
- **Mr. William Burke** represented Jeffersonville **Mayor Charles Hoodenpyl** in bringing good wishes and words of appreciation.
- **Jude Paul Tegart** represented New Albany **Mayor Pralle Erni** with words of congratulations.
- **Monsignor James Jansen**, assisted by **Mr. Albert Allgaier**, president of the Men's Booster Club, blessed the field.

The varsity football team, known as The Murphymen under **Coach Gene "Spider" Murphy**, won three games that season, their first on their new home field, including a 7-6 win over Trinity High School, 26-7 win over Salem, and a 20-0 win over Jeffersonville.

## COMING EVENTS

Sept. 14 - 7th Grade Retreat  
Sept. 18 - Catholic Youth Ministries Dinner  
Sept. 20 - 8th Grade Retreat  
Sept. 20 - Deanery Faculty/Staff Appreciation Dinner  
Sept. 21 - Yearbook Picture Make-Up Date  
Sept. 25 - Sophomore Ring Delivery  
Sept. 28 - Pioneer House Cup  
Oct. 8 - ASAP Dinner, Huber Orchard & Winery  
Oct. 11 - Sophomore Ring/Pinning Ceremony  
Oct. 12 - Gene Sartini Field Naming  
Oct. 14 - [Southern Indiana Basketball Coaches Clinic](#)

\* \* PROVIDENCE WAY \* PROVIDENCE WAY \* \*

### *And lastly...*

Yesterday marked the 11th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Providence commemorated the day with a short morning prayer service, beginning with this reading from Galatians 5:13-14

*You were called for freedom, brothers and sisters. But do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather, serve one another in love. For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*

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