

FRANCIS W. PARKER CHARTER ESSENTIAL SCHOOL
& THEODORE R. SIZER TEACHERS CENTER
49 ANTIETAM ST, DEVENS, MA 01434
TELEPHONE (978) 772-3293 FAX (978) 772-3295 www.parker.org

Friday Announcements

Date: March 16, 2007

Dear Parker Families,

At this week's Wednesday morning Gathering, we had the chance to hear about the distinguishing characteristics of our Senior athletes and their individual and collective accomplishments over the course of their Parker basketball careers. It is a ritual repeated at the conclusion of each sports season, a kind of collage of words and images, memories, and metaphors dedicated to capturing and conveying a sense of what athleticism means at our school. Hearing a little bit about the way a student approaches his or her game can provide insights into the decisions that same student makes in working with peers in class, or can confirm what we thought we already knew about a person, but helps us to envision those attributes in the completely different context that sports provides. It is always wonderful to hear Ben Benoit and our coaches describe tenaciousness, courage, grace, unselfish play, and skillfulness as embodied by our nearly-grown Senior athletes. We recognize those qualities and remember that so many of our students are evolving their identities in arenas beyond the classroom. We are reminded, too, of the two way traffic that occurs when students move to the court and back again, when they carve out a place for themselves in the activities that bring them great satisfaction and in which they perform beautifully and willingly.

There are examples of this very phenomenon all around our school. We know that when some of our students congregate in the front hallway, in shirt and tie and dress and hosiery, and pace "that way," it must be Mock Trial day. We know our student actors understand that every minute of a performance requires at least one hour of rehearsal dedicated to it alone, and so they arrive on time in order to give each moment its due. We see the willingness of our musicians to focus on a single section of four or eight bars on a page in order to achieve music, instead of just notes. We see the dedication required of Parker basketball players who practice at hours usually associated with hockey players, at 6 am and well into the evening, because that is when we can get court time. There is a cycle created, where hard work, discipline and personal goals flow into and out of this variety of experiences. Solid effort, exertion, and lessons learned are easily traded among the settings where our students spend their time.

In actuality, it takes a tremendous amount of organization, energy, and desire for students to commit to the requirements of dedicated play, whether the "field" is a gym floor, a stage, or a courtroom somewhere across the state. There is homework to do, there is practice time to carve out, and there is the physical, mental, and emotional cost to taking on disciplined study in addition to full-time studies. And yet in so many other ways, it seems that these commitments to extend the day and to push the limits of expression, endurance, and experience fuel our kids, energize them, and serve to inspire them to fill their hours with the things they love to do. It is wonderful to witness the emergence of this kind of love, when young people realize how the worlds of hard work and joy can collide to create a picture of what they can, might, and maybe will strive for as they begin to imagine their lives beyond high school.

Hoping yours is a particularly lovely weekend,

Teri Schrader

SAVE THE DATE!

IMPORTANT PARENT MEETING on Parker's Planned Classroom Addition and the Campaign to Raise the Necessary Funds

**Thursday March 29
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**Have your questions answered.
Meet with Parker Principal Teri Schrader,
Board of Trustees Chair Andy Perkins,
and other parents.
Learn how you can help.**

Parker's efforts to obtain a permanent home that meets our students' needs is the single most ambitious and important initiative we've undertaken since the school was founded 12 years ago. We are going to need the help of every family to make this happen.

Please make it a priority to attend.

For further information, please contact any member of the Classroom Campaign Committee: *Maura Barstow, Gillian Draleau, Kim Draper, Nancy Enriquez, Ann Glannon, Phil Holman, Andy Perkins, Joan Shankle, Teri Schrader*

SAVE THE DATE!

Parker Matters Parenting Series & Student Services
is pleased to invite you
to an evening with

Marilee Jones, Dean of Admissions at MIT

Thursday, April 5th
7:00 – 9:00 PM

Ms. Jones is a national spokesperson on the changes in today's college admissions climate and speaks strongly against the pressure the process induces in both students and parents. She has been featured on CBS, National Public Radio and profiles in USA Today, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal. She is co-author of the book "Less Stress, More Success: A New Approach to Guiding Your Teen Through College Admissions and Beyond."

Ms. Jones's presentation is tailored for parents of adolescents as they begin the college selection and admissions process. She offers advice and insight about today's teens using a parental lens, as she herself has just gone through the process with her own daughter.

A must-attend event for all Parker parents

For further information contact Sue Whalley or Joan Shulman (978) 772-3293

Join the Charter School Parent Advocacy Network:

Join over 2500 Charter school parents and board members in advocating for Massachusetts Charter Schools! Sign up on the Massachusetts Charter Public School Association's website to receive news, legislative updates and ALERTS about political issues impacting your charter school. Easily send emails to legislators and the Governor weighing in on important political matters impacting your child's education!

You can join by going to www.masscharterschools.org and clicking on "Parents Join Here." It is critically important that parents and board members be involved in these advocacy efforts. For the past six years the Network has been a powerful voice for charter school parents and board members with the Massachusetts State Legislature and Governor. Without the Parent Advocacy Network's efforts during the past six years, Massachusetts Charter Schools would likely have seen their funding reduced, number of schools frozen and paralyzing restrictions placed upon them.

It's easy to join. www.masscharterschools.org. Do so today and protect your child's education.

PEF GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Parker Essential Fund is now accepting grant applications for review at the next PEF Board meeting on **Wednesday, March 28**. If you have ideas or items for enrichment that require funding, please submit applications to the PEF Box by Friday, March 23 with Teri's signature.

****NEW**** View the PEF section on the Parker website for instructions and guidelines for completing the application; you can also download the application form or pick one up from Bridgit in the office. Please email Maryellen Grady (mwgrady@gmail.com) if you have questions.

The PEF is a group of parents, teachers and students whose purpose is to raise money to support educationally enriching activities at Parker.

COMING SOON

March, 2007

- Tuesday, 20 – MCAS Testing begins
- Tuesday, 20 – PEF Auction meeting in Room 1 at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, 23 – PEF applications due to office
- Wednesday, 28 – PEF Board meeting
- Thursday, 29 – Meeting to discuss Parker's planned Classroom Addition and Campaign from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. to raise the necessary funds
- Friday, 30 – MCAS Make-up testing

CALENDAR

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES! *(Subject to change)*

April, 2007

- Monday, 2 – MCAS Make-up testing
- Tuesday, 3 – Trustees Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, 4 – Senior Project Exhibition Evening
- Thursday, 5 – Parker Matters Parenting Series & Student Services – Marilee Jones, Dean of Admissions at MIT 7-9pm
- Friday, 6 – Early Release (noon dismissal)
- Tuesday, 10 – Trustees Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- Friday, 13 – Early Release (noon dismissal)
- Monday, 16 – Patriot's Day (no school)
- Tuesday – Friday, 17 – 20 - Spring Recess
- Monday, 30 – Senior Exhibitions begin

May, 2007

- Tuesday, 1 – HAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, 8 – Noche Sabrosa
- Monday, 14 – MCAS Testing begins
- 15 – Trustees Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, 20 – Parker Road Race and Springfest
- 25 – Early Release (noon dismissal)
- 25 - Senior/Junior Prom
- 28 – Memorial Day (no school)

June, 2007

- 6 – Noon dismissal - Graduation (6:00 p.m.)**
- 19 – Trustees Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 18 – Last Day of Classes (as of 3/8/07) will be later if school is cancelled for a day or more

MCAS TESTING FOR DIVISION I AND II

All Division 1 and Division 2 students will be engaged in testing between March 20 and March 22. Seventh, eighth and tenth graders will be doing MCAS testing (ELA Composition and Reading Comprehension tests) and ninth graders will be doing the Stanford 10s. Only ninth graders will need calculators, but all students should bring a few pencils and a book to read if they complete testing early. We recommend that students should have a good breakfast before they come to school and also bring a snack for the middle of the morning. Any questions, please contact Deb Merriam (deb@parker.org).

Subscribe to Parker community email lists!

We use the Parker Listserv to post announcements and reminders about life at Parker.

FWPaaa is the Parker community email list for general announcements.

FWPsports is Parker's email list for sports-related announcements.

Subscribe at <http://lists.parker.org/mailman/listinfo/>

Thank you

Many thanks to the family of Michael Sushchik for their donation of pens, we are most grateful.

Can You Help?

CARMEN AND JEN'S ADVISORY ARE COLLECTING CANS AND BOTTLES TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR NEW BUILDING!!

Please bring in your empty (and cleaned) cans and bottles by **Friday March 30th**. There will be a bin in the lobby, or you may drop them off to room 23.

Thanks for your support!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PARKER ROAD RACE

The Road Race is still in desperate need of committee members for the raffle table. We would like to have one person to cover one or two towns in the Parker realm for raffle donations from their businesses. If you could give us an hour or two a week, please contact Dawn de Freitas at (978) 842-2605 or basketdealer@gmail.com. We appreciate any time you can give! The next meeting of the Road Race is Wednesday, March 21 at 7:00 pm in room 1 of the Parker School. Dawn de Freitas

The Nurse's Office is looking for:

- Crackers and tissues
- Ginger ale for upset stomachs

Donations for blank writable CDs and double AA and triple AAA batteries would be hugely appreciated.

Jewelry Choice Block is looking for donations of unwanted beads, earring wires, wire, or any assorted jewelry makings you might have around the house.

Looking for fun jury duty?

A new Division III AH course called History on Trial, a class where students put historical figures on trial for possible crimes against humanity, is looking for jurors to sit in on the trials and help us reach verdicts. If you are a parent or community member and would be interested in being a part of this experience, please e-mail Anthony Shaker at ashaker@parker.org. No jury experience or historical knowledge is required, and this would be a huge help to the class in creating a more authentic trial atmosphere. The two trials will take place during the school day in mid-March and in mid-April (specific dates are to be determined.)

PARKER ROAD RACE AND SPRINGFEST

DO YOU NEED TO FULFILL SOME VOLUNTEER HOURS?

The Parker Road Race and Springfest is in need of volunteers for the following:

- **Sponsorship Committee** - to make follow up phone calls to potential sponsors who have received request letters. This is something that needs to be completed in the next two months.
- **Raffle Committee** - to solicit and pick up donations/purchases for our raffle table.
- **Runners Bags** - to solicit and pick up donations/purchases for our runners bags.

Please contact Dawn de Freitas @ (978) 842-2605 or basketdealer@gmail.com for more information.

FROM THE COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Division 2 and Junior Girls: Interested in exploring the field of engineering? This field is seeking young women to become engineers for the future.

Worcester County Seniors: Sue has a set of scholarship opportunities just for you. Come by and get a copy.

Seniors: New scholarships are coming in the mail each day, so check in with Sue regularly.

PARKER SCHOOL – ENROLLMENT FOR 2007-2008

We received 278 applications from students wishing to attend Parker for the 2007-2008 school year! We will be taking in a new class of “seventh graders” and we also have students on the waiting list for grades 8, 9 and 10. We are asking the parents of our current students to help us by indicating whether or not your child will be returning to Parker in the fall. Please return the form below or telephone the office as soon as possible. All information is for enrollment purposes only and will be kept confidential in the office. Thank you – Deb Merriam

***If you haven't already filled out this form
please complete and return to the office ASAP. Thank you.***

Student's Name: _____
(Please print)

___ Will be returning to the Parker School in September, 2007

___ Will not be returning to the Parker School in September, 2007

___ Not certain at this time

TO THE PARKER COMMUNITY

My name is Chris Reeves and I am a senior. My senior project is focused around the question, "How have Native Americans influenced and contributed to modern outdoor and wilderness skills?" I am in search of an individual with knowledge about wilderness skills and or survival skills that could serve as my mentor. This person does not need to be knowledgeable about the Native American component of my project. The mentor is someone I can use for feedback, ask questions and give me new insight and direction into my project. This person would also sit on the panel of my exhibition (11:50 a.m. , Friday, May 4, 2007).

I am also interested in sharing the information I have collected on survival (especially wintertime survival skills) with a community/ group that are interested and would benefit from that information. I am interested in any opportunities to share my research. Thank you in advance for your time and information. I can be reached by home phone at (978) 425- 4548 or by e-mail at Chrisreevevs7@gmail.com.

A small group of people looking to extend the growing season in Parker's very own community garden is starting to grab their seeds and shovels. We are looking for donations from the Parker community for various materials. Do you have spare manure lying around that you might want to donate? In addition to manure, we are looking for floating row covers (or similar materials) as well as any old window panes/ lumber that could be useful in constructing cold frames. Thank you so much for your donations and continued support. If you have materials that could benefit this effort don't hesitate to e-mail either Chris Reeves (Chrisreeves7@gmail.com) or Josie Dickson (Jdickson@parker.org). Thanks so much! Chris

UPDATE FROM DIVISION III

Senior Project Jurors Needed!

Senior Project Exhibitions begin the week of April 30th. We need outside jurors each day (except Wednesday). The time commitment is about 2 hours. Please contact Nicky Dudensing in the office or email Nicola@parker.org if you are interested.

Here's what a prior "First Time Juror" had to say about the experience!

How I almost missed the opportunity of a lifetime, by Elaine Elston

Last year I had the opportunity to help facilitate a senior project. A student from Parker spent some time living with us while he studied a community nearby. That in itself was pretty rewarding, getting to see the type of work that students had to accomplish in order to graduate. As part of my participation I was also invited to sit on this student's panel. Because I was traveling quite a distance to attend, I asked if I could sit in on some other panels so I could make a day of it. I'm so glad I was able to see even more! The process was painless: sit, watch, listen, enjoy, learn and then engage in questions. After the actual "performance" the panel went and discussed the experience and rated the student's work. I was nervous at first, thinking I was either going to be too tough or not tough enough, but each student's advisor was the guiding force who gave just enough information so that everyone on the panel came to a unanimous decision which was fair and accurate. It was very rewarding to have been part of such a key moment of celebration in student learning. I look forward to participating again.

Seniors should be continuing to work on research revisions and their products. We are heading toward the part of the year when the major senior project deadlines are really looming large in the minds of the students. Senior Project Exhibition Evening is coming up very soon – only two and a half weeks away, on April 4th. The product due date is 3 weeks away, April 9th. Finally, the piece that often feels most weighty and important to students, the formal exhibition of their projects, take place in 6 weeks, during the week of April 30th. If you have questions about any of

this, whether your student is working or worrying too much or too little, what the product should look like, what is expected in the exhibition, etc., please don't hesitate to contact your student's advisor/Senior Seminar teacher. Or ask your child!

This week's course update is from Tom Hinkle's MST class: Programming.

In Programming, students have completed their introduction to a functional style of programming in the Python programming language. Students had a test this Monday in which they demonstrated their familiarity with the basics of python syntax, debugging buggy code, clarifying obscure code, and writing new code of their own to make a simple game. After our test, we introduced the basics of handling files in python. To get the hang of working with files and working with text in their programs, students wrote programs to analyze word frequencies and sentence length in Shakespeare's sonnets. Next week, students will be working on a POW that asks them to write a "dialect generator" that will take a text as input and output the text rewritten in a slang dialect of their choice. As they work on that, we will also begin a more formal introduction to the object oriented style of programming.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Arts and Humanities – Division I

And we're off! This week we've launched our study of South Africa, which will make up our final unit of the year. Early in the week we ran a simulation about apartheid to see how different groups interact when one is restricted. Matt Smith has shared his own experiences in South Africa with all of our classes as he teaches about the history of the country. We've also been returning our final assessment from our last unit, so please check in with your student about revisions.

Arts and Humanities – Division II

This week in Division II AH, we continued exploring themes of Revolution and Social Justice while reading 'In the Time of the Butterflies' by Julia Alvarez. Students wrote short scenes in which they acted out moments left out of Alvarez's book, drew pictures to gain insight into imagery, and analyzed their reading for allusion and style. This assessment is rapidly coming to an end, so students should concentrate on finishing the book over the next few days. Parents can help by donating old magazines for use in a visual character analysis piece students will begin next week.

Also: next Friday (the 23rd), Edgar Krasa, a survivor of Terezin Concentration Camp, will be visiting Parker. He will speak in the Gym between 10:50 and 12:50; interested parents are welcome to attend.

MATH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Math, Science and Technology – Division I

In Division I MST, we are continuing to work on our understanding of how materials float or sink and how density is connected. This week we have been building a density column using a variety of liquids to test the density of mysterious materials. In order to calculate the density of the liquids, we measured the volume and mass of each of the substances. Then we used our column to approximate the density of the unknown material. Finally, we graphed the density of all 5 liquids and determined the mass of each of the unknown materials. COW #11, "Mystery Material" was due today. C.O.W.#12, "Float Your Boat," went out today and is due Friday, March 30.

Attention Parents: Below, you will find a copy of C.O.W. #13, "Local Wonders," which will not go out until March 30, but since it involves visiting a boat we wanted to give you advance notice on this assignment. Students will need to visit a boat of their choice to research for this project. We encourage families and their students to make a trip to visit a local boat or ship of significance to complete this assignment. Students will present their findings in an oral presentation to the class. Thank-you, in advance, for helping your student get to visit a "Local Wonder!"
Sincerely, Your Division I MST teachers

Name: _____

Block: _____

COW 13

Local Wonders

Due April 13, 2007

What are the parts of the boat?



Why was it built?

You may not live near the *Titanic* or even the *Mayflower*, but you can choose any local boat that is significant because of its appearance, strength, speed, or historical or social impact. Once you have chosen your "local wonder" you should visit it, research it and present your findings orally to the class.

Your final presentation should include:

- _____ 1. Name and description of boat (identify the type of boat, when it was built, describe and explain its parts).
- _____ 2. Why is this local wonder important, interesting or significant? What is/was it used for?
- _____ 3. Approximate size (dimensions, displacement, etc.).
- _____ 4. Approximate date boat was built.
- _____ 5. What the boat is made out of? How was it constructed?
- _____ 6. Multiview drawing of your boat.
- _____ 7. Interesting facts about your local wonder

How much weight can it hold?

What is the boat used for?

HOW LONG DID THE CONSTRUCTION TAKE?

WHY DID THE BUILDERS CHOOSE THE MATERIAL?

Math, Science and Technology – Division II

This week the students presented their findings on the effects of anti-microbial substances on a live culture of E. coli bacteria. They put their findings on posters to display for classmates to walk past and observe, making notes and asking questions. We have moved into our next area of disease, viruses. This week in math concluded with the students giving an oral presentation on a unique problem they were given, using an exponential function to model their situation. Ask them to explain it to you!

SPANISH UPDATE

Division 1 Year 3

We have moved into the third unit of the year during which we are looking at the Maya – Quiche culture and what myths and legends can tell us about a group of people and how they live. Students will begin work creating their own legends of creation this week which they will illustrate and narrate, culminating in a digital book.

STUDENTS WHO ARE WORKING TOWARDS A DIVISION I GATEWAY IN JUNE

Showing readiness to gateway is a combination of:

- a) Having a solid portfolio (Multiple meets work in Speaking, Writing, Reading, Listening and Culture)
- b) Consistently meeting the standards on current projects (without *extensive* revision)
- c) Demonstrating a level of comfort with content and readiness to enter Division II
- d) Communicating with their teacher about the gateway process

All students have had a chance to review their portfolio of work and set up a plan to prepare for a June gateway this year or a January gateway next year. Please ask your child about their goal and action plan for Spanish. If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to contact me. (cbyrne@parker.org)

División II Español

This week we began the writing portion of the Poetry Unit. Every day students will write an entry in Spanish for their project. They may write a poem, an essay, or any type of writing that explores the poetry we have been reading. The due dates for this unit are: Friday, March 16 students should have written two entries: Thursday, March 22 students should have written a total of four entries or more (at least 350 words). We will edit our writing in class (and at home) on Friday, March 23 and Monday, March 26. **The writing project is due on Tuesday, March 27.** (Due last Monday (March 12) was the Poetry Reading Project.)

STUDENTS WHO ARE WORKING TOWARDS A DIVISION II GATEWAY IN JUNE

Showing readiness to gateway is a combination of:

- e) Having a full portfolio (Multiple meets work in Speaking, Writing, Reading, Listening and Culture)
- f) Consistently meeting the standards on current projects (without *extensive* revision)
- g) Demonstrates a level of comfort with content and readiness to enter Division III
- h) In communication with their teacher about the gateway process

MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 30

During lunch in room 26

MEETING FOR ALL SPANISH DIVISION II GATEWAY

WELLNESS

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL DIVISION I AND II PARKER PARENTS

Starting the week of March 19th, all Division I and II Wellness classes will begin the study of the last unit of the school year, sexuality education. Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 71, Section 32A, sometimes referred to as the Parental Notification Law, states that we must afford parents or guardians the flexibility to exempt their children from any portion of any curriculum that involves human sexuality through written notification to the school principal. No student will be penalized by reason of such exemption.

The weekly FRIDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS continue to be the means by which we ensure parental/guardian notification. It is imperative that parents/guardians read the information contributed each week by their child's Wellness teacher to be informed of the curriculum to be taught in the following week's classes.

Instruction materials for our sexuality education curricula were presented at the last Health Advisory Council (HAC) meeting, on March 13 at 7:00 p.m. (Room 1). Wellness faculty were present at this meeting and discussed the curriculum. An important outline of all classes is available for review.

Parents or guardians with questions or concerns should contact their child's Wellness teacher for further information. Options for alternative class materials, if desired, will be approved by the Wellness faculty and the school principal, Teri Schrader

Alan's Wellness Class:

In Alan's classes, students heard from a woman who is in recovery, about her experience with alcohol addiction and Alcoholics Anonymous. We wrapped up our unit on substances and will start classes on sexuality next week with a pre-test of students' knowledge, the results of the Youth Risk behavior survey and setting norms for class with the following activity: Pass out stickies, students take 3+.

- On one, write down 2 reasons why this unit may be difficult.
- On the second write down 2 acceptable ways of behaving in this unit.
- On the third write down 2 ways people may behave to make others feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Students played DDR, dodge ball, basketball, kickball and four-square this week.

Deborah's Wellness Class:

This week in Deborah's Wellness classes, students completed the mid year fitness screening, played floor hockey and wrapped up the Substance Unit. In Friday's Health class students reviewed the information students placed in the informational brochures as well as writing a letter to themselves. In these letters, which will be delivered to students in their senior year, students had a conversation with themselves about alcohol and drugs. In this reflection students could remind themselves about the hazards of "using" the legal drinking age, also a time when the brain is "fully" developed. Students may have also included reasons to "choose not to use" other recreational drugs.

Laura's Wellness Class:

This week in Wellness we played dodge ball and competed the winter FitnessGram assessment. In Health class we had a guest speaker visit the class. She discussed the history of Alcoholics Anonymous and shared her experiences with the disease of alcoholism and her personal recovery. Afterwards, the students asked her questions. This was the last class of the substance unit. Next week we will begin the sexuality unit. We will establish class norms, go over the course outline and each student will take a pre-test to evaluate their current knowledge and understanding of sexuality. Statistics will be presented about sexuality from the 2005 Massachusetts Youth Risk behavior survey as well.

SPORTS UPDATE

Middle School Baseball Coach Needed-

Due to an unexpectedly large number of players who signed up, we are looking to add another Middle School Baseball Team for this spring at Parker. Anyone interested should contact Ben Benoit for more details at bbenoit@parker.org or (978) 772-3293 x114

COMMUNITY CONGRESS UPDATE

The Parker CC has been slow these past few weeks due to the many Wednesdays off, although two committees have made some progress. The Spirit Committee is currently planning a very SECRET game for the Parker community which will take place sometime this year...

The Green Committee is drafting a design for recycling containers. They ask the Parker community to please donate hinges, plywood and small sheets of heavy ply rubber to construct these containers. If you would like to donate anything, please contact Rebecca Verhulst at rebeccaverhulst@yahoo.com. These recycling containers will be created to try and make our school more efficient and environmentally friendly.

We appreciate the time you spend reading this and any future donations! Until next week...

Shelby Hickox and Craig Rossi, Public Relations

MIXED NUTS – PARKER'S LITERARY MAGAZINE

Mixed Nuts, Parker's Literary Magazine, is accepting artwork and writing submissions for the Spring edition. We are also having a contest for

- 1) Best Cover Art
- 2) Best Riddle
- 3) Best Poem Written in Spanish

Each winner will receive a \$30 Gift Card. E-mail your work to parkerlitmag@gmail.com or bring it to the main office. The deadline is Monday, April 2nd!

NEWS FROM FRANK'S CAFE

Lunch Box Program: Students planning to attend a lunchtime meeting can now buy a bag/box lunch. The Lunch box consists of a sandwich, milk, carrot sticks and a fruit. Students can sign up for, and pay for, a lunch box the day prior to a meeting, during advisory. Any student with questions should see Lee.
Shirley Nelson, School Nurse

WEEKLY MENU - Menu for the week of March 19-23

Monday: Cheese Manicotti, tossed salad, green beans, fruit and milk

Tuesday: Chicken Fingers, Buffalo Chicken Fingers, spiral fries, carrots and celery with dip, breadsticks, fruit & milk

Wednesday: Pizza day

Thursday: Hamburger Turnovers, carrots and peas, tossed salad, apple crisp and milk

Friday: Ham and Cheese Calzones, Double Cheese Calzones, salad, fruit and milk

PARKER ROAD RACE AND SPRINGFEST

The 2007 Parker Road Race and Springfest Needs You!

One of the two major fundraisers for the Parker Essential Fund, the Parker Road Race and Springfest brings together the Parker community, runners, friends, and business sponsors to raise money to enhance the educational opportunities at Parker. As we start to plan the 2007 race, we need your help to reach out to past and potential sponsors. We are looking for 7-8 individuals who can spend, at most, an hour a week between February and April to:

- **Contact Previous Sponsors** – Mail letters (we will provide you with letters in electronic format) to 10 past contributors and follow up with phone calls.
- **Contact Potential Sponsors** – Identify potential sponsors and mail letters (provided in electronic format) then follow up with phone calls.

If you can help, please contact Linda DiPalma at LJDinSterling@aol.com.

SENIOR/JUNIOR PROM

Support the Prom!

PARKER Nalgens and Lanyards will be on sale every day at lunch.

Nalgene Bottles - \$10.00 each

Lanyards - \$4.00 each

PARKER ESSENTIAL FUND - AUCTION

Become Part of The 2007 PEF Auction

We need help planning the 2007 auction for the Parker Essential Fund. We've had suggestions to combine a silent auction with a comedy night, a wine tasting, a mystery theater, a dinner dance If you would like to help define the auction and pick a date, please join us on Tuesday, March 20th for our kick-off meeting. We will meet in room 1 at 7:30 P.M.

The auction will be held next fall to raise money for the Parker Essential Fund, which supports educationally enriching programs for students at Parker.

Please join us as we plan and develop this important fundraiser. If you can't make this meeting, but would like to share your ideas, please contact Mary Feeley at mefeeley@charter.net.



PRESS RELEASE - February 21, 2007

Contact: Erica Belanger, Groton Public Library
Email: ebelanger@tpl.org
Tel: (978) 448-8000

Re: Small Time/Big Time: Independent Film in New England.

The public is invited to a 5-week film series on Sundays at 2:00 p.m., February 25 – March 25 at the Groton Public Library. Comprised of a variety of lengths and styles each film represents the range of the local independent film scene. These films are not rated and are intended for an adult audience. The filmmakers will be available afterwards for Q&A.

The first (2/25) in the series is by a Groton filmmaker Minh Argabright. From Viet-Nam to Groton, Massachusetts is the first part of a planned 3 part documentary that will tell the story of Minh's escape from Vietnam. This first 'chapter' is the story of an American non-combatant soldier's experiences during and after the war.

The second (3/4) is a short film called *The Container* by Townsend filmmaker Andrew Sniezek. This film is a dark comedy that puts an interesting twist on a chance meeting between two people at a storage facility. Mr. Sniezek is a graduate of Groton-Dunstable High School. Lead actor Mick Hoegen, screenwriter Michael Belanger, and composer Drew Krassowski will also be available for the Q & A.

The third (3/11) in the series features a collection of short film comedies by Boston based production company 'Midnight Chimes.' These comedies range from just plain silly to edgy satirical humor. Founder Kevin Anderton will attend and have copies of his DVD to give away.

The fourth (3/18) film is a feature length film from New Hampshire writer/directors Andrew Robin and Greg Kavett. *Live Free or Die*, set in a small New Hampshire town, is about a small time hoodlum with big time aspirations. Andrew and Greg were formerly writers on the Jerry Seinfeld show. This is their first feature film.

The fifth and final film (3/25) is by Boxborough filmmaker Todd Davis. *In the Tradition of My Family* is his first film and is based on a short story by Phil LaMarche. This film is about the extreme tradition of one family and its effects on a father and son.

This program is free and open to the public. Please register each person wishing to attend by going to www.gpl.org and clicking on "What's Happening" or call the library at (978) 448-8000. This event is sponsored by the Groton Public Library Endowment Trust.

It's almost time for.....

Senior Exhibition Night!

Wednesday April 4th 7PM

What: Poster Session in the Gym

Why: Seniors NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!

Adult participation is vital in helping give our Seniors the feedback they need prior to their Final Exhibitions.

What else? This is a great opportunity for ALL Parker adults to be part of the Senior Project experience.

Jurors Wanted!!!

If you are interested in being a Juror during the week of April 30th, contact Nicky Dudensing in the office or email her at Nicola@parker.org