

St. Francis School Monthly News

April 2007

It is a perennial challenge for parents to find beneficial summer activities for their children, ones that will contribute to a child's personal growth while also providing well-earned summer fun. In response to this need, we are pleased to offer some unique experiences for middle school students this June.

ST. FRANCIS SUMMER WORKSHOPS TO BEGIN JUNE 11

Beginning the week of June 11, rising fifth through eighth graders will be able to pursue their interests in such "workshops" as drama, studio art, Web design, building your own PC, creative writing, fashion design, digital photography, rock music, basketball, soccer, field hockey and cooking. The instructors are experts in their fields and the number of participants will be limited in each workshop to maximize the growth for each child. We also have enlisted some impressive corporate partners to ensure the strength of the program.

In addition to these middle school offerings, most of which will take place at our Goshen campus, St. Francis High School is presenting different opportunities for students in grades 8 through 12. The majority of these workshops will occur at the high school, at Third and Broadway.

We have conceived the summer workshops as real skill and competence building experiences. And while we have had to limit this first effort's offerings to older children and for a limited duration, we are optimistic that in summer 2008 we will be able to expand the program to serve elementary aged students for many weeks.

To find out more, visit <http://www.stfrancissummerworkshops.org>, or click the link from our school Web home at <http://stfrancisschool.org>. You will find dates, times and location of each course; a helpful list of Frequently Asked Questions; and space-reservation form. Please remember that space is limited and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Students from other schools, too, are welcome, and we have already begun to spread the word to the wider population.

If you have questions or suggestions for us, please call or email Summer Program Director Howard Cooper at 228-1197 x235 or info@stfrancissummerworkshops.org. We welcome your input and participation. Spaces are already filling up!



"THE MATCHMAKER" OUR SPRING PLAY 7 PM WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

The unthinkable has happened: cantankerous, miserly Horace Vandergelder, merchant of Yonkers, has decided to look for a wife. He enlists the help of Dolly Levi, a matchmaker with many tricks up her sleeve, as well as a secret: she wants Vandergelder for herself! When the pair head to New York City to meet a potential bride, Vandergelder's clerks sneak off for adventures of their own -- including running into their boss and falling in love with his fiancée! With characters sneaking behind screens, dressing in disguise and generally up to no good, The Matchmaker will keep you laughing from champagne to pudding ... and if you want to know what that means, come see.

**Tickets: \$5 students, \$7 adults
Recommended for 3rd graders & older**



**SIGN UP FOR
SUMMER "CAMP
INVENTION" FOR
K-5TH GRADERS:
June 18-22**

This year's camp for inquiring minds will run for one week, June 18-22. For info, e-mail our camp director, Brigitte Muenich, at bmuennich@stfrancisschool.org. Or visit www.invent.org/campInvention.

**LUNCHROOM HELP NEEDED
on two Tuesdays: April 3 & 10.** To volunteer, please call parent Dianne Siciliano at 292-3295.



TWO SFS STUDENTS' ARTWORK CHOSEN TO ADORN CITY BUS

Congratulations to **Bell Dishman**, 4th grader, and **Samantha Farmer**, 3rd grader, whose artwork soon will appear in a collage on the outside of a TARC bus promoting Louisville's "Friday Trolley Hops."

Students throughout the region were invited to submit art for the annual "Kids Salute TARC Design-a-Bus" contest. This year's theme was "Friday Trolley Hops: Art, Friends and Fabulous Fun." More than 275 students submitted art. Only 12 pieces were chosen.

All winners, their teachers and guests will attend an awards ceremony at 5:30 PM April 27 (during the Frankfort Avenue Trolley Hop) at Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Ave. The bus will be unveiled, and the artists will enjoy a pizza party.

FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

by **Reed Gabhart**, head of middle school

The weeks before spring break are always particularly busy and exciting. On this page and elsewhere in this issue you'll read about:

* Medals our young scientists earned last weekend at the Science Olympiad regionals. Kudos to them for their curiosity and ingenuity, and to teacher Sue Holloway for once again providing inspiring coaching and leadership.

* Our drama project, which, under the direction of Jessica Leader, has been working hard and is wrapping up rehearsals leading to "The Matchmaker" next week on Wednesday and Thursday nights. We hope you get to see this rambunctious comedy.

* Our seventh graders' fabulous field trip to the Muhammad Ali Center last Friday to immerse themselves in Ugandan culture via music, food and discussion with Rabbi Gershom Sizomu. A Courier-Journal article quoted our students Eli Beard and Alexis Perry.

I also want to mention our 8th grade's field trip last week to Beargrass Creek and the Ohio River, to work with the Living Lands & Waters environmental group. For the second straight year, we helped clean a stretch along the confluence of these bodies of water.

We estimated that we removed 150 thirty-gallon trash bags of garbage, 60-70 tires and five or six abandoned 55-gallon barrels! We found many other "interesting" discards (see the list below). The students had a "rewarding" lunch of pizza and soft drinks back at school and a discussion about the experience. While we realized we made only a dent in the debris, we had a great impact on our collective attitudes.

Thanks to 8th grade advisors Lou Armstrong, Patrick Donovan and Nita Duechle for rolling up their sleeves and pitching in. Now let's hear from the Class of 2007:

Thinking About the River: A few Reflections on the Cleanup

"The Ohio River brings to mind good times: parties with friends and family, eating sushi on the bow of the Molly B., and riding on a tube and being thrown three feet into the air by the wake of our boat. But it also brings to mind trash – and lots of it. The point of cleaning up the river is to undo the disgusting mess we create by living and playing in and by its water."
— by **Turner White**

"Helping to clean the river made me think about all of the memories attached to the things we collected. Like the lonely tricycle, looking lost without a child to ride it; all of the car tires and the many miles they have traveled to their muddy resting place; and old refrigerators, looking hungry without groceries."
— by **Olivia Rosenberg**

The "weirdest thing I found was a plastic toy baby body. It was strange to see this toy baby sitting upright against a tree in the mud. It was perfectly placed and very real looking; almost as if it was waiting for someone to come and play."
— by **Marc Maguire**

Top 10 Items Collected During River Cleanup

10. Containers, plastic and otherwise (a gazillion)
9. Chinese take-out containers, including a set of chopsticks (1)
8. Propane tanks and oil drums (4)
7. Plastic snack bags (gobs)
6. Typewriter (a museum piece, 1)
5. Personal care items (lots, yuck!)
4. Balls (you name the sport)
3. Computer (1) and TV (2)
2. Tricycle, squirt guns and miscellaneous doll parts
1. Juicy Couture handbag (possibly reusable) and underwear (definitely not reusable)



SFS STUDENTS BRING HOME BAG O' MEDALS FROM SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

-- by teacher/coach **Sue Holloway**

Six current SFS students and two 2006 alumni (Lloyd Fowler and Robbie Cooper) represented us last weekend at the Regional Science Olympiad at Ballard High School. Science Olympiad rules allow several ninth graders to compete on a team each year.

Because we had a smaller team this year, our goal was to win individual medals. We met our goal by placing in 60% of our events. Every participant won at least one medal! Individual winners were:

Balloon Race:

2nd Place, **Duncan Cooper/Griffin Cote**

Metric Mastery:

2nd Place, **Griffin Cote/Eli Beard**

Mission Possible:

2nd Place, **Paul Lacher/Eli Beard/Griffin Cote**

Road Scholar:

3rd Place, **Paul Lacher/Lloyd Fowler**

Rocks and Minerals: **3rd Place, Paul Lacher**

Solar System:

3rd Place, **Daniel Siladi/Lloyd Fowler**

Storm the Castle: 3rd Place, **Turner White**

Wheeled Vehicle:

3rd Place, **Duncan Cooper/Robbie Cooper**

Congratulations to all, and thanks to all the parents who gave their support throughout the year.

TWO OF OUR 7TH GRADERS -- Eli Beard and Alexis Perry -- were mentioned in a Courier-Journal story about last Friday's Ali Center presentation of "A Taste of Uganda," a sampling of food, culture and music from Uganda.

"Well, I definitely like the food," Eli was quoted. "I like international music because the instruments are so cool."

Alexis asked the lead performer to describe Uganda's similarities to the U.S. He said people were similar, but his fellow tribe members don't have the things Americans consider everyday items -- highways, refrigeration and clean water. "I think I really appreciate my life now," Alexis was quoted.

DATE CHANGE FOR ANNUAL SPRING DANCE FOR GRADES 7-8

Friday, April 20, will bring "ThunderBall," a dress-up dance for our 7th and 8th graders. (Note that this a change from the original date, May 3.) Guidelines, expectations and a call for parent involvement will soon be sent home to parents.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

by **Deirdre Barnett**, SFPA president

Planning is underway for the 2007-08 Parents Association. If you would like to be involved in this process, or would like to step forward as a committee chair or other volunteer for next year, please contact me at 228-6958 or drbarnett@insightbb.com. We welcome your participation! More information will follow in upcoming newsletters.

-- Eighth Grade Parents --

Eighth Grade Graduation is only eight short weeks away! The next planning meeting will be Wednesday, April 18, at the Prospect Java Brewing. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Kim Mackin or Carolyn Wetterer with any questions

Nina Rosenberg is collecting photos for the class DVD. Please go through your photos of your child's time at St. Francis and submit them to Nina by April 25. Thanks!

-- Eagle Gala --

Many thanks to the Auction Committee, donors, faculty and staff, classroom reps and all the parents who made this year's auction a success!

-- Fall Fundraiser Update --

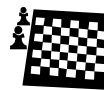
A bowling party at King Pin Lanes was held March 17 for the Burton 5th grade class for being the Middle School top sellers in the Fall Fundraiser. A good time was had by all. Thanks to all the Burton parents and students! Our appreciation to Risa Koby, Suzy Lancaster and Dick White for staying to help chaperone.

Pizza parties were held this week during lunch for the Britt 2nd grade and Burton 5th grade for having the highest participation in the Fall Fundraiser. Thank you again to all the Burton and Britt parents and students!

Arrangements are in the works for the Flynn 3rd grade class pool party. Details coming soon!

-- Teacher Appreciation Luncheons --

Last Friday, grades 1 & 2 hosted the latest luncheon. Thank you to the room reps who organized it and all the parents who provided the delicious food. The next and final luncheon will be April 20, hosted by the Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes.



SFS CHESS CLUBBERS AGAIN BRING HOME STATE HONORS; THREE OF OUR PLAYERS ARE STATE CO-CHAMPIONS; GILMAN BAGGA TOPS DIVISION

Our chess players excelled last weekend at the Kentucky State Individual (and K-1 team) Chess Championships tournament, played in Bowling Green.

In the K-1 Section, players Dawson Lipman, Dylan Lipman, Adam Prys and Theo Taylor played for both team and individual statewide honors. The group took 3rd Place among all state teams. In K-1 individual play, Theo Taylor finished in 6th Place.

For K-3 Section, the competition was individual. Our players were Braden Barnett, Roberto Bolli, David Hendren, Alex Koby and Justin Stevens. Gilman, David and Justin won 4 of 5 matches apiece and were named K-3 co-champions (along with two students from The Lexington School). Our three players' final statewide standings: Gilman - 1st Place; Justin - 4th Place; David - 5th Place

Our lone K-5 Division competitor was Benjamin Koby. He earned 7th Place.

Congratulations to all!

MR. PHELPS: H&B TRUCK COVERBOY

If you see this Hillerich & Bradsby Co. truck roaming around town, say a symbolic hello to our P.E. teacher, Erik Phelps. Mr. Phelps was the model used by Jeremy Reiss, the art director who set up the photo shoot. According to Mr. Phelps: "The original plan was to use (Boston Red Sox pitching ace) Curt Schilling as the model, but he actually wanted to be compensated; so they offered me a bat and I jumped on the opportunity."



"PEGASUS PARADE" (Thursday, MAY 3) SEATS: Our friends at the St. Francis High School Parent Association are again selling reserved Pegasus Parade seats (at Third & Broadway), complete with boxed suppers, parking options, nearby restrooms and face-painting for kids. **Choose from \$40 reserved front-row chair with garage parking & supper OR \$30 reserved bleacher seat & supper, with optional \$5 garage parking.** Supper choices are meat, vegetarian or child's. A beverage is included in the price. To reserve your seats, mail this form with check (payable to St. Francis High School) to Teresa Denny, 6705 Transylvania Ave., Prospect, KY 40059. Act now; seats are more limited this year! Orders will be acknowledged by phone or e-mail. Tickets and parking passes will be mailed. For more info, contact parent Teresa Denny at 228-7279 or Teandroses@aol.com.

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of reserved front-row chairs w/meal and parking ___ x \$40 = \$ ___

Number of reserved bleacher seats w/meal ___ x \$30 = \$ ___

___ Parking pass with purchased bleacher seat (\$5)

Number of meals: meat ___ veggie ___ child's ___

Total payment enclosed: \$ _____



APRIL LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS

Please find a substitute if you are unable to work on your scheduled day. If you are unable to find someone to work for you, please call Chef Matt Gasper (228-1197 x112) AND parent Dianne Siciliano (292-3295) before your scheduled date.

Monday, April 2 - Ginger Campbell, Mary Ann Pollard, Catherine Chandler
Tuesday, April 3 - Lana Tyulmenkova, Michele Monda, Laurie Kinney
Wednesday, April 4 - Carolyn Wetterer, Vlasta Ross, Gretta Manni
Thursday, April 5 - Nancy Scott, Patti Adkins, Ann Hendren
Friday, April 6 - Karen Siladi, Risa Koby, Christine Speck

April 9 - 13 -- NO SCHOOL; SPRING BREAK

Monday, April 16 - Dace Maki, Mary Ann Pollard, Amanda Fields
Tuesday, April 17 - Kathy Baucom, Steve Paradis, Lisa Fleming
Wednesday, April 18 - Katy Bade, Georgette Kidwell, Laurie Kinney
Thursday, April 19 - Mary Herrmann, Ann Hendren, Patti Adkins
Friday, April 20 - Amy Lavin, Carolyn Thebert, Tanya Greenberg

Monday, April 23 - Jeannette Gettelfinger, Janet Hodes, Al Kirby
Tuesday, April 24 - Nancye Faulkner, Holly Winebrenner, Rene Prys
Wednesday, April 25 - Amy Dishman, Abby Yelton, Beverly Lancaster
Thursday, April 26 - Michelle Heit, Cynthia McAfee, Ann Hendren
Friday, April 27 - Laurie Kinney, Debbie Morgan, Terri Erwin

Monday, April 30 - Ginger Campbell, Mary Ann Pollard

MORE SFS FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

If you carefully read last Saturday's Courier-Journal newspaper, you learned that:

* **Nina Rosenberg**, mother of 8th grader Olivia, was selected as one of 15 quarterfinalists in the national "Chrysler Sebring Hats Off to the Derby" hat design contest. Contestants sketched hat designs "inspired by" the Chrysler Sebring Convertible and the Kentucky Derby. Designs then were posted by Chrysler at <http://www.Chrysler.com/SebringHatsOfftotheDerby>, and visitors voted for their favorite. Chrysler next will select five semifinalists who will receive money and "convertible top fabric" to produce their hats. Three winners then will be chosen, with each getting a weekend trip to the Derby. A Grand Prize designer also will receive a 2008 Sebring convertible.

* **Amanda Matthews Fields**, mother of Natalie (3rd grader) and Audrey (JK), was among 15 local finalists for Woman Business Owner of the Year, as chosen by the Louisville chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners. Amanda's business, Wild Honeysuckle Art Studio, is located at 4121 Shelbyville Rd. Amanda also distinguished herself as co-chair of our 2007 Eagle Gala auction.

OLDHAM COUNTY FAMILY IN NEED OF HELP — a message from Dr. Mary Lacher, mother of Paul (7th) & Emily (6th)

Are you looking for a good cause? Do you want to experience that great feeling of truly helping another person?

An Oldham County family's home burned to the ground on March 23, and the family was left with nothing but the clothes on their backs at the time. The home actually was a pole barn that the family was renovating into a home. This couple has been married for 17 years and, before embarking on this renovation, had lived in apartments or rental housing. Now their shelter is gone.

You can view photos of the fire and read a story at the LaGrange Fire & Rescue Web site, <http://www.lfrd.org>. Click the "News Archives" link and find "3/24/07--Working Structure Smith's Lane." The family also lost all the farm equipment but one tractor.

All family members, except a cat, escaped the fire. The father has served our country recently in Afghanistan in Special Forces, and the mother is a nurse at the Kosair Hospital Emergency Room. Their two children are 5 and 16.

An account — under the name of "Angelove Fire Fund" — has been established for them at PNC Bank. Please find it in your hearts to help with this deserving family. Any amount, no matter how small, will help. If it is more convenient for you, please send the check to school with your child to give to Paul or Emily Lacher, and I will deposit it for you. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



SPRING

-- a poem by **Thomas Fogarty**,
Junior Kindergartner

Flowers bloom
and rain falls.
Spring is a day of Joy.



SAVE MONDAY, JUNE 4, FOR OUR 7TH ANNUAL SFS GOLF SCRAMBLE

Harmony Landing Country Club will again play host to our SFS Golf Scramble. Support your school by organizing your four-player team or becoming one of our sponsors. The event begins with lunch at 11:30 AM and a shotgun start at 1 PM.

Harmony Landing is a beautifully designed golf course right here in Goshen. It has tree-lined Bermuda fairways, bent grass greens and an undulating layout. Two-thirds of the greens are elevated, and one lake on the course comes into play on the 18th hole. The signature hole is 15, a 466-yard par 4 that requires a tee shot up a dogleg left fairway, then a blind approach shot over a hill to the green.

Look for an information packet in the mail. All skill levels are welcome! A team handicap will be established for play in this best-ball format. Entry fee is again \$800 per team, with Gold, Principal and Hole Sponsorships available. To secure your spot or enroll your sponsorship, complete and return your entry form or phone Cindy Wood in the St. Francis School Advancement Office, 228-1197 x108.