

St. Thomas School - "What's Happening?"

March 6, 2009
Volume 4, Issue 23

School News:

Anita Crain, Principal
Mary Schumacher, Secretary



Remember

MARCH

8:30am-Clean School Bus 7
At Tom Kleiss's Shed

VOLUNTEER NEEDED 9
Hot Lunch-Monicals
Spirit Wear Day

VOLUNTEER NEEDED 10

PING 11
Casual Picture Day
School Registration Day
Preschool-8th Grade
7-8:30am
Noon-1pm
2:30pm-7:00pm
8:30am-Stations of the Cross

VOLUNTEER NEEDED 12

RENTSCHLER 13
9:00am-Children's Mass(4th) at St.
Patrick's in Tolono
Hot Lunch-Lenten Meal
6pm-Stations of the Cross
6:20pm-Fish Fry/School

**TRY OUR GIFT CARD
PROGRAM WHICH EARNS
THE SCHOOL \$\$\$--No extra
\$\$\$ out of YOUR pocket!!!**

Buy Gift Cards at St. Thomas
School for Gifts or Regular
Shopping. Cards are on hand (used
same as CASH) in the back of St.
Thomas Church after Masses, at
the School office, or find order
forms in the back of all churches!!!
Place orders in the Sunday
Collection Baskets, call
Jean Tay at 684-3395, or email at
jtay8@yahoo.com

Some Cards on hand

WalMart/Sams	Arby's
Marathon	Kohl's
Dicks	Macy's
Panera	Bergners
Texas Roadhouse	Chili's
Starbucks	Bergners
Itunes	Lowes
Red Lob/O Gar	Hallmark
TJ Maxx	Applebees
Gap/Old Navy	Marathon
And Lots More	

St. Thomas School
684-2309

St. Thomas School & Preschool Registration

Wednesday, March 11th

Preschool (3 & 4 year olds)
Kindergarten through 8th Grade

St. Thomas School

Wednesday, March 11th

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

2:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

311 E. Madison, Philo

**Please call 684-2309 for additional
information**

www.stthomasphilo.org

Multi-Level Education If you have any questions about the multi-level education program for next year, please feel free to come and chat with Mrs. Farney. Not only has she taught multi-level here at St. Thomas for many years, but also all three of her children were educated here in the multi-level classrooms.

St. Thomas Tiger Tots Preschool It's True!!! St. Thomas will have a preschool starting late August 2009! Registration begins March 11th! Please help SPREAD the word about this exciting news!

Help Needed - School Bus Annual Cleaning Workday On Saturday, March 7th, we are going to clean up the St. Thomas School Bus and we need YOUR help. We plan to start at 8:30 a.m. at Tom Kleiss's shed. It will be washed and dried in a warm shed, ready to apply cleaner and wax, wash windows, etc. (supplies furnished) The more help, the better. Should be finished before noon. Questions, call John Schumacher 684-2179.

Trivia Night/Silent Auction will be held at St. Thomas Gym on Saturday, March 28th - Sign Up Now - Don't Miss Out on the FUN!

Silent Auction begins at 6pm
Trivia begins at 7pm
\$10.00 per person
Looking for "Teen" tables
Seating is limited! Reserve your spot today by calling Mary at 684-2309 or Sharon Baxley at 598-2325. Reserve as an individual or as a table of 6-8. Prizes to be awarded. Cash Bar available. Please bring your own table snacks!

Jr. High Tigers Congratulate DAR Essay Winners!

In late fall of 2008, the 8th graders were asked to submit entries to the DAR essay contest entitled "The Ideals of the Gettysburg Address: Then and Now." Participation for 7th graders was optional.

The essays were submitted to the essay chairwoman of the Alliance Chapter of the DAR for judging. They were placed among the many entries of other schools in the Alliance Chapter. We are happy to announce that **Joel Ping** was chosen as the 8th Grade Chapter Winner, and **Megan James** was chosen as the 7th Grade Winner!

The excitement doesn't stop there!!!

The Chapter winners were then submitted to the State of Illinois competition. We are so proud to let you know that **Joel Ping was selected as the Eighth Grade State Winner!!!** Joel and his parents have been invited to Bloomington on April 25 to celebrate his accomplishment!

Congratulations, Megan & Joel, from all of us!

Talent Show Update!

Mrs. Farney will make tables available for your children to display things like art work, legos, and models during the Tiger Talent Show '09. Please send a note with your child if he/she would like to show us his/her talent so that enough tables will be put up!

Sewing, jewelry, computer graphics, water color, doll houses, model airplanes or cars – we'd like to see it all!

Catholics at the Capitol!

The Eighth Graders did an excellent job representing us all at the Catholics at the Capitol Rally on Wednesday, March 4th in Springfield. We saw many members of the General Assembly who are sponsoring or supporting bills to increase the tax credit for tuition from \$500 to \$1,000. We also had the honor of hearing Bishop Lucas of Springfield and Cardinal George of Chicago.

Thank you for letting us do this!

Also, many of you might remember Jennifer Haggerty, who taught Spanish at STM and lived in our convent house at the time. I saw her in Springfield, quite by accident, and found out she is now principal at St. John Vianney in North Lake, IL.

**Casual Picture Day
Wednesday, March 11th**

School News Cont.:

Lincoln News

As an ending note to our Lincoln Reading incentive program, our school had an assembly on Thursday. The program was a great assembly given by storyteller Brian "Fox" Ellis from Peoria and was thoroughly enjoyed by all students K-8th grades! He treated us to tales of Abraham Lincoln's early life. His performance was the perfect mix of storytelling and humor. Make sure you have your child share some of his Lincoln tales with you! An order form for Brian's books and CD's came home on Thursday. If you want to purchase something, please send the form and payment back to the school office by next Thursday the 12th. Any items ordered will be autographed by Brian, and he will pay the postage as well!



WISH LIST

- Copy Paper (Pkgs or Case)
- Postage Stamps
- HP Ink Cart. 56 & 57
- LexMark Ink Cart. #17
- Staples Gift Cards Ordered from Scrip

All Items Listed above are the School's "WISH LIST" Items. All donations are greatly appreciated. This is just one SMALL way to cut down on operating expenses and to help save our school money.

Scrip -- Go to www.glscrip.com for Updates on their company lists.

We're on the Web!
Stthomasphilo.org

Thank You
To all who have
Helped with our
Wish List - We appreciate
All of your donations!

Education Commission

The Education Commission each year has members that rotate off of the commission. This year we will have 2-3 members from St. Thomas Parish leaving the commission and 1 from St. Patrick's, Tolono. We need to fill a seat for St. Mary's as well. We are looking for parents and/or parishioners who would like to have an active part in St. Thomas School's directions and opportunities. If you have any interest in serving a three-year term on the Commission (we meet the first Wednesday of every month), please call Msgr. Ramer regarding your interest.

Friendly Reminder We need all visitors to sign in at the office and obtain a "visitor" badge before entering the gym/school area. Also, if you need to drop off anything for your child during school hours, we would request that you place it in the office for distribution by office personnel. Thank you for your consideration.

Fun Day Meeting There will be a meeting on Wednesday, March 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the school library for anyone wishing to help plan the last day of school "fun day". This was changed from the original Monday, March 2nd date set at the last PTO meeting because of volleyball regional games.

STS Tiger Tales

Would you like up-to-date information each day from the school? Sign up to be put on our daily announcement list. All are welcome to sign up! Grandparents and parishioners of all our involved parishes are encouraged to be a part of our email announcements. Please email kthorson@stthomasphilo.org with your email address. Thank you.

Sports News:

Sports Schedules

Can be found at www.stthomasphilo.org. You can find all updated practices and game schedules at this website.

Annual Sports Banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, March 31st at 6:00 p.m. in the gym for all 4th-8th Grade athletes and speech students and their parents.

Have you ever wanted to come to a Volleyball game, but just have not had the time this season to do it? Well, St. Thomas has the opportunity for you to catch quite a few games next week!

St. Thomas 7th Grade Volleyball team won the Regional Championship Tuesday, March 3rd! The team will play their Sectional match at Thomasboro on Monday March 9th at 6 PM with hopes of advancing to State! They will either face Decatur Holy Family or Decatur Lady of Lourdes, both are Catholic Schools.

The 7th grade team that brought home the Championship is Regan Kelley, Randa Harshbarger, Josie Powell, Megan James, McKenzie Martin, Anna Happ, Aileen Tierney, Zoey Bryant, Emma Powell, Kayley Sollers, Morgan Carmien, Macie Dodd, Britton Grimm and Abby Tierney. This team is coached by Molly Kelley, Robin Powell and Patty Tierney.

St. Thomas's 8th Grade Volleyball team will start their Regional tournament play at the Frank's Center in Philo on Tuesday March 10th at 7:15. We will take on Champaign Next Generation that evening. If we win, the team will advance and play on 3-11 @ 7:15 against St. Malachy.

Both teams would love for ALL fans of St. Thomas to come and see them in action! Your support would mean a great deal to both of these teams! They are a wonderful group of girls to watch.

St. Thomas More High School News:

Win \$15,000!!!

The GR-R-REAT Saber Raffle is in full swing, and you won't want to miss your chance at winning **FIFTEEN THOUSAND** dollars! Only 1,000 tickets will be sold—Grand Prize \$15,000; 2nd Prize \$5,000; 3rd Prize \$2,500; and 4th Prize \$1,000. Congratulations to **Barb Little**, our fourth of ten \$100 weekly winners. Main Drawing held Saturday, April 18th. You do NOT have to be present to win. Purchase your ticket today by calling the school office at 352-7210, ask an STM parent or Alumni Parent, or purchase online at www.hs-stm.org.

Save the Date – April 18th "Show Your Stripes – American Sabers" Spring Gala
Live entertainment provided by STM students in an original celebration of all things American.