

# PUSCH RIDGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

"Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah... has triumphed." Revelation 5:5

October 2010

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## Principal's Coffee

Thursday, October 28, 2010

**CANCELED**

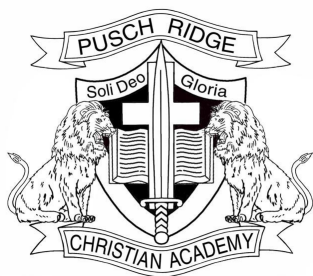
## Mission Statement

Catalina Foothills Church Schools, a covenantal Christian school system, exists to glorify God and to partner with the Christian home in discipling young men and women in their relationship with Christ and the Scriptures, unfolding to them a unified and Biblical world and life view, equipping them with the tools necessary to pursue a lifestyle and love of learning, exposing them to the classical ideas from our Western cultural heritage, and challenging them to pursue academic excellence. We desire to see our young men and women, "increase in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men," in order to live out their faith as servant leaders in every area of society (Luke 2:52).

Pusch Ridge Christian Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex, nationality, or race of its students or in the administration of its educational policies, the awarding of financial aid, or any of its other school administered programs.

## School Photos

Retakes are on Monday, October 4.



## From the Admissions Director

### Supreme Court to Rule on Constitutionality

As you may know, the US Supreme Court will be hearing arguments for and against the constitutionality of Arizona's Private School Tuition Tax Credit Law on November 3. The outcome of this landmark case will impact you and all of our families who count on tax credit donations to help cover a portion of their child's tuition through ACSTO recommended scholarship funds.

According to Steve Yarbrough, the Arizona State Legislator who has championed school choice: "This case is at the epicenter of school choice... school choice is the great civil rights issue of this century... it could be our Brown vs. Board of Education."

Mr. Yarbrough and all others involved in the case are praying that we will prevail. He feels somewhat optimistic and actually relieved that the Supreme Court will finally hear this case. If we do prevail, then the yearly fight here in Arizona against this law may subside.

If it does go down, however, the case will be sent back to the Federal District Court in Arizona who would necessarily follow the 9th Circuit and the law would be crippled. Either way, the law will stand for 2010. If it does fail, it is unknown how it will affect the law for 2011 and whether or not tax credit donations can be made for the 2011 tax year.

Arizona Christian School Tuition

Organization (ACSTO), which Steve Yarbrough founded and directs, is the Student Tuition Organization named in the case and represents the constitutionality of the Arizona Private School Tuition Tax Credit Program. ACSTO will be represented at the Supreme Court by attorneys with the Alliance Defense Fund.

Yarbrough said 13 State Attorney Generals as well as the Solicitor General of the United States have come down on "our" side so far. Also standing behind ACSTO in this case are many of the faith communities in the US including Catholic, Jewish, Evangelical and many others, as well as American Center for School Choice and the Center for Arizona Policy.

Opposing the Tax Credit Law are the ACLU, National Education Association (NEA), and a number of organizations heralding the separation of church and state.

We will be sending out more information in the weeks to come on this landmark ruling. Please set aside time for your family to pray on November 2, preceding the hearing. Please pray fervently. The outcome will not only affect all of our PRCA families, but also other Christian parents throughout Arizona who desire for their children to have a Christian education.

The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results. (James 5:16)



# ALL SCHOOL NEWS

## PRCA Website

Our new website allows us to keep you up-to-date with school information and provide you with important documents. This section will provide you with direct links to the information and forms you need. Visit us at: [www.cfcsmain.com](http://www.cfcsmain.com).

This link takes you to the following documents:

- ACH Form
- Bus Contract and Routes
- Lunch Menu
- Prickly Pear Jelly Order Form
- SAT Prep

The link takes you to details about used textbook sales.

This link takes you to the PRCA Bookstore.

## Admissions Director cont...

If the law stands, this ruling may open the door for other states to pass a similar law enabling more families across America to realize their dream of a Christian education for their children.

My wife and I were blessed to have this Tax Credit Program available which enabled our three daughters to attend and graduate from Pusch Ridge Christian Academy. PRCA was a blessing for our girls and our family...and so was the AZ Tax Credit Program.

We know God has His hand in all of this and will touch the hearts of the Supreme Court judges on the morning of November 3. If you have questions or comments on this or any other facet of the AZ Tax Credit Program, please contact me.

Blessinas.



Glen Shepherd  
PRCA Director of Admissions

## AZ Tax Credit Program

Changes to the Tax Credit Law:

**Change 1:** A person may donate up until April 15, and claim it as a tax credit for the previous year. (The previous deadline has been December 31.)

**TIP 1:** If you have potential donors who

## PRCA Fundraiser Presents: Dr. Kevin Leman

*Have A New Kid by Friday*

Monday, October 18, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

*Making Sense of the Man or Woman in Your Life*

Monday, October 25, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**Doors open at 6:30 pm both evenings**

### Cost

\$15.00/person or \$25.00/couple per evening.

Pay by cash or check (payable to PRCA or CCA with Dr. Leman on the memo line).

Tickets available at the PRCA or CCA school offices or available at event while supplies last.

### Location

Catalina Foothills Church, 2150 E. Orange Grove Road, Tucson, AZ 85718.

No childcare will be provided. Please contact Jody Knox with any questions at 520.797.0107 ext. 503.

Click [here](#) to see event flyer. Feel free to distribute!

have hesitated donating in December saying they can't be "out the use of their funds" for several months until they compute their tax return...with this change donors can now donate for instance on April 10, figure the tax credit into their 2010 taxes, submit their AZ Tax Return Forms to the state by April 15, and the get their AZ tax credit refund within weeks.

**TIP 2:** If you have potential donors who have hesitated giving saying they don't know what their tax liability is going to be for a given year, with this new date of April 15, they can now figure their previous year's tax return which will state their AZ tax liability. Then they can make their donation based on their actual AZ tax liability for the previous year. This will ensure they can take the full tax credit and get that amount refunded once they submit to their AZ Tax Return.

**Change 2:** A taxpayer may not claim a tax credit if the taxpayer agrees to swap donations with another taxpayer to benefit either taxpayer's own dependent.

If you have questions about the tax credit program, the above information and/or how to solicit donations, please contact Glen Shepherd at [glen.shepherd@prca-tucson.org](mailto:glen.shepherd@prca-tucson.org), call him at 520.797.0107 ext. 502 or come by his office at PRCA.

A Tax Credit Promotion Packet of information, creative ideas, updated brochures, and information on a sample appeal letter will be mailed to all families

by late October. We want to help you as much as we can to generate scholarship funds for your child(ren) through the AZ Private School Tuition Tax Credit program. We are very appreciative to have you and your children as members of the Catalina Foothills Church Schools community!

-Glen Shepherd, Director of Admissions

## Let the Tradition Continue!

Authentic \$1.00 breakfast burritos are back. Come enjoy a potato, egg, cheese and chorizo burrito every Thursday morning with your child in the PRCA cafeteria. The line opens at 7:30 am.

This is a ten year tradition which helps support ministry and travel opportunities in the Foreign Language Department.

We will make special orders and "gringo" burritos for those who prefer no chorizo (mildly spicy sausage).

## Golf Marathon Fundraising Event

Monday, November 15, at the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Resort Golf Course.

Are you interested in...

- Being one of our 36 golfers and supporting our schools by aiming to raise a large pledge amount from family, friends, co-workers and



# ALL SCHOOL NEWS

## Crimes of the Heart Promotional

Coming in November the advance theatrical group for PRCA - The B.O.W. (Built on the Word) Company will be performing in the Pulitzer Prize (1981) winning play, *Crimes of the Heart* by Beth Henley (produced by special arrangement by Dramatist Publishing).

### Mark your calendars:

November 19, 20 & 21, 2010 at the Berger Performing Arts Center

### Show times:

7:00 pm Friday and Saturday (doors open 6:30 pm)

2:00 pm Sunday Matinee (doors open at 1:30 pm)

Beth Henley won the Pulitzer Prize and the New York Drama Critics Award for this irreverent, warm-hearted portrayal of three very different sisters struggling to make sense of their lives. There is responsible Lenny, who has sacrificed herself to care for their ailing grandfather, carefree Meg, who left behind her family and fiancé to pursue a (failed) singing career, and the newly rebellious Babe, who faces prison for shooting her abusive husband.

The trio's reunion in their hometown of Hazlehurst, Mississippi triggers a hilarious mix of conflicts, crises and revelations. This story of a family's troubles is true to life in that levity and tragedy live side by side. In the end, these three women learn to greet the tragic, absurd twists of fate with courage, love and the ultimate saving grace of laughter.

business associates for each of the 100 balls you hit?

- Serving as a volunteer on the planning committee and/or on the day of the event?
- Providing business sponsorships and/or prizes?

If so...bless you! We hope to rally a lot of excitement and involvement for this fun event which will help our schools and students in so many ways.

Please let us know how you'd like to be involved. Thank you!

Contact Nancy Miniati, Event Chair at [nmin4@hotmail.com](mailto:nmin4@hotmail.com) or 520.419.6128

or Glen Shepherd at [glen.shepherd@prca-tucson.org](mailto:glen.shepherd@prca-tucson.org) or 520.797.0107.

Although you will be receiving more information on the Golf Marathon in the future...please respond now!

## From The Kitchen

The cafeteria is undergoing wonderful changes!

- Come join us for lunch
- Fresh brewed ice tea
- Homemade cookies and other goodies
- Great portions
- Friendly, welcoming staff
- Many new entree selections on the ala carte line.

Please note that prepaid lunch prices will be increasing from \$3.50 to \$4.00 starting in November. This is to cover the larger portions and better quality.

Thank you for your support.

## The Energy Drink

Among young people, energy drinks seem to be all the rage right now. These energy drinks contain ingredients such as vitamin B6, vitamin B12, taurine, guarine, and caffeine. Teachers and administrators at Pusch Ridge have been finding empty bottles of "Red Bull," "Monster," and "NOS" in the locker rooms and bathrooms during and after the school day. This has raised many red flags among our community. The concern we should have stems from the lack of information in the scientific community and what information is missing on these bottles.

Some may not think of the caffeine in these drinks as being harmful stimulants (like what we get from our morning coffee), but the combination of smaller body frames in our children, faster heart rates (even without stimulants), exercise, and that these cold, sweet drinks are consumed faster than most adults drink their coffee, must raise concern. Adding a stimulant to increase heart rate for a quick burst of energy before our students head out to PE or an athletic event can cause adverse effects. The combination of young people, PE, after school sports, and these energy drinks



## SSL Class Goes Pro!

The Sound Stage Light Tech class was used as crew on the recent filming of the independent film *Starlight and the Bandit* filmed at Old Tucson Studios, which gave them hands on experience in areas they have been studying this semester.

requires a raised awareness. The lack of information required by the Federal Drug Administration also concerns me.

When researching this information I was surprised to learn that the FDA does not regulate energy drinks (for caffeine as they do soda) or require them to list ingredients on their labels; they are listed on the energy drinks' web site. We are given the impression they are safe because they are on the shelf next to Gatorade and other known sports drinks. These drinks may be safe in moderation, but as parents and educators it is our job to stay informed as to what our children are putting into their very precious bodies. I have included the following link to provide you with some additional information:

<http://www.thesportjournal.org/article/energy-drinks-effects-student-athletes-and-implications-athletic-departments>

Kristin Miller AT/L  
Athletic Trainer, PRCA

## Prickly Pear Jelly

Prickly pear jelly is on sale now. Contact Holly Munro or Nikki Simpson with any questions. 520.797.0107 ext. 131 (Mrs. Munro) and 132 (Ms. Simpson).

Please use the link on page 2 to get the order form.



# ALL SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

## Science Department Receives Generous Grant

Just as the school was winding down last May (the day before graduating the Class of 2010) a supporter of the school announced interest in generously supporting the Pusch Ridge Science Department. With a focus on the experimental and hands-on aspect of science education, the supporter suggested that this could possibly be a multi-year commitment.

The Science Department quickly began to meet to discuss dreams for their department and how this opportunity might translate into equipment, training, programs and curriculum for their classes.

With just one month of school under our belt, the Science Department has made a sizeable dent in their wish list for this school year. The freedom to dream without boundaries is a rare exercise in the classroom. Thanks only to the generosity of a couple who are passionate about the sciences and challenging our teachers to reach higher were we able to accomplish this first step. Almost immediately, students, faculty and parents will see these generous gifts translate into an energized classroom experience for our sixth through twelfth grade students.



To date we have purchased the following items that will be used in classrooms across the middle school and high school this year:

- Nine dissecting microscopes
- Eight compound microscopes
- Cabinet to store the new microscopes
- Hands-on learning materials such as: obscurtainers, cell model kits, organic molecules model making kits and DNA necklace kits for middle school science

- Two Ocean Optics UV-Vis Spectrometers
- Two lap top computers for chemistry labs
- Two water baths for chemistry labs
- Forensic bone identification kits for anatomy
- Biofuel enzyme extraction kits for biology

One very generous commitment to the Science Department at Pusch Ridge Christian Academy is benefitting over 450 students. What a blessing this is to the school.

## Fine Arts Needs

### Drama Set Needs

- Old cot
- Old gas/electric stove (non-working pre 1980)
- Old Refrigerator (non-working pre 1980)

Please contact either Jody Knox or Alicia Fodor if you are able to help.

520.797.0107 office  
alicia.fodor@prca-tucson.org  
jody.knox@prca-tucson.org

## Women's Ministry at Catalina Foothills Church

Invites all women to their Fall Retreat, October 22-24 in Phoenix at the Sheraton Crescent. The theme is "Experiencing the Gift of God's Amazing Grace"; guest speakers are Bill and Grace Thrall from True Faced Ministries along with Tamara Stombaugh, Dorothy Moore and Pete Rehman. The retreat is open to all women - high school age and older. We hope beliefs will be strengthened, friendships made and hearts changed. We encourage you to invite a friend or loved one who could use a weekend of encouragement and fun. Space is limited and cost varies depending on the number of women per hotel room (\$138 - \$199). Brochures are available in the CCA or PRCA school office or contact Cindy Justus at [cmjustus@aol.com](mailto:cmjustus@aol.com) or call 390-8288.

## Our Faculty Doesn't Take The Summer Off!

Private Christian education is a commitment for families and faculty alike. How our teachers spend their summer often translates into greater enrichment in their classrooms during the school year. Here is a sampling of how some of our faculty spent the Summer of 2010.

"I took a course taught by Dr. Robert Peterson at Covenant Theological Seminary entitled *The Spirit, Church & Last Things*. I also got to thoroughly enjoy God's glorious creation with my family and friends in Colorado (Durango & Telluride) and San Diego, CA. Although it appears that the latter does not "enhance" the classroom, it definitely inspires my soul, which in turn inspires my teaching."

-Mr. Matt Peyton, Bible

## Christian College Fair

October 21, 6:00-8:00 pm. Come check out more than 35 Christian colleges in the PRCA gym.

- Free financial aid seminar
- For current listing of attending colleges, please visit [www.nccf.us](http://www.nccf.us)

## College Days

October 20 and 21, altered pm assembly schedule.

Sophomores through Seniors will select four colleges over two days to hear a more detailed description of the school.

## Math Tutoring Available

Math tutoring is available every Wednesday.

## High School Students

Mrs. Schultz' and Mr. Seymour's students will meet from 3:00-4:00 pm.

Mrs. Linaman's and Mrs. Wahl's students will meet from 3:00-3:45 pm.

## Middle School Students

Tutoring time will be from 3:45-4:30 pm. Ms. Swisher's students will be tutored by Mrs. Wahl and Mrs. Halvey's students will see Mrs. Linaman.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Middle School Class Officers:

### 6th Grade Officers :

- Sara Sawyer, President
- Christian McCarthy, Vice President
- Maddie Johnson, Secretary
- Grace Lavine, Treasurer

### 7th Grade Officers:

- Olivia Cain, President
- Hailey Hughes, Vice President
- Daniel Macdonald, Secretary
- Iain Macdonald, Treasurer

### 8th Grade Officers:

- Raymie Rash, President
- Alex York, Vice President
- Natasha Fedor, Treasurer
- Caroline Cartledge, Secretary

## Middle School Potluck

All Middle School parents and students are invited to attend this fun-filled event under the football field lights on Saturday, October 16, from 5:00-9:00 pm.

The school will provide drinks, plates, etc. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be sold for \$1.50 each (\$10 maximum cost per family). An RSVP Order Form will be going home with all Middle School students on October 4. Please return the form and your payment to the office by October 6.

### What to Bring:

- Salad with serving utensil (last names A-L)
- Dessert with serving utensil (last names M-Z)
- Picnic chairs or blankets

We will have sports and games, music provided by our very own PRCA Middle School Praise Band, and lots of fun on the football field.

Hope to see you there!

## Middle School Tennis

We have 27 middle school students playing tennis this season. Please come root us on. Check the game schedule on the website.

## 7th Grade Science Fair

It's that time of year again! During the month of October, seventh grade students will be receiving their science fair packet. This packet will contain instructions and a time line for handing in portions of their project. In October, students will be considering their topic choices, submitting ideas for approval and beginning background searches. We will be going over each of these assignments in class together. Please call Julie Myers at 520.797.0107 ext. 111, if you have any questions.

## 8th Grade Trips

### Washington DC Trip

We currently have 40 people signed up for the trip on January 29 – February 5, 2011 to Williamsburg, Washington DC, Gettysburg, Philadelphia, and New York City. It is not too late to sign up for the trip.

### Going To See Les Miserables

On October 21, the 8th grade class will be traveling downtown to watch the play Les Miserables performed by some of our students who are involved in CYT (Christian Youth Theatre). Parents, please let us know if you'd like to join us.

For more information please contact Mr. Towne at david.towne@prca-tucson.org or 520.797.0107 ext 104.



Congratulations to Mr. Doug and Layne (Carey) Witmer.

## Congratulations

Daniel Macdonald runs cross country for Orange Grove Middle School and took first place in the two-mile race against Flowing Wells and Marana on Tuesday, Sept. 7.

## Upcoming Events

### October

**Homecoming**  
Friday, Oct 1, 2010

**No School - Fall Break**  
Thursday, Oct 7, 2010 - Monday, Oct 11, 2010

**SAT Registration Deadline**  
Friday, Oct 8, 2010

**SAT Test**  
Saturday, Oct 9, 2010

**PSAT/NMSQT Test**  
Wednesday, Oct 13, 2010 @ 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Report Cards Mailed**  
Friday, Oct 15, 2010

**EAC Band Day**  
Saturday, Oct 16, 2010 @ Easter Arizona College, Thatcher, AZ

**Middle School Fellowship Potluck**  
Saturday, Oct 16, 2010 @ 5:00 pm @ PRCA Football Field

**NHS Meeting**  
Monday, Oct 18 @ Pooley's @ 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm

**ACT Test**  
Saturday, Oct 23, 2010

**U of A Band Day (High School Marching Band)**  
Saturday, Oct 30, 2010

### November

**No School - ACSI Convention**  
Thursday, Nov 4, 2010 - Friday, Nov 5, 2010

**ACT Registration Deadline**  
Friday, Nov 5, 2010

**SAT Registration Deadline**  
Friday, Nov 5, 2010

**SAT Test**  
Saturday, Nov 6, 2010

**Half Day - CFCS Joint In-Service & Day for Students - Progress Reports Emailed**  
Friday, Nov 12, 2010

**Principal's Coffee - CCA**  
Thursday, Nov 18, 2010 @ 8:15 am - 9:15 am @ CFC Fireside Room

**Fall Drama Performance (PRCA B.O.W. Company)**  
Friday, Nov 19, 20 & 21 2010 @ 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm @ Berger Theater Fall Drama Performance

**No School - Thanksgiving Break**  
Wednesday, Nov 24, 2010 - Friday, Nov 26, 2010