

# Panther Tracks

Nov. 10, 2005

40 Field Street  
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Pawcatuck Middle School  
Jane S. Giuliani, Principal

Phone: (860)599-5696  
Fax: (860)599-8948

## Principal's Comments

Dear Families,

Please take time tomorrow to discuss with your children the significance of Veterans' Day. Merchants often create the impression that the day is a significant day of sales. We know, however, that it is a day of gratitude for all of our veterans.

Last week several of our students visited the Veterans' Home in Rocky Hill where they had an opportunity to visit with many elderly men and women who have served their country. The veterans enjoyed the visit with our wonderful ambassadors.

While in Washington, DC our

8th graders were moved by the World War II Memorial, the Korean War Memorial-with its 19 lifelike soldiers "trudging across a battlefield- and the Vietnam Wall.

It is important that we continue to educate our children about the sacrifices made by their forefathers to ensure our freedom. Tomorrow, then, is a time for reflection and gratitude, a time to relax and enjoy our families...and celebrate the many freedoms that we have.

Have a good weekend.

*Mrs. Giuliani*

## SHS Presents Bull in a China Shop

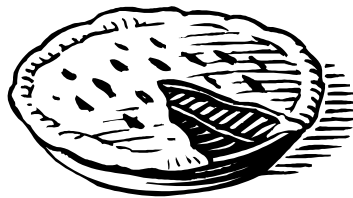
The Stonington Performing Arts Society, formerly known as the Broad Street Bears, presents "Bull in a China Shop," Nov. 18, 19 and 20.

A group of elderly ladies go to extreme and hilarious measures to entice a handsome homicide detective to visit them.

The production is staged at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 18 and 19 and 2 p.m. Nov. 20. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students. Tickets are available at Stonington High School's office or from any performing arts society member.

## Pick up your pies!

Pies must be picked up **Thursday, Nov. 17** between 1:15 p.m. and 4 p.m. (There was an error in the pick-up date in last weeks, Panther Tracks-- sorry for any inconvenience!)



## Planning Ahead

Wednesday, Nov. 30 will be a 1/2 Day for school due to afternoon parent conferences; dismissal will be at 12:25 p.m.

## Mark Your Calendar



### Friday, Nov. 11:

NO SCHOOL -  
VETERANS DAY

### Monday, Nov. 14:

~Gr. 8 (1/2 class) Project  
O, 10:15-2

### Wednesday, Nov. 16:

~Cross Country dinner, 6  
p.m.

### Thursday, Nov. 17:

~Pie Pick-Up 1:15-4 p.m.

### Friday, Nov. 18:

~PBS live broadcast, 8:10  
~Panther Pause (Turkey  
Town) 1:45 p.m.  
~SHS - Bull in a China  
Shop, 7:30 p.m.

### Saturday, Nov. 19:

~SHS - Bull in a China  
Shop, 7:30 p.m.

### Sunday, Nov. 20:

~SHS - Bull in a China  
Shop, 2 p.m.

**No School  
Friday,  
Nov. 11  
in honor of  
Veterans Day**



**Panther  
Tracks  
is available  
on-line!**



go to  
**[www.stoningtonschools.org](http://www.stoningtonschools.org)**

click on 'School Info'

click on 'PMS Website'

click on  
'Panther Tracks'!

## **Interested in Coaching Kids?**

The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) offers coaches certification courses, required for coaching in the Stonington Public School system. Re-certification courses are offered in November for coaches who are looking to renew their certification. Register on-line at [www.casciac.org/register](http://www.casciac.org/register).

## Grades 7 & 8 Science News

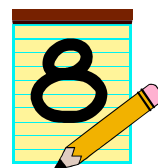
from Mrs. Akers and Mrs. Deledda  
**Curriculum Changes**

There have been some pretty major revisions in our middle school science curriculums over the past two years as the CT State Dept. of Education has published a K-12 master curriculum for all school districts to follow. As such, our district has been looking at many peripheral programs and their value and support of both the curriculum and student learning. It has been decided that a traditional *science fair project*, replete with backboards demonstrating student independent work in science *will*

*not be required*, but will be optional for 7th and 8th graders this year.

Students will, however, be asked to participate on some level with the science fair night. For example, demonstration of a favorite lab or science-based activity learned in classes. Students may and are encouraged to opt to work on a more traditional project, with Pfizer judging and awards. For those students opting to do a science project, it is time to start thinking about options and possibilities. Students electing to complete an independent project will be mentored and given credit for their efforts.

## Team News



One-half of the eighth grade enjoyed exceptional weather out on Project Oceanology's Envirolab last Monday, Oct. 31. Young oceanographers trawled for bottom dwelling organisms and sampled the depths to investigate some of the chemical properties of estuarine waters. Thank you to Cindy Moore who attended the trip as a chaperone and sent in some great photos!

The second half of the class will be going out on Monday, Nov. 14 for a similar program. Parents, please remind your children about appropriate apparel that day as it is just after the three-day weekend. Bag lunches should be brought from home that day.

## A Note from Guidance from Miss Krause

**Grade 8** students have begun the transition process for next year! All of the students have been exposed to a variety of educational opportunities available to them within the community. Ella T. Grasso Technical High School, Ledyard High School, & Norwich Technical High School have had the opportunity to present their programs to the class of 2006. This is a very exciting time for our students! Please feel free to contact Miss Krause at Pawcatuck Middle School at 599-5696 if you have any questions or concerns.

## Cross Country Team News



Congratulations to Nathan McColl, John Bavasso and Timmy Cusack for running in the Tarzan Brown 5.5 mile race in Mystic this past Sunday. Great Job!

I would like to thank the six runners who showed up Saturday for the Pine Point Barber Invitational. The turnout was disappointing, though, as we didn't have enough runners to make teams. Trophies were awarded to the first place teams and ribbons to all the others. Pine Point, St. Michaels, Mystic Middle and Williams were there. Jacqueline Albert placed 3rd and Rebecca Wuenscher placed 15<sup>th</sup> out of 38 runners. Emily

Apatow and Brittney Banker also ran a good race. All four runners beat their previous time on the course, especially Brittney who came in over 3 minutes faster. Adam Dawson-Darst placed 9<sup>th</sup> and Dylan Jacobs placed 18<sup>th</sup> out of 41 runners. The boys placed fifth overall and the girls placed fourth, beating Williams. Our six runners ran a great race. This race will be mandatory next year.

The Cross Country Banquet is scheduled for next Wednesday, November 16 at 6:00 p.m. Please send in your banquet form to Mrs. Ingham and bring the appropriate dish according to grade. Runners must return their sweatshirts and pants before they can receive their awards. Please put them in a bag with your name on it and leave it in the office on Monday.