Many of you may be wondering why you’re receiving the first issue of *Columns* in December. Well, for those of you who haven’t heard, our School’s publication is now only a click away! That’s right, our new e-Columns is now online, which means you can get the latest news, information, updates, and more regarding everything Pine Crest has to offer just by going to www.pinecrest.edu/news. There’s a new issue each Monday, and we’re also e-mailing the newsletter to all of our current parents. Therefore, not only is this year’s switch to an online format environmentally friendly and extremely cost effective but, most importantly, it allows our entire Pine Crest community to receive the most up-to-date information about our campus in a more efficient and interactive way.

The Fort Lauderdale campus has also gone electronic and, if you click on one of the issues from either campus, you’ll notice several unique features inherent within each e-Columns template. For example, not only are there weekly stories and photos, but the left-hand side of the page possesses a number of options: the HyperText links under “Links of Interest” will take you to the new Parents’ Association homepage, the School-wide calendar, and perhaps some stories about Pine Crest students from the local newspapers; under the “Downloads” section, you will be able to download flyers for upcoming School events; and be sure to answer the poll question as well – there’s a new one every week.

There are also HyperText links embedded in some of our stories which will take you directly to photo galleries and Web sites pertaining to the information at hand. These stories and links will change from week to week as we bring you the latest news from our campus, so be sure to check out each issue to see what’s happening at Pine Crest School.

We hope you enjoy our new format and encourage you to share your thoughts and suggestions with us throughout the school year.

Thank you and happy holidays,

*Nicholas Crisafi*

Director of P.R., Publications, and Alumni
Pine Crest School at Boca Raton
nick.crisafi@pinecrest.edu
Twelve Teachers Honored for Their Years of Service

At the joint faculty meeting prior to the start of the school year, those who have taught at Pine Crest for at least the past 20 years were recognized for their outstanding commitment to education. The ceremony, first introduced last year during our School’s “Year of the Teacher” celebration, kicked off the annual session at Fort Lauderdale’s Egan Auditorium.

Before hundreds of faculty members and administrators from both campuses, Pine Crest School President Dr. Lourdes Cowgill awarded plaques to the following individuals from our Boca Raton campus: Joy Imperato (25 years of service), Marcia Chackan (20 years), Starr Lifson (20 years), Susie Marks (20 years), Jan Mehl (20 years), and Mark Totovian (20 years). Also recognized were the following teachers from the Fort Lauderdale campus: Bill Rousseau (35 years), Marcia Hunt (25 years), Ana Luisa Villa (25 years), Gordon Ivanoski (25 years), Dana Mullaney (20 years), and Esther Heyden (20 years).

Teachers from both campuses who were honored for their years of service pose for a photo inside Egan Auditorium (not pictured: Starr Lifson).

Panther Paraphernalia Now Available for Purchase!

The Pine Crest Spirit Store is officially open! Now you can be the talk of the town by sporting your favorite Pine Crest styles that are hip enough for parents and cool enough for kids. The store made its debut in September, and the response thus far has been overwhelming. Items available for sale include sweatshirts, blankets, license plate frames, car decals, pajama pants, water bottles, baseball caps, coffee mugs, journals, and more! The store is operated and managed by the Parents’ Association, and Pine Crest hopes to have an online e-store in the near future. If you are interested in purchasing items and having them shipped, please e-mail Marci Danzansky at marci.danzansky@pinecrest.edu.

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Here are just some of the items available through the ever-expanding Spirit Store.
Five New Members Join the Boca Raton Campus Board of Advisors

The Pine Crest School community welcomes the following parents to the 2007-08 Boca Raton Campus Board of Advisors: Stephanie Chestnov, Robynn Ginsberg, Dawn Mazer, Lauren Morris, and Maria Staton.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that Jeffery Roberts has been named the Board’s new chair and that Hiromi Printz will serve as vice-chair.

Meet the Advisors…

~ ~ ~ Stephanie Chestnov received her bachelor’s degree from New York University and is currently involved with the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County as well as the Children’s Committee of St. Andrew’s Country Club. She presently serves as co-chair of Pine Crest’s Winter Carnival and has also served as co-chair of the Progressive Dinner and our School’s enormously successful Capital Campaign in 2002-03. Stephanie and her husband, Richard – a School trustee, have a daughter, Alexis, currently in sixth grade.

~ ~ ~ Robynn Ginsberg earned her undergraduate degree from Syracuse University and her master’s in social work from the University of Pennsylvania. She belongs to the National Association of Social Workers, currently serves as the P.A. editor for our weekly Columns e-newsletters, and co-chaired this year’s Progressive Dinner. Mrs. Ginsberg and her husband, Ira, have two children enrolled at Pine Crest: Jakob (second grade) and Samara (kindergarten).

~ ~ ~ Dawn Mazer is president and CEO of Aviation, Power & Marine, Inc., an international turbine distribution outfit based in Boynton Beach. An active parent for a number of years on our campus, Mrs. Mazer is co-chair of the Tiffany’s Breakthrough Event, currently serves on the Breakthrough Fort Lauderdale Advisory Board, is a classroom mother for Mrs. Wanland’s pre-kindergarten class, and is co-chair of the PA’s Gift Wrap Committee. She has three children at Pine Crest: Zachary (third grade), Madison (first grade), and Alyssa (pre-k).

~ ~ ~ Lauren Morris is a speech-language pathologist who attended Rollins College and Florida Atlantic University as an undergraduate before earning her master’s in speech pathology from Nova Southeastern University. Mrs. Morris is a member of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and assists with both the Philanthropy Guild at Boca Raton Community Hospital and JAFCO (Jewish Adoption and Foster Care Options). She and her husband, Jeffrey, have two children at our campus: Drew (first grade) and Jeremy (pre-k).

~ ~ ~ Maria Staton works alongside her husband, Daniel, at the couple’s investment firm, Staton Capital LLC. A native of Massachusetts, Mrs. Staton graduated from Harvard College with a degree in Mathematics before earning her MBA as well as her master’s in Real Estate from MIT. She and her husband have two children at Pine Crest: Arianna (second grade) and George (kindergarten).
On October 9, our campus held its annual National Junior Beta Club Induction Ceremony in the Parents’ Association Performing Arts Center. Thirty-one Middle School students were inducted into the club which selects members based on academic merit, leadership, and commitment to service both within the school and community. Under the direction of faculty advisors Laurie Darman and Maria Marcello, these students have pledged to maintain those standards and volunteer their time for a number of service projects throughout the year. Some of the projects include Food for Families, the Save Darfur initiative, the Holiday Toy Buy, and peer tutoring.

Following tradition, last year’s Beta Club officers were on hand to welcome the following students who will serve as officers for the club this year: Cristina Cox (president), Drew Epstein (vice-president), Sara Wallach (secretary), and Hayley Marks (treasurer).

A reception for new members and their families was held after the ceremony in the Bernstein Family Commons Room.


Returning members are: Kyra Baum, Rachel Chapnick, Gabriel Gonzalez, Jacob Greenberg, Michael Klionsky, Ryan Luck, Alison Miller, Samuel Nemiroff, Sibel Odabas-Yigit, Emma Rosenberg, Elliot Saks, Allison Shapiro, Madeline Smoot, Jodie Sneider, Rachel Snyder, Nicole Steinberg, Brooke Wayne, and Emery Weinstein.

Here’s Your Chance to Join the Grandparents’ Club!

We warmly invite all grandparents of Pine Crest students here on the Boca Raton campus to join our Grandparents’ Club by giving an annual gift of $500. Membership entitles you to wear a special ribbon on Grandparents’ Day, which is scheduled for February, and to also have your name and the name of your grandchild(ren) engraved on a plaque which will be displayed in our School’s hallway entrance.

In addition, all grandparents who give to Pine Crest are recognized in our Annual Report of Donors which is published every year in September.

More information may be obtained by calling Jane Salimbene in the Development Office at 561-852-2803.

The 2007-08 Grandparents’ Club members are: Sandra and Stanley Berger, Maria and William Collins, Kay and Robert Geiserman, Rosalie and Herbert Goldberg, Lois Lehrman Grass, Margaret and Abraham Hertzol, Patricia and Howard Kessler, Jean and Jeffrey Meier, Phyllis and Harvey Sandler, and Etta and Raymond Zimmerman.
Students Coordinate Successful Food For Families Drive

Despite whatever gifts they may bestow upon their families or friends this holiday season, our students may have already given the greatest gift of all this year. On the morning of November 15, members of the National Junior Beta Club nearly filled a giant Salvation Army truck with more than 2,000 pounds of food. Donations were made by each grade level and will be distributed to families in need throughout South Florida.

Exhibiting the generosity and leadership that’s synonymous with Pine Crest, our campus’s Beta Club members encouraged students to bring in canned goods and other non-perishable items during the weeks leading up to last month’s donation.

Members of Pine Crest’s International Thespian Society also helped out by contributing food they collected through the Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat program. A Salvation Army representative presented our School with a special certificate in recognition of Pine Crest’s commitment to helping underprivileged families during the holiday season.

Twenty-four members of our faculty and staff participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer® Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, October 20. The event took place at Mizner Park and the Pine Crest team, organized by Assistant Head of Middle School Tammy Stamm, proudly raised nearly $2,500, all of which will go toward breast cancer research, educational programs, and outreach.

A nation-wide event, the walk-a-thon is held in numerous cities annually and, this year, coincided with our campus’s Jeans for Breast Cancer Day on October 19. Sponsored by the Middle School Student Council, the fundraiser allows students and faculty to wear jeans in exchange for a five-dollar donation to the American Cancer Society.

Pine Crest’s involvement with both causes this year held special meaning due to the fact that more than one member of our Pine Crest family is currently battling breast cancer, a disease that kills nearly 44,000 American women annually.

The Pine Crest team would like to thank Mr. Goldberg for his sponsorship in providing each member with matching pink Pine Crest t-shirts. Thanks also goes to Lower School parent Karen Burns, a representative of the American Cancer Society, who worked directly with the team and not only provided spirit by supplying each member with pins and bracelets, but was also a great source of motivation. If you would like to learn more about Making Strides Against Breast Cancer®, please visit http://makingstrides.acsevents.org.

Fighting Breast Cancer, One Step at a Time
A special dinner was held at Café Maxx in Pompano Beach on Thursday, October 4 to honor and thank Circle of Excellence members who gave $5,000 or more to Pine Crest during the 2006-07 fiscal year.

Pine Crest School President Dr. Lourdes Cowgill welcomed the 129 guests in attendance and also thanked them for their support.

Board of Trustees Chair Mark Gilbert ’74 spoke as well, emphasizing the importance of supporting Pine Crest students who are our leaders of tomorrow.

Henry Wheeler, Founding Dean of The Columns Society, also addressed those in attendance. He commented that he has been associated with Pine Crest for 40 years as a parent and grandparent, and that this year is one of the "great moments" in the history of the school with both Dr. Cowgill as the school's president and Mark Gilbert as chair of the Board of Trustees.
This winter, our campus reluctantly says goodbye to Middle School Office Assistant and long-time friend, Kathy McNulty. After 16 years of dedicated service, Mrs. McNulty has decided to retire in order to travel and spend more time with family. A valued member of the Middle School Office team, Mrs. McNulty also served in the Development Office from 1998-2001 as alumni coordinator and editor of the Columns newsletter.

Upon retiring, she and her husband, Jim, plan to travel to Knoxville, TN to visit their son, Jim, Jr., and spend time with their daughter, Christy, who lives locally. The McNultys are also looking forward to long weekends in the Florida Keys and in Tampa, as well as several months in one of their favorite spots - the Carmel/Monterey area of California. An avid sports fan, Mrs. McNulty hopes to travel throughout the Sunshine State this coming March to take in as many Major League spring training games as possible.

A true member of the Pine Crest family, Mrs. McNulty will be dearly missed. We wish her good health and happiness for the future, and warm wishes from the entire Pine Crest community.

Halloween was ushered in this year in the only way our campus knows how - with lots of parties, costumes, food, fun, and spirit! October 31 started off with the customary Halloween Parade that was led by Lower School Head and Assistant Head Ruth Jacobs and George Salimbene, respectively. Behind them was a procession of ghouls, goblins, and all other forms of costumed characters from each Lower School class. The parade ended in the Zimmerman Family Athletic Complex where everyone boogied to the spooky sounds of "The Monster Mash" and "The Ghostbuster's Theme." The festivities then continued as all of the students returned to their classrooms for candy, cookies, and Halloween-inspired games and activities that lasted until the afternoon.
For the first time ever, donors from both campuses came together to celebrate the annual Columns Society party held October 20...and what a party it was! The Bernstein Family Commons Room was transformed into a magical Moroccan setting that warmly enveloped the more than 150 guests in attendance. The lush, decorative fabric that adorned the room and the subtle accents of the color-changing floor lamps only added to the overall effect of the evening.

Guitarist Roger Bustamante provided the musical entertainment as guests mingled and enjoyed his eclectic collection of songs while the delicious cuisine, prepared and presented by our own Don Janezic and his excellent Sage staff, possessed an exquisite and enticing Mediterranean flair.

Board of Trustees Chair Mark Gilbert ’74 and Pine Crest President Dr. Lourdes Cowgill each spoke to the families, friends, and alumni who were present, not only thanking them for their support, but reminding them that without their generosity, the excellent, all-around education and programs offered by Pine Crest would not exist.

The Columns Society is comprised of committed members of the Pine Crest community who, through their loyalty and financial leadership, support the students and programs of Pine Crest School in an exemplary manner. To learn more, please call Vice-President for Advancement Patricia Boig at 561-852-2804.
Once again, the exceptional fine arts program of Pine Crest School at Boca Raton has produced a record number of All-State singers. Under the direction of our School’s Fine Arts Chair Larry Mellone and instructor John Boiko, a total of thirteen students – seven from Lower School and six from Middle School – were recently selected to be part of their respective division’s All-State Choir, the highest award possible for student vocalists competing at the state level.

Fourth graders Lindsey Bornstein and Eliza Moldow joined fifth-grade students Lauren Baltimore, Jordanna Brody, Laura Sky Herman, Kira Kosarin, and Nicole Swords in the Elementary School Division, giving Pine Crest the distinction of having more elementary All-State singers than any other school – public or private –

**All-State - continued on page 10**

**Nine Talented Musicians Honored for Their Expertise**

Congratulations to the eight Middle School band students from our Boca Raton campus who, led by Band Director John Aiello, were recently selected to the 2007 All-County Jazz Band: Patrick Boyle (trombone), Rachel Chapnick (baritone saxophone), Drew Epstein (alto saxophone), Noah Grass (trumpet), Michael Klionsky (alto saxophone), Elliot Saks (trumpet), Nick Schaffer (tenor saxophone), and Andy Wheeler (bass).

As a result, these talented young musicians performed at Spanish River High School on the evening of November 15. This year’s All-County Jazz Band featured more students from Pine Crest than any other school as our musicians made up nearly 40 percent of the ensemble. November’s concert was recorded by Boca Raton/Delray Beach’s education access network which is broadcast locally on channel 19 for Comcast cable viewers.

In addition, eighth-grade student Michael Klionsky was also selected to the 2007 **Jazz - continued on page 10**
All-State - from page 9

in the state of Florida.

On the Middle School side, eighth graders Alexander Don, Theodore Jackson, Nicole Steinberg, and Samantha Topper were named to the All-State Choir along with seventh graders Elyse Anderson and Alexander Crossley.

Both groups were judged by members of state-sanctioned musical associations and will now travel to Tampa in January. They will participate in intensive rehearsals and perform in concert at the Tampa Bay Convention Center under internationally renowned conductors. Dr. Rollo Dillworth will direct the Lower School students while Dr. Craig Denison will oversee those in the Middle School category. Both groups will also perform the world premiere of songs specifically composed for the event and will each record a direct-to-digital live CD and DVD.

Jazz - from page 9

More than 100 dancers took to the stage on the afternoon of November 8 for our campus’s annual Fall Dance Showcase. Featuring students from our after-school dance program, the show included children from every grade level dancing to an eclectic collection of musical numbers. Held in the Parents’ Association Performing Arts Center, the program was full of lively costumes and impressive dances which included jazz, ballet, and hip hop.

Those in attendance were treated to the rocking sounds of "Doctor, Doctor," "Jailhouse Rock," and "Splish, Splash" as the students performed to these songs and more throughout the show.

Pine Crest would like to thank After-School Dance Director Kimberlee Vlcek for putting together this wonderful program, dance teacher Sari Shenkman for her assistance, and our Facilities Department for allowing the event to run as smoothly and professionally as possible.
Congratulations to those students who were honored by the Florida Art Education Association (FAEA) and whose pieces appeared in its Digital Art Exhibit this fall. Several of our recent eighth-grade graduates as well as Middle School and Lower School students were commended for their artwork which was featured at the FAEA Awards Ceremony during the organization’s annual conference in Orlando on October 19. Furthermore, their work was also displayed on the FAEA Web site: www.faea.org.

Hats off to the following students who were honored for their artwork: Lower School - Tristan Cade, Jordan Farrington, Zoe Fermanian, Rachel Hackman, Ginger Hollander, Natalya Jewelewicz, Arjun Padmanabhan, David Radvany-Roth, Matthew Urban, Simone Vreeland, and Lisa Zheutlin; Middle School - Lauren Barr, Jordanna Brody, A.J. Felberbaum, Alexandra Fisher, Hannah Gibson, Jaclyn Luskin, and Jeannine Sheinberg; eighth-grade graduates - Andrew Arons, Jordyn Feinstein, Jenna Kraft, Lucia Kruyff, Garrison Lovely, and Sarah Nader.

Art teachers Barbara Milanese and Silvia Arias were invited to attend as well and not only accepted the certificates of achievement for their students, but were also recognized for their participation in selecting and submitting the pieces. In addition, Mrs. Milanese was presented with the June Hinckley Art Educator Award for Excellence. This award honors an art teacher who submitted a strong body of artwork to the inaugural FAEA Digital Art Exhibition. Our teachers also received a DVD copy of the exhibition to share with their students upon returning to Pine Crest.
On October 12, the representatives for each Middle School Student Council office were elected by their fellow classmates. Hoping to win over their fellow students and garner enough votes to be elected into office, the candidates’ addresses were broadcast live that morning from the Robert “Tater” Smith Television Studio.

After the votes were tallied, the winners were announced and are listed below (in italics) along with the other candidates:

**PRESIDENT**
Ryan Luck
Hayden Ginsberg
Jacob Greenberg
Emery Weinstein

**VICE-PRESIDENT**
Michael Berkowitz
Ethan Goldman
Solomon Seckler
Ari Shaller
Paul Zammit

**SECRETARY**
Elliot Saks
Nick Groomes
Zahra Markatia

**TREASURER**
Carly Luck
Preksha Bhagchandani
Rebecca Cohen
Grant Gilbert
Chase Nevaller
Ryan Wexler

In addition, three candidates were appointed as cabinet officers by Mrs. Marsceill: Jacob Greenberg, Solomon Seckler, and Emery Weinstein. Each position in the Council holds specific responsibilities, and students who are given the honor to serve are expected to demonstrate leadership, commitment, and promote the development of school spirit.

Congratulations are also in order for the following Lower School Student Council members. The fifth-grade representatives are as follows: Z-Team – Katie Gaché, Mark Rabin, Rachel Weiss; P-Team – Morgan Cox, Scott Gerstel, Sydney Silverman; R-Team – Nicky Bellitti, Kobi Kassal, Shaneal Zaveri; H-Team – Sloane Gevinson, Julia Knight, and Alec Yamhure.

The fourth-grade representatives are: Mr. Campbell’s class – Tara Becker, Jeffery Roberts, Dani Shecter; Mrs. Fleming’s class – Sam Dern, Megan Horn, David Miculitzki; Mr. Kelley’s class – Eden Lenner, Paige Lucas, Matt Urban; Mrs. Tabor’s class – Sam Baker, Noah Barrick, and John Hawkins.

Pine Crest congratulates each of the winners and all of the candidates for their participation this year. Special thanks goes to American Government teacher Tobey Marsceill for presiding over the Middle School Student Council and organizing the elections. Kudos also to Dave Burgess and his excellent crew of PCNN students who made the live broadcast possible.
When I made the decision to accept the role as President of the Parents’ Association, I knew that it was going to be a big job and a great learning experience! What I did not realize was how many new relationships I would develop and how rewarding it would be to make new friends. Each event that the Parents’ Association has sponsored this year has been better than I could have ever hoped. How lucky I am to be able to work directly with wonderful Pine Crest faculty and administration and with so many parents who I did not previously know.

In the spirit of the holiday season, I would like to provide an interim thank you to the chairpersons of each of the events that have taken place this year: Susan Moldow and Susannah Rothenberg (Welcome Playdates); Stephanie Brovenick, Debbie Jacobs, Debbie Leifert, and Michelle Shevin (Welcome Coffee); Lauren Mitchell and Barbara Shashoua (Magazine Drive); Monique Edep and Laurie Schuster (Used Sports Equipment Drive); Cori Ginsberg and Robynn Ginsberg (Progressive Dinner); Nel Bloom, Carol Feldman, and Marna Todd (Holiday Boutique); Lizette Steinberg and Lori Siegel (Boutique Café); Eileen Busel, Liz Fine, Loren Lins, Vanessa Redman, and Melissa Wetzler (Faculty/Staff Coffee); Rachel Miller, Lisa Steiner, and Ruth Weiss (Barnes & Noble Bookfair); and Stephanie Chestnov and Margaret Fishman (Winter Carnival).

I would also like to thank the entire Pine Crest School Community for their enthusiastic support of the Spirit Store; its success has exceeded even our wildest expectations! Finally, there are many people who do not have an event but rather an ongoing job and are instrumental in making the Parents’ Association such a fantastic place to “work.” They are: Robynn Ginsberg (Columns PA Editor); Dawn Mazer and Hiromi Printz (Gift Wrap); Mara Bloom and Meg Fisher (Hospitality); Lauren Morris, Debbie Prevor, and Hiromi Printz (Library Gift Book Program); Rashmi Benda, Ann Kelman, and Maya Novacek (Magazine Recycling Program); Rosa Feeney, Amy Levene, and Loren Lins (Mailing); Diana Swords and Karen Wallace (Publishing Center); Rashmi Benda and Debbie Leifert (Sunshine Committee); and Rachel Lenner and Benita Segal (Twice But Nice). Remember that you can get up-to-the-minute information about every Parents’ Association event, thanks to Mara Bloom, on our Web site: www.pinecrestpa.com. I hope that you and your family have a wonderful holiday season and a very happy New Year.

Warm wishes and best regards,

Marci Danzansky
Parents’ Association President
On the evening of Saturday, November 3, more than 250 Pine Crest parents, administrators, and faculty members went “back to school” for this year’s fabulous Progressive Dinner. The evening “orientation” began magnificently at the stunning home of Marc and Ruti Bell as guests enjoyed delicious hors d’oeuvres and festive cocktails under a starlit sky.

Our “students” then moved on to their “courses” where they enjoyed elegant and delectable dinner parties hosted by Pine Crest families. We deeply thank these following members of the School community for graciously opening up their homes and entertaining the evening’s guests: Victoria Cave, Marshall and Lori Davis, Carl and Deborah DelPrete, Johanna and Rick Felberbaum, Allison
Welcome to Pine Crest University!

García, Daniel and Barbara Goldberg, Marcy Javor, David and Abbie Kahan, Frank and Marie Occhigrossi, Rob and Hiromi Printz, Jeffery and Pamela Roberts, Fernando and Adriana Rodriguez, Brett and Marcie DePlaza Shecter, Jason and Marysa Smith, Chip and Ellen Sollins, Sam and Sheila Zietz, and Jordan and Denise Zimmerman.

The evening concluded with the “graduation” party which was graciously hosted by Irv and Stephanie Don at their beautiful home. They not only provided those in attendance with divine desserts, but also a dance-inducing deejay that had guests moving on the dance floor until well after midnight! It was a fantastic night full of fun and friendship, and we thank our hosts as well as everyone who came out to share in the school spirit.

Robynn Ginsberg and Cori Ginsberg, Progressive Dinner Co-chairs
Annie Bergner, Honorary Co-chair
Holiday Boutique Debuts on Campus

Pine Crest had its first annual Holiday Boutique on November 27 in the Zimmerman Family Athletic Complex and it was a tremendous success! More than 55 vendors set up shop and sold items ranging from Kooky Pens™ to shoes to household items...there were even diamond necklaces for sale! The setting was absolutely perfect as the gymnasium was transformed into a one-of-a-kind boutique decorated in pink and green with balloons and flowers galore. Furthermore, not only did the event raise more than $15,000 for our School, but many parents attended and stayed for lunch in the PC & Co. Café. Lunch was catered by Bova and our guests were offered an array of salads, pastas, and paninis, not to mention the delicious desserts that our Pine Crest families made.

A big thank you to my co-chairs: Carol Feldman, Lisette Sheinberg, Lori Siegel, and Marna Todd for the outstanding job they did in helping to plan and oversee the event.

We were thrilled with the number of Pine Crest parents in attendance, and it ensured that the Holiday Boutique will return next year to satisfy these scores of savvy shoppers once again!

Nel Bloom
Holiday Boutique Co-Chair

Magazine Drive: A Subscription for Success!

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the 2007 Magazine Drive as we raised more than $45,000! The students had so much fun, especially after receiving their Kooky Klickers Pens™ as a reward for their efforts.

A special thank you goes to all of our dedicated volunteers and teachers for their ongoing assistance throughout the drive. Anyone who would like to order magazines may still do so by going to www.helpingourschool.com and either entering “Pine Crest Boca” or using the school code: 128058. Pine Crest will receive 55% of all sales until the end of the school year.
Congratulations to Fort Lauderdale campus students Lindsey Brown ’08, Melissa Oppenheim ’08, and Gabriela Wagner ’08 for their recent selection to the semi-final round of the prestigious Siemens Competition in Math, Science & Technology®. Recognizing talented high school students across the nation, the competition honors those who challenge themselves through scientific research and provides them with the opportunity to gain national recognition for research projects they conduct while in high school. It is administered by the College Board and funded by the Siemens Foundation.

Both Lindsey and Gabriela are eighth-grade graduates of our Boca Raton campus and, along with Melissa, registered for the competition this past May. Although students may collaborate with one another and enter the competition as a group, these three young ladies each entered as individuals based on their own specific research. Lindsey studied the effects of two different polymers, Nafion® and Chitosan, in immobilizing the enzyme amylase. Her work has applications in the field of bio-fuel cell technology in which enzymes act as catalysts in a chemical reaction. Gabriela’s project was concerned with the strain of the prion protein that causes Mad Cow disease, and Melissa’s findings explored the use of computer modeling to simulate the response of nanotubes within various environmental stressors.

These seniors find themselves in exclusive company as they were three of just sixteen students throughout the state of Florida to qualify as semi-finalists. With thousands of students across the country entering the competition, their selection was a true honor, and Pine Crest congratulates them on their remarkable success.
Pine Crest offers its condolences to the entire family of Private First Class Scott Brehm (BR '90) '94. Scott died on October 19 while pursuing advanced training as an army medic at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, TX. Scott joined the army this summer and fulfilled his basic training obligations at Fort Leonard Woods in Missouri. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Florida and is survived by his father, John J. "Jack" Brehm and mother, Susan, who reside in Delray Beach; sister, Randy Leigh, lives in Boca Raton; numerous cousins, aunts, uncles, and both grandmothers reside in Texas. Preceding him in death is his grandfather, Charles F. Brehm, an Army Ranger who took part in the World War II D-Day invasion at Point du Hoc and his maternal grandfather, Arthur A. Meyer, who served in the Army/Air Force as a radio operator in Burma, India, and China. A statement released by Scott’s family read, “We cherish the memories that Scott brought us all. He will be remembered for his wisdom, his compassion, his tenacity, his wit, and the respect that he showed towards everyone he met.”

Adam's book has received rave reviews so far. www.amateurgourmet.com which features recipes, writings, restaurant reviews, and fun little tid-bits about the unassuming chef/author.

The book has received a number of favorable reviews, and the Boston Globe describes Adam as "the Rachel Ray for young food urbanites." He was back in Boca Raton on November 18 for a book signing at the Barnes & Noble where he said his family admitted, "He may not be our son the lawyer, but he's our son the author and that's good enough for us."

After recently finishing up law school at Vanderbilt University, Blair Preiser (BR '95) '99 is thrilled to now be an associate at K&L Gates in Pittsburgh, a highly regarded law firm with several international offices worldwide. Blair received her undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Michigan and spent a couple of years in New York before becoming a lawyer.

Our campus welcomed back an old friend last month as Evan Wasserman (BR '98) returned to campus to observe Dave Burgess and his PCNN crew in action. Evan graduated from Indiana University, now teaches at Boca Raton High School and, having just taken over the campus's television production program, wanted to "learn from the best" in regard to how a student-run show should operate. After seeing our students run through their live broadcast, Evan was completely astounded.
The girls’ volleyball team was in familiar territory on October 18. They were in the league finals on their home court facing Spanish River Christian for the second consecutive year. However, someone forgot to tell SRC to follow the script as their girls handed our Lady Panthers a tough three-game loss in the championship match: 12-25, 25-23, 5-15.

Our players can’t hang their heads, though. They had a tremendous year as they finished 10-5 in a very competitive Gold Coast League.

The girls showed significant improvements in their teamwork, communication, and focus as the year progressed and they even capped off the regular season by beating SRC in an emotional three-game match. However, after cruising past rival Saint Andrews by a score of 25-10, 25-15 in the semi-final round of the Final Four, our Lady Panthers had no answers for SRC’s Lindsay Knapp this time around in the title game. Her ferocious serves set the tone and paved the way to victory for Spanish River Christian.

Still, the coaching staff is very proud of the way the girls played. “These ladies fought hard, were committed to each other throughout the year, and never gave up,” said Head Coach Jennie Falbey. “They were a great group to coach.”

Kyra Baum, Kara Greenfield, and Alison Miller were named to this year’s All-Tournament team while Kyra was also named this year’s team MVP at the Athletic Awards Ceremony held November 21. Furthermore, Alison received a Coaches’ Award as did junior varsity players Kayla Bailey, McKenzie Bailey, Chelsea Hartney, and Jessica Schuster.

Pine Crest congratulates all of the players as well as the entire volleyball coaching staff for another outstanding season that was not only successful, but exciting to watch as well.

The football program held its third annual team banquet on November 1 to mark the end of the 2007 season – its first in conference play. It was a successful year as the varsity team finished 5-3, placing fourth in the North Division and eighth overall in the conference.

The last game was a playoff contest against Belen Jesuit of South Miami on October 27. Our Panthers fought hard despite losing 22-14, but the big boost came from the families and friends in attendance who made the trek to the Gulliver Schools’ campus.

The team played well this year despite a series of unfortunate injuries and even recorded wins against perennial powerhouses The King’s Academy and The Benjamin School. The offense was led by Brett Benes at quarterback with Jack Bedick anchoring the ground game. Ryan Luck and Jordan Todd challenged defenses throughout the year with their hands and speed at the wide receiver position. The defense came up big as well as linebacker David Orner and cornerback Sam Sneider set the tone from the very first game of the season.

To recognize this year’s squad for its successful campaign, a grand pot-luck feast was held in the team’s honor. The dinner was followed by an awards ceremony featuring a season highlight reel and speeches from the coaches. Looking ahead, the coaching staff hopes to build on the success of this year’s team and is ready to contend for the conference crown next season.
## December
- 16 Winter Carnival – George J. Coppola Athletic Field (1:00 p.m.)
- 19 MS and Grades 4 and 5 Band Concert – Parents’ Association Performing Arts Center (7:00 p.m.)
- 21 Half Day of Classes – Holiday Break Begins
- 25 Christmas Day

## January
- 1 New Year’s Day
- 7 Classes Resume (8:10 a.m.)
- 11 Geography Bee (8:15 a.m.)
- 17 Annual Fund Meeting – Bernstein Family Commons Room (8:30 a.m.)
- 18 Half Day of Classes
- 21 School Holiday – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 27 Pre-K – Grade Eight Open House (2:00 p.m.)

## February
- 1 No Classes – Faculty In-service
- 5 Annual Fund Phonathon (5:00 p.m.)
  - Fathers’ Club Sports Night – Zimmerman Family Athletic Complex (7:00 p.m.)
- 8 Re-Enrollment Deadline
  - P.A. Meeting – Bernstein Family Commons Room (8:30 a.m.)
- 10 Walk-A-Thon/Family Fun Day (1:00 p.m.)
- 14 Valentine’s Day
- 15 Grandparents’ Day – Half Day of Classes
- 18 School Holiday – Presidents’ Day
- 25 Winter Break Begins