



The Valley Voice

A publication of the USPA developed by parents and staff to provide information of interest and import to US families

Future Dates

Saturday, October 1

- Pancake Breakfast to Welcome Steve Murray, 8:00 am – 12:00 noon, by House

Wednesday, October 5

- Test Preparation Day - Students will be dismissed at approximately noon

Saturday, October 8

- SAT I & II, 8:30 am (HV)

Monday, October 10

- Columbus Day – No classes

Tuesday, October 11

- USPA General Meeting, 8:05 am, assembly, then meeting in Lecture Room
- Juniors and Seniors - order class rings

Wednesday, October 12

- Testing Day for Grades 9 – 11 - Students will be dismissed at approximately noon
- Senior Service Day

Wednesday, October 19

- Juniors and Seniors - order class rings

Wednesday, October 26

- Picture Day – retake day

Friday, October 28

- End Interim I

Monday, October 31

- Faculty Work Day – No Classes

Wednesday, November 2

- USPA General Meeting, 7:15 pm, Lecture Room

Friday, November 11

- International Dinner, 6:15 pm, Stouffer Dining Hall
- Fall Play "Enter Laughing", 8:00 pm, Gund Auditorium

Saturday, November 12

- Fall Play "Enter Laughing", 8:00 pm, Gund Auditorium

Check www.us.edu for a complete calendar

Installation of Steve Murray

The installation of our new headmaster, Steve Murray, planned for Monday, October 17, 1 p.m. in the Hunting Valley Gymnasium is primarily for US middle and upper school students, faculty and staff. The Shaker Campus will have a special assembly, Monday morning, October 17, where the students will welcome their new headmaster and he will have an opportunity to talk to them. All primary students (kindergarten-5th grade) will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.

All middle school students and Shaker Campus faculty and staff will travel to the Upper School for the afternoon installation. Faculty/staff emeriti will join present faculty/staff in a processional.

Active and Life Trustees will be invited as well as USPA officers from both campuses and Alumni Association Board officers.

The installation has been created to honor Steve Murray within the daily life of the school. Mr. Murray is looking forward to greeting and talking with parents in smaller, more accessible settings. He will participate in parent nights on both campuses and plans to attend as many parent coffees as possible. Besides the Pancake Breakfast, plans are underway to create additional opportunities for Mr. Murray to interact with parents in meaningful ways throughout the 2005/06 school year.

Testing at US

Along with falling leaves and cooler weather, another autumn tradition at US is the practice and experience of standardized testing. This year's scheduled tests are as follows:

Freshmen:

Test Prep Day for sophomores and juniors is Wednesday, October 5. Freshmen will participate in various class-building activities in the morning and be dismissed from school at 12:00 p.m. On Wednesday, October 12, ninth graders will be taking the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test, which measures a student's potential to do well in school. Results will be available in early December. Contact Mrs. Margaret Mason after Thanksgiving to schedule a time to go over your son's results. Freshmen will also practice for the Ohio Graduation Test that is administered in their sophomore year. They will be dismissed around 12:00 p.m. on both October 5 and October 12.

Sophomores:

Tenth graders will review in English and Math for the PSAT on Wednesday, October 5, and then on Wednesday, October 12, they will take an actual PSAT. They will analyze and receive

feedback on their performance. Students may use calculators on the math section. The boys will be dismissed around 12:00 p.m. on both days.

Juniors:

Wednesday, October 5, juniors will prep for the PSAT by taking a practice test. The PSAT serves as the National Merit Scholarship qualifying test for juniors only. Juniors will take the actual PSAT on Wednesday, October 12. The dismissal time for both days is approximately 12:00 p.m.

Seniors:

Seniors have Wednesday, October 5 off to work on college essays and other parts of the college application process. Saturday, October 8: SAT I and SAT II will be administered at the Hunting Valley Campus. Registration is required and can be made at www.collegeboard.com.

Mr. Doug Lagarde has announced and explained these tests to the boys and will continue to remind them in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Margaret Mason, dean of students, at 216.831.2200, ext. 355.

Senior Section

Wednesday, October 5

Seniors have off to work on college applications

Saturday, October 8

SAT testing at US, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, October 12

Senior Service Day at University Circle

Friday, October 14

12th Grade Parent Party; Invites will be mailed

College Representatives Visit US

Daily announcements about college visits and area meetings are made in morning assembly. There is also a college board (near the foreign language wing) where monthly and daily college visits are posted. Unfortunately, college visits change daily (reps call to change appointments due to conflicts with other school visits) so it is important to keep checking the web site, www.us.edu, for a comprehensive, up-to-date schedule.

College Bound?

As families visit colleges this year, please consider stopping in the campus bookstore and picking up some college insignia T-shirts, hats, shorts or "hoodie" sweatshirts for the After-Prom. These items make excellent prizes for the boys and their dates at the After-Prom, and keep in mind we need prizes for both boys and girls. These items can also be purchased online. In addition, donating your own vintage, yet prize worthy, college insignia collectibles to After-Prom would be a novel way to pass on your valued treasures.

If you have an item that you would like to donate, you may drop it off with Ms. Janice Kalman at the reception desk or contact Debbie Evans at 440.543.0821

or debe423@aol.com, Michele Demetriou at 216.225.9808 or micheled333@aol.com, or Maureen Howell at 440.951.1187 or mohowell26@aol.com.

Looking to volunteer or just get involved and have some fun? Sophomore parents, are you interested in learning the ropes? Want to help, but have a busy schedule? After-Prom has many options for anyone who wishes to help in any capacity. Whether it is for one night or on a time schedule that suits you, After-Prom encourages you to join in, as it is a lot of fun and your help will be much appreciated by the boys and their dates. Please contact Janeen Frank at 440.338.6441 or email janeengf@aol.com

Dinner Theatre at US: Annual International Dinner Precedes Play

If you enjoy cuisine from different lands along with good company, plan on attending US's annual International Dinner Friday, Nov. 11, at the Upper School. The dinner, which takes place from 6:15-7:45 pm, provides a unique opportunity to share an evening with other US families while sampling delectable dishes from around the world (and nation). All US families including eighth grade and faculty are invited, and each family brings a delicious homemade dish to share. The dinner takes place in Stouffer Dining Hall and is timed so that you can attend the 8:00 pm performance of the

fall play, "Enter Laughing." This year's production was written by Joseph Stein and adapted from the novel by Carl Reiner. It is about a young man, (loosely based on Carl Reiner) who works as a delivery boy for a sewing machine repair shop, who decides that he wants to be an actor. Performance dates are November 11 and 12, at 8:00 pm.

Mark your calendar now, and be on the look out for more details and an RSVP form on the International Dinner flier which will be included in the next issue of the Valley Voice. RSVPs are due by November 1 with \$15.00 to cover

expenses. Send RSVPs to: Sandy Erlanger, 5215 Ramblewood Ct., Solon, Ohio 44139. Questions? Contact Sandy at 440.349.2444 or kurlanger@adelphia.net or Claire Paquelet at 330.659.3973 or cmpaquelet@aol.com. Volunteers are still needed for set up and clean up. Contact us if you would like to help. See you there!

Fall Lettermen Dessert

At the end of each season, there is a Sports Dessert Awards ceremony for all varsity letter winners and their families, to celebrate each team's accomplishments. Invitations are mailed to families by the School. This fall's lettermen dessert will be Thursday, November 17 at 7:00 pm in the Stouffer Dining Hall.

Do You Smell the Chestnuts Roasting?

Probably not yet, but the holiday season is just around the corner and it is not too early to plan to support the USPA's Annual Tree Sale. The sale is the principal After-Prom fundraiser. Join other US families at the Smythe Pavilion on Saturday, December 3 or Saturday, December 10 and Sunday, December 11 between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. We will have an excellent assortment of trees, wreaths and pine roping.

The Tree Sale is a wonderful US tradition and helping out is a great way to meet other US families. Hearty souls, especially strong boys and men who don't mind shivering a little, are needed to unload the trees when they are delivered, trim tree trunks, and secure purchased trees onto cars. It can be an excellent father-son bonding experience and is a lot of fun! Anyone wishing to volunteer can contact Ginger VanWagenen at 216-371-2228 or ginger@vanwagenen.net.

Junior Section

Wednesday, October 5

PSAT preparation day – practice tests will be taken; dismissal at approximately noon

Tuesday, October 11

Order class rings

Wednesday, October 12

Testing Day – dismissal at approximately noon

Friday, October 14

11th Grade Parent Cocktail Party, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, at the Hangar; invitations will be sent shortly with a map.

Wednesday, October 19

Order class rings

Wednesday, January 11, 2006

Mark your calendar – 11th Grade USPA Parent Coffee

US Headmaster Interview to Air on WCLV

An interview with Headmaster Steve Murray will be broadcast on WCLV-104.9 FM's "Arts on the Air" program at 3:00 pm on Sunday, Oct. 2, 2005.

Class Rings for Juniors and Seniors

University School class rings can be ordered in time for Christmas delivery! If you haven't ordered yours yet, the company will be at US on Tuesday, October 11 to measure and then again on Wednesday, October 19 for those who miss the earlier date. The boys will receive information and an order form in their mailboxes and there will be an announcement in morning assembly to remind them.

A Friend in Need

The Sunshine Committee's job is to support US families experiencing a personal difficulty, such as a serious illness or death in the family. An increasing number of US families do not have families in the Cleveland area and during difficult times may lack the support system they need. The committee's help may be simply sending a card or note, or it may involve delivering meals or helping with car pools. If anyone is aware of a family in need or your family is in need, call Jane Biggar at 440.247.8556 or jcbiggar4@aol.com.

US Families Welcome Mr. Murray and Family

US parents and families, by Houses, will welcome Steve and Sarah Murray and their children at a pancake breakfast on October 1 at the Hunting Valley Campus. There will be entertainment for the children. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet the Murrays. Invitations have been sent and RSVPs are required.

The New Faculty/Staff Appreciation Committee

The USPA has come up with a new and improved method of showing our appreciation for the faculty and staff of the Upper School. Since there is already an overabundance of baked goodies, we have switched gears and would like to show our appreciation by donating tickets to events happening in the city. They can be cultural, art, sports, or whatever. With enough notice, they will always be spoken for. All you have to do is contact Paula Polakof (216.469.9688) as soon as they are available so that she is able to distribute them by lottery among the faculty and staff. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Paula anytime.

Sophomore Section

Wednesday, October 5

PSAT preparation day – practice tests will be taken; dismissal at approximately noon

Wednesday, October 12

Testing Day – dismissal at approximately noon

Friday, October 14

10th Grade Parent Cocktail Party; details to follow

Monday, January 9, 2006

Mark your calendar – 10th Grade USPA Parent Coffee

Freshman Section

Wednesday, October 5

Outdoor & class building activities – dismissal at approximately noon

Wednesday, October 12

Testing Day – dismissal at approximately noon

Friday, January 6, 2006

Mark your calendar – 9th Grade USPA Parent Coffee

Information Resources for the Upper School

Look in the Handbook

The Student Handbook, located in the back of the US Directory, contains information about daily schedules, the school calendar, rules and regulations, etc. The Handbook holds the answers to most questions regarding University School's policies and procedures.

Look Online

Up-to-date information, including morning announcements, athletic information, class lists and more, can be obtained on the Upper School intranet site: <http://upper.us.edu>. The web site www.us.edu is the School's general web site.

To Report an Absence or to Leave a Message

To report absences due to illness or emergency, call 216.831.2200. For direct access to the voicemail system at Hunting Valley, dial 216.831.1984. Both numbers are accessible 24 hours a day. If you have an urgent message for your son (changed appointments, pick-up times, etc.), please leave a message with the receptionist at the switchboard. She will then place the message in your son's mailbox. Social messages for students cannot be accepted. It is the student's responsibility to check his mailbox.

Leaving School

Medical and/or dental appoint-

ments should be scheduled during lunch period whenever possible (approximately noon to 1 p.m.). Boys must sign out with the receptionist before leaving school. A written or telephone notice from the parent to Ms. Kalman is required when a boy signs out. Only seniors are permitted to leave campus for lunch. All underclassmen are required to eat lunch in the Dining Hall.

Snow Days

School closings will be announced by local radio and TV stations. A snow day closing announcement will also be posted on the US web site and a recording will be placed on the main Upper School telephone (216.831.2200). The USPA, through class representatives, also provides courtesy phone calls to students' homes. Snow day announcements will specify the Hunting Valley or Upper School campus.

Sports Info

A schedule of all athletic events and directions to them are available at <http://upper.us.edu>, the school's intranet web site. Directions and schedules also can be picked up at the athletic office (216.831.1984, ext. 7332). Your best source of information about athletic event changes or cancellations is the web site, which is updated immediately.

Please Support the Annual Fund

Dear Parents:

Many of us sacrifice to send our boys to University School. The friendships they make and the life lessons they learn in class, on the field and in activities come at a cost: the bills we pay in August and January.

So why are we asking that you give even more through the Annual Fund?

The reason is that tuition covers only about 70% of the cost of educating each boy. The difference between what we pay and the true cost per student is about \$4,000. We call this difference the "Silent Scholarship."

About half of the Silent Scholarship comes from endowment. The rest, about \$2,000 for each boy, comes from the Annual Fund.

Every boy in the school benefits from the Silent Scholarship. The Class of 2005, for example, received almost \$1.4 million from the Annual Fund and endowment income during its time at Hunting Valley. A "lifer" in that class received almost \$52,000 from the Silent Scholarship during his thirteen years at US.

At many of our peer schools, parents contribute 70% of the annual fund and alumni 30%. Because of our loyal University School alumni, these figures are reversed. But in the last few years, parent giving at US has increased as parents have come to see the central importance of the Annual Fund to the School. Year by year and parent by parent, the message is spreading and participation is growing.

We'd like everyone to give. We are grateful for every gift, large or small. But we do ask you to be

as generous as you can when a fellow parent calls.

We would also be delighted to have you volunteer. Sue Slovich (Mikey '05), Director of Annual Giving in the Development Office is standing by to sign you up. Contact her at 216.831.1984 ext.7314 or sslovich@us.edu.

Thank you for sending your boys to University School and for your generous support of the Annual Fund. As parents, our gifts to the Annual Fund have a direct effect on our sons' lives.

Sincerely,

David '74 and Claudia Fulton
(Will '01, Sam '03, Alex '07)
Upper School Section Chairs
2005-06 Annual Fund

The Prep Shop

The Prep Shop supplies apparel and non-apparel items bearing the US logo for all members, friends and fans of the University School community. You will find all your favorites along with several new items in the Prep Shop, located near Stouffer Dining Hall. The USPA of the Upper School runs this apparel and gift shop. Students and parents are welcome to stop by and shop during the lunch period, Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Any student who has lettered in a varsity sport can order the varsity letter jackets through the Prep Shop. Samples are available for sizing. Each jacket is a custom order since it includes the boy's name, class year and individual sports. If a student has not lettered in a sport, but expects to do so before he graduates, space is left for adding the sport when the time comes! If you would like to order a jacket in time for the holidays, please order now. Don't wait until the November Sports Dessert Award ceremony, which will place you in the holiday rush.

Please contact Kelly Biggar at 440.442.9866 or Olivia Demas at 330.659.3001 with your suggestions, orders or questions. You can view items in the Prep Shop collection online at <http://upper.us.edu/prepshop>.

2004-2005 Mabian

The 2004-05 edition of the school yearbook, the *Mabian*, is due to arrive sometime in November/December. Dr. Jonathan Briggs, the faculty advisor, and Editor-in-Chief Andrew Singer have a list of the students who have purchased their books; however, if a student hasn't ordered one already, he can pick up one with a check for \$70 made payable to University School. Students will be informed of the *Mabian's* arrival and can pick up their copies from Dr. Jonathan

Briggs or by contacting Andrew Singer.

In addition, parents of seniors are encouraged to initiate the process of going through photos now, as they will need to be collected for their sons' senior pages before winter break (by December 16). The yearbook staff reminds students and their parents that while we always welcome pictures from family and friends, we cannot guarantee that the photos will be returned,

since Jostens handles hundreds of yearbook accounts and some do get misplaced. So copies of photographs are better, especially ones of great sentimental value. Further, sports photos are always a great thing to have in extra supply, and action shots and candid seem to be the ones that are most memorable in any good yearbook. If you would like to donate photographs, please contact Dr. Jonathan Briggs at jbriggs@us.edu.

PACT: Parenting for the 21st Century

PACT is a committee of CCIS (Cleveland Council of Independent Schools) middle and upper school parent volunteers dedicated to fostering a safe, healthy and chemical-free environment for students within our community. PACT membership consists of representatives from the parent associations of the 14 CCIS schools: Agnon, Andrews, Grand River Academy, Hathaway Brown, Hawken, Lake Ridge Academy, Laurel, Lawrence, Old Trail, Phillips-Osborne, Ratner Montessori, Ruffing Montessori, University School

and Western Reserve Academy.

Each year PACT representatives work in close cooperation with school administrators and parent associations to promote effective parent networking, education and teen substance abuse prevention through various programs and events. PACT publishes and circulates its newsletter, "The Common Sense Courier," approximately two times per year and sells and distributes CCIS directories. Since PACT is a self-sustaining parent organization, the sale of directories to parents

serves to raise funds for the organization's activities and provides parents with the opportunity to network with other parents. For more information about PACT or to order your package of four school directories (US, Laurel, HB, Hawken) go to www.ccis-ohio.org.

This year the PACT representatives for the HV campus are Ann Sords, 440.247.2026, annsords@aol.com and Michael Sreshta, 440.498.7171, michaelsreshta@hotmail.com.

The Valley Voice

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