

Volume 14

January 3-9, 2007

# Damascus Christian School Chalkmarks

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR DCS  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS



Dear Teacher

You are  
The BEST



## Linda Urbanowski, DCS History Teacher, Nominated For Teacher Of The Year

Long-time DCS history teacher Mrs. Linda Urbanowski is in the running for "Teacher of the Year" through the Veterans of Foreign Wars. "Mrs. Urbal", as she is affectionately called, was nominated for "Teacher of the Year" status to represent the Sandy VFW Post. She was "the overwhelming choice" on the local level. She advanced to the district level and again, was the favorite. This district includes schools from Silverton, Woodburn, Canby, Oregon City, West Linn, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Gladstone, Sandy, and Gresham. Sixteen districts will be represented at the State level.

Should Linda prevail, she will be awarded an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., a favorite destination for her.

Mrs. Urbanowski organizes and oversees our sophomore and junior class trips to the DC area every other year. These eight-day adventures are packed with sites of historical and spiritual significance for our nation's founding and establishment. Because of her experience, she is able to secure outstanding guides and prime tour schedules.

We concur with the Sandy VFW Post for their consideration of Mrs. Urbanowski as History Teacher of the Year. We believe the award would be a perfect fit!

## *A Parent's Expression of Appreciation*

In light of Linda Urbanowski's nomination for History Teacher of the Year by the VFW, we thought it appropriate to include a letter of commendation from a parent who was able to be a part of our 2006 Washington, DC, trip.

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## Calendar Date Change

Please make note of a yearly calendar date change for this year's spring drama production. In order to make room for a spring high school retreat, the drama presentations have been moved from May 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Please make those changes on your calendar.

Mrs. Closner will be announcing this year's play next week. Stay tuned!



## *DCS Seniors Score Above Nation Average On SATs*

We are often asked how our seniors score in comparison to the national college-bound seniors' average Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores, the so-called College Board tests. We recently received that information and were pleased to see our seniors were significantly above the national average. For *Critical Reading*, the national average is 503; DCS seniors scored 531. For *Math*, the national average score is 518. Our seniors averaged 532. On *Writing*, the national college-bound senior average score is 497; DCS seniors - 530. Congratulations to our students for their studious application, to their parents for their encouragement and assistance, and to our teachers for their significant part in preparing our students.



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"Dear Linda, I wanted to again thank you for allowing me to serve as a chaperone on the trip to D.C. with the Damascus kids and parents.

Even before I was in high school, I had a high interest in our nation's history and found this trip to be an enriching personal experience let me see things from a fresh perspective and to view artwork that I had only seen in lectures, textbooks, or encyclopedias. Much of the 'facts' talked about I already knew, but to hear it told from another person's point of view and considering the passion of our tour guides, it was worth the expense. It did, and exceeded my expectations. Renee and Tracy (tour guides) were excellent at what they do and I so appreciate them trying to exhort and empower the students and parents alike to be the active Christians that we are called to become.

I know that it would have been different and somewhat draining for the adults if the students hadn't met your standard of conduct. I was surprised by their sense of discipline, respect and preparation for the trip. That is a credit to your organizational skills and your passion for what the kids can learn and carry with them as they mature and move on to becoming adults.

I know my daughter's objective for Dad was that I get to know the students at Damascus better and also to know some of the parents in a more personal way. I was a bit concerned about knowing so few of the people going and hoped that it wouldn't become a sort of a stumbling block for me. Hopefully, I connected with most and didn't become an annoyance to all.

I have reviewed the video that I shot on the trip and I must have been brain-dead with some of the things I did such as not turning off the camera and getting superb views of my feet and ground as I was walking along (it happens more than once-sometimes for many minutes). Hopefully, between the usable video and the pictures that my daughter and I took I can put together something that makes sense. Again, thanks for giving us the opportunity to go, to learn, and be challenged to make a difference in the future."



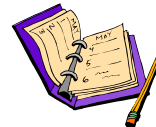
## Cheer Clinic Coming!

The DCS Cheerleaders are hosting their annual Cheer Clinic on Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. Elementary boys and girls (K-5) will learn fun cheers and a music routine from 8:30 am-noon for \$20, which includes a cheer shirt and poms. Junior High girls (6-8) will learn cheer technique and a full cheer routine from 8:30 am-1:00 pm



for \$22, which includes a cheer shirt and lunch. All participants will be invited to perform with the DCS Cheerleaders at the varsity basketball games on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Non-DCS students are welcome to attend. Please return registration forms to your child's teacher by Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> or contact Angela Davis to sign-up (971.223.5268 or [angelahdavis@gmail.com](mailto:angelahdavis@gmail.com)).

## January Secondary Chapel Schedule



For the month of January, we have the following lined up for our 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade chapels –

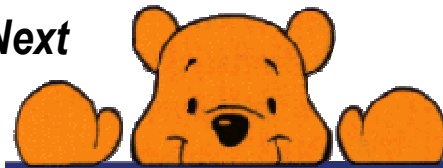
5<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Jim DeYoung and the DCS Worship Team

12<sup>th</sup> – Spirit Week – no secondary chapel

26<sup>th</sup> – Student Council presentation

All secondary chapels are on Friday, 12:35 until 1:15 PM. Parents are welcome at any time.

## Spirit Week Next Week!



Fasten your seat belt for one of the most energetic weeks of the school year – Spirit Week and Homecoming!! The purpose of this event-filled week is to help promote school spirit, unity and enthusiasm. Each day is filled with different activities and class competitions, culminating with Friday's Homecoming game and presenting this year's Honor Court.

Honor Court recognizes students who have been selected by their peers who demonstrate, on a consistent basis, character and spiritual qualities apparent to their classmates. This is not a personality contest but rather, a serious attempt to identify those students in each high school class who exemplify the following character and spiritual qualities: respect, encouragement, school spirit, and a clear Christian testimony.



Each day is a different dress-up day – Monday – Pajama Day, Tuesday – Sports' Day, Wednesday – Clash Day, Thursday – Class Color Day (secondary classes team with elementary classes to dress in the same colors), and Friday – School Spirit Day – Maroon and Gold.

Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, we culminate Spirit Week with our Homecoming game, this year with Heritage Christian School. The varsity girls' games begin at 5:30 followed by the boys' game at 7 PM.

## Go Eagles!!

