



Upcoming Events

*Oct. 21
Homecoming
Decoration, 1-5 pm*

*Oct. 22
Spirit Link sales
begin during lunch*

*Oct. 23
12th Grade IB Parent
meeting, 7 pm
Drug Program, 7 pm
Special Events Center*

*Oct. 23 - 26
TAKS Exit Level
retesting*

*Oct. 25
Make Up day for
Yearbook Photos*

*Oct. 26
Spirit Wagons judged
Spirit Link sales end
Pep Rally (B4)
Pregame HC Court, 7
GHS vs. Rowlett, 7:30*

*Oct. 27
Homecoming Dance
7 - 10 pm, GHS*

*Oct. 30
PTSA Teacher
Appreciation Feast*

*Oct. 31
Teacher Scholarship
Applications due*

*Nov. 2 - Last Day for
Reflection Entries*

*Nov. 16 - End of 2nd
Six-Weeks Grading*

*Nov. 20 - "Ben E. Fits"
Assembly, Early
Dismissal, 12:30 pm*

Garland High School PTSA

Sherry Orman, PTSA President

October, 2007

Diana Cooley, Newsletter Editor

GHS PTSA Newsletter

HOMECOMING WEEK: OCT 22-26

The Garland Owls will face the Rowlett Eagles on Friday, so the decorating theme this year is "**Embarrass the Eagles.**" Class representatives will be decorating the commons, cafeteria and main hall on **Sunday afternoon, October 21, from 1-5 pm.** Door decorations should be completed by Monday for judging on Tuesday. Spirit wagons should be brought to the trainer's room (east end of gym) by 7:30 am on Friday, October 26, for judging and will be locked up until the Homecoming Pep Rally during B4. There is a \$50 grand prize to "best of show" for doors and "best of parade" for wagons, plus first place ribbons for "best spirit," "most creative," "outstanding effort," and "best group/class theme." Spirit Links Sales begin Monday during lunch. Classes compete to sell the most paper chain links, which decorate the cafeteria ceiling throughout the week. All funds benefit class booster clubs. The Homecoming Dance theme is "Night on the Nile" (Egyptian) and will be held **Saturday, October 27, from 7-10 pm at GHS.** Tickets are sold at lunch for \$15 each (cash only!). Photo identification is required to purchase tickets and for dance entry.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are very proud of our students at Garland High School. Recently, the following statistics were announced by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and the College Board.

- Garland High School has 9 semifinalists for National Merit and the rest of the district has 4 Semifinalist students.
- GHS has 25 Commended Students for National Merit and the rest of the district has 13 Commended students.
- GHS has 3 Semifinalists for the National Achievement Award and the rest of the district has zero students.
- GHS has 5 National Achievement participants referred to Colleges and the rest of the district has 5 participants referred to Colleges.
- GHS has 2 National Hispanic Scholars and the rest of the district has 6 recognized Scholars.
- GHS has 1 National Hispanic Honorable Mention Student and the rest of the district has 2 Honorable Mention Students.

In addition, 43 Full IB Diplomas were awarded last spring and a total of 611 AP Exams were given to 287 students. The dedication and hard work of all our students is to be commended.

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS

October is National Arts and Humanities Month and Americans for the Arts encourages you to support the arts and culture in your community. Attend an event, make a donation, talk to your elected leaders, or simply be inspired. Like PTA, Americans for the Arts believes parents are the best and most powerful supporters of arts education. National Arts and Humanities Month, during which PTA Start the Art Week falls, is a perfect time to advocate for arts education. The Americans for the Arts public awareness campaign *Art. Ask for More.* provides you with tools to ask for more art in your school, and tips on how you can incorporate the arts in your child's life. Studies show that there is a direct link between the arts and student achievement. Students who study the arts develop critical thinking skills, problem-solving techniques, and a drive for excellence. For more information about National Arts and Humanities Month and *Art. Ask for More.* visit www.AmericansForTheArts.org.

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FRIENDS OF RACHEL

Continuing the chain reaction begun by "Rachel's Challenge" last month, a student group meets every Tuesday morning at 6:45 am in the school library to promote kindness and compassion in our school community. For more information about Rachel Scott, visit, www.rachelschallenge.com.

TEENS IN THE DRIVER SEAT

More crashes involving teenage drivers happen at night than at any other time, but surveys show that young people are unaware of the nighttime danger. That's a fact that Garland teens are trying to focus on as the fall days become shorter and nighttime hours come sooner. Garland's youth leaders are continuing their efforts to make the roads safer for their peers and all other drivers through the *Teens in the Driver Seat*® program, the unique peer-to-peer safety program. For more information, visit t-driver.com or join us on 2nd/4th Thursdays at 3:00 in "Our Place." Keep your drive alive!



I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY . . .

Students, think about how you can make a difference—in the world, the community, the school, or at home. Then, express those ideas through musical composition, literature, photography, visual art, or film, and share them with others by submitting the artwork to the PTA Reflections Program. Your work could be displayed at the school and receive recognition at the local, council, district, state, and even national level. You can get the rules, submission guidelines, and deadlines from the PTA website. **All entries are due the week of November 1st (nothing will be accepted after Nov. 2).** Entries should be turned in before or after school to Ms. Colon in Room 423 or Ms. Hensleigh-Parsons in Room 814. Children can make a difference—and inspire others to do the same. Think about it. <http://sites.garlandowls.com/PTSA/initiatives.asp>

Pick up Albertson's kaychain cards in office to support GHS!



TEACHER APPRECIATION FEAST - OCTOBER 30TH

The PTSA Teacher Appreciation Committee needs volunteers to send in food goodies for the faculty and staff at Garland High School on Tuesday, October 30th. We host two Teacher Treat days during the year and provide a variety of food choices for the staff of approx. 250 from 8:00 a.m. until after lunch. Types of food can be: hot or cold, sweet, non-sweet, salty, fruit, snack meats, BBQ sausages, veggies and dip, cheese cubes, chips and dips, tortilla roll-ups or whatever your specialty might be. All donations are greatly appreciated!

Please let us know if you can help! You can drop your food off in the main office on the 30th. Or, if it is more convenient to drop your food off the night before, we have a drop off location in Rowlett and North Garland. Please send your responses to sbspann@msn.com. Thank you for all your help. Without all of you, it would be hard to make it a huge success!

TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 31ST

The Garland High School PTSA is awarding four teacher scholarships for continuing education in the amount of \$250 each for the 2007-2008 school year. Applicants must be a teacher at Garland High School and a current member of the PTSA. Recipients must plan to continue teaching at Garland High School for the following school year. Applications are available on the PTSA website under "Initiatives" at <http://sites.garlandowls.com/PTSA/initiatives.asp>. Completed applications are due Wednesday, Oct. 31, to the PTSA Mailbox or e-mail to PTSA scholarships@garlandowls.com.

PARENT ACADEMY: DRUG TRENDS - CHEESE AND BEYOND

When: **October 23, 7:00 - 9:00 pm**
 Where: Special Events Center
 4999 Naaman Forest Road
 Garland, TX 75040
 Audiences: Parents, community leaders and
 other advocates for children
 (adults only, please!)
 Speakers: Cindy Oliver, First Offender Program,
 James Brown, Drug Enforcement
 Jerry Rhodes, Dallas Police Dept.
 Local Police Department(s) and
 Garland ISD LIGHT Program Staff
 Topics: Prevention/Intervention Strategies
 Drug Trends in Texas and the U.S.
 Seek & Find - Common places that
 children hide drugs
 Community Resources
 Registration: FREE
 Sponsors: GISD Office of Guidance & Counseling,
 Region 10 Service Center, Drug Free
 Schools Coalition

LIFETIME MEMORIES FOR OUR CHILDREN

Adapted from Dr. Anthony P. Witham

I will...
 Pause with my child
 ---when others hurry by
 Walk with my child
 ---when others are running
 Smile with my child
 ---when others find only frowns
 Listen to my child
 ---when others appear preoccupied
 Read with my child
 ---when others prefer television
 Learn from my child
 ---when others have forsaken curiosity
 Play with my child
 ---when others prefer being entertained
 Discipline my child
 ---when others fail to establish limits
 Apologize to my child
 ---when others pretend perfection
 Pray with my child
 ---when others have lost faith
 Dream with my child
 ---when others have become cynical.