

W.O.W.

Word of Walden

May 2009

Volume 27 Issue # 9

Published monthly August through June

CALENDAR 2008-2009

May

- 1 Cindy's field trip to Wrigley Field
- 7 Delayed Start – school starts at 9:15
Dine Out at Shillings
- 16 Prom
- 19 Spring Choir and Orchestra concert 7:00
- 20 **PTSA Meeting Wednesday 6:30-8:00 pm**
- 21 Ice Cream Social 7:00 – 8:00 pm
- 22 Springing Walden
- 25 Memorial Day – no school
- 26 Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00 pm
Drama/Forensics hosts – advisor is Michael
- 26 R.O.P.E. Ceremony 6:00 pm
NOTE: this is a date change
- 27 Senior trip to the Brewer game

June

- 5 Graduation Ceremony 6:00 pm
- TBA Walden Wheels
- 11 Middle School Beach Day
- 11 Trip to Action Territory: 9th, 10th, 11th graders
- 12 Middle School Awards Day 9:00 am
- 12 8th grade graduation dance 6-9:00pm
- 12 **Conferences – dismissal at 11:14 am**
- 15 Conferences- no school
- 15 Last Day of School

Relay for Life

The annual **American Cancer Society Relay for Life** of Racine takes place **June 12-13th, 2009** at Case High School. This is the 3rd year that Walden has had a team. Cindy Hertzberg is our team leader. If anyone is interested in pledging or contributing money, they can contact Cindy, Pam, or most middle school teachers. **Checks should be made out to the American Cancer Society.** If you are collecting money for the same event or have already pledged to another team, thanks for contributing to a great cause.

WALDEN III

In the Process of Discovery

A Word from Principal Bob Holzem

I want to share the latest district news for you regarding the **RUSD Northstar Initiative.**

As a way to improve the educational experience for all students in the district, the aforementioned Northstar plan of educating all students to graduate career and/or college ready has been put into action. While this may first appear to be a lofty goal, I'm sure we'll all agree that it is a necessary goal for a community that cares about its progeny and their future.

With devotion to a process that addresses acquisition of skills and abilities as benchmarks along the timeline from kindergarten through 12th grade, and utilizing the best practices of multiple stakeholder groups in helping students acquire those attributes, along with resources necessary for successful implementation, this goal is reachable, and the gaps in performance and success that exist relative to poverty, race, or other factors, can shrink or be eliminated. It's exciting stuff, and you'll be hearing much more about it in the future. You can also check out the district website for more information as more steps are taken to continue implementation....

I have heard that Starbuck Middle School is hosting a free informational meeting for all interested parents on **May 5 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm** in their theatre. The topic is **internet predators** and a state law enforcement expert will be presenting, along with real time examples. I've seen his presentation before, and I highly recommend it to you.

As we go into the last weeks of this school year, ROPE Honors night and graduation are events on the horizon I look forward to. If you haven't experienced either, you may want to attend – and you may want to have some Kleenex along
..... *Bob.*



MAIN OFFICE 664-6250

ATTENDANCE LINE 664-6259

Please call before 9:00 am

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Notice*SENIORS*Notice*SENIORS:

All book rental, lost books, and book fines **must be paid by May 16** in order to get post prom tickets. Contact Chris if you have any questions.

May 26 ROPE Presentation in the gym

Parents – Announcements should be arriving soon in the mail. Please return your rsvp forms promptly to school.

Are you Moving this Summer?

Contact Terry in the office with your new address as soon as possible, so that records and bus route information can be changed before the start of the new school year.

Field Trips

May 1-Cindy's Baseball History class travels to Wrigley Field to see a game. Lunch will be at the ballpark.

May 27- Senior trip to the Brewer game.

June 11-Trip to Action Territory for 9th, 10th, and 11th graders

ALL LIBRARY BOOKS will be due back in the library by May 13th, in order to finish the end-of-the-year book inventory. Please encourage your child to follow this deadline so that the end of the year goes smoothly. Although we hate to deprive our Walden students of library books, it will take many weeks to get all our books back. Notices will be sent home to students who do not return their books. I encourage you to use the Racine Public Library during this time period. Thank you for your help.
.....Eileen Welch – Walden Librarian

Walden Yearbooks for Sale

Support your school's Walnuts!!

Buy yours now for just \$40!

It's fourth quarter already and only six weeks left until the end of the school year! If you haven't bought your yearbook yet they are still on sale. Hurry up and buy your yearbook today. Don't forget to make checks out to Walden III; we also accept cash. Deliver your order with your student's name and Homegroup teacher listed on the envelope to the office or to Joe Kane's room, 304.

For any further questions, please contact Joe Kane, or any member of the Yearbook Staff: Cassie Peterson, Kim Mycon, Kait Carmody, or Henry Clickner at 664-6250 or in room 304. Thank you!

2009-2010 Walden Start Times

Set your alarms back! Next year school hours will be from **7:10 am to 2:31 pm.**

Last Day of School

Racine Unified School District students will make up three days that school was not in session this winter due to inclement weather. **The new last day of school will be Monday, June 15** unless school is canceled again due to additional inclement weather days.

The **first day** of the 2009-10 school year, pending teacher contract negotiations, will be **Tuesday, September 1, 2009**. Please note that the school year is scheduled to start *before* Labor Day (Monday, September 7).

Summer School Registration

Summer school will be held **Monday-Thursday from June 22 – July 30**. There are two morning sessions offered:

8:00-10:20 and 10:30-12:50 – High School

8:00-10:20 and 10:40-1:00 – Elementary/Middle

Sign up begins **April 24**, and remains open until **June 22**, the first day of class.

Transportation options are limited, and available only if you **sign up before May 8**. Please see the schedule for further details.

Course offering and schedule information is available online at www.racine.k12.wi.us; click on the Summer School link. A limited number of paper copies are available at the Walden and RUSD offices.

For assistance in **Spanish**, call **635-5600** and ask for Daisy Sotelo Flores (a former Walden student!).

There is **no fee** for summer school **required** Academic classes. High school classes and a variety of Enrichment classes are offered at \$15 for RUSD residents and \$30 for students who live outside district boundaries.

HELP is available to you by phone at **619-4321** or you can email summer.school@racine.k12.wi.us.

PTA Council Scholarship Winners

This year the Racine PTA Council awarded twenty-five scholarships worth **\$1000.00** towards college costs to RUSD graduating seniors. We are thrilled to report that out of this select group, two of our Walden seniors were selected. Our heartfelt congratulations go to **Justin Wheeler**, who plans to attend Parkside in the fall, and **Bria Kaufman**, who will be attending Northwestern University.

Best of luck to you both!

COUNSELOR NEWS . . .Katie McCauley

MAP Testing

MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) tests are taken three times a year (fall, winter, and spring) by 6th-9th grade students.

The spring Map testing session starts **Tuesday, April 27** and concludes on **Thursday, May 7**. Please encourage your child to do their personal best on these tests. The results are very important in helping teachers set goals and monitor progress.

Scholarships Available to Seniors

SCHOLARSHIP	QUALIFICATIONS	DUE By
Mary E. Hamilton Memorial	Health related field	May 1
Strive Scholarships	Academic improvement	
Mabel Smith Memorial Scholarship	Minority, 2.0 GPA, attend vocational or community college	May 31

Additional Opportunities

- ▶ Nominations are now being accepted for appointments to The US Service Academy.
- ▶ Lawrence University will hold Junior Visit Day on Friday, May 15. Register at www.lawrence.edu/admissions or call 1/800-227-0982 for other visit opportunities.

Summer Programs

- ▶ Marion University Pre-College Summer Programs for HS students interested in Business, Criminal Justice or Nursing
- ▶ Bradley Univ. Summer Enrichment programs for Soph. and Jr. interested in Leadership Enrichment camp or Nursing.
- ▶ College Access Program Academic skills Development Workshop at UW-Madison
- ▶ Fire Science Career Exploration program at WU-Oshkosh
- ▶ Youth summer programs for grades 6-12 at Gateway
- ▶ Urban Journalism Workshop for high school students at Marquette University.

See Katie in Rm 319 for more information and applications

2008-2009 ACT/SAT TESTING DATES

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
June 13	May 8	May 9-22
SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
June 6	May 5	May 15

Register online to take the ACT and SAT tests at:

ACT: www.actstudent.org

SAT: www.collegeboard.com

The code for Walden is **501-919**.

Support Our Academic Decathlon Team

Please contribute directly to our team

Dear Walden Decathlete Parents and Friends

This year **Walden's US Academic Decathlon team** has enjoyed outstanding success in the United States' premier high school academic competition. The success was due in part to the generosity of the Walden family that enabled the team to purchase supplementary study materials used by the great majority of US Academic Decathlon State Champions. Special thanks go to **Vince Grabowski** and the **Johnson Financial Group**; the **Braun family**; and to **Bob and Betty Brenneman**.

The team unanimously agrees that purchasing the DemiDec study materials played a key role in our success. **WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are asking parents and friends to support the Walden team with any and all monetary contributions.** (The cost is \$750 above and beyond what we spend for entry fees, official curriculum materials, transportation, and State Finals hotel expenses).

Is it worth it? Remember . . . wonder of wonders . . . these are students that are *enthusiastic* about doing advanced course work equivalent to possibly 2-3 extra classes!!! It makes one think that perhaps American education and American teenagers are not the "lost cause" that some people claim.

Checks should be made out to "Walden III US Academic Decathlon Team" and will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Thomas Feeney

Coach, U.S. Academic Decathlon team

Dear Walden Decathlete Parents and Friends of the Academic Decathlon Team:

If you will be a Junior next fall:

Your year as a Junior in high school is a very important one, with many steps that should be followed **NOW** in order to be ready to apply to the college of your choice. Remember – applications are due in the **FALL** of your Senior year.

Junior year is the time to:

- Research where you intend to go to college. Begin to think about the kind of college you want to attend: Big college? Private? Local? Two-year prep?
- Take the PSAT in the **fall** of Junior year
- Take an ACT prep course – *don't overlook this step!* You should take the ACT/SAT in your Junior year.
- Submit a Youth Options application by **Oct 1** for spring semester courses
- Attend a college fair and college informational meetings – this is extremely helpful
- Visit college campuses to find the right fit for you.

There is much you will need to know, and it is wise to get started early. Good luck!

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

■ **Pancake Day at Festival HallMay 2**
Jazz Band plays at **8:30am**; **4th Hour Band** at **9:00am**.
Performers may enjoy a **free breakfast** after playing.

■ **Spring Choir and Orchestra Concert.....Tues. May 19**
Please join us for our end of the year concert to be held at **Holy Communion Lutheran Church** located at 2000 West 6th St., at **7:00 pm**. Admission will be a free will donation.

■ **Ice Cream Social: Band Concert.....Thurs., May 21**
This year's Ice Cream Social will be a performance for the band only, at 7:00 pm in the Walden gym. We need both parent **VOLUNTEERS** serve the ice cream, and **donations for the Silent Auction**. Set up volunteers need to arrive by 6:00 and we need a clean up crew from 8:00-8:30. Please see Vanessa to volunteer.

WANTED: Music Dept. Fundraising Coordinator

I am looking for someone to manage our fundraising efforts for next year. The events are set, and I have all the information ready for you. This person would collect orders, make contact with vendors, and finalize the orders. We sell poinsettias in Nov. and Milaeger gift certificates in the spring – not too much work! Please help the Walden Music Department in this very important way!

Milaeger Gift Certificate Orders are Due Now

This is the last week to turn in your orders for Milaeger's gift cards in order to get them back before Mother's Day. Please download an order form from our website at www.waldeniii.org or contact the office. Gift cards are available for \$15, \$25, or \$50.00 and they can be used to buy any plant including hanging baskets, annuals, perennials, roses, ground covers and vegetables. **The cards do not expire, so please be generous!**



THINKING GREEN

Did you know that appliances **continue to draw power** even when they are shut off? Up to **75% of the electricity** used in your home is consumed while the products are **turned off!**

Follow these practices:

- If you use a power strip, turn it off at the switch to cut all power to connected appliances.
- Unplug battery chargers when not in use.
- Unplug your cell phone charger when not in use.

Walden Art News:

Congratulations to Walden 7th grade student **Anthony Paonessa** whose linoleum cut print was selected as the cover art for the program for the annual RUSD Student Art exhibit at **Wustum Museum**.

Other Walden students whose work will be on display May 3rd through May 23rd include:

- 12th graders **Cory Krupp, Brittany Whitnall, MacKenzie Goldsworth, Sara DeVecchis, and Debbie Hickey**;
11th graders **Amanda Van Swol and Arien Buchanan**;
10th grader **Michelle Cannon**; 9th graders **Paku Thor, Anna Evans, Melanie Pearce, Kayla Simanek**;
8th graders **Lauren Instennes and Sarah Horn**;
7th grader **Ethan Bloom**; and 6th grader **Emily Hays**.

Congratulations to all these Walden students!

Walden Works with RAM

As a part of Walden's ongoing relationship with the Racine Art Museum, a number of Walden students had the opportunity to work with **internationally known glass artist, Therman Statom**, during his recent workshop at the Racine Art Museum. The art they created will be displayed at the Wustum Museum this summer.

The Walden students included:

- Jeshannah Robinson, Tristan Peterson, Amanda Van Swol, Arien Buchanan, Paku Thor, Antonio Moctezuma, Angwell Johnson, Cory Kwlatkowski, Alex Aviles, Sabrine Ali, Abi Arrendondo, Sara Bergin, Kayla Rundle, Rachel Petit, Andi Bissen, Eli Keithrafferty, Dominique Hyatt, Calvin Bailey, Erica Oliver, Adam Rutkowski, Ryan Seeberger, Dakota Bowen, and Taylor Davidson.**

FORENSICS.....Michael Seyller

The Walden Forensics team just returned from the **WI High School Forensics State Speech Festival** held in Madison on April 17-18 with fantastic results. **Congratulations** to all team members, and special kudos to Michelle for her dedication and devotion!

Four Minute Speech: Both **Armand Grabowski** and **Heather Salvo** received a Gold

Radio Presentation: **Bill Justus** took home a Silver.

Poetry Interpretation: **Abby Hall** received a Bronze

Play Acting: **John Christensen, Jessica Yester, and Sarah Pehowski** received a Gold.

James Christensen and **AJ Stibbe** received a Silver.

Kelli Rediske and **Jacob Pike** received a Gold.

WALDEN III CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

For a complete listing, pick up a Student Activity Guide from the Office or from the PTSA

WALDEN GREEN SCHOOL.....Tom R

The Green School has invited RUSD 4th and 5th graders to join us for **Earth Day in May** on **Thursday, May 21** at Walden and at the REC.



Walden students will offer sessions that cover topics such as renewable energy, water and beach quality, recycling, and ways to make homes more environmentally sustainable.

Pam Veenstra will offer a session at North Beach, and canoe or kayak rides will be available on the Root River through the REC Center. Finally, Ryan Schriver from Clean Wisconsin will give an age appropriate presentation on Wisconsin's Inconvenient Truths at the end of the day.

Walden has been invited to send interested students to **Earth Camp**, an environmental leadership camp in Arizona founded to honor the work of Laurel Clark. Three of our students have applied and received scholarships to attend this summer. Congratulations to **Thomas Aviles, Rachel Pettit, and Becky Wadleigh!** We look forward to hearing about your experience.

Model United Nations.....Tom Kohl

The Model UN is a student club that simulates the activities of United Nations and teaches the principles of diplomacy. Students write position papers that accurately reflect their country's position on the topic. They then work together on committees to debate the problem and write resolutions that will become policy. Later these resolutions are voted on by the entire conference and become the official policy of the model.

Walden's Model United Nations Club attended the **40th anniversary Model UN conference** on March 19 – 20 at UW-Milwaukee. Walden's students should be commended for the fine job they did representing the nations of Vietnam, Australia, Serbia, Iran, and Israel.

Walden also had two delegates, **Steven Bogacz and Alex Weinberg**, representing Vietnam on the UN Security Council. The following students attended the conference:

Keona Thompson	Rosemary Haegerl	Eric Thiel
Ashely Jensen	Anthony Braun	Luci Haas
Vincent Minasian	Thomas Aviles	Sabrina Ali
Hayley Townsend	Steven Bogacz	Ben Boyd
Alex Weinberg	Dakota Bowen	Jacob Pike
Elizabeth Fletcher	Rachel Pettit	Abby Smith
Ryan Klausch	Mitch Johnson	Cheyenne Centz
Hannah Gudbaur	Brandon Embrey	Kara Rossbach
Jacob Spielgehoff	Maria Ramirez	Chalon Boesel

Outdoor Garden/Classroom Plans for May.....Alex Mandli

The Outdoor Garden/Classroom committee has been very busy making preparations to begin work on the garden in May. We are looking forward to seeing the first trees planted by the end of the month. In addition, we have planned the following:

1. We have hired the contractor **Larry Wheeler** to excavate our rain garden and build berms
2. The **Cassidy Tree Service** will deliver and assist the students in planting the trees and bushes.
3. We are working with **Stephanie Haas** from the **Vulcan Construction Materials** to provide the lime stone boulders for the garden.
4. We have hired **Jane Cascio** to advise Alex's 6th hour elective class, the Outdoor Garden/Classroom and Garden Design, to design and build the murals on the walls of the park pavilion next to the Outdoor Garden/Classroom.
5. Alex's 6th hour class is also painting designs on the three rain barrels. They will be installed by the RUSD Maintenance Dept. to the downspouts on our school.
6. On **Saturday, May 16th**, we will pick up plants for the Rain Garden, donated by Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network, and mulch for the outdoor classroom at South Port Beach House in Kenosha.
7. Brian Torner and his Environmental Studies classes will plant **600 sq. feet of the Rain Garden.**

WE NEED FAMILIES TO:

- Donate a pickup truck** for May 16th to pick-up rain garden plants in Kenosha as well as a few volunteers to deliver plants to Walden. Please contact Brian Torner.
- Donate ceramic tiles.** Contact Alex Mandli
- Loan us wheel barrows, metal garden rakes, pitchforks, and shovels** for work in May. Please label clearly with your name so we can return your tools. Contact Alex Mandli.

Walden's Track Team.....Betty Brooks

We meet after school until 3:45 everyday except Fridays and meet days. An activity bus is available to get your child home after practice.

Track Meet Dates

Wed., April 29	All-City Relay	Case HS
Wed., May 6	Meet 1	Park HS
Wed., May 13	Meet 2	Park HS
Wed., May 20	Meet 3	Case HS
Wed., May 27	All-City Meet	Case HS

Meet dates are subject to change.

WALDEN III PTSA NEWS

PTSA April Meeting Highlights

At our April meeting we voted to fund Pam's fall elective Adopt a Beach class for \$120.00. Damon's request for funds to purchase a laptop has been deferred for additional research. Bob informed us that Walden will offer **two new AP courses** next year in **AP Environmental Science** (the only one in the district) and **AP World History**. The following year we hope to add **AP Art History** and **AP Government** as well.

Please join us for the **last PTSA meeting** of the year on **Wednesday, May 20, 6:30-7:30** in the Teacher's Lounge. We will do our end of the year review, elect new officers, and present next year's budget. Please join us.

New Walden Volunteers

We've had a terrific response to our requests for open PTSA positions for next year! *Thank you* to the following wonderful Walden parents who have offered to serve as:

PTSA Vice President.....**Carrie Harbach** (still pending)
Scrip Co-coordinators.....**Stevie Breit and Shari Karasek**
Market Day.....**Andrea Petersen** will be continuing
Volunteer Coordinator.....**Darlene Fick**
Graduation Reception.....**Shelly Ortwein**

Positions still open for the 2009-2010 school year:

- ▶ We are still looking for a **PTSA Secretary**.
All board positions are elected for a 2-year term. Duties:
 - Attend board and PTSA meetings (one of each per month)
 - Take minutes and distribute them in a timely manner
- ▶ **NOW Assistant Editor**
 - Assist writing and producing the weekly email newsletter
- ▶ **Music Dept. Fundraising Coordinator**
 - Organize refreshments and Silent Auction for winter (Cocoa) and spring (Ice Cream Social) concerts.
 - Collect orders, make contact with vendors, and distribute orders for the poinsettia sale in November, and the Milaeger gift certificate sales in the spring.

Dine Out at Shillings on May 7

Delayed Start days are Dine Out nights! Don't forget to treat yourself to dinner at **Shillings** on **Thursday, May 7**, from **11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Located at 611 Wisconsin Ave., **Shillings Irish Pub & Restaurant** is owned by the Carmody family, proud Walden parents. No voucher/coupon is required; just mention that you are a Walden family and Walden receives 10% of the sale. A menu will be available on our website and through the NOW. Enjoy great food and support Walden at the same time!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **May 22.....Ice Cream Social**
Time: 6:00-8:30 **Contact: Vanessa, 664-6250**
We need a set-up crew, servers for the ice cream, someone to oversee the Silent Auction, and a cleanup crew
Please donate items for the Silent Auction

To volunteer, contact Jane Finkenbine at 681-1962, or email j.finkenbine@yahoo.com



A warm thank you to Michael Seyller and **the Student Government** for helping at the April Sale!

This is the last Market Day sale of the year!
Please stock up on your favorite items for the summer.

Paper orders are due in the office by 2pm Friday May 22nd. Order online by 11pm at www.marketday.com, and orders will be ready for pick up May 26th in the cafeteria.

Pick up a brochure in the office. Contact Andrea Peterson, apeterson6@wi.rr.com or call 635-1483 after 3:00 pm.

April's sale benefits **the Forensic Club**

Walden clubs thank you for your terrific support this year!

Scrip

SUMMER ORDERS – Start stocking up now on items like

- Marcus Theatre gift cards
- Your favorite fast food restaurant (Culvers, Subway, Burger King, Noodles, and more).
- Common purchases, like Piggly Wiggly, gas, or Walgreens

Order online at www.shopwithscrip.com or drop off your order form in the office by **2:00 pm on Mondays**. You will receive your Scrip back as early as Wednesday. Contact: Pam Heitfeld, 884-0752, heitfeld4@wi.rr.com

Please turn in your Boxtop and Campbell's labels before the end of the school year!





Health Services Department

DATE: April 27, 2009
TO: All Principals
FROM: Sue Stroupe, Supervisor of Health Services
SUBJECT: National Health Alert regarding **Swine Flu**

In a proactive approach to the national health alert regarding the Swine Flu, the Health Services Department would like to provide you with some information to help keep your students and staff healthy and safe. RUSD has recently received calls from worried parents and guardians of students regarding their concerns over the Swine Flu. You will be contacted immediately if there are any changes regarding this national health alert.

- RUSD is working with all of the Racine County health departments and at this point they have not given the district any additional precautions to take.
- RUSD is asking all principals to keep a careful watch and record any increase in the rate of illness. If there is an increase, please notify Sue Stroupe immediately at (262) 631-7018 or Sue.Stroupe@racine.k12.wi.us.

Take preventative measures to keep students and staff safe.

Frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing is important (your building's nurse has the hand washing protocol).

Dispose of used Kleenex or tissues and sneeze into shoulder if need be.

- Any sick students should be sent home immediately.
- If parents want to keep informed about the district's steps to keep schools healthy, advise your parents and guardians that they will be notified if any changes or additional action is necessary. Direct them to our Web site, <http://www.racine.k12.wi.us>, for the most up-to-date information.
- Contact the Office of Communication if you would like any additional information to utilize.

If families are concerned about contracting the Swine Flu, RUSD encourages families to contact their child's primary health care provider, their local health department, or the district's Health Services Department at (262) 631-7018. The contact information for local health departments are provided below.

- Caledonia/Mt. Pleasant Health Department (Serving Caledonia, Mt. Pleasant, Sturtevant and North Bay): 10005 Northwestern Avenue, Franksville, WI 53126; phone (262) 835-6429; fax (262) 835-6433.
- City of Racine Health Department (Serving the City of Racine, Village of Elmwood Park and Village of Wind Point): 730 Washington Avenue, Racine, WI 53403; phone (262) 636-9201; fax (262) 636-9564.
- Western Racine County Health Department (Serving all municipalities West of I-94): 156 E. State Street, Burlington, WI 53105; (262) 763-4930; FAX (262) 763-4928.