

Jerry Williams,
 School
 Administrator

**ONCE UPON A TIME
 – A FAIRY-TALE OR A
 WAR STORY?**

By Jerry Williams, Administrator

Once upon a time there was a school...a Christian school...a WONDERFUL school...in which all of the faculty, administration, teachers, and students lived and worked as one big happy family. Although parents had to pay tuition for their children to attend this gem of a school, the tuition amount was neither too high nor too low. Rather, it was "just right."

The morning and afternoon carlines always functioned "just right." Although homework was given to the students on a regular basis, the amount assigned was "just right," and none of the students or parents ever complained about it. All of the teachers came to class

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Providence Academy recently held its first All Pro Dad's Day with 80 guests attending the 7 am breakfast sponsored by Chick-fil-A.

All Pro Dad's Day is a monthly gathering of fathers and their kids (elementary ages) with the simple purpose of growing closer to each other while enjoying breakfast together. Our local program is led by our Team Captains, Donnie Bradford and Mark Young, with assistance from Carter LeCraw and the PA Development Office. You can find out more about the All Pro Dad's program at www.AllProDad.com.

Our next two meetings of All Pro Dads and their kids are scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, and Wednesday, February 13, each at 7 am in the school cafeteria. Please plan to join us. You can make reservations by emailing djones@providenceacademy.com.

FEATURES

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Pg 5 Grandparent Academy 2007, a huge success

PA WINS \$7,000 FROM 'COCA COLA EARNING FOR LEARNING'

Thanks to everyone that participated in this year's "Earning for Learning" event at the Mall. "This event has been a huge blessing for PA. We have won \$31,000 over the past 3 years through this event," said Development Director, Mark Koscak. Providence is using these funds to help pay off our \$2 Million Bond Repayment due April 1, 2008.

SUPPORT LIBERTY! *Send your child to a Christ-centered and classical school!*

By Mark Koscak, Director of Development



We are....on The WAY!

I'm thankful for the liberty that we have in the United States. Yet, I'm concerned that we are losing the foundation of that liberty. The education of the next generation can either undergird that liberty or

work to destroy the foundation. How can we support liberty through the choices we make in educating our children?

1. To support liberty we need to understand the design of our government.

Are we a democracy or a republic? I regularly hear people describe our country as a democracy. Each time I hear this mistake, I realize the impact of a Christ-centered and classical education. Many people today, and many in our media, would have us believe that our country is a democracy. Is that what our founding fathers created?

Our founding fathers were learned men. They were well read. They were well versed in history. They studied and understood the history of government, and they understood the track record of democracies. John Adams said, "Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts and murders itself. There was never a democracy yet that didn't commit suicide." John Witherspoon said, "Pure democracy cannot sub-

"Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts and murders itself."
John Witherspoon

sist very long, nor be carried far into the departments of state—it is very subject to caprice and the madness of popular rage." In a pure democracy the majority rules, whether

the direction is wise or not. In a more recent comment, the late Francis Schaeffer called it the "dictatorship of the 51%."

Our Founding Fathers chose to create a constitutional republic. As a republic, we have a form of government in which people elect representatives to exercise

power for them. Our constitution then provides the basic laws and fundamentals by which our country is governed. Taking these two together, we have a constitutional republic where we elect representatives to govern us based on the constitution.

2. To support liberty we need to understand its source!

The constitution works hand in hand with the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration is the statement of our basic American values or principles, i.e., equality and God-given rights. Today there are many that don't want to take our study of history too far. They don't want you to realize that the foundation of our God given rights is the Bible, and many do not teach this truth. Yet, a close look at history makes this fact hard to deny. On December 26, 1982, Newsweek magazine acknowledged an important rediscovery when they shared that "historians are discovering that the Bible, perhaps even more than the Constitution, is our founding document." Of course, this was no secret amongst the great men of our country's history. President Andrew Jackson said, "the Bible is the bedrock on which our republic rests." Noah Webster said, "Our citizens should early understand that the genuine source of correct republican principles is the Bible...."

"Historians are discovering that the Bible, perhaps even more than the Constitution, is our founding document."

Newsweek Magazine

Historian David Barton tells us in his book Original Intent that "the founders understood that Biblical values formed the basis of the republic and that the republic would be destroyed if the people's knowledge of those values would be lost."

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3. To support liberty we need to teach the next generation the design of our government and the source of our liberty.

Understanding the foundation of our republic is a vital key toward protecting our liberty. Yet, the popular

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Call to Prayer

Dates

Fri, February 1

Fri, April 4

Dads and GrandDads



James 5:16

Prayer Time

8 - 9 AM

PA Cafeteria

"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

Providence Academy announces 2nd annual Christian Storytelling Festival

Christian Storytelling Festival
hosted by PROVIDENCE ACADEMY

Saturday April 26, 2008

benefiting Providence Academy Annual Scholarship Fund

- Bring your family!
- Bring your youth group!
- Bring your friends!
- Bring your children's group!
- Bring your neighbor!



ROBERT CORNUKE

*Bob Cornuke - a former police investigator and SWAT team member - is a biblical investigator, international explorer, lecturer and author of six books. He has participated in over twenty expeditions around the world searching for lost locations such as Noah's Ark and the Ark of the Covenant.
Bob is currently president of the Bible Archaeology Search and Exploration (BASE) Institute located in Colorado Springs, CO.



Rebecca Alexander

FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL
.....
JOIN US AT PROVIDENCE FOR A DAY FILLED WITH:

- * GAME BOOTHS
- * CONCESSIONS
- * ART & PLANT SALE
- * MORE GAMES!
- * LOTS OF FAMILY FUN!!!

12:00 - 6:00 PM



STEVEN JAMES

12:00 PM
BOB CORNUKE*
"SEARCH FOR NOAH'S ARK"

2:00 PM
STEVEN JAMES
~STORIES FOR CHILDREN & TEENS~

4:00 PM
REBECCA ALEXANDER
~STORIES FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY~

6:00 PM
BOB CORNUKE*
"SEARCH FOR THE ARK OF THE COVENANT"

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Ticket prices:

*Children / Student: \$8*

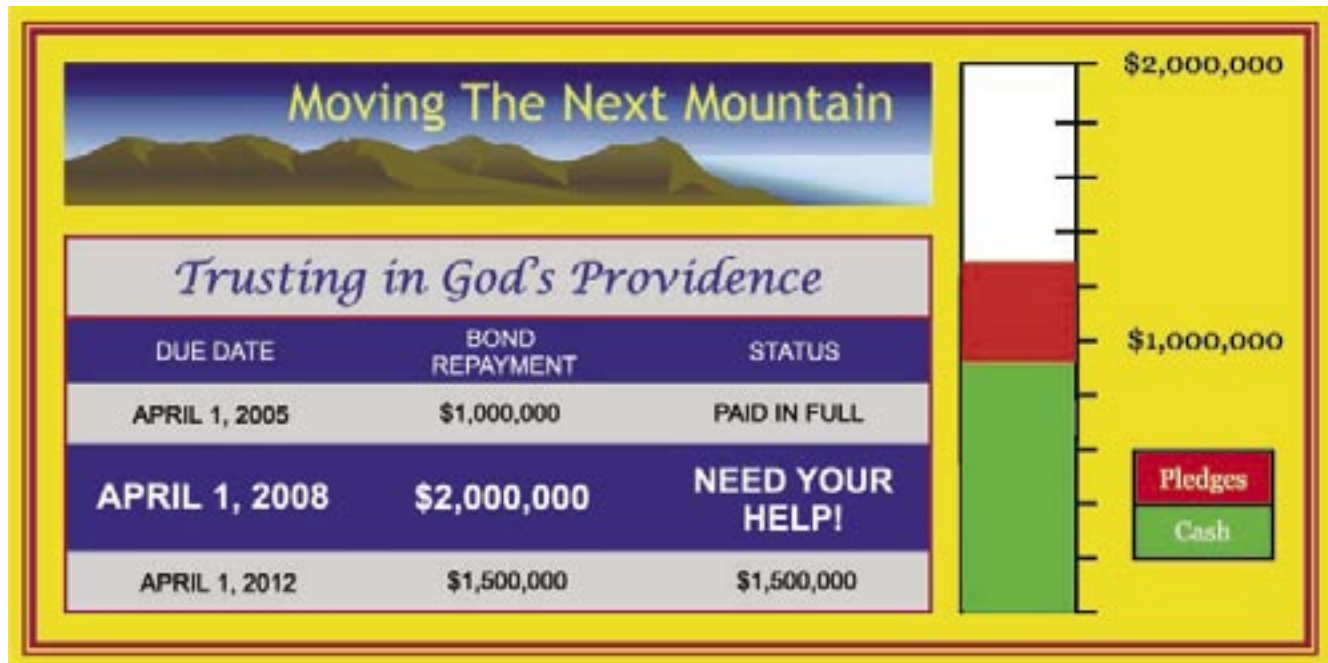
*Adults: \$12*

*Family Pass: \$30*

Buy tickets online at  
[www.christianstorytellingfestival.com](http://www.christianstorytellingfestival.com)  
or at the door the day of the event

**Festival Location:**  
Providence Academy  
2788 Carroll Creek Road  
Johnson City, TN 37615

## B SERIES BOND REPAYMENT



### \$100,000 Gift Adds Momentum!

*Bond Repayment Campaign hits significant milestones as we get closer to April 1, 2008.*

June 30th - \$1 million

August 30th - \$1.1 million

September 30th - \$1.15 million

October 31st - \$1.25 million

Cash, Pledges and Interest received to date:

**\$1,267,000**

**Please keep the  
B Series Bond  
Repayment due  
April 1, 2008 in  
your prayers!**

**Pension Protection Act of 2006  
Tax Advantage  
Quickly coming to a close!**

December 31, 2007, will be the last opportunity to take advantage of The Pension Protection Act (PPA 2006). This law allows anyone over the qualifying age of 70 ½ to make a special gift of up to \$100,000 to a qualified, non-profit ministry without negative tax consequences. See your tax advisor for details.

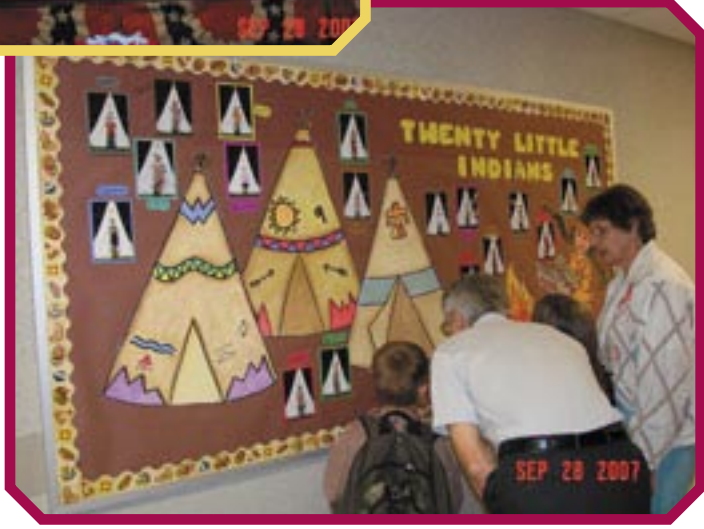
To help repay the B Series Bond, contact Mark Koscak at 423-854-9819 ext. 3013 or mail your gift to Providence Academy, 2788 Carroll Creek Road, Johnson City, TN 37615

# GRANDPARENT ACADEMY 2007



Honoring God  
Honoring Grandparents  
Encouraging Grandchildren  
Creating Memories

*“Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.”  
Deuternomy 4:9*



# NEED BASED SCHOLARSHIP AT PROVIDENCE

The heart of our Board is for scholarship funds to be available to help Christian parents that would like to provide a Christ-centered and classical education for their children but are not able to because of financial needs. The Board also desires to make the education at Providence as affordable as possible. Consequently, Providence Academy does not include a component of scholarship in tuition.

To achieve these two goals, the board initiated the Providence Academy Scholarship fund. This annual fund has become an honored tradition at Providence. We are grateful to the families and friends that support this tradition, and we are excited to build His Kingdom—"One child at a time!"




| Long Term Commitments to Scholarship |    |                |
|--------------------------------------|----|----------------|
| Multi Year Business Partners         | 6  | \$22,500/Year  |
| Families making 5 year pledges       | 13 | \$12,950 /Year |
| Families committed to Monthly Gifts  | 12 | \$7,120/Year   |
| Annualized LT Commitment to ASF      |    | \$42,570/Year  |

For more information on making a gift or 5 year pledge to the Annual Scholarship Fund, please contact Mark Koscak at 423-854-9819 ext. 3013.

## THANKS to our Multi-Year Scholarship Partners

Johnson City Internal Medicine Associates, PC  
219 Princeton Road, Suite 200  
Johnson City, TN 37601  
423-282-4911

  
2105 East Center St., Suite B  
Kingsport, TN 37664  
423.373.5044



Host Engineering, Inc  
593 AA Deakins Road  
Jonesborough, TN 37659



NN Inc. - Corporate Office  
2000 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 12  
Johnson City, TN 37604  
PH:423-743-9151



**EASTman**  
(Eastman Annual Scholarship Team)  
"Eastman employees committed to providing need-based scholarships"



**Alumni Parents**  
Committed to providing need-based scholarships

## GREAT BOARDSMANSHIP AND ALUMNI LEADERSHIP!



This past April, PA Board member Mark Hecht and son Brandon, a PA alumnus

(class of 2003), joined forces to support the Scholarship Fund at Providence Academy. Mark and Brandon decided to jointly run a 13.1 mile (half marathon) race and along the way they raised \$3,150 for the annual scholarship fund. Mark recently shared the following perspective on preparing for and running the race. "The whole thing started with me watching Brandon run the full marathon the year before

in Nashville. I thought, surely I can run half that distance! (What was I thinking?) As I prepared myself over the next year physically and mentally to run the race, I experienced commitment and sacrifice from a renewed perspective. Over time, Brandon and I discussed how the preparation and running of the race was very symbolic to the sacrifice and commitment that parents make to give their children a Christian Education. A commitment to give one's children a Christian Education is a life-changing sacrifice. The family budget is never the same again! From its start, Providence Academy has had a heart for scholarships to help families send their children to the school who otherwise would not be able to do so. There are so many families within the school who give sacrificially to support the scholarship fund. Training and running the half marathon to support the scholarship fund was a symbolic way for Brandon and me to help at least one student come or stay at the school. My prayer is that the scholarship fund continues to grow in its ability to support more and more families who desire to make the sacrifice to send their children to Providence Academy."

Brandon added, "My time at Providence Academy gave me a solid foundation and academic work ethic for college and what will soon be a challenging several years in medical school. It was exciting to know as we crossed the finish line that in a small way we had helped a family in their commitment to Christian Education."



*"We plan on doing it again in April of '08"*

Mark Hecht on "running for scholarships at PA"

### HONORARY GIFTS TO PROVIDENCE ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*IN MEMORY OF:*  
 Jeannette Carter  
 Savannah Counts  
 Moody George  
 Rev. Winfield C. Hall  
 Retha Neal  
 Phyllis Smith  
 Ruby Wood

*IN HONOR OF:*  
 Benjamin Harris  
 Katherine Harris  
 Bob and Lisa Rogers  
 The Smalligan Family  
 Meredith Tallent

## ONCE UPON A TIME *continued*

each day with smiles on their faces and a song in their heart, and their daily teaching was, well, "just right."

None of the students really ever misbehaved. In fact, they showed up each day...on time...with their books and minds open and were eager and ready to learn. The students treated each other with the utmost respect. There was never a harsh word or action delivered among them. In fact, I would say that their behavior was "just right."

Being a Christian school, you would have thought that there would have been opposition by some in the community that the school was somehow "undermining" the efforts of the local public schools. But, in fact, it was just the opposite; everyone in the community - churches, neighbors and businesses - only had wonderful things to say about the little Christian school on the hill. All of the students made A's, had high ACT scores, were accepted into the best colleges, and everyone lived happily ever after. The End.

As I sit down to pen this article, we are well into the school year. Oh, how I wish that all of these fairy-tale scenarios were holding true at Providence Academy; but I have to admit that they are not, or at least not always. And, unfortunately, life at PA won't always be so dreamy in the future either. Why is that? Well, for starters, it is because those of us associated with this school (parents, teachers, administration, etc.) are sinners and are prone to make mistakes, disappoint, and not always live...well...perfectly. It has been said that perfection died on the cross over 2,000 years ago.

Another reason that life will not always function as grand as a fairy-tale at PA is because of the mission at hand. Our school is a Christian school. Our school seeks to lift up Jesus Christ. Our school, without reservation, teaches that there is an absolute truth. Our school, above all else, seeks to instill within the minds of each of our students a Christian

world and life view by which they can successfully operate and thrive in a society that is openly opposed to everything that we stand for.

The enemy hates our school. The enemy hates Christ. The enemy hates Christians. And, the enemy hates Christian families. At the beginning of this school year that was the one point that I tried to get across to our faculty and staff - the simple yet real fact that we are at war. And, before you begin retreating at the sound of the word "war," please know that if there ever was a war worth fighting, this one surely is. The enemy wants to invade and control the minds of your children. He wants them to doubt that there really is such a thing as absolute truth. In fact, he even wants them to doubt that

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there is a God at all. Surely that's worth fighting for, right? I believe that it is.

The good news is that we are equipped both to fight and to win

this war. We are told in Matthew 16:18 that the gates of hell will not be able to prevail against the church. Likewise, we are told in I John 4:4 that the One inside of us is greater than the one that is in the world.

Over the course of this school year I will be discussing this ongoing war in future articles. In the meantime, I have an assignment for each of you: Open your Bibles to Nehemiah 4 and slowly read through this passage. In fact, I encourage you to read it and discuss it as a family. I'll be coming back to it in our next article.

I leave you with a passage of Scripture from this chapter:

***"Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes." Nehemiah 4:14b***



### **WHY JOIN SCHOOLPOP?**

#### **SHOP ONLINE - HELP PA**

You'll feel good about helping Providence and yourself!

You receive special deals from hundreds of your favorite online, in-store and catalog merchants as well as top service providers.

There's no enrollment fee

Let your everyday purchases help your school earn money every day, all year-round!

### **HOW TO GET STARTED:**

- Go to [www.schoolpop.com](http://www.schoolpop.com)
- Select JOIN
- Select Join Now
- Select your organization by entering PA's id # 117853 and then select Search
- Fill out form

**[WWW.SCHOOLPOP.COM](http://WWW.SCHOOLPOP.COM)**

# PA GIFT CARDS

We would like to welcome Mrs. Sherry George, Mom of Jeremy in 5th grade, who has recently taken on leadership of the PA Gift Card Program. We would also like to thank the Buchanan's, Bob and Harriet, for their service as leaders of the program over the past 2 plus years.

**WHY NOT CONSIDER USING PA GIFT CARDS FOR YOUR MONTHLY GAS AND GROCERY PURCHASES?**

**GAS AND GROCERY PURCHASES ACCOUNTED FOR OVER \$146,000 (~ 62%) OF GIFT CARD SALES LAST SCHOOL YEAR.**



Food For Thought:  
 "Biblical stewardship is not God's way of raising money. It is God's way of raising people into the likeness of His Son!"  
 - Don Gray

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 610-1341

**SUPPORT LIBERTY!** *continued*  
 values of the day all seem to exclude any mention of God, or the impact of the Bible. Gary Demar wrote in a recent letter that "We must remind Americans that their freedom and prosperity are gifts from the gracious hand of God, not the state. If we fail to acknowledge Christ as Ruler of the nations and disregard His law we will surely perish as a people." Noted historian, patriot leader, and member of the Continental Congress, Dr. David Ramsey, said that "Ignorance is the enemy of liberty and leads to despotism." If he is correct, then we can protect our liberty by making sure that we are educating the next generation to understand our government,

"Ignorance is the enemy of liberty..."  
 Dr. David Ramsey

and to understand the source of our liberty. The next generation will be able to perpetuate liberty by electing men and women that will understand and espouse the values that are the basis for our republic and for good public policy. I'm excited to share that at Providence Academy the Christ-centered and classical approach to education ensures that we teach history, and that we teach about the Creator of history. Our students learn that we are a constitutional republic. Our students learn that the foundation of our constitution is the Bible; and our students also learn the values of the Bible. Through diligent education of the next generation, we are supporting liberty and preparing the next generation to maintain and protect that liberty. Support Liberty! Send your child to a Christ-centered and classical school!





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Email: [padev@providenceacademy.com](mailto:padev@providenceacademy.com)

**PROVIDENCE  
ACADEMY**

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[www.providenceacademy.com](http://www.providenceacademy.com)

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## CREATING A VALID WILL

Preparation of a valid will is one of the most important ways of planning the future use of the estate God has entrusted to you during your lifetime.

By carefully planning your will, you can make sure that your stewardship goals as a Christian are realized and are honoring to both your family and the Lord.

If you leave this world without having a will, the government will resort to a set formula to handle the distribution of your estate, which may or may not reflect your true wishes ... and will certainly not provide for the ministries and other charitable interests that have positively impacted your life.

Your will is the final opportunity to give expression to your personal wishes, where hopes and dreams can become reality, and where you can make a difference for eternity. Make sure you have one!

For questions or recommendations on a financial advisor, please contact Providence Academy, Development Director, Mark Koscak at (423) 854-9819.



**American Patriot Bank**  
[www.americanpatriotbank.com](http://www.americanpatriotbank.com)

Providence recently received a gift of 11,800 shares of bank stock in American Patriot Bank, a privately held bank in Greeneville, TN. If you are interested in purchasing any of these shares, please contact our Development Director, Mark Koscak, at (423) 854-9819.