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Support 2010 Student Art Show

Our fabulous art teacher, Sonya Devine, and over two dozen art room volunteers have been busier than usual preparing hundreds of works of art for the school-wide art show. The show is almost 100 percent student-selected and represents the amazing variety of media Ms. Devine has taught our children to use: acrylic paint on canvas, paper mache, pencil, chalk, watercolor, marker, collages of all kinds and more.

Every child in the school has one piece in the show. The art show will be held May 20 and 21 in the auditorium. On Wednesday, May 19, the show will be open for a preview during and after pizza time from 12:30 to 3:00 pm. On Thursday, May 20 and Friday, May 21, the show will be open for classroom visits during school hours.

There will also be an early evening "Opening" for students and families on Thursday, May 20, from 4 to 7 p.m. There will be live music and refreshments. There is still plenty to do to get the show ready. If you are interested in helping hang the artwork or help supervise during the show, contact Erica Baltazar (ewortham@mac.com) or Elise Kjos (elisekjos@gmail.com). See you there!



Every student will have one piece of art featured in the annual art show, held May 20 and 21 in the auditorium.

Haiti Fundraiser Taught Our Students A Valuable Lesson

By Donna Tripi, Principal

"A life without cause is a life without effect." -- Barbarella

This year we began our Service Learning Program to teach children that part of being a good person means "doing good" for others. The founder of our Service Learning Program, Cynthia Kronemyer, and I truly believe that exposing students early to service opportunities is the first step in a lifetime of caring for and giving to others.

It was challenging to find local projects that students could understand, relate to, and see that their efforts made a difference. Each month, Cynthia found an organization that was local and was in need of support that we could easily give without competing with other fund raising efforts. To that end, we collected canned food, used eye glasses, and gently worn shoes.

In February, the earthquake struck in Haiti, and I don't believe there was

a person alive who didn't feel compassion for the overwhelming loss of lives, buildings and infrastructure in one of

'I don't believe there was a person alive who didn't feel compassion for the overwhelming loss of lives, buildings and infrastructure in one of the world's already poorest countries.'

the world's already poorest countries. Cynthia felt that despite other fund raising efforts running concurrently, we needed to find some way for the children to help. She came up with packages of Valentine's Day cards. Student Council sold the cards before and after school and we made \$550 in a little over a week! Cynthia searched for some way to donate the money to Haiti and found a medical team from Scripps Health who had just been in the newspaper for their efforts. When

See Valuable, Page 4



Science Rocks!

The recent Family Science Night tantalized our senses and our minds. See page 3 for more photos. Here, Olivia Lakin tries her hand at milking. See page 5.

Care About Public Schools? Attend Forum

Meet the school board candidates running to represent your community. Whether it's class-size, bell schedules, programs, or school site funds, it's the elected school board members who make those decisions.

The La Jolla Cluster Association has scheduled a public forum for can-
See Meet, Page 5



Students Go Wild at Science, Math Meet

Parker Auditorium at La Jolla High School overflowed with hyped-up elementary students and their cheering parents and siblings Wednesday night at the first-ever Rendezvous Engineering Mathematics Science Academic Competition.

Twenty-eight teams participated in the event, which was sponsored by the Rendezvous Science Center, the La Jolla High School Science Team, Meraki, and the San Diego Science Educators Association.

The participating third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students hailed from four schools: La Jolla Elementary, Bird Rock Elementary, Florence Elementary and Santa Margarita Elementary. LJES dominated the auditorium, though, with 71 students on 15 teams competing.

"This is the first time we have run it and we hope to continue and grow," said Martin Teachworth, a physics teacher at LJHS and the coach of the LJHS Science Team.

Teachworth put his teaching skills to good use as he ran the event. The teams sat together in the first four rows of the auditorium. They used a digital device to answer, one by one, the multiple-

See photos on Page 7

choice questions that appeared on a huge screen on the stage. Questions ranged in difficulty from easy (third grade) to difficult (high school), with the harder questions earning more points. The teams had a limited amount of time to answer each question. Then the computer revealed how many votes each answer had received, and which answer was correct.

Parents and siblings tried to figure out the questions themselves before the time ran out. When a large number of teams got a difficult question right, the audience erupted into applause and cheers. It sounded like a sporting event. Children were covering their ears to soften the noise.

La Jolla Elementary teams swept the "novice," or third grade, division. Team Blue, featuring Kayla Nitahara and Jennifer Andrey and coached by teacher Irene Akiyama, won first place. The Atom

Crushers took second place. Its members included captain Evan Wilson, Ranait Fitzgerald, Lorenzo Villela, Cam Ezeir, and Isabella Jamieson-Morris. The Brainiacs took third. Its members included Cole Rehm, Maxwell Starke-Jones, Hannah Kinsey, Sam Osman, and Axel Youngdale.

A La Jolla Elementary team also took the top prize in the "Junior Varsity," or fourth grade, division. Captain Estee Foroozan's father, Ben Foroozan, is chief executive officer of Rendezvous Science Center, a major sponsor of the event. Also on the Armadillos team were Sophie Bolinger, Hudson Liu, Alexandra Backlund, and William Dorst. Their coach was teacher Cristina Bisciglia.

A Bird Rock Elementary team won the "varsity," or fifth grade, division. Called the Lighting Bolts, its members included Hannah Musante, the captain, Preston Weber, Bridge Gunn-Wilkinson, and Jeffery Tellew.

The event was organized by Teachworth, his son Matthew, and Foroozan. For more information about the REMS Academic Competition, visit remscompetition.info or email Teachworth at mteachworth@sandi.net.

YOU and Your Treasured Children DESERVE A PLAN

As a fellow parent of students at La Jolla Elementary, I know the concerns of caring for minor children. Planning for them and yourself in the event of a major life change can be daunting. *I can help.*

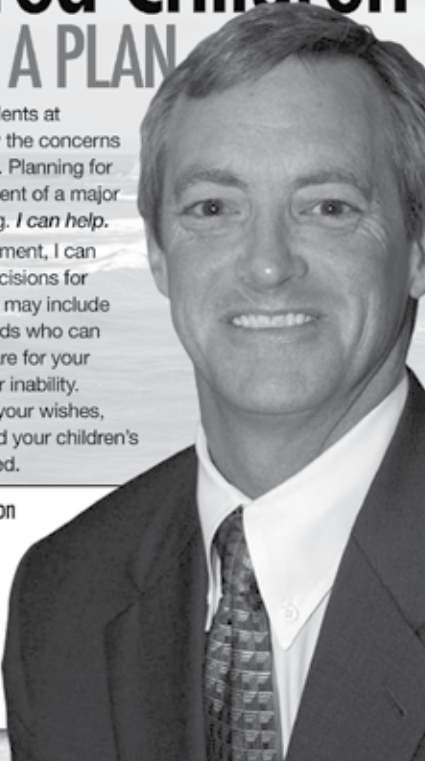
In a low-pressure environment, I can guide you to make wise decisions for you and your children. This may include nominating family and friends who can manage your affairs and care for your children in the event of your inability. By properly memorializing your wishes, you will ensure that you and your children's financial affairs are protected.

For a confidential, no-obligation consultation, contact me at (858) 558-9300 or at smorrison@mgdtaxlaw.com

Scott Morrison
Estate Planning Attorney

MGD TAX LAW

www.mgdtaxlaw.com



WILLIS ALLEN REAL ESTATE

SUSAN NYSTROM-WALSH
BROKER ASSOCIATE

CELL: 858.864.4116
 SNYSTROM@SAN.RR.COM
 WWW.SUSANNYSTROMWALSH.COM

1131 WALL STREET, LA JOLLA, CA 92037
 TEL: 858.459.4033 x273 FAX: 858.459.1425



La Jolla United Methodist Church
Vacation Bible School
 August 3-6, 2010 9am- noon
 Sunday August 8th 10-11:30am

Children age 3 to entering 5th grade
 Cost Church Family -\$35/child
 Community - \$50/child

Early Bird Special: Register by May 30 and get a \$15 discount!





Fun With Science

Family Science Night drew an enthusiastic crowd for an exploration of the science of food. There were several stations that involved chocolate. At one station, students sampled "white," "dark" and "milk" chocolate chips and wrote down their impressions of its texture, smell, and taste. At another station, students mashed cocoa beans into a powder and then mixed in a bit of sugar to make their own cocoa powder. And because milk chocolate has milk in it, there was a cow, courtesy of Sage Mountain Farm in Aguanga, Calif.

The event was organized by parent Lisa Goodin and teacher Debbie Balmat. Several stations were run by members of the La Jolla High Science Team (who were accompanied by their intrepid leader, physics teacher Martin Teachworth).

"The topic was genius and the activities were really interesting, fun and informative," said parent Cynthia Kronemyer in an email to Ms. Balmat.

The highlight for many students was milking the cow. "It was a new experience," said Siena, 10, who admitted to being a little intimidated at first.

"It was great fun," said Liam Keefe, 9.

"It was like squishing a wrinkly, fat thing," said Danielle Balmat, 9.

Renee Goodin said it was harder to milk the cow than she expected. "I had to push up and then pull down," she said. "The milk came out in a thin line, which I didn't expect. And my hands didn't get all dirty!"

Carolee Hagey, 9, attended with her parents and her sister, Ella. "I liked that you got to make different foods. I liked making cocoa. It tasted a lot different than real chocolate. It was good."

In the photo above, Katie Graham explored how a magnet will literally pull the iron out of cereal that has been dissolved in liquid. Above right, Zach Albence, Cameron Bolour and Hudson Liu were wowed by moldy food. Right, Ruaida Al-kafaji, Anna Maria Intriago Cedeno and Lucca Simpson witnessed a hard-boiled egg going into a beaker without breaking.

Julie MacDonald said, "My kids had a blast and I know they will be talking about it for a long time!"





► Valuable Lesson

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Cynthia contacted them, Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Brent Eastman and President and CEO, Chris Van Gorder were so impressed with the children's efforts that they offered to visit our school and speak to the children about their efforts in Haiti.

On April 23rd, Dr. Eastman and Mr. Van Gorder came to our Friday Pledge Assembly, talked to the students for a few minutes about their mission in Haiti and accepted a check from Sophia Acker, Student Council President. They then made a presentation in the auditorium for students in grades 3-5. They spoke about what they found when they arrived in Haiti, their medical mission there and what they would use our donated money to buy. They showed slides of the devastation and talked about how appreciative the people were of the medical services Dr. Eastman and Mr. Van Gorder's team provided.

The presentation made a huge impact on our students. Mrs. Akiyama's class went back to the classroom and was immediately compelled to write because of the strong emotion the students felt. "All of the people there lost all or part of their family,"

wrote Antonia Lacerda. "That was shocking." "Haitians are very strong people because when they were in pain, they did not cry or scream, they sang," wrote Lily Straton. More than 50% of the Haitian population is children and our children found that fact astounding. They also knew that meant that the people in Haiti who were killed or injured were children.

Dr. Eastman and Mr. Van Gorder have gone to Haiti twice and will return in June. They promised the children that they would use their gift to buy things that the children needed. They will send us a picture over the summer of the Haitian children with our gift.

It was a valuable lesson for the students to see that Dr. Eastman, Mr. Van Gorder and their team's volunteer effort had an immeasurable impact on the lives of the people in Haiti. Our small contribution will have an impact. Our students now really understand that volunteering and donating does make a difference and they, too, can help. Roxy Shimp wrote, "I'm thinking that I want to fly to Haiti right now with my dad so we can build better buildings," (her dad's a contractor). I have students selling

cookies and lemonade each week and others planning more fund raising efforts to send to the team. Our kids are so compassionate and giving!

'I could never have predicted the caring hearts and generous support you have given to each of our service learning projects this year.'

I have always been in awe of the generosity of our school community. I have seen our families help those in need any time we ask – victims of landslides, gently used book drives, etc. However, I could never have predicted the caring hearts and generous support you have given to each of our service learning projects this year. I appreciate you and look forward to another year of wonderful projects that will truly make a difference in the lives of those we help and will make a big impact on our children – the future volunteers and contributors to society.

Support Local Farmers. Support Our Kids.

at the **La Jolla Open Air Market**



Every Sunday 9am-1pm, rain or shine
La Jolla Elementary School, upper playground
Girard Ave. & Genter St.

All proceeds benefit La Jolla Elementary School
www.lajollamarket.com



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for details at**

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4th Graders Find Gold... ...in 49er Day Activities

By Cameron Hickman
4th Grade Correspondent

49'er day was a day to remember. It included our gold search, the miner's cookout, and writing our last journal entry. I discovered what it would feel like to be a miner, as did all of the 4th graders.

On our gold search, we followed clues to get to the gold diggings, talked to the "Sherriff" (Ms. Tripi), and filed a claim with the camp recorder (Ms. Mayer). When we finally got our claim, I was happy that I would be able to find a lot of gold. After all our hard work, I was reluctant to give it back. But when we received our souvenir (a mini pie pan full of gold-colored gum), I was pleased and delighted.

The miner cookout was really fun also. There were delectable hot dogs fresh from the grill, and



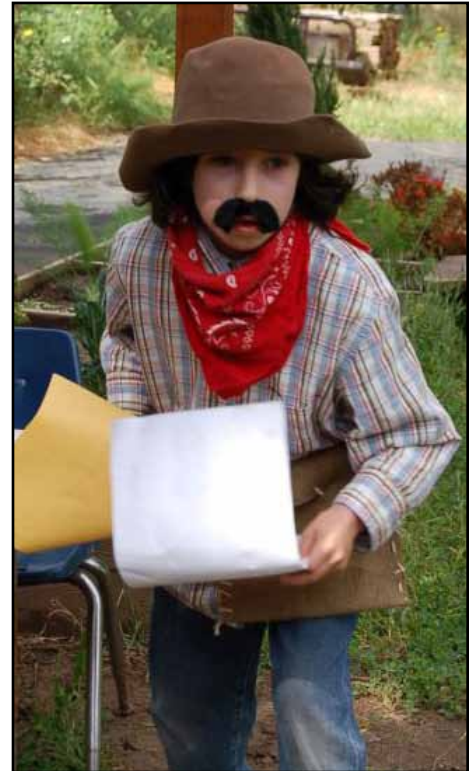
Cameron Hickman

Editor's Note: California History Standards for Grade 4 require that students be able to "explain the economic, social and political life in California from the establishment of the Bear Flag Republic through the Mexican-American War, the Gold Rush, and the granting of statehood."

yummy chili that kept us warm. There was lots of watermelon, because back in the day it was a real treat. The food was delicious and hearty. It's not a wonder the 49'ers counted on it to fuel up.

After a long 2 weeks of being a miner, we got to sum up our journal with an account of 49'er day. The journal entry described how we fared in the gold fields. I liked keeping the log because it made me feel like a real 49'er.

Being a 49'er must have been fun, but it would have been tiring. I'm really quite glad I live right now.



A big part of the fun on 49er day is dressing the part of a miner, with hats, blue jeans and, for some, fake facial hair.

► Meet the School Board Candidates

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didates vying to represent La Jolla and other communities in San Diego Unified School District's Area C. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 13th at Parker Auditorium at La Jolla High School.

Absentee ballots arrive May 10. The primary election will be held June 8. The general election is November 2.

Decisions by the district's five elected school board members have a significant impact every day on our students and teachers, please come get informed before you vote!

The candidates running for the Area C seat are: budget analyst Scott Barnett, school psychologist Michelle Crisci and incumbent John DeBeck.

The League of Women Voters will moderate the discussion. To submit questions to the moderators, please visit lajollacluster.com.

Here are statements from each of the candidates about their priorities:

SCOTT BARNETT: A New York native, Barnett has lived in San Diego since 1973. He owns his own business, Barnett Consulting, and is also president of Taxpayers Advocate, a private company that studies

local government spending. He has been active in politics since 1984, when he was elected to the Del Mar City Council. He is a past president of the San Diego Taxpayers Association and the Lincoln Club of San Diego. He has been a soccer coach and a PTA president. His key issue is the budget. He is endorsed by the San Diego Teachers Association.

MICHELLE CRISCI: Crisci is a native of San Diego and a product of San Diego City Schools. She has spent the past 19 years working for the school district as a school psychologist. She has served on the Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation and the district's community advisory committee for special education. Her key issue is integrating technology into instruction.

JOHN DE BECK: De Beck is a former teacher who has served on the San Diego Unified board almost two decades. He was once the treasurer of the San Diego teachers union. This is the first time his candidacy has not been supported by the teacher's union. He retired from teaching in 1990. He has seven children, 7 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He is 80 years old. His key issue is he feels the district is too large and should be broken apart.



Students Give Back Through Service Learning

By Cynthia Kronymer, *Service Learning Chair*

"Things of the spirit differ from things material in that the more you give, the more you have."

Christopher Morley

Wow - there are a lot of exciting things to report about Service Learning at LJES!

*In March over 50 bags of shoes were delivered to Shoe Metro, a local participant in the Soles 4 Souls program. Store manager Nelson Lee was so impressed with our efforts that he is offering a 15% discount at Shoe Metro for La Jolla Elementary school families. That's a pretty sweet deal because Shoe Metro prices are already up to 80% off retail. The store is located off Miramar Road down the street from the pyramid building at 8960 Carroll Way or you can shop online at www.shoemetro.biz

*On April 23rd Scripps Health CEO Chris Van Gorder and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brent Eastman visited La Jolla Elementary School. Student Council President Sophia Acker presented them with a check for \$550 at our Friday flag salute. The

money was what we had raised in February by selling Valentine's. Grades 3-5 then gathered in our auditorium to see a slide show and DVD power point presentation about their medical mission in Haiti. The students asked lots of questions and were very touched by the circumstances facing earthquake victims. Three of our 4th graders, Jessica Marks, Lizzie Craig, and Caitlin Flynn, have since sold lemonade and cookies and raised an additional \$53.00 to be sent on to our friends at Scripps Health. Now THAT'S Service Learning!

*Although most people in San Diego felt the April 4th earthquake, we fortunately experienced very little damage. Many people living closer to the epicenter weren't so fortunate. In less than 2 weeks, our students were able to collect about 100 bags of clothing. The clothes were picked up by trucks sent from The Salvation Army in El Centro.

*Our May Service Learning project will be to collect old towels to be given to S.N.A.P. - a Spay and Neuter program. Please look in upcoming e-blasts for details.

Creepy Crawlies at the Open Aire Market?

Yes, that's right. Mark your calendar for our last Family Fun day of this school year on Sunday, May 16, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Radical Reptiles will bring tons of creatures for kids to touch and hold.

The Open Aire Market is a year-round enterprise, but Free Family Fun Days will be on hiatus for June, July, and August. It will start up again in September when school resumes.

Farmers markets have been in the news lately, with First Lady Michelle Obama introducing the Healthy Food Financing Initiative, which would provide grants to start farmers markets in underserved communities. This effort is part of Mrs. Obama's "Let's Move" Campaign to fight childhood

obesity.

La Jolla got a jumpstart on the farmers market idea 11 years ago and now we've got one of the best in the county right in our own backyard. It not only is good for your family's health to buy produce at the Open Aire Market, but all the proceeds benefit LJES! Encourage your kids to make healthy choices and help our school at the same time, it doesn't get any better than that!

Make sure to visit the Open Aire Market for all of your Memorial Day needs. We've got grass-fed beef for BBQ's, fresh tomatoes and avocados for salsa, kettle corn, local strawberries, and much more! See you at the market!



Golfing is just one of many activities that students have been doing in P.E. lately.

Kelly's Corner

Get Ready for the Jr. Olympics

By Kelly Wiskus, *P.E. Coach*

Get your running shoes ready-it's time for the La Jolla Jr. Olympics! This year's action packed event will take place on Sunday, May 16, at La Jolla High School's Edwards Stadium from 7:15 am to 1:30 pm. Registration forms are due to the office by May 10. Hope to see you there and remember -- the school with the most students participating wins a trophy!!!!

Now, I want to share with you some words from our new coach, "Mr. O."

"Hello, my name is Leon Osteyee, and I am excited to be at La Jolla Elementary as the new second PE coach, along with Kelly Wiskus, the full time PE coach. I am at La Jolla every Thursday and work primarily with the kindergartners and 1st graders, providing fun and meaningful activities that focus on developing movement skills and experiencing a variety of exciting ways to be physically active. Remembering such joy of physical activity as a child and witnessing it in my five years' experience as an elementary school physical educator in San Diego, I find such a love of physical activity in children to be extremely valuable, and I hope that your child will experience the same with me or with Coach Wiskus!"

To Advertise in Tidings, contact Sharon Jones at 858-456-2039 or sharonlj@san.rr.com. Rates: \$50 for a business card size ad, \$75 for a quarter page, \$150 for half page, and \$300 for a full-page ad. A 25% discount is offered to advertisers who pay upfront to advertise in 6 or more issues in this academic year. Checks should be made out to LJES PTO, Inc., and mailed or dropped off at the school office: 1111 Marine St., La Jolla, CA 92037, attention Sharon Jones. Or you can pay via the online store on the school's website (go to ljes.org and find the online vstore and Tidings Advertising). Payment must be received PRIOR to publication. Ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Submit ad graphics in digital format, either as a postscript file or a 300 dpi (minimum) raster image. Email lisastarr@cox.net if you have questions about formatting.



The first-ever Rendezvous Engineering Mathematics Science Academic Competition was three hours (literally) of fun. Reed Hamilton, left, won the Top Predator prize, by outlasting all the other participants in a “rock, paper, scissors” contest. Third-graders Jennifer Andrey and Kayla Nitahara won first place in the “novice” division.

A Garden of America

By Ariana Dennis

I walked through the diamond gates to the garden of America. I didn't know what I was in for. A dream? A wish? A beautiful thought? I guess you could say I was in for it all. I didn't just see magnificent things as I strolled around the garden of America. I smelled them too. It started out with the tempting fragrance of jasmine tea and almond cookies. Pink and white orchids covered the soil all around like a vast blanket. I could experience Japan all in the garden of America.



Ariana Dennis

Farther on, the aroma of hot vegetable stew filled the air and African violets were everywhere. I could experience Africa all in the garden of America.

The smell of tamales almost overtook the smell of the dahlia piñatas that were widely spread. I could experience Mexico all in the garden of America.

On and on I had the pleasure of enjoying more of the experiences in this garden. Italy, France, China, and more.

That's how I like to think of our country, a garden with many different flowers and fragrances. Here, there is diversity of cultures and people. Therefore, we are more open-minded and have more tolerance for others. We have an understanding for other people's beliefs and traditions. I can't imagine America without this special quality. The immigrants make America what it is.

Ariana, a fifth grader, is a finalist in a creative writing contest sponsored by the San Diego Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the American Immigration Council (AIC). She and her family will be attending an awards ceremony on May 18th. Ariana's teachers are Kate Dyer and Holly Frank.

Student News

2 Students Perform In Production

Two LJES students are performing in a Christian Youth Theater (CYT) production of Schoolhouse Rock Live! at Pacific Beach Middle School. The play opens May 14 and runs through May 22.

Spencer Lenain, a 2nd grader, and Celeste Maguana, a 5th grader, both have parts in the show. The performances are at 7 p.m. on May 14, 21 and 22; at 2 p.m. on May 15, 16, and 22. PB Middle is located at 4676 Ingraham Street. Tickets are \$10 for children 3 to 19 and \$12 for adults (\$15 at the door). A discount is available for groups of 10 or more. For tickets visit www.cytsandiego.org.

In other student news, third-grader Ricky Baltazar led the Friday pledge recently while serving as Principal of the Day. Tate Musante, also in third grade, served as vice principal.

Tidings Staff

Editor: Sharon Jones, sharonlj@san.rr.com
Layout: Lisa Goodin, lisastarr@cox.net
Photography: Stephen Simpson

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VIVA LA FIESTA!

Colorful pinatas, freshly-cut mango, steaming tamales and strolling mariachis were all part of Friday's Amigos Fiesta. The annual party, organized by Katie Riveroll and Mary Perrine, delighted young and old. Tons of parent volunteers made it happen, so thanks to everybody who helped.

