



# Carmeleter

Issue 9

El Carmelo PTA Newsletter

May 9, 2008



Denise Dauler (K)



Serena Chandley (K)



Susie Davidson (K)



Marilyn Nishio (K)



Sandra Perry (1st)



Diane McCoy (1st)



Michelle Wilk (1st)



Robin Dosskey (2nd)



Alexis Ritchie (2nd)



Karen Lemoine (2nd)



Alice Anne Chandler (3rd)



Sue Chakos (3rd)

## Thank you Teachers!!

For all the wonderful things that you do for us, we APPRECIATE YOU!



Christina Nosek (3rd)



John Walton (3rd)



Robert Siu (4th)



Carol Bae Wu (4th)



Kendall Smith (4th)

### El Carmelo Calendar

- May 5-16 - STAR Testing (Grades 2-5)
  - May 10 - El Carmelo AUCTION (6 pm)  
Klutz Give-It-All-Away Day
  - May 20 - PTA General Meeting 8:30 am, Meet the new principal
  - May 21- Open House Dinner (6-6:45 pm), Open Classroom (6:45-7:45 pm)  
Sports T-Shirt Day
  - May 19-23 - Teacher Appreciation Week
  - May 26 - NO SCHOOL-Memorial Day
  - May 29 - Carmeleter Submissions Due 2pm
- 
- June 6 - Mr. Garcia's Celebration (5:30-7:00 pm)
  - June 12 - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL -  
1:30 Dismissal  
Kinder Promotion (8:30 am)  
5th Grade Graduation (10 am)



Nan Knoblauch (5th)



Kathy Chin (5th)



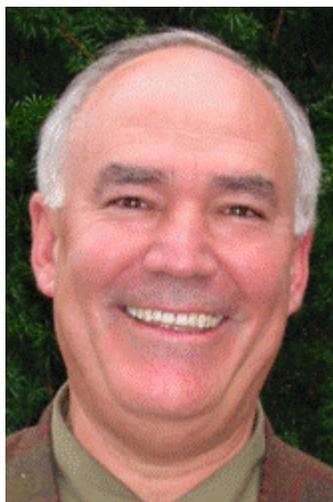
Gaelyn Mason (5th)

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 19-23

### PAUSD/Community Calendar

- May 13 - Board of Education:  
25 Churchill (6:30 pm)
- May 27 - Board of Education

## Principal's Letter



Dear El Carmelo Parents, Students, and Community,

The year is coming to a close rather quickly and we still have several school and community events coming up. As such, I hope you and your family are planning to come to the **El Carmelo Open House on Wednesday, May 21, 2008**. Join us for dinner and conversation with family and friends from 6:00-6:45 followed by the viewing of the classrooms, which will be from 6:45-7:45. I hope you have already pre-ordered your dinner, but if not, the deadline is Friday, May 16. This is a great opportunity to see your child's classroom projects, as well as projects in upcoming grades. I know you will enjoy the student work on display in each of the classrooms! Please remember that this is not the time to get into individual parent-teacher conversations. This you must do at a different mutually agreed upon time.

**Classroom Placement Process and Parent Input:** Please note the information below regarding our classroom placement procedure. If after you review the process you would like to provide us with information about your child, please pick up an Input Form from the Main Office, address it to Lupe Garcia, and return it by **Friday, May 23, 2008**. You may also download the Input Form from the PTA website at [www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org](http://www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org).

### Carmeletter Publication

#### Members

PTA President  
*Ana-Maria Dias*

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*Michele Kasper*

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*Jeff Bondor*

### Classroom Placement Procedure for 2008-2009:

There are a variety of factors that the El Carmelo staff considers when we begin the process of developing classroom groups for the following school year. These perspectives include:

- ◆ The needs of the individual child
- ◆ The need to create balance within each classroom
- ◆ The need to create balance among classrooms at grade level

Using these guiding principles, considerable thought and attention go into formulating classes that will work best for all students, as well as for the individual child.

### Individual Child

- ◆ Compatibility between the child's working style and the classroom environment.
- ◆ Compatibility between the child's learning style and the teacher's instructional style. (Note: even in the case of teachers new to the school, their teaching style is not an unknown. Each of our staff members will have gone through an extensive interview process and been observed teaching in the classroom.)
- ◆ Compatibility of the child and other children in the class.

### **Balanced Classroom Composition**

- ◆ Learning Needs: does each class reflect the range of learners, from independent to needing special support? Does each class reflect the range of academic abilities?
- ◆ Individual relationships: will the social dynamics of the class work to foster a positive learning environment?
- ◆ Gender: is there a balance of boys and girls in the class?
- ◆ Ethnicity: Does each class reflect the diversity of all children in that grade?
- ◆ Parental participation: does each class have parents who are interested in and able to help with in-class activities?

### **Balance Among Classrooms**

Finally, are all classrooms at the same grade level “balanced” and have similar compositions? This may include such variables as balancing children who tend to be more “time intensive” (both behaviorally and academically), students new to the school, students for whom English is a second language, etc.

We take the classroom placement process seriously. We always try to put the most important educational interests of the children in the forefront, and we expect parents will trust and respect the judgment of the staff in making placement decisions.

Parent input plays a part in this process too. Although your child’s teachers are in the best position to see your child as a learner in the school setting, you bring the unique perspective of the parents, which can be useful to the grouping process. Any information that you think is relevant please put in writing by completing the Class Grouping Form, which will help you organize the information. Requests for specific teachers will not be considered. Please do not make such a request. **Make sure to turn in the input form at the Main Office by Friday, May 23, 2008.** If you feel that your child may have some special needs for next year that cannot be addressed on the parent input form, please make arrangements to see me personally before the deadline.

One final thought... although this activity begins at the end of May, a number of variables and unpredictable factors, such as late registrants, the need to realign classes, potential staff changes, and so on, delay the final class grouping assignments until shortly before school begins in the fall. For this reason, and to avoid having class lists announced, only to be changed, class lists will not be posted in the school office until August 22, 2008, the Friday before school begins.

### **Other information:**

There will be two (2) vacancies on the El Carmelo School Site Council. You will be voting for two candidates at the May 21 School Open House. A copy of the ballot with the candidate’s statements of interest will be emailed to the community for consideration. I want to thank the outgoing candidates, Elizabeth Maulick and Maggi Smeal, for their involvement and thoughtful support on the site council for the past two years. Their counsel and guidance has been most appreciated!

I hope to see you at the School Open House on May 21.

Warmest regards,  
Lupe García

## PTA Presidents' Letter



Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that we only have a month left in this school year. A lot has happened and we can clearly see the growth and change in our children over the last eight months.

Our children will continue to change and grow as well as we will. One of the changes we face is saying goodbye to Lupe Garcia and welcoming our new principal. Mr. Chuck Merritt will become principal of El Carmelo on July 1. Mr. Merritt is currently the Assistant Principal at Paly High School. Please join us on Tuesday, May 20, at 8:30 am in the MP Room to meet and visit with Mr. Merritt.

We recently had some fun events for families to come together such as Stories under the Stars, Bingo Night and the International Dinner. And later this month we will have El Carmelo's Open House on Wednesday, May 21. This is an opportunity to visit classrooms and see all of the great work that our students have done over the course of the year. The evening starts at 6:00 pm with a picnic-style dinner. You can bring your own meal or pre-order dinner from Baja Fresh or Fandango Pizza using the form that went home in last week's Friday folder.

As we near the end of this academic year we put in place people to organize the various PTA functions for next year. If you have not yet considered participating in one of these hands-on roles next year, please do so now. Many interesting roles are still available. As with any volunteer organization, if next year's positions are not filled, the jobs will not get done, and our children will lose out, along with the whole school community. See the article in this issue for more information on what type of help is needed.

In addition to volunteering our time, our schools also need funding. Measure A which provides funding for our schools will be on the ballot June 3. For more information on this important issue see the enclosed article.

On a fun note, we hope to see you at the auction on May 10. It's an exciting evening where parents get to dress up, enjoy a nice dinner out, dance and party with our El Carmelo friends while bidding on some fantastic items.

Ana-Maria Dias  
PTA President  
anamaria\_am99@yahoo.com  
650-326-5854

Michele Kasper  
PTA Executive Vice-President  
mekasper@comcast.net  
650-858-1807



## Teacher Appreciation Week: May 19-23

By Michele Kasper

With the end of the school year drawing to a close, it is a great time to express our gratitude to the teachers who have supported and nurtured our children. This year we have set aside the week of May 19-23 to celebrate our wonderful teachers. The week is centered around simple inexpensive heartfelt tokens of appreciation. Please encourage your children to participate in the daily activities listed.

**Monday**....pick a flower from your garden and bring it to your teacher, the class will work together to create a bouquet

**Tuesday**....write a note of thanks, draw a picture (parents are welcome to do the same)

**Wednesday**...share a hug or hand shake or give your teacher a pat on the back for a job well done!!!

**Thursday**....perform random acts of kindness for your teacher, open the door for her/him, use your good manners

**Friday**...thank them for teaching you something new or for inspiring you

The week will be topped off with a potluck lunch provided by our extraordinary parents....anyone interested in pampering our teachers with some special treats please contact Michele Kasper at [mekasper@comcast.net](mailto:mekasper@comcast.net). Volunteer are needed for lunch set up and clean up.



## Upcoming Events

### Open House

**May 21: (Dinner: 6-6:45 pm, Open Classrooms: 6:45-7:45 pm)**

By Gulya Timokhina

Open House is the evening of May 21. This is a great opportunity for parents and children to visit their classroom and see all the work that's been accomplished over the course of the year. It is also an opportunity to visit their classrooms for next year. Arrive early at 6:00 pm to enjoy a picnic dinner. Bring your own food or pre-order from Baja Fresh or Fandango Pizza. You should have received a dinner order form in last Friday's folder (look for a yellow sheet). An order form can also be found at the end of this Carmeletter. There are additional forms in the office or you can download one from our web at [www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org](http://www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org). Order forms and payment must be returned to the school office by Friday, May 16.

For questions please contact Gulya Timokhina at (650) 279-4232, [gtimokhina@gmail.com](mailto:gtimokhina@gmail.com).

See below for menu descriptions.

#### BEEF BURRITO

Melted jack cheese, guacamole, Pico de Gallo salsa and charbroiled steak.

#### CHICKEN BURRITO

Melted jack cheese, guacamole, Pico de Gallo salsa and charbroiled chicken.

#### GRILLED VEGGIE BURRITO

Grilled peppers, chilies, onions, black or pinto beans, jack & cheddar cheeses, lettuce, Pico de Gallo salsa and sour cream.

#### CHILD'S CHICKEN & RICE BURRITO

An 8" flour tortilla filled with rice and charbroiled chicken.

#### CHILD'S BEAN & CHEESE BURRITO

An 8" flour tortilla filled with freshly simmered pinto beans, melted jack and cheddar cheeses.

#### PIZZA

Option of Cheese or Pepperoni



## Upcoming Events

### Klutz Give-It-All-Away Day—Saturday, May 10th

For the 13th year in a row, Klutz will be holding their Give-It-All-Away School Benefit Day on Saturday, May 10th from 10am to 6pm. Klutz will donate **101%** to the school of your choice (El Carmelo!) for every dollar you spend at the store. There will be entertainment all day.



You spend \$10.00  
Klutz donates \$10.10

The Klutz Store  
572 College Avenue  
Palo Alto  
493-2481

### Mr. Garcia's Celebration

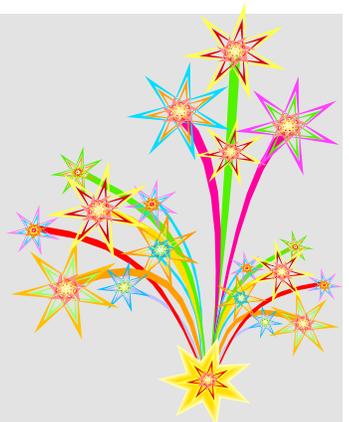
Save the Date!

Friday, June 6, 5:30 –7:00 pm

On Friday, June 6, we will have a potluck dinner at El Carmelo from 5:30 to 7:00 pm to celebrate Mr. Garcia. Some details have been sent home in the Friday folders. Look for more details to follow.

For questions please contact one of the following people:

Ana-Maria Dias	326-5854	anamaria_am99@yahoo.com
Elisa Schmit	324-2019	elisaschmit@hotmail.com
Erina DuBois	813-1710	erinad@yahoo.com
Margarita Perreault	327-8490	margaritaperreault@yahoo.com
Michele Kasper	858-1807	mekasper@comcast.net



# Help Welcome New El Carmelo Families Be a Welcoming Family Two hours is all it takes to make a difference

By Michele Kasper

### What does a Welcoming Family do?

All you have to do is come (parents and children) to our ice-cream social before school starts in the fall.

### What do I do at the Ice-cream Social?

At the social you will eat ice-cream and be paired up with a new family that you will personally welcome to our school by answering any questions they may have.

### Where and when is the Ice-cream Social?

The Ice-cream social will be at El Carmelo by the kinder yard. Typically it is the Sunday before school starts, in the afternoon.

### How do I sign up?

Simply fill out the flyer that will go home in your Friday folder and return it to the office or contact Michele Kasper at 858-1807, mekasper@comcast.net.

.....

**B  
I  
N  
G  
O**

**Night**

(Photos not posted on the web)

# Palo Alto Unified School District Bond Measure A

By Megan Fogarty

On June 3, Palo Alto will be asked to vote on Measure A to make \$378 million available for PAUSD facilities. This money will be used to expand, upgrade and improve all 17 of the K-12 campuses in the district, extending the useful life of these facilities and accommodating enrollment growth

The new bond will not increase property tax rates but will extend the current school bond assessment on PAUSD-area tax bills of \$44.50 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. The current tax is projected to expire in 15 years but the new bond will extend the assessment by about another 20 years, thus assuring that families benefiting from the new facilities will be among those paying for them.

New proposed facilities include a new pool and gym at Gunn High School, a new theater at Palo Alto High School, as well as new classrooms at all levels. The bond proposal also includes a fund for technology and for building maintenance.

Increased enrollment coupled with reduced class size has led to growing pains for PAUSD. Since the Measure B bond passed in 1995, enrollment has risen from 8,807 to 11,172 students and is projected to swell by at least another 1,000 students over the next seven years. Prior to the district's elementary school class size reduction in the late nineties, two classrooms were required for nearly 60 students; now three classrooms are needed for the same number of students. The proposed new bond would cover renovations, which would include energy-saving structural enhancements, and add classrooms to accommodate the growing student population.

For more information contact Megan Fogarty, 473-0428, [meganfogarty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meganfogarty@sbcglobal.net)

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## Open House -We need help (Wednesday, May 21)

By Gulya Timokhin

We need volunteers from 6:00 to 6:30 pm to help distribute food before the Open House. If you can help please contact:

Gulya Timokhina at (650) 279-4232, [gtimokhina@gmail.com](mailto:gtimokhina@gmail.com) or Ana-Maria Dias at (650) 326-5854, [anamaria\\_am99@yahoo.com](mailto:anamaria_am99@yahoo.com)



# STORIES UNDER THE STARS



## Open PTA Positions for Next Year

El Carmelo relies on many volunteers to support our children. There are several positions open for next year. If these positions are not filled those events or services cannot occur. Below is a brief description of positions that have yet to be filled.

**VP of Community Outreach** - Responsible for welcoming new families to the school throughout the year.

**VP of Student Programs** - Responsible for the oversight of all extracurricular student programs at El Carmelo including before school, lunch time and after school.

**VP of Volunteer Services** - Assist the VPs and Chairpersons in the recruitment effort of volunteers.

**Adopt-a-Book** – Have cart with books available at school events to solicit donations for new library books.

**Health and Nutrition** - Attend district programs on these issues and communicate information to families.

**International Dinner** – Organize an event composed of food, entertainment and exhibits.

**Lice Control** - Organize a team of parents to check for lice in each classroom on a monthly basis. Keep community informed of outbreaks.

**Neighborhood Association Liaison** - Attend Neighborhood Association meetings and keep PTA leadership informed.

**New Family Hospitality Packets** - Collect information from the school and city and create packets to be handed out to new families at the Ice Cream Social.

**New Family Welcome** - Recruit families in the spring, to welcome newcomers at the Ice Cream Social which occurs before the start of the academic year. Organize a game or some sort of ice breaker activity to introduce new families to welcoming families.

**Open House** – Manage the pre-ordering and delivery of dinner for the school's Open House.

**Parent Education** - Organize a series of speakers.

**Photographer** – Take photos of staff and school events.

**PiE Representative** - Provide two-way communication between the school community and Partners in Education (PiE). Recruit a team of volunteers to help with campaign activities.

**Reading Week** - Work with principal and librarian to schedule and promote one reading week during the school year.

**Room Parent Coordinator** - Organize an orientation meeting with all Room Parents at the beginning of the year. Provide templates of common forms and sign up sheets. Send reminders to room parents of upcoming events.

**School and Traffic Safety** - Attend district training programs. Educate parents and children about best practices to ensure the highest degree of health and safety on campus and in the community.

**Spaghetti Dinner** – Organize a dinner in the fall and recruit volunteers to help.

**Special Education Liaison** - Serve as contact between PTA and District Special Ed Committees as well as families.

**Stories Under the Stars** – Organize an evening for readers to share favorite children's stories.

**Student Directory Assistant** – Assist Student Directory Chair in collecting and proof reading information from families for the student directory.

**Teacher Appreciation** - Organize a week of activities including a luncheon to say "thank you" to our teachers.

**Ten Mile Club** – Organize and track weekly progress of student runners at lunch recess.

Please contact the following people if you have questions or want to volunteer:

Ana-Maria Dias, 326-5854, Anamaria\_am99@yahoo.com  
Michele Kasper, 858-1807, mekasper@comcast.net

## Conflict Resolution at El Carmelo

The aim of our Conflict Resolution program at El Carmelo is to help all of us learn ways to be friends, to keep disagreements from growing and to solve problems peacefully. The program also supports our school rules of Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe. Over the past 10 years we have built common vocabulary and approaches that all staff know and reinforce. Sessions are scattered throughout the year to keep the concepts on the minds of all.

### CONFLICT RESOLUTION – Cooling Off

Each time we have met we have tried different ways to cool off or calm down. Trying different approaches allows each child to find one or more that “fits” them. The techniques can be used any place or any time. If interested, ask your children to share ones they remember – it’s always fun to show off new skills.

**Breathing** – We try many different ways to breathe out the “mad air” and breathe in the “cool air”. We try different ways to count – from counting out three long slow breaths in kindergarten to visual images such as carefully cooling off hot soup or exhaling through a straw. In upper grades we also pay attention to what our muscles are doing and how our breathing can help us relax – whether we are angry, frustrated by a task or too tired to think.

**Solving a puzzle:** A child picks a “puzzle” they can solve in his/her head. We might use numbers (counting backwards, skip counting, etc), naming items in a category (sports, colors, foods, relatives’ names, etc.), using the alphabet by saying it or saying a word for each letter. They all help the brain to concentrate on something else for several seconds which gives our “thinking brain” a chance to start working.

**Taking a trip:** In class we close our eyes and take ourselves to a place where we can feel calm and relaxed. They might go to the beach, on a hike in the woods or in the upper grades we might start from an angry place to a place where others are happy and the atmosphere is calm and they can relax and let go of anger. I encourage students to be on the lookout for a favorite place when they are out with their families. Then they can simply close their eyes and take themselves on their personal trip anytime they need to go.

PTA General Meeting—May 20th, 8:30 am, MP Room

Come and meet our new incoming principal, Chuck Merritt.

## Library News

By Leslie Bell

April has been a busy month in the library. For National Poetry Month students have been exposed to and encouraged to check out poetry books. We have a wonderful poetry collection in our library. We also celebrated National Library Week this month. Students should be receiving some information about our PAUSD library media program. The highlight of the month was a visit from author, David Schwartz. He put on a wonderful presentation! Many thanks to Maya Venkatraman for arranging this special day.

Library Books  
due May 31st

The students have been anxious to hear about the winners of the California Young Reader Medal books. They were announced today and they are; **primary- *Dex: The Heart of a Hero***, **intermediate- *Each Little Bird That Sings***, and **picture book for older readers- *Mr. Maxwell's Mouse***. The K-3<sup>rd</sup> classes heard the primary and picture books for older readers. Students in the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Book Club read the intermediate books and are now reading other great books.

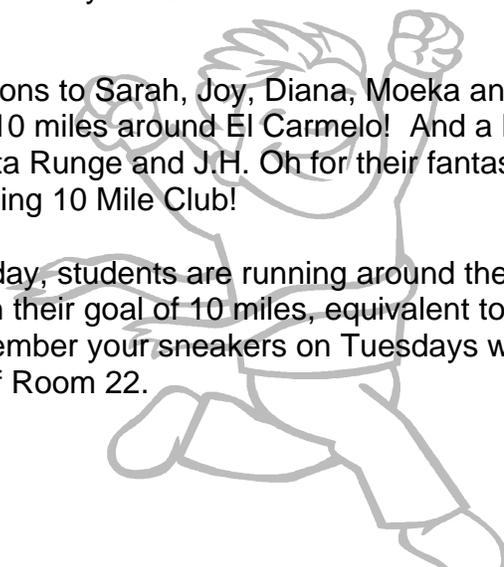
In May we look forward to a visit from Maya Spector of the City of Palo Alto Children's Library. She will talk about the summer reading program and share some fun stories. It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the school year. All library books will be due by May 31. Please be sure to take care of any lost books before that time. Feel free to call or write a note if you have any questions.

## Ten Mile Club

By Liz Cowie

Congratulations to Sarah, Joy, Diana, Moeka and Carmen for completing 10 miles around El Carmelo! And a huge thank-you to Asmita Runge and J.H. Oh for their fantastic and tireless work in running 10 Mile Club!

Every Tuesday, students are running around the school, closing in on their goal of 10 miles, equivalent to 50 laps. Please remember your sneakers on Tuesdays when you meet us in front of Room 22.



## Taking a Moment to Say 'Thank You'

### International Dinner

By Ana-Maria Dias

We had a great turnout at our International Dinner on April 20. The food that people prepared was amazing. Thank you to all for all the wonderful dishes!

*Xie xie* to the following people for organizing the exhibits: Sherwin Wong, Sharon Johnson, Amy Love, Maria Whealan, Mary Sano, Asmita Runge, Eiko Baldwin, Eunjung Hong, Martha Velez, Beata Madej, and Tanya Wing.

*Merci beaucoup* also to those who showed up early to set up and stayed late to clean and helped in between: Yvette Mitchell, Oi Ha Lam, Jennifer Chu, Wen Li, , Maya Venkatraman, Akiko Kobayashi, Soowon Kim, , Kate Yu, Namsun Kim, Jeonghyun Oh, Alfredo Gonzales, Juana Montes, Jose Montes, Kristina Nosenko, Aruna Bhamidipati, Lorena Martinez, Blanca Rosas, Silvia Morales, Ram Ramkumar, Jeff Bondor, Eric Schuur, Seow Tan, Joy Zhang, Robin Agarwal, Amit Agarwal, Luz Maria Molina, Carmelo Molina, Maria Flores, Maria Yanez, Josefina Yanez, Rosa Montes, Aurora Morales, Monica Gutierrez, Margarita Alcantar, Pilar Macuil, Ester Aguilar, Adelina Antunez.

*Domo arigato* to Eiko Baldwin for organizing the entertainment of the evening which featured El Carmelo's own Diana and Isabel in the Mexico Vivo group.

*Muchas gracias* to Hortensia Halsted for helping me with the meringue dancers. And of course thanks to our brave little meringue dancers: Arthur, Julia, Maya, Elise, Declan, Andres, Britney, Dorian and Samantha.

### Stories Under the Stars

On Thursday April 24th, the El Carmelo MP room was transformed into a starry night and we had a wonderful evening of reading with our "Stars". Thanks to all of our readers: Erina DuBois, Lupe Garcia, Dave Howell, John Walton, Penny and Lexie Livingston.

Thanks to our 2nd and 5th grade Girl Scout Troops who helped with set up. And a huge thank you to Megan Fogarty and Penny Livingston for organizing this fun event.

### BINGO

Thank you to Mona Napaa and Barbara Rains for all of their time and effort in organizing Bingo last Thursday. It was a wonderfully fun evening for families to come together, mark their score cards, eat pizza and win some cool prizes.

### The Reading Road Trip Book Fair

By Erika Krugler and Michele Kasper

The reading road trip book fair was a great success. Thank you to all who came by to support the PTA by purchasing new books to read. There were many parents who put in many hours of work. Without the parents who offered to volunteer this would not happen. Thank you to Kelly Zenger, Beata Madej, Sherwin Wong, Julia Jacobsen, Kathleen Ford, Pily Macuil, Erina DuBois, Gwen Fischer, Jeonghyun Oh, Sandra McIntosh, Barbie Sonner, Julie & Jim Bitler, Linda Jensen, Mona Napaa, Jennifer Chu, Ana Maria Dias, and Penny Livingston.

Our next book fair is scheduled for October and will be hosted by Kepler's Books.

# COMMUNITY KIOSK

MAY 9, 2008

PAUSD Area Events

ISSUE 15

## **Palo Alto City Library Presents Summer Reading June 2 – August 25**

### **Catch the Reading Bug**

For children up through the 5th grade

### **Metamorphosis**

For youth entering grades 6 and up



Sign up at any Palo Alto City Library from June 2 until July 31 or online at: [www.cityofpaloalto.org/library](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/library). Decide how many books you will read. Reach your goal and receive a free paperback book, a coupon for a free pizza at Round Table, and other special surprises. Prizes and certificates can be picked up from August 1st to August 25th. Sponsored by the Friends of the Palo Alto Library.

For Kids – Wacky Wednesdays – great programs every Wednesday afternoon. Puppet shows, bugs, music, magic and more.

For Teens – Morphing Mondays - Comix, room decorating, selling on E-bay, crafts – all free for teens - plus food and raffle prizes.

Full schedule on the library's website – [www.cityofpaloalto.org/library](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/library) - or call 329-2436.

## **What Are You Free2Do At Your Library?**

# free2

Palo Alto City Library has joined 165 Bay Area libraries in a campaign to raise awareness of how libraries encourage customers to explore, develop, imagine, connect, create, and succeed. Today's

libraries offer more than books: author visits, DVDs, wireless computing, research assistance, yoga instruction and ESL classes are all part of the contemporary library's menu of enticing programs and services. Part of the new campaign is the Free2Contest. Entrants are being asked to describe, in 25 words or less, how they are "Free2". Enter online at [www.WeAreFree2.org](http://www.WeAreFree2.org) by May 15, 2008. Ten grand prizes, including a FLIP Ultra Video camera and an iPod Shuffle, will be awarded. Winners will also have the chance to be featured in future Free2 campaign ads. Visit your local Palo Alto City Library branch or their web site at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/library](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/library) to learn more. What are you Free2Do?

## **Klutz "Give It All Away Day"**

An annual event (now in its 13th year!) in support of our schools. For all purchases you make in the store that day, Klutz will donate 101% (yes, 101%) of the purchase price to the public school of your choice! Fill the classrooms & library with fabulous Klutz books. Or build your supply of amazing birthday & holiday gifts for the next year. Free entertainment all day, too -- The Mendicants (Stanford's a cappella group), the Stanford Band, Prescott Circus, Magic Mike, & more!

Sat., May 10, The Klutz Store, 10am to 6pm

Location: 572 College Ave., PA

Info: <http://klutz.com>, 493-2481.

## **PAUSD Volunteers Honored**

Each year, several seniors in our community are recognized for their significant professional and community contributions at the Avenidas Lifetimes of Achievement reception. The 2008 honorees include Walt Hays who has worked with the PAUSD Sustainable Schools Committee for several years and Becky Morgan, a former PAUSD board member and state senator. In addition, Jim Morgan, Janet Owens and David and Lynn Mitchell will be honored. The garden reception will be at the home of Addison Elementary School parents Mike and Marci McCue on May 18 from 3 to 5pm. Entertainment will be provided by the Gunn High School Jazz Combo. For tickets and more information, call (650) 289-5445 or visit [www.avenidas.org](http://www.avenidas.org). Former PAUSD Board of Education member Cathy Kroymann is this event's co-chair.

## **Parent Education**

### **Is your Child Slow to Warm, Easy or Spirited? Lecture by Karen Grites of the Children's Health Council**

Mon., May 19, 2008, 7pm at Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School (in the Library). An engaging discussion on how children's temperaments affect their relationships at home and at school. Learn strategies for positively impacting your child's ability to get along with others. Karen Grites, M.S., is Director of Educational Services and Site Director of All Kinds of Minds Schools Attuned® at the Children's Health Council. For more information, email [speakers@pampclub.org](mailto:speakers@pampclub.org). For directions, email [afox@hausner.com](mailto:afox@hausner.com). Socializing and refreshments at 7pm - talk begins at 7:30pm. This event is for adults. Co-hosted by Palo Alto Menlo Park Parents' Club and Hausner. Free for PAMP members and Hausner parents. \$5 for non-members.

## **Special Needs Kids & The Justice System**

What can be done to prevent special needs kids from getting into trouble? What type of help is available if they do? Presented by: Roy Bennett, an attorney at Legal Advocates for Children and Youth, who represents students & families involved with Juvenile Court. Stephen Johnson, Director of Character Education at Santa Clara University. Aila Malik, an attorney & acting executive director of Fresh Lifelines for Youth. Lynne Woodward, therapist & President of the Board of Friends Outside.

Wed., May 14, 2008 - 9 to 11am. Hospitality begins at 8:45am. Covington Elementary School MP Room, 205 Covington Rd, Los Altos. Sponsored by the SELPA I CAC ([www.selpa1cac.org](http://www.selpa1cac.org)) Free and open to anyone who feels they might benefit. No registration is necessary.

## Community Events for the PAUSD Area – May 9, 2008

### Music and Arts



#### CSMA Family Concert: Youth Speaks, Poetry in a Whole New Light!

Sun., June 1, 2pm & 4pm  
Hear some of the Bay Area's best young poets from Youth Speaks, the nation's leading presenter of spoken word programs for youth. Enjoy a dynamic performance by teenagers featuring poets from HBO's Def Poetry, teen poetry slam champions, and a diverse group of all-star poets. It's poetry in a whole new light!

#### CSMA Annual Community Arts Day

Sun., June 29, 11am-3pm  
Hands-on activities, concerts, refreshments, special info and more for pre-schoolers and families.

Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. For more info see [www.arts4all.org](http://www.arts4all.org)

### Kepler's Events

#### Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver

*Hank Zipzer #14: The Life of Me (Enter at Your Own Risk)*

Based on the true life experiences of Henry Winkler, this series about the world's greatest underachiever is funny and touching, while dealing with learning differences in a gentle and humorous manner.

Fri., May 16, 2008, 7pm  
Menlo Park Library, 800 Alma Street

#### Story Time with Chuck Ashton

*Ira Sleeps Over*

Sun., May 18, 2008, 11:30am  
Kepler's Bookstore, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

#### Corduroy Story Time

*Corduroy*

Sun., May 25, 2008, 11:30am  
Kepler's Bookstore, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

### Summer Opportunities

#### California Theatre Center 2008 Summer Theatre Conservatory in Los Altos

Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border Road.  
CORE CONSERVATORY Ages 8 and up.  
Mon.- Fri., 8:30 am - 4pm Cost: \$770  
Session One June 16 – July 3 Mon.-Fri.  
Session Two July 8 – July 26 Mon.-Fri.  
JUNIOR CONSERVATORY Ages 6-8  
8:30 am - 11:30 am. Cost: \$320  
Junior Session Two July 9 – July 18 Week 1:  
Wed.-Fri. Week 2: Mon.-Fri. For more  
information email [education@ctcinc.org](mailto:education@ctcinc.org) or  
call (408)245-2979. Sites also available in  
Sunnyvale, San Jose, and Saratoga.

#### Conversation Hindi Camp

Registration : [www.eduhindi.com](http://www.eduhindi.com)  
Contact: [hindicamp@eduhindi.com](mailto:hindicamp@eduhindi.com)  
650-858-1209

#### Discover India Camp

Palo Alto: June 23 - 27, 9am-5pm, Grades K -  
10. Registration : [www.chinmaya-sanjose.org](http://www.chinmaya-sanjose.org)  
[aarti\\_johri@hotmail.com](mailto:aarti_johri@hotmail.com) 650 - 941 - 8685

#### Bay Area Shakespeare Camp

Bay Area Shakespeare Camps (presented by  
the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival). Ages  
7-13. Location: Jordan Middle School, 750 N.  
California Avenue, July 7-18. Mon. - Fri., 9am to  
3pm. Call 415-558-0888 for more  
information or visit [www.sfshakes.org](http://www.sfshakes.org).

#### Speech and Debate Camp

Palo Alto High School will offer its Speech and  
Debate summer camp to incoming sixth  
through ninth graders. Aug. 11-15. For info  
email [palyspeechanddebate@gmail.com](mailto:palyspeechanddebate@gmail.com) or call  
Zareen at 650 218 3047

#### Nature Camps

Science and Nature Adventures for Kid  
Explorers (S.N.A.K.E.) Camp. Week-long  
sessions on California nature, natural science  
field trips, or energy and natural resources for  
campers entering grades 1-5. Explore! Camp.  
Week-long sessions on energy or the bay, sea  
& slough for campers entering grades 6-8.  
For info or to register, visit [www.Evols.org/](http://www.Evols.org/)  
[summer.htm](http://summer.htm) or email Camp Director at  
[vandy@evols.org](mailto:vandy@evols.org).

### Sports Announcements

#### AYSO Registration

AYSO Soccer league registration for the Fall, 2008 season is underway. To register online go to [www.ayso26.org](http://www.ayso26.org) and click on the registration link. Register before July 1st to ensure a place on a team. Questions: e-mail [aysoinfo@ayso26.org](mailto:aysoinfo@ayso26.org). Volunteer coaches and referees are needed as well (no experience required).

#### Palo Alto Soccer Club

Team Formation/Tryouts for boys and girls born after 7/31/1999. U9 competitive CYSA team formation for Fall 2008. Mayfield/Palo Alto Stanford Playing Fields at Page Mill Road and El Camino Real on Sat. May 17 from 8am – 9:45am and Sun. May 18 from 11:30am – 1:15pm. For more info contact Neill/Juliane Dorward at [ypd@pasoccerclub.org](mailto:ypd@pasoccerclub.org) or (650) 424 – 9830.

#### Sports Opportunities for Kids

For current sports opportunities, visit:  
[palylink.paloaltopta.org/pages/sports.html](http://palylink.paloaltopta.org/pages/sports.html)



#### Community Kiosk

A bi-weekly publication of the Palo Alto Council of PTAs. The mention of any business or service does not imply an endorsement by the Palo Alto Council of PTAs or the Palo Alto Unified School District. Only short announcements of not-for-profit events of interest to PAUSD elementary school families are considered for publication. Submissions may be edited for clarity or space.

Next deadline: May 14, 2008; 5pm. Please email submissions to [kioskeditor@paloaltopta.org](mailto:kioskeditor@paloaltopta.org)