



PROM NIGHT



El Carmelo Auction
Saturday, March 26, 2011

El Carmelo Calendar

Most current PTA calendar can be found at www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org

March

- March 8-10: PAUSD MARS Tests grades 3, 5
- March 11: Carmeletter Published
- March 13: Daylight Savings Begins (set clock ahead 1 hour)
- March 16: NEW Event!! Math Game Night 6:30 - 7:30pm
- March 21-25: Teacher Appreciation Week
- March 22: Character Assembly: Flexibility
- March 23: Stories Under the Stars, 7-8pm
- March 26: EL CARMELO AUCTION!!! 6pm
- March 31: Carmeletter submissions due

April

- April 4: Coffee with the Principal, 8:25am
- April 6: PTA Exec Board Mtg, 8:25am
- April 8: Carmeletter published
- April 11 – 15: NO SCHOOL (Spring Break)
- April 19: PTA General Mtg (to elect new Exec Board) & Parent Ed Speaker, 7-8:30pm
- April 20: Earth Day events at El Carmelo
- April 25-29: Scholastic Book Fair fundraiser
- April 26: Character Assembly: Initiative

Principal's Letter



Dear families,

You should get this edition of the *Carmeletter* before or around St. Patrick's Day. You may have your own way of celebrating this holiday whether you are Irish or not (we are all a little Irish one day a year, aren't we?). But we all probably know that "green" is a big part of celebrating St. Patrick's Day.

Soooo, I want to tie the topic of this article to another sense of the word "green." The El Carmelo Site Council is celebrating St. Patrick's Day by sending out a "green" Parent Survey! We wanted to make it easier for parents to fill out the annual survey and so we have put the survey online. While there will still be paper copies in the Main Office for those that prefer to fill out the survey on paper, we think that we can save some "green" (\$) and BE green (paperless) with an online survey.

You may have already received my email with the link to the survey on March 1. If you haven't received it yet, you can count on receiving additional emails with the link. Also, I will make the survey available on the El Carmelo School webpage at <http://elcarmelo.pausd.org/wordpress/>. Please note that there will also be a link for a Spanish version of the survey on the website. After the March 25 survey deadline, the Site Council survey results committee will download the results for publication.

Speaking of our Site Council, now is the time of year when we ask parents and teachers to consider running for a 2-year position on Site Council. To give you an idea of what that entails: there are monthly meetings September through June (we usually hold ours on the second Monday of the month, but that is flexible). The Site Council receives presentations and data on various aspects of the school, such as literacy, math, safety, school culture. The Site Council is also responsible for writing several reports and the approval of some others.

Would you consider running for El Carmelo Site Council this year? If you are interested, please contact me at cmerritt@pausd.org!

Chuck Merritt
Principal

PTA Co-Presidents' Letter



Susy (big hat lady) and
Karole (sunglass lady).

Hopefully, you are super swamped this month because on top of your usual workload, you need to line up a babysitter and hit the thrift/costume shops for the **El Carmelo PTA's 34th Annual Auction on Saturday, March 26...** so this will be quick.

Have you ever wondered how the PTA leadership team is formed? Are Type-A helicopter parents lining up in the Office in the spring, fiercely competing for the PTA Board and Chair positions in the upcoming school year? No. We're all too busy. The reality is we all secretly hope someone else will take a leadership position, so we can spend that extra hour at work or in the gym or housecleaning.

At the February PTA General Meeting, the PTA (this is you!) elects the Nominating Committee, whose job it is to fill every PTA Board and Chair position for the upcoming school year.

As you can see, it's a tough gig. It takes a LOT of volunteers to raise money for field trips, assemblies, art classes, etc. and hold fun community-building events like the International Potluck. This year's Nominating Committee comprises *Kristine Mostofizadeh, Simone Klass, Joanna Clark, Dana Roman, Diane Heilman, and Hagit Katzenelson* (alternate). If you see them approaching you in the halls, don't hide or run the other way. We didn't, and that's why we now rule the school and earn the big bucks (just kidding). Be like the *Yes Man (Nicholas Stoller)*, and open your life up to new experiences. Just because we're middle-aged doesn't mean we stop growing. **Most importantly - we all have a responsibility to make the world a better place for our children, and that's the mission of the PTA.** If we don't help, who will???

See you at the Auction, everyone!
Karole Goldie (karolegoldie@gmail.com) & Susy Kim (susykim@gmail.com)

Teacher Appreciation Week is March 21-25

Teacher Appreciation Week is a week we set aside every year to thank our wonderful teachers at El Carmelo and to show our appreciation for all they do for our children, our school and our community.

Please take time during this week to let our teachers know that we value them and the time and energy they dedicate to educating and growing our children. There are many meaningful ways in which this can be accomplished. For example, you or your child can bring flowers to your child's teacher, write a thank you note, or create a special homemade token (poems, art or baked goods). Parents can also discuss with their children the importance of showing appreciation and ways in which children can display this appreciation in the classroom.

The PTA is organizing a coffee cart & breakfast treats in the Staff Room for the teachers on Monday morning, catered by our parent volunteers. We also plan to have snacks, fruit and teas available to the teachers throughout the week. More information will be sent home soon, including ways in which families can participate as a class and individually.

Thank you in advance for your participation. If you have any questions, please contact *Kristine Mostofizadeh* at kgmostofi@gmail.com.

www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org

El Carmelo Auction-Saturday, March 26, 2011

Invitations are out! Buy tickets from one of the talented and lovely sales people at either main entrance after school, or drop off the green order form card in the PROM BOX in the office.

Tickets are \$38 per person - hors d'oeuvres, no host bar - PROM ATTIRE ENCOURAGED. (For a list of great places to buy vintage prom dresses and clothing, see the ticket sales desks.)

A HUGE THANKS to all who donated items this year. We have some amazing auction items including tickets to the sold out U2 show, a whale watching weekend, Safari West and of course, what our neighborhood school does best: parties, this year including: Bollywood, bowling (adult), wine tasting, Wii, and even snakes and reptiles.

No prom would be complete without a prom king and queen. Ballots will be available at the auction for \$1 each. As they say in Chicago, "vote early and often."

Read the article below and also the eNews for past auction testimonials.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, buy a ticket and come celebrate! You could have the time of your life.

For Questions please contact:

Amy Love, Auction Chair

650-862-2801, aloveinchile@yahoo.com

PROM NIGHT



El Carmelo's 34th Annual Auction
Saturday, March 26, 2011

Real People - Real Auction Stories!

We've heard from real El Carmelo families about their real experiences at the auction. Still feeling hesitant about going? Still wondering what the auction has in store for you? Read on ...

What's so great about El Carmelo's Auction?

"I have been glad that I went to the auction because I got to know more people from El Carmelo. I also like how our class sat together so I didn't have to figure out who to sit with when we didn't know anyone!" (*Laura Tannenwald*)

"The El Carmelo Auction is not just a fundraiser for our kids' school, it's a fun social event - good food, good friends, good times!" (*Nancy Bain*)

"It forces me to socialize with other parents. In my older age, I find myself not reaching out for more friends. It's good to reach out in 40s, 50s, 60s, etc., not just college years. It's an event ALL parents should force themselves to go to. It's good for you, your kids, and the community. Fight the fear and any hesitation. You won't be sorry." (*Susy Kim*)

Karole Goldie's interpretation: What we really mean is that it's a great opportunity to act like you're still in college, even though we all know better!

"Every year I look forward to the El Carmelo auction. It is a night I can dress up, dance, shop and celebrate our wonderful school with friends and faculty. I always have a great time." (*Kristine Mostofizadeh*)

The auction book is coming out - we asked some families what they've enjoyed purchasing in the past at the auction:

"The most fun thing we bought was handmade felt pins that the children had made and my husband and I had a portrait taken!" (*Laura Tannenwald*)

"At my 1st auction, I didn't bid on things I wasn't interested in like a Recipe Party (I don't cook). Other parents told me it doesn't matter what the 'theme' of the party is; it's just a party. Now, I try to sign up for everything my budget and calendar allow." (*Susy Kim*)

Karole Goldie's interpretation: Besides... going to events and parties is a great way to get to know other parents better, like finding out which mild-mannered room parent is really a vicious sword-fighter, or a trivia king, or a closet diva....

"My child participated in a cool holiday craft making party in which she made lovely, homemade Christmas gifts for our entire family (the gifts even came home all wrapped!) -- much more meaningful and fun than store-bought presents." (*Sherwin Wong*)

What will YOU say about the auction the morning after? You'll never know unless you go!

Karole Goldie's interpretation: Finally,... this may be the only time that it is socially acceptable to show up at your child's little league game at 8 a.m. the next morning cradling a triple espresso and a bottle of Pepto Bismol, wearing a large-brimmed hat and oversized sunglasses (which hide the fact that you are actually sleeping rather than tracking statistics). Everyone will understand!

About Your El Carmelo Junior Safety Patrol

By *Carrie Manley*

When you and your child arrive at school each day, are you greeted by a smiling 5th grader in a brightly-colored safety vest? These wonderful students are all volunteers for the El Carmelo Junior Safety Patrol! This valuable service is also a new service learning pilot program at our school this year. Thanks to our responsible and dedicated 5th graders!

Volunteers receive special training on traffic safety and also learn how to use our walkie-talkie communication system. Each morning from 8:05am to 8:20am our 5th grade volunteers station themselves at all our school entrances to greet students and families. In addition, Junior Safety Patrol volunteers provide student supervision on our blacktop area, making it possible for other students to play such games as four square and handball before the start of school.

This is a strictly volunteer program, and students are allowed to determine for themselves how often they want to volunteer. A few 5th graders do it every day, others do it occasionally, and all their efforts are appreciated.

Each 5th grade volunteer works in close partnership with El Carmelo Principal Chuck Merritt to make sure our school is safe, friendly and welcoming for every student and family. Joining JPS is easy—just check in with Mr. Merritt for training!

As for the many ways that JSP benefits our school, here are some thoughtful comments from the real experts: a few of our many wonderful 5th grade JSP volunteers!

Luis: "Junior Safety Patrol is a lot of responsibility. It took me time to get used to it. It's important. Because we supervise, all the kids can play. They can have fun in the morning. They don't have to sit on the benches until 8:25."

Andy: "I think it's important to do Junior Safety Patrol. You want to comfort the child when they come to school. Sometimes there's a lot of jaywalking. One person almost got hit by a car. Another parked right in the middle of the street causing a traffic jam. I want people to park safely. I don't want anyone to get hurt. I think doing Junior Safety Patrol is fun, but most importantly, it's a big responsibility, and I'm really glad I get to do it."

Leo: "I say 'Good Morning' and 'Have fun!' and I open the Kindergarten gate. The parents and kids look thankful, so it really feels good. Sometimes parents don't go to the crosswalk; they just walk across the middle of the street. So you should show your kids it's important to use the crosswalk every time. It's really safer."

Carly: "JSP is really fun because I can help my buddy and other people at the Kindergarten area and around the school. My advice is to walk your bike so no one gets hurt."

Marissa: "JPS is a fun experience for me and for the people I greet. Safety Patrol helps teach me and others how to be safe. My advice is to always watch for cars."

Ellen: "It's really fun because I get to see my Kindergarten buddy, my old buddies, my friends and all the kids at school. My safety advice: don't jaywalk because I've seen a kid almost get hit by a car!"

Eli: "It's fun to supervise the games, handball and kickball. It's fun to say 'hi' to all the kids. It's fun to be helping kids, and to know that everyone is enjoying having someone there to help them. And now that there is JSP, drivers drop their kids off at the correct places, like the drop-off zones, which is really helpful for bikers and walkers."

Space permitting, we'll bring you more comments from our other great JSP volunteers in future issues of the Carmeletter! Thanks, 5th graders!

WE WANT YOU!! - Volunteer Opportunities

By the El Carmelo Nominating Committee: *Diane Heilman* (Chair), *Simone Klass*, *Kristine Mostofizadeh*, *Joanna Clarkhoose*, *Dana Roman* and *Hagit Katzenelson* (alternate).

Parents generously volunteer both in the classroom and on the PTA to support our teachers, principal and children. Thank you to everyone who volunteers – your efforts truly make a difference.

The Nominating Committee is charged with filling the PTA positions for next year, and we have several opportunities that are still available. Please consider signing up—it's informal, fun and often the position is what you make it. There are several opportunities that can be done from home! No matter your circumstance, there's a volunteer position that fits what you have to offer.

The positions listed below are still open – if you think you'd like to do something that's not on the list, please let us know. We would love to talk to you and give you more information about any position or something new you might like to try. Please contact the Nominating Committee Chair *Diane Heilman* (dianeheilman@gmail.com or 387-2516) or any member of the Nominating Committee for more information. The Nominating Committee will post a complete list of both filled and open positions in the PTA case in early April. Thank you for helping!!!

For more detailed descriptions visit the El Carmelo PTA Web site at: <http://www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org/board.html>

www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org

PTA Board Positions	
Executive Vice President	Keep in touch with all members of the PTA Board. Meet regularly with school principal. Prepare and distribute event folders to coordinators of PTA events. Provide support as needed to chairs of PTA committees. Help prepare and present budget. Preside over PTA and Executive Board meetings. Attend monthly District PTA Presidents' meetings and other District-wide events.
Treasurer	Help prepare budget. Keep accurate records of income and expenditures. Maintain PTA bank accounts. Write checks to cover expenses. Present financial reports at PTA and Executive Board meetings.
Secretary	Record and prepare minutes. Distribute minutes prior to the meeting at which they are to be reviewed. Keep copies of PTA meeting minutes and treasurer's reports.
Auditor	Twice a year, review PTA books and verify that all checks are accountable and that the books balance. Audit forms and instructions are provided.
VP Volunteer Services	Assist the VPs and Chairpersons in the recruitment effort of volunteers. Maintain list of volunteers. Coordinate volunteer scheduling with event chairs.
VP Fundraising	Evaluate fund raising strategy and fund raising options to ensure El Carmelo PTA is raising and spending money in the most efficient way possible. Support all fund raising activity volunteers. Develop strategy in collaboration with PiE.
PTA Chair Positions	
Book Fair (Fall Keplers) (need 2 volunteers)	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Box Tops	Collect and coordinate "box tops for education." Submit the collected box tops for cash donations from sponsoring companies.
Carmeletter Distribution	Pick up Carmeletter at District Office on Thursday afternoon. Count and distribute to teachers' boxes before Friday noon.
Carmeletter Layout Designer	After articles for the Carmeletter are edited, the layout person is responsible for placing articles in a newsletter format, and send the final version to the District printshop.
Coffees w/Principal (includes Kinder Coffee 1st Thurs)(need 2 volunteers)	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Community Service Liaison	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Emergency Preparedness	Attend two District-wide meetings, one in spring and one in fall. In the fall, check expiration dates on food in earthquake shed and remove/replace as necessary. Attend emergency drills as an observer only.
eScrip Co-Coordinator (need 2 volunteers)	Following PTA eScrip guidelines, manage El Carmelo's eScrip program. This includes providing many opportunities for parents to sign up and renew their eScrip membership.
Fall Class Picnics	Recruit one chair per grade level. Decide on date and place for picnic either before school begins or early in the year in coordination with other Picnic Chairs. Include your picnic on the office calendar. Advertise through the Carmeletter, class newsletter, posters, fliers and phone trees.
Fall Fundraiser	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Fifth Grade Refreshments	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Fifth Grade Yearbook Reflections (need 2 volunteers)	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Game Night for Families	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Grant Writer	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Green Team Liaison	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Ice Cream Social for New Families	In coordination with Hospitality Volunteer, coordinate ice cream social for new families the Sunday before the start of school. Work with Mr. Merritt to arrange for school tours.
Kinder Play Dates	Organize 4-6 kinder playdates over the summer. Mail playdates and welcome letter to incoming kinder families. Make sure dates get on website. Serve as host at playdates.
Lice Control Coordinator	Organize a team of parents to check for lice in each classroom on a monthly basis. Keep community informed of outbreaks.
Pancake Breakfast	Advertise for volunteers. Buy or have ingredients donated. Set up MP room Friday evening (be careful of MP room wiring when setting up coffee pots). On Saturday supervise volunteers in cooking, cleaning, collecting money.
Picnic All School	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
PIE Co-Chair (need 2 volunteers)	See http://www.elcarmelo.paloaltopta.org/board.html for more information.
PTA Council Rep	Attend PTA Council meetings (typically five each year) and report back to PTA membership.
Pumpkin Carving	Advertise event. Arrange to use benches outside of office for display. Arrange class visits. Purchase and distribute small prizes for participants.
Reading Garden	Organize maintenance crews twice a year to help maintain the Reading Garden.
Science Olympiad	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Sees Candies Fundraiser	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Special Ed Liaison	Serve as contact between PTA and District Special Ed Committees. Also serve as liaison to families involved with special ed programs at El Carmelo
Sponsor a Book	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).
Stories Under the Stars Co-Chair (need 2 volunteers)	In winter, arrange for community leaders to come and share favorite children's stories. Reserve MP room, arrange for MP room set up, work with librarians and noon art for decorations, and advertise.
Student Directory Assistant	Work with school secretaries to obtain listings, advertise in Carmeletter or Back to School Packet cost and different listing options and make necessary changes, include roster of staff, school, and PTA calendar. Have copies made and distribute to students.
Teacher Appreciation	In May, organize a luncheon during Teacher Appreciation Week, write an article for the Carmeletter alerting parents and providing suggestions for thanking teachers, provide some special thank yous to staff during the week.
Theater/School Play	(email dianeheilman@gmail.com for more information).

Library News

We have many special things going on in the library these next few months.

- **Read Across America Day (March 2)**

Stanford football players came to read in some of the classrooms, there were special activities going on in the library during lunch, and after lunch teachers switched classrooms to read.

- **Visiting Author/Writer Naomi Kinsman (March 4 & 7)**

Naomi Kinsman will work with all students on creative writing and brainstorming ideas.

- **California Young Reader Medal (CYRM) books**

Recently the Kinder-3rd grades finished hearing and voting on the CYRM books. The votes will be sent in by the end of March.

We will also be celebrating National Poetry Month (April), National Library Week (April 10 -16) and Earth Day (April 22).

Thanks to the PTA and the Sponsor-a-Book program, we just received many new books. The students can't wait to get their hands on them. We are also starting a collection of parent resource books. Let us know if you have any suggestions.

Finally, please help your children to take care of library books and return them on time. If they keep books in the same place all the time it really helps. This is a great lesson in responsibility, and the children always enjoy being able to check out new books.

Box Tops for Education



Thanks to all of the families who donated BoxTops for Education! We collected just over 2000 BoxTops since January! Congratulations to Room 5, the Winter 2011 BoxTops Champions. They brought in 425 valid BoxTops. Second place went to Room 22 with 234; Room 18 was close behind with 232. Keep them coming. The Spring 2011 BoxTops contest has begun!

A HUGE 'Thank you' to the volunteers for the events listed below:

... Nominating Committee: Members *Kristine Mostofizadeh, Simone Klass, Joanna Clark, Dana Roman, Diane Heilman, and Hagit Katzenelson* (alternate) for filling the important PTA Board and Chair positions so that El Carmelo will continue to be a fabulous school and community.

... Pancake Breakfast: *Andrea Jelks and Maya Venkatraman*, Chairs, for organizing this fun family breakfast and cooking hundreds of delicious pancakes along with their generous parent volunteers: *Ann Holum, Tais Schmidt, Nancy Bain, and Ronna Edwards*.

... Auction Chair: *Amy Love* for volunteering literally hundreds and hundreds of hours since last August organizing El Carmelo's biggest fundraiser, The Prom Auction on March 26, 2011. You are amazing, and El Carmelo is SOOOOOO lucky to have you in our tribe!!!

Save Money and Paper – Read the Carmeletter Online

The *Carmeletter* is published every few weeks throughout the school year, both on-line and in hard copy. Want to save paper and still remain up-to-date with El Carmelo news? Get it on-line only. If you're interested, send a quick e-mail to *Maria Derrick* at wesderrick@mindspring.com.

eNews

Want to know what's happening at El Carmelo? Make sure you receive the weekly eNews. If you want to subscribe or have an item to submit, send an email to elcarmeloPTA_enews@paloaltopta.org.

Carmeletter Submission Deadline, Purpose and Guidelines

Submission Deadline for next issue: **2pm Thursday January 6, 2011**

The purpose of the *Carmeletter* is to communicate a wide range of school-related information to the El Carmelo community. Most of what is published in the *Carmeletter* is ultimately posted on the PTA Web Site. All members of the El Carmelo community can take advantage of the *Carmeletter* to publish information relating to school activities. No advertisements or commercial promotions are permitted. The only fundraisers permitted to advertise are those run by El Carmelo PTA or PiE. We have decided not to include photos of students because of the permission waivers needed for minors. Only children's first names may be included.

Submission Guidelines:

-**.doc format: all text submissions should be in a .doc format (note: if you are using Word 2007, please save your document as a "Word 97-2003 ".doc" document before sending. Please no ".docx" files).**

-**Pictures: submit pictures in separate ".jpg" file(s)**

-**Graphics: submit graphics in separate ".pdf" file(s)**

-**Submissions should be 500 words or fewer**

COMMUNITY KIOSK

ISSUE 11

MARCH 4, 2011

A PTAC PUBLICATION

My Fair Lady at Paly Reserved Seats--Buy Now

Mar. 11, 12, 17, 18, 19; 7:30pm. Mar. 20, 2pm; Haymarket Theater, Palo Alto High School



One of Lerner and Loewe's most enduring and heartwarming shows, My Fair Lady is among the greats of musical theater. Adapted for stage and screen from George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion, Paly's Theatre program presents this legendary musical in all its glory. All tickets are reserved seating;

buy early for the best selection. Click on the new web-sales ticket service at www.palytheatre.com or buy at the Auditor's window. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the box office one hour before curtain. Adults \$12, Students/Seniors \$10. More info: palyboxoffice@gmail.com.

You Made It! Jamboree Now Accepting Entries

Entry forms accepted until April 18, Fair Sat. May 14. PTA Council's K-12 student maker fair is now accepting entries. The You Made It! Jamboree is a celebration of creativity and innovation, giving PAUSD students an opportunity to show and share their original creations with the community in a non-competitive environment, and to inspire others to pursue their own creative ideas and passions. Info: www.youmadeitjamboree.com.

Barron Park Hosts 2nd Annual Family Fun Day

Barron Park School will host its 2nd Annual Family Fun Day and Silent Auction on Sun. April 3, 1pm-4pm. Carnival games and activities, cakewalk, refreshments, and a spectacular Silent Auction. Items include hotel stays, gym memberships, wine tasting, theater tickets, museum and zoo passes, and gift cards from local shops and restaurants. Admission is free. 800 Barron Ave, Palo Alto, 94306. Info: 650-858-0508

PTA Wardrobe and Snow Clothing Rentals

Wed. 2-5pm and Sat. 10am-1pm. Closed school holidays. The Palo Alto Council of PTAs operates the PTA Wardrobe and Snow Clothing Rental service. The Wardrobe provides new and gently used clothing in all sizes at no charge to families in PAUSD. Donations are welcome during open hours: clean, gently used clothing and books; new underwear and socks are especially appreciated. To support this service, the Snow Clothing Rental allows individuals and families to rent entire outfits (jacket, pants, snow boots, scarves, etc.) for the snow, \$15 for children, \$20 for adults. The PTA Wardrobe is located in a portable at Jordan Middle School, 750 N. California Avenue, enter from Middlefield Road and the wardrobe will be right in front of you. Info: paloaltopta.org/wardrobe.shtml, 858-0654.

Medaka no Gakko Summer Program

June 20-July 8, 2011, Mon.-Fri, 8:45am-12:30pm, Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, 2751 Louis Road, Palo Alto. Registration begins mid-January for Medaka no Gakko, a Japanese cultural summer program for children who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade. The parent cooperative program features arts and crafts, music, literature, cooking, social studies and language. Classroom activities are enriched by demonstrations and performances by artists and community members. For more information, visit www.medakanogakko.org or email medakanogakkopalto@gmail.com.

Summer Rock Camp

Summer Rock Camp 2011 of Palo Alto is holding its 7th annual music/band camp for kids 6-18 in Downtown Palo Alto from July 5th through July 29. Four weekly sessions. Go to the website for applications and info: summerrockcamp.com or contact director Michael Finley at (650) 856-3757 or finleymusic@gmail.com

Santa Clara Aquamaids Synch into Swimming

Introduction to synchronized swimming. 7-11 year-olds. Register at www.aquamaids.org or call 408.930.4303. Summer Camp. July 18-29 (10 days). \$325 + \$15 USA Synchro registration. Mon. - Fri. 8:45am- noon. Terman Middle School pool.

Community Events for the PAUSD Area – March 4, 2011

Music and Arts

PYO - Prelude to Spring

Peninsula Youth Orchestra Concert.
Sunday, March 20, 2011 at 4:30pm
Nicolai - Merry Wives of Windsor
Overture; Copland - John Henry
Hoffmeister; Viola Concerto;
Kabalevsky - Cello Concerto;
Beethoven - Symphony No. 5.

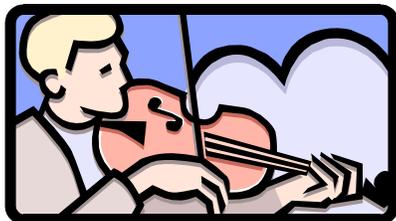
Tickets: \$10 adults/ \$5 Students,
Seniors. Carlmont High School
Theater, Belmont. Come at 3:30 and
hear the PYA concert!

Palo Alto Children's Theatre: Mainstage Season Performances

Palo Alto Children's Theatre, 1305
Middlefield, Palo Alto. *Metamorphosis*
- A New Play Development by Betsy
Franco, March 3-12, *Charlotte's Web*,
Mar 31 - Apr. 9, *Lord of the Flies*, May
19 - 28. Auditions are for children 8
years of age through high school,
unless otherwise noted. Info:
[www.cityofpaloalto.org/depts/csd/
activities_and_recreation/
attractions/childrens_theatre](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/depts/csd/activities_and_recreation/attractions/childrens_theatre)

TheatreWorks Drama School Saturday Classes

Sat., March 5-26, 10am-1pm, Drama
School Classroom, 1390 Willow
Road, Menlo Park. Students K-6
learn stage combat, improvisation,
music theatre, storytelling, self
discovery, and have fun. Taught by
experienced teaching artists.
Tuition: \$200. Register online:
www.theatreworks.org/learn, or call:
463-7146.



TheatreWorks Vacation Camps: ACT UP!

Grades K-6. April 11-15, Duveneck,
Nixon and Barron Park Schools.
Have fun playing with theatre, music,
movement, and making new friends!
Juggling, puppetry, singing, dancing,
acting. This fast paced one-week
camp runs weekdays 9am-3pm.
Regular Tuition \$275, Package Rate
\$225. Registration now open:
[www.theatreworks.org/learn/drama-
school/camps](http://www.theatreworks.org/learn/drama-school/camps)

Museum of American Heritage:

Arts Summer Camp

June 27 - July 11, 9am-4pm, MOAH,
351 Homer Ave. Palo Alto. 321-1004
Ages 9 and up. Fees: Members
\$450, Non-members \$500. Fees
include all supplies for take-home
projects. Registration must be
completed by June 17. Camp fee is
due with your registration. This
year's exciting activities include:
Button and Ribbon Crafts, Paper
Making & Paper Crafts, Hand Sewing
and Embroidery, Photography, Quilt
and Garment Making on Antique
Sewing Machines. Registration for
MOAH Summer Camp:
www.moah.org/education.

Basic Webpage Design

Armed with a simple text editor,
you can build attractive and effective
web sites once you understand the
basic principles involved. The course
covers placement and formatting of
text, images, lists, tables, links, design
tips and basic web page structures.
Students should be familiar with the
operation of a web browser and
text editor. Saturdays, 1 pm to 3:30
pm. April 30, May 7, 14. Ages 10 and
up. Fee: \$65 members/\$75 non-
members. Register: [www.moah.org/
education](http://www.moah.org/education).

Parent Education

Bringing Up Bicyclists: How to Teach Your Child the Skills and Habits of Safe Bicyclists

Tues. March 8, Hoover Library, and Tues.
March 15, Addison MP Room, 7-8:30pm.
Children are not small adults; there are
differences in their physical and cognitive
development that affect their ability to make
traffic-related decisions. This class teaches
parents of children up to age 9 what they
need to know to foster and judge proper
development of their children's bicycling
safety skills. For parents, please do not bring
children. Sponsored by Hoover PTA and
Addison PTA. Instructor Suzanne Ambiel is a
League of American Bicyclists Certified
Instructor.

Info: pellson@pacbell.net or see
flyer: [saferoutes.paloaltopta.org/Feb2011/
BringingUpBicyclists.pdf](http://saferoutes.paloaltopta.org/Feb2011/BringingUpBicyclists.pdf).

Health Insurance

Presented by Michelle Droz, Vice President of
Benefits, Woodruff Sawyer and Co, San
Francisco. Would you like to learn more
about various health insurance plans, both
through private employers and purchased
independently? How will the recent Health
Care reform affect your family – ask the
expert. Wed. Mar 16 - meeting is 7 to 9 pm.
Hospitality begins at 6:45pm. Springer
Elementary School Multi, 1120 Rose Avenue,
Mountain View, 94040. This parent education
event is sponsored by the SELPA I CAC
(www.selpalcac.org). Free and open to
anyone who feels they might benefit.

Sports Opportunities for Kids

For current sports
opportunities, visit:

info.paloalto.pta.org/sports.shtml

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. PTA Council President: Terry Godfrey. Kiosk Editor: Karen Karpen
Deadline for the next issue: March 9, 2011, 5pm. E-mail submissions to: kioskeditor@paloaltopta.org