



2855 Lincoln Street  
Tel: 541-345-7285  
Fax: 541-242-6874

# The Village Voice

This is our school, Let peace dwell here  
Fill all the rooms with happiness.  
As many hands do make a house,  
So many hearts do make our school.



village@4j.lane.edu  
eugenevillageschool.org  
@EugeneVillage

January 9, 2015, Volume 14, Issue 17

## JANUARY EVENTS

Saturday, 1/10 5:30-9:00 PM	<b>5th Grade Fundraiser</b> <i>Cozmic Pizza (199 W 8th Ave)</i>
Monday, 1/12 3:00-4:00 PM	<b>Heart of the Village Planning Meeting</b>
Tuesday, 1/13 5:30-7:30 PM	<b>Board Meeting</b>
Wednesday, 1/14 9:00-11:00 AM	<b>3rd Grade Field Trip</b> <i>Spencers Butte</i>
6:30-7:00 PM 7:00-8:00 PM	<b>Parent Council Special Event</b> <i>Business Meeting Special Presentation</i>
Friday, 1/16 3:00 PM	<b>Re-Enrollment Forms Due</b>
Monday, 1/19	<b>NO SCHOOL (MLK Jr. Day)</b>
Wednesday, 1/21 6:00 PM	<b>4th Grade Parent Night</b>
6:00 PM	<b>5th Grade Parent Night</b>
Friday, 1/23 6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Talent Show</b>
Monday, 1/26 3:00 PM	<b>Sibling Applications Due</b>
Friday, 1/30	<b>NO SCHOOL (Grading Day)</b>

### IT'S TIME TO RE-ENROLL YOUR KIDS!



Re-enrollment forms were placed in family mailboxes when you returned to school this week. Please return this important form to Maureen no later than this coming **Friday, January 16, 2015 at 3:00 PM** to ensure that your children keep their places at the Village School, and notify the office of any siblings you wish to enroll for the 2014-2015 school year. You **MUST** submit a re-enrollment form by this deadline in order to be guaranteed that current students will have places in next year's classes and siblings get priority placement. **The Village School is not responsible for saving or reinstating spaces which are lost due to late submission of re-enrollment forms.** If you have questions, please ask Maureen (541) 345-7285 ext. 102, [village@4j.lane.edu](mailto:village@4j.lane.edu).

## LETTER FROM INTERIM PRINCIPAL KENT RATEKIN



Greetings from your new principal! "What?" you ask, "A new principal? I don't see him, where is he?" Don't worry, my wife Tricia and I will be there soon.

We are busy, busy, busy packing up our home, renting it out, saying goodbye to our wonderful friends, and wrapping up all the legal and sentimental details surrounding my last 18 years with South Whidbey Schools. I have also started all the process of becoming an administrator in the State of Oregon.

Mid-year changes are a little trickier than summer moves, but we are so excited about our new adventure and work in Eugene that it's all worth it. We both greatly enjoyed our holiday time meeting many staff and board members in December and really look forward to becoming part of the Village Community. I am a little embarrassed that I get to so easily move into the home of the best college football team in America, but that's just part of the magic of Eugene.

We are packing our U-Haul on the 16th and 17th and should be arriving late Saturday or early Sunday the 18th. I am planning on Tuesday, January 20th as my first day at school. We have already rented a cute little place on 27th Avenue, just a few blocks from the school; we find the neighborhood to be practical and charming.

Thank you Village School for hiring me for this great position, and Tricia and I will be there soon to get to work and enjoy our new community.

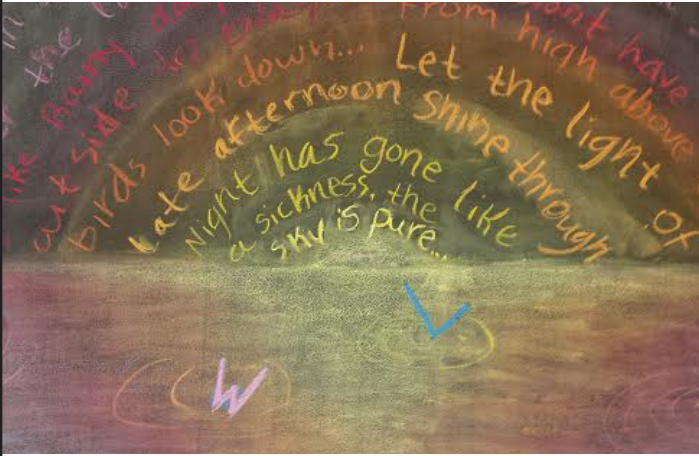
Sincerely,  
Kent and Tricia Ratekin

## PARENT COUNCIL SPECIAL PROGRAM ON JANUARY 14 @ 7:00 PM

On January 14, 2015, at 7:00 PM, the Parent Council is proud to present **Arun Toke** of *Skipping Stones* magazine. *Skipping Stones* is an international publication with offices just down the road from us. Arun will discuss how to involve our students in the magazine and how articles and essays in *Skipping Stones* help to promote world peace and cultural compassion. Childcare will be provided for those who RSVP to the school office by January 12th.

## SUPPORT THE ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

Our specialty programs, Spanish, Music, Handwork and Movement, rely on your support. We look forward to your contributions!



## GRANDPARENTS & GRANDFRIENDS DAY

Grandparents and Grandfriends Day is coming. On Thursday February 19th, two days before Heart of the Village, "grand" family and friends will visit your children's classrooms, sample some of our music and lunch, and get to know our school a little better. Last year's event was a great time, and we highly recommend it! Please pick up invitations in the school office.

## CHICKEN POX

Upon returning to school this week, we were notified of another case of chicken pox in our community over the break, and there is an additional active case in Kindergarten. This is a reminder that Varicella is still present at The Village School. Please contact the office immediately if your children comes down with a case of the Chicken Pox, and let's work to keep our community healthy!

## TERRITORIAL SEED FUNDRAISER

It's that time again. The 8th grade is holding a fundraiser through the Territorial Seed Company. Order forms and books are available in the office. Orders and payment are due in the office by Thursday, January 29th. Don't miss this opportunity to get seeds to plant in your garden this spring and help raise funds for the 8th grade class trip.

## LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The library is in need of volunteers to help supervise students and check out books during classroom visits and after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. New volunteers will receive training before working in the library. An email was sent today with specific sign up times. If you have any questions or are a new library volunteer needing training, please contact Sherri in the office.

## A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM WHOLE EARTH NATURE SCHOOL

Dear Village School Students, Parents and Staff,

I am writing to express my gratitude and admiration for the work that you all do through your Community Service Walk-a-thon. You made a significant donation to Whole Earth Nature School which will be doubled by a matching donor, thank you. You all should be proud of the work you do through your fundraiser. Eight awesome and deserving nonprofits were able to further their mission because of you. I'm not aware of any other school that uses their own fundraising effort to support their community in this way. When other schools contact me about their fundraisers it is usually to ask me for a donation and not the other way around. So, keep up the good work and thank you!

Sincerely,

Matt Bradley  
Executive Director of Operations  
Whole Earth Nature School



## THE GREEN SCENE

### Let's Make the Village School "Idle Free!"

#### Why Not Idle?

Car exhaust contains **air toxics**, which are known to cause cancer, respiratory effects, reproductive effects, birth defects or other serious health effects.



Because of their developing lungs and higher breathing rates, **children are more susceptible** to air pollution.

*If many vehicles are idling at once, for example in school pick up/drop off areas, a "hot spot" of exhaust pollution can be created.*

Monitoring at schools has shown **elevated levels of air toxics** during the afternoon hour coinciding with parents picking up their children.

#### Idling Facts



The chemicals from exhaust are harmful and can make **asthma** worse.

*Most people waste 1-2 entire tankfuls of gas every year by idling.*

Ford Motor Company says: "Avoid idling more than 30 seconds because excessive idling can actually **damage your engine.**"

*Idling more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine.*

Manufacturers assure that frequent restarting won't harm an engine.

#### What can you do?

If you are going to wait more than 10 seconds, turn your vehicle off.

It's as **simple** as that.

*Pledge to not idle unnecessarily anywhere, anytime.*



Reducing idling at schools can **reduce children's exposure** to toxic vehicle exhaust.

**Turn the Key, Be Idle Free!!**

## MIGHTY NEST

The Village School is now registered at [MightyNest.com](http://MightyNest.com)--a website that sells eco-friendly cookware and some natural toys. When you shop on their site, 15% of the proceeds of your purchases can be donated to our school! To check it out, go to [MightyNest.com](http://MightyNest.com) and click "Support your local school" to register Village as your school of choice before you make any purchases.

## SHOP LOCALLY OR ONLINE AND RAISE FUNDS FOR VILLAGE SCHOOL



We encourage everyone to use eScrip, Capella Scrip, and Unique Eugene Scrip. These programs help local vendors and bring fundraising dollars to our school.

To use eScrip, log onto [www.eScrip.com](http://www.eScrip.com), and click: Sign up! Our Group I.D. is 9130886 (beware: there are several Village Schools). Register your Safeway, debit & credit cards (the site is secured), then shop at eScrip merchants, such as Market of Choice & Safeway. You can use your eScrip registered cards for all your purchases, and you can donate online when you use Amazon.com.



Go to [www.eugenevillageschool.org](http://www.eugenevillageschool.org) and click "Shop for Village School" on the left. Links will appear for Amazon.com. Click and shop from this link, and the Village School earns as much as 15% of your sales.

## GET VILLAGE SCHOOL NEWS VIA TEXT, TWITTER, AND FACEBOOK

Sign up to get text messages from the Village School in addition to email and phone by texting the word "join" to 56360. You can also follow us on Twitter (@EugeneVillage) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/eugenevillageschool>) or search for The Village School).

## INTERESTED IN A WALDORF HIGH SCHOOL?

If you have even considered the possibility of your child attending a Waldorf High School here in Eugene, this is a not-to-be missed event. Ina Jaehnig will hold a group conversation at the Eugene Waldorf School, 1350 McLean Blvd. next Thursday, January 15 at 7 pm, room to be announced. As the co-founder of The Denver Waldorf School, Ina has been teaching at DWS for over thirty years, currently Humanities and Arts. She received her Waldorf Teacher Training at the Munich Waldorf School and prior to that earned her certification as an arts teacher at the Academy for the Arts in Stuttgart. In addition to sharing her knowledge with the High School students and the entire faculty of DWS, Ina consults for Waldorf schools across the U.S. and spends her summers training Waldorf teachers.

## WONDERING ABOUT WINTER WEATHER?



When school is closed or delayed due to hazardous winter weather, you want to know as quickly as possible. There are several ways to get the news on snowy or icy days:

- Text-message alerts: to sign up, text "join" to 56360
- Find out via Twitter: @EugeneVillage
- Check our website: [www.eugenevillageschool.org](http://www.eugenevillageschool.org) or check the 4J website: [www.4j.lane.edu](http://www.4j.lane.edu)
- Radio and television news stations and websites

If there is a change in the school schedule due to inclement weather, we will follow the Eugene 4J school district decision. If school is in session and on regular schedule, we will NOT make an announcement. Weather-related school closure decisions normally are made early in the morning and announced via all methods by 6:30 a.m. These decisions are made districtwide and are the same for every 4J school.

Kindergarten parents, please note, if school opens with a delayed start, there will be no Kindergarten that day.

If school is in session, families are encouraged to consider road conditions in their areas and make their own decisions based on safety. Parents' individual decisions about school attendance will be honored.

*Village Voice submissions are due to Maureen on Thursdays at noon: [village@4j.lane.edu](mailto:village@4j.lane.edu).*

# VILLAGE CLASSIFIEDS

**VILLAGE FAMILY NIGHT**  
AT  
**COZMIC PIZZA**  
Saturday, January 10th 5:30-9pm  
\$5/individual \$15/family

Face Painting!    Live Music    Bake Sale!  
Juggling!    Silent Auction!

All Proceeds Benefit 5th Grade Class...

hummingbirdsgirlschoir.com  
THE  
**HUMMINGBIRDS  
GIRLS CHOIR**



EMPOWERMENT & CONNECTION THROUGH HEARTSONGS & HARMONY

TO SIGN UP  
Call Karly at **214-906-5747**  
or email [karly@hummingbirdsgirlschoir.com](mailto:karly@hummingbirdsgirlschoir.com)  
**SUNDAYS OR THURSDAYS : 4 TO 5:30**  
**\$8 - \$10 PER CIRCLE**



## Early Literacy Program

A tuition free class for pre-readers to build skills such as *letter sounds, rhyming, & syllable awareness*

### 2015 Classes

#### Winter Session: January 19-February 26

Monday and Wednesday 3:00-5:00pm  
Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-4:30pm

#### Spring Session: April 13- May 2

Monday and Wednesday 2:30-4:30pm  
Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-4:30pm

#### Summer Sessions: July 6-August 12

Monday and Wednesday 2:30-4:30pm  
Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-4:30pm  
Monday and Friday 9:30-11:30am



**\*\* FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT CORY**  
at 541-284-4877 or [cbyers@myehsc.org](mailto:cbyers@myehsc.org)