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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.



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February 27, 2015, Volume 14, Issue 24



MARCH EVENTS



Wednesday, 3/4 5:15-7:00 PM	Title I Author's Night
Thursday, 3/5 10:15-11:15 AM	Eco-Warriors School Assembly
Friday, 3/6 3:00 PM	NO SCHOOL - Teacher Work Day '15-'16 Lottery Applications Due
Wednesday, 3/11 9:00-10:30 AM	7th Grade Play AM Performance
6:30-7:30 PM	Parent Council
Thursday, 3/12 7:00-8:30 PM	7th Grade Play PM Performance
Friday, 3/13 1:00 PM	Lottery for 2015-16 Enrollment
3/16-3/30	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
Tuesday, 3/31	School Resumes



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Greetings! Wow, what a week! Heart of the Village was fun and profitable. It was really great to see all the crafts, storytelling, baked goods, raffles, and performances. Thank you all for your support and help--especially Sherri.

So many events are happening that it is hard to keep track of them all. Ms. Emily has done a wonderful job with the Second Grade play, "Nkosnati and the Dragon" which was performed beautifully last night for the parents and again this morning for the students. We really enjoyed it. See pictures on page 5.

Author's night is coming up next Wednesday, Shannon Powell put together a schedule for the evening (see bottom left).

Mr. Matthew is helping to bring us environmental artists, the Martinez brothers, on Thursday morning (more information on page 2).

As announced last week, The 4J School District has agreed to negotiate directly with The Village School for the sale of the Dunn Center. The staff visited the Dunn Center yesterday, and got a glimpse of realizing a long term Village School dream to own its own home. The Site Committee is meeting Tuesday this week to debrief and review plans to vet the property. While we are investigating the affordability, feasibility and practicality of moving to the Dunn Center, negotiations with the District have yet to begin, and the Site Committee has not made a recommendation to purchase. As always, we welcome your participation in the discussion.

Don't forget that next Friday is a no-school day for students and a work day for teachers. Talk to your class teacher if you need to schedule a conference.

Again, thanks for all you do for Village School and for helping me to learn and grow here. --Kent

NO SCHOOL: 
FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH
CONFERENCES/WORK DAY

TITLE I AUTHOR'S NIGHT 3/4 @ 5:15!

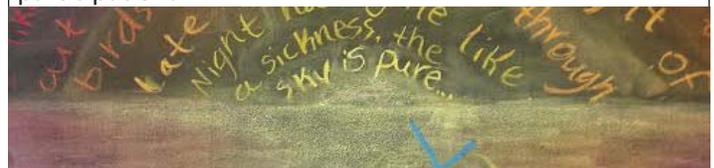


Our annual Author's Night is this coming Wednesday, March 4th. Come hear our budding writers in grades 1-6 read their work; what a special treat! Before the fun starts, join the Village School community for a complimentary burrito dinner and door prizes.

5:15-6:00 PM	Complimentary burrito dinner
5:45 PM	Announcements and door prizes
6:00 PM	Author's read aloud in upper wing (Grades 5 & 6 together in room 6)
7:00 PM	Event ends

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN 2015

Our specialty programs, Spanish, Music, Handwork and Movement, rely on your support. Thank you to all who have already made contributions; we hope to see 100% participation!



THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER OUTSTANDING HEART OF THE VILLAGE!



This year's Heart of the Village celebration couldn't have been more fantastic. The sunny weather, great performances, yummy food, and fun activities made it a delightful event.

A very special thank you goes out to our Class Coordinators who worked so tirelessly to coordinate the event. They include **Evelyn Constance, Molly Kenzie, Leslie Davis, Beth Eiva, Jessica Higgs, Dee Baker, Jenna Olietti, Shannon Boyd, Deeja Sol Moon, Ann Magee, Julia Olson, Toña Aguilar, Jennie Sherlock, Deb Chourney, Jane Rittenhouse, Anna Henjian, Carrie Janes, Rebecca Delzell, and Tesha Shriro.** We couldn't have done it without your help. You are all outstanding!

We would also like to give a huge thank you to our stage manager **Anthony March** for helping the main stage entertainment sound great and to **Kent Ratekin** for being a great MC as well as blues guitarist. Special thanks to **Lucy Neubeck, Carmin Sherlock, All Uke'n Handle** ukulele group and **Mutswi Wambuya Kutsinhira** marimba groups for performing. Thank you to **Jennifer Sellers** and **Mandy Walker-LaFollette** for leading our student choir and marimba performances. You all sounded fantastic!

We are especially grateful to the **1st grade** and **Ms. Jennifer** for sharing their special shadow puppet play. Thanks to **Ms. Lesley** for leading our **5th grade** students in their shadow puppet play. Thank you, **Shanna Tippin** and **Kimberlae Van Cleave-Tippin** for organizing the prayer flag room! Thanks to **Ron Constable** and the **Parent Council** for being a huge help with organizing donations. Thank you, **Toña Aguilar**, for working so hard to prepare such a yummy lunch with our 5th grade parents. We cannot forget to thank **Sherri Marineau**, Volunteer Coordinator extraordinaire, for her leadership and detailed work making the Heart of the Village a beautiful success. And, to all the volunteers not mentioned above, who came and helped make this incredible event happen, we thank you!

DIRECTING DUCKLINGS

Directing Ducklings is a book by Judy Wenger, retired teacher of 37 years in middle school, with 27 of those years at Roosevelt Middle School in Eugene. The book describes the lessons she taught and learned while surviving middle school.

You can buy the book for \$10 in the Village School office, and 100% of the proceeds of your purchase will benefit the 8th Grade Trip fund.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J NEWS

Superintendent Search: Candidate Forum March 5

The Eugene School District is searching for a new superintendent. You're invited to meet and weigh in on the finalist candidates at a community forum on March 5. The finalists will be announced a few days before the forum.

Superintendent Candidate Community Forum

When: Thursday, March 5, 6:00–8:30 p.m.
Where: 4J Education Center Auditorium
200 N. Monroe St., Eugene

At the forum, the finalist candidates will share information about themselves, then respond to questions. Community members in attendance will be asked to provide their input on the candidates.

What has happened so far: The school board is seeking to name a new superintendent this spring. Community input on the strengths and qualities desired in the district's next leader was gathered and used in developing the position description. A citizen screening committee reviewed applications, interviewed top candidates and recommended semifinalists to the school board. The board has selected a slate of semifinalists to interview and will announce the finalists on March 2.

RSVP & invite friends:

www.facebook.com/events/1557504867839621

More information: www.4j.lane.edu/supersearch

SHOP LOCALLY OR ONLINE AND RAISE FUNDS FOR VILLAGE SCHOOL



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

To use eScrip, log onto 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.



To shop for Village School on Amazon.com, go to www.eugenevillageschool.org and click "Shop for Village School" on the left. Click the Amazon.com link, and shop. The Village School earns as much as 15% of your sales.



When you shop at MightyNest.com, a website that sells eco-friendly cookware and some natural toys, 15% of the proceeds of your purchases can be donated to our school when you select us when shopping! To check it out, go to MightyNest.com and click "Support your local school" to register Village as your school of choice before you make any purchases.

THE GREEN SCENE

Free Gardening Workshop with Ted Purdy

(Village School parent & coordinator of the FOOD for Lane County Youth Farm)

Free Seed Starting/Greenhouse Growing Workshop on Saturday March 7, 1-3pm. The workshop will cover the basics of annual plant propagation and greenhouse management as well as seeding schedules, best varieties for our area and more. At the FOOD for Lane County Youth Farm, 705 Flamingo Ave., Springfield.

Special All School Assembly 3/5

Come and join the school for an assembly next Thursday, 10:15-11:00 AM featuring world-renowned environmental activist hip-hop artists Xiuhtezcatl Martinez and his brother Itzcuahtli. Xiuhtezcatl and Itzcuahtli are youth partners with Our Children's Trust and plaintiffs in a lawsuit against the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission to stop fracking in his home state.



"Xiuhtezcatl is the youth director of Earth Guardians, (www.EarthGuardians.org) a non-profit environmental organization that is committed to protecting the water, air, earth, and atmosphere. He has organized many rallies, actions, demonstrations and events, and has spoken globally on many issues. Projects include organizing the largest US iMatter March in Denver in the spring of 2010 with over 2,000 young people.

Xiuhtezcatl has worked with his community of Boulder City, Colorado's Council members, County Commissioners, senators and congresspeople, and has collaborated with over 50 environmental organizations to get pesticides out of Boulder's city parks, achieving a fee for plastic bags, and containment of coal ash. He is currently working on helping fight for a statewide ban on fracking.

He gives presentations on fracking in schools and at conferences nationally and also has developed his presentation called EARTH, teaching about practical changes all people can make. His work on climate change has led him to become a youth plaintiff against the state of Colorado, and a federal plaintiff against the United States, filing law suits for not protecting the atmosphere.

In May, 2012, he went to Washington DC to meet with representatives from all three branches of government, working to garner support for the lawsuits and a Climate Recovery Plan based on NASA scientist James Hansen's

and Bill McKibben's work. Over 80 members of Congress and the Congressional Progressive Caucus publicly supported the youth delegation.

Xiuhtezcatl was one of the youngest speakers at the Rio+20 United Nations Summit in Rio Brazil in June 2012. He spoke on UN panels and at many of the UN side events. He also had the honor of lighting the sacred fire with indigenous elders from Brazil (view at this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cd773X7erys>).

Frustrated by the inaction of world leaders, he and two other young people intervened in the UN meetings so that the voices of children would be heard (view at this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=spJD3Bxc>).

He is traveling and initiating International Earth Guardian Crews around the globe to fulfill the Earth Guardian mission and these groups are now going strong in Africa, India, Australia, Brazil and Europe. He is regularly called upon to provide the youth perspective and voice on issues at conferences locally, nationally, and globally, bringing his message of hope, inspiration and the importance of acting now to avoid further damage to ecosystems."

<http://www.earthguardians.org/XiuhBio.shtml>



SUN. APRIL 19TH CONFIDENT CYCLING FOR FAMILIES CLASS 9AM-NOON – VILLAGE SCHOOL

To register:
<http://eugenersrts.org/events/confidentcycling/>



For more information contact:
Shane MacRhodes
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541-556-3553

Class attendees will not only learn about basic traffic skills but also learn how to perform a bicycle safety check, how to properly fit a helmet, how to size a bicycle for a child, and how to properly carry things on a bicycle. Information will also be provided about gear and clothing, proper lighting, use of lights, and locking a bike. Half the course will be conducted indoors and the last portion will be held in the parking lot with skills & drills before a final ride on neighborhood streets.

This class is made for parents AND kids so all participants are asked to bring a bicycle and a helmet with them to class. Some reduced cost helmets will be available. Anyone requiring a loaner bicycle for the class is asked to state that in the comments section of the registration form. This class is geared towards children ages 5 – 13 and is free and open to all families but registration is required.

HEART OF THE VILLAGE 2015



NKOSNATI AND THE DRAGON

