

FREE

School News



Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Carlsbad Unified School District

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MAY–OCTOBER 2011

Up For Debate!



CHS Speech and Debate Team at the State Qualifying Tournament.

Marilyn Campbell
CUSD Communications Consultant

Public speaking is among the major fears of most people.

What constitutes 3% of the Carlsbad High School student body, attracts students from actors to athletes, engenders self-esteem, increases academic achievement, consistently produces award-winners, and makes people laugh, cry, and, most of all, think?

The answer is not up for debate, but these 100+ freshmen through seniors certainly are. Meet Minnie Curtis' awesome Speech and Debate team. Individually, in pairs and as a team, they have won an incredible number and variety of events.

Surrounded by four years' worth of trophies, Curtis says, "Winning is the frosting on the cake. The skills these students gain, such as logical thinking and confidence in expressing their ideas, will help them in every aspect of life."

The skills are helping them right now, reports Curtis. "I've seen students begin the program as shy kids. As they progress, they gain confidence. Being able to do research, think critically and organize their thoughts benefits achievement in all classes. Learning time management enhances productivity."

SEE UP FOR DEBATE • PAGE 13

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. John Roach

A Salute to our Behind-the-Scenes Stars

We could not be a world-class district without world-class employees. Our hundreds of classified staff, working at sites and at the District office, provide the backbone of our educational endeavors and help propel student achievement in many ways.

Throughout the school year, classified employees of each month are nominated by District administrators for consistently performing above and beyond in the scope of their jobs. In February, a selection committee consisting of two board members from the classified union and two school principals chooses three finalists and the ultimate Classified Employee of the Year.

This year's finalists are Christine Mazurkiewicz, Laurie McCormick and Sharan Merchant. They were honored for their hard work and exceptional service to the District at the May 11th Board of Trustees meeting. Christine was named 2011 Classified Employee of the Year. She will now vie for countywide honors.

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CHS "Sports" Great Kids

Marilyn Campbell
CUSD Communications Consultant

Polo may be the "Sport of Kings," but excelling in many activities is the "Sport of Lancers."

Carlsbad High School (CHS) Lancer teams and individuals have triumphed in a dizzying array of sports-related endeavors this year. Last fall, the Lancer Boys' Water Polo team captured its eighth consecutive CIF Division 1 Championship.

Recently, Boys' Soccer standout Nelson Wright was selected Avocado West Player of the Year. Breanna Jemison was named to the Girls' Basketball All League First Team.

Cheer won first place at the West Coast Championship. Color Guard took firsts at the Vista Band and Mira Mesa Invitationals.

Two groups danced their way to the top. The CHS junior varsity Xcalibur team took firsts in both pom and jazz at the West Coast Championships. The acclaimed Lancers Dancers captured first in varsity hip hop and jazz at the same event. They also won the title in hip hop and bronze in jazz at the highly competitive National Dance Team Championships in Florida, marking the group's eighth national title.



Breanna Jemison



Nelson Wright

SEE CUSD SPORTS • PAGE 15



CUSD is on Facebook
Please see page 2



www.twitter.com/SuptRoach

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Better Vision, Better Grades

Tracking and Reading Comprehension



Dr. David Bloch, OD

Many reading comprehension problems occur because of poor visual skills. In other words, the eyes are not seeing the text properly. The reader cannot see all the words clearly, in the right order, and at the right speed in order to make sense of the content. Obviously, if the words are not clear, the reader will mistake words, read much slower, and get the wrong meaning. Less obvious, is that words that are read out of order, severely hampers comprehension. Words read in the wrong order causes confusion, slower processing (thinking) and poorer understanding. Also keep in mind that the added effort expended by reader to keep their eyes tracking properly competes with the effort needed to concentrate on the meaning.

Sometimes, parents can recognize tracking errors in their children, if they have them read aloud. If the child omits, adds, substitutes, or transposes words, and/or has labored reading, the child should be suspected of having eye tracking problems causing their comprehension problem. This is especially true, if the reader has good comprehension while having material read to them but does not when reading the material for them selves. Frequently, readers with tracking errors are completely unaware that their eyes do not track properly even when they read aloud. This occurs because eyes take in information faster than they process the information, and they have time to rescan if necessary. Of course, less rescanning is preferred, and makes for a better reader and better comprehension.

Tracking problems as they relate to reading ability can be assessed and treated by some eye doctors that specialize in this area. Special computerized instruments can measure eye tracking movements used while reading and also be used to improve tracking ability along with reading comprehension.

Dr. David Bloch is the chief pediatric optometrist at Children's Optometric of North County in Carlsbad, CA. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Illinois College of Optometry in 1988. His post-doctoral work included a residency in Pediatric Optometry at the University of Houston College of Optometry, where also subsequently taught as a Clinical Instructor. He holds Therapeutic Optometry Licenses in four states and has published a chapter in a book discussing the diagnosis and treatment of lazy eye. www.blochvisioncare.com

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Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



Times are rapidly changing. This is our seventh anniversary publishing the CUSD *School News*. During that time the economy has challenged the leadership to continue to provide quality education with a strained budget, which CUSD continues to accomplish. In addition, Twitter and Facebook have become household names. Dr. Roach is communicating with you on all social media available.

Our Word Search Contest is on page 10. (You can find out who won the Seek 'n Find Contest last issue.)

November is our next issue so...have a wonderful summer!

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CUSD is on Facebook!



In an ongoing communications effort to reach out to all demographics within the District and to stakeholders in the wider community, CUSD has launched a Facebook page. Currently, the page can be accessed directly on the District website at www.carlsbadusd.k12.ca.us.

District Superintendent John A. Roach, Ed.D., states, "Our intent is to communicate with all segments of our District and community, using vehicles they find familiar, convenient and desirable. We want to provide information of interest and importance to the community and to facilitate the ability to learn about and feel connected to our District's sites, people and programs."

According to Director of Curriculum and Instruction Devin Vodicka, who heads the social media communications program, the Facebook page offers background information, photos, videos, Dr. Roach's Twitter feed, a monthly Message from the Superintendent and timely posts. He reports, "We plan to post more information as the program continues. Once you become a 'friend' of ours on Facebook, we promise you'll have many things to 'like' about us."

For more information, please contact dvodicka@carlsbadusd.net.

The City of Carlsbad

1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/434-2830 • www.carlsbad.gov

Keep Learning Alive Outside the Classroom



Kristina Ray
Communications
Manager

Summer is just around the corner and the City of Carlsbad offers several ways for learning to move from the classroom to the community through programs that help children create and grow, indoors and out.

Some of the most popular summertime city programs are our summer camps, and city camps offer choices for every family's calendar, budget and interests. This summer, sign your kids up for one of the more than 60 summer day camps, running the gamut from arts and sports to science and cooking.

Friendships and a sense of community are nurtured in the city's traditional camp offerings, which begin for children as young as age 3. Pee Wee camps for ages 3 to 5 introduce children to the camp experience, focusing on encouraging social development through movement, music and group games. Kidz, Explorer and Counselor-in-Training Teen camps all feature crafts, sports, team building activities and field trips to local destinations. Each camp is geared toward a specific age group, providing a safe place for new friendships to flourish through shared experiences.

Through the many camp opportunities, children also learn the value of teamwork and sportsmanship while learning to play sports, such as soccer, golf, tennis—even lacrosse and dodge ball. Tweens and teens can learn about Web design, animation, video games and green screen technology in new science and exploration camps this summer.

Interested in the arts? Check out the Family Open Studios Plus event at the Carlsbad City Library complex, on Aug. 20, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hands-on art projects and activities will connect to the William D. Cannon Art Gallery's exhibition, *Almost Alice: New Illustrations of Wonderland* by Maggie Taylor. Take some time to look at the imaginative digital imagery by Maggie Taylor. This event will inspire you to create your own whimsical teapot drawing or a scene with the Queen of Hearts or the Cheshire cat. Become a Mad Hatter and create your own colorful paper hat. Then enjoy a performance in the Schulman Auditorium at 11:45 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. connecting the day's theme.

Art at Jazz takes place at the TGIF Jazz in the Parks concerts on July 1 and 22 and Aug. 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Participants are greeted by professional artist educators, and many talented volunteers guide young concert goers in a planned hands-on art making activity. Come join in the fun and music, and another great family arts program! All supplies are provided.

Looking for a fun way for keep reading skills strong over the summer? All three city libraries will host the annual Summer Reading Program from June 20 to Aug. 5. Kids are invited to enjoy activities, reading incentives and entertainment from storytellers to animal events. Best of all, the program is free! This year's themes are "One World, Many Stories" for children in kindergarten through 6th grade and "You Are Here" for 7th through 12th graders. And, there's even a special program for babies. Parents are invited to participate in the adult program, "Novel Destinations," and enjoy book, music and movie events.

The City of Carlsbad is proud to offer these high quality summer programs for our local families. Find out more about the ones mentioned here and more on the city's website, www.carlsbadca.gov.

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Carlsbad *High School (9-12)*

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Maggie Stanchi
Principal

Goal of Excellence

We hosted the San Diego Imperial Valley Speech League's State Qualifying Tournament on March 4 and 5, where 18 high schools competed for the coveted spots at the state tournament. The results: Carlsbad High School (CHS) won the First Place Sweepstakes and the title of League Champions for the second consecutive year. We also won the Individual Events Champions trophy, and qualified 31 entries to compete at the state tournament. CHS sophomore Davin Curtis was named San Diego Competitor of the Year, and our team coach, Minnia Curtis, was awarded the league's Coach of the Year award.

In the last four weeks, we have attended the Southern California District National Qualifiers, where we earned spots for five CHS students, including the Southern California Public Forum Debate Champions Sam Gardner and Natasha Maldí. These students will be competing at the National Championships in Dallas, Texas on June 13 through 18.

At the California State Tournament, held at San Diego State University, the CHS Public Forum team of Andrew Allan and Jeffrey Kuperman took third place and the Parliamentary Debate team of Sam Gardner and Natasha Maldí earned fifth place.

Additionally, we continue to excel in service club speech contests, where we have students who are continuing to win first place and awaiting the next level of competition in the Optimist, Rotary, and Lions Club contests. Most notably, Yujia Pan, who has just won \$4,500 at the Lions Club district level, will continue on to the zone level. Yujia has also earned the title of an Academic All-American through the National Forensics League.



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Aviara Oaks *Elementary (K-5)*

6900 Ambrosia Way, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6000 • <http://www.aviaraoakselementary.com/>



Kimberly Huesing
Principal

Talent Everywhere

Aviara Oaks Elementary School students are very talented. So talented in fact that the PTA produced an entire variety show to highlight individual efforts, group numbers, musical prodigies, and even aspiring comedians.

Sponsored by the Aviara Oaks Elementary School PTA, this variety show, called *Beach Party AOE*, included over 150 student participants. While academic success is the primary focus at AOE, it is important that our mission provides some creative outlets as well. The Winter Musical and Spring Variety Show are two opportunities which our students have available at the elementary school level for the visual and performing arts.

At AOE, we obviously have many talented tap, ballet and modern dancers! We also have expressive singers, guitar players and gymnasts. The students performed individually, in small groups, and in large, choreographed group numbers.

The show's small groups included hula-hooping and boogie board dancers along with pianists. One child even included his own pet in his act. Our first show was performed on a Thursday evening for "Friends and Family," and the Friday morning rendition on April 22 was for the students only.

This variety show was directed by music teacher Ms. Sarah Elliot and organized by PTA Educational Coordinator Michelle Ginn. Parents volunteered in the snack bar, helped with stage management, assisted with backstage activities, and encouraged the children to shine!



Aviara Oaks *Middle School (6-8)*

6880 Ambrosia Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6100 • <http://aoms.schoolloop.com/>



Carolyn Millikan
Principal

Happy New Year(?)

In contrast to the rest of the world, which sees January 1 as New Year's Day, those of us who are in education see the first day of school as the New Year! As the school year draws to a close and we begin preparation for an upcoming year, it is natural to think of the changes the coming school year will bring. Our eighth-graders will become freshmen in high school. Former elementary students will start middle school with us. There will be new faces among the teachers and support staff. What stays the same is our commitment to meeting the needs of our students. How will we do that?

We will continue to work to engage all students in learning and teach them to take responsibility for learning. We will encourage them to try new things and further develop their skills in areas of interest.

Ask your son or daughter, "Would you like to learn to play an instrument or portray a character totally different from yourself?" "Have you ever tried out for a school team or run for office?" "Do you wish you could speak a world language?" "Have you experienced the satisfaction that comes from helping others, with no expectation of getting something in return?" "Do you want to learn more about how things work as you explore Science Olympiad or take a science technology class?"

Stay involved as a parent in your child's education. Learn what a seven-year plan is and how it prepares your child for college and careers. Give them the opportunity to see different people in a wide variety of career choices. Consider their interests and what skills come naturally to them. Challenge them to take a class they think will be difficult and provide the support for them to be successful.

As students grow in who they are and who they want to be, they ask questions. Instead of accepting our values and beliefs at face value, they ask questions. They demand answers. In doing so, they make critical decisions about what they believe and value and how they will live their lives in relation to others. As parents and teachers, we need to foster their curiosity and need to know. They will test some of their theories and find what is true and what isn't. They need to know that we are on their side and are cheering them on as they develop into young adults. My experience, both as an educator and as mother of two college-age adults, is that they will continue to surprise us. Enjoy the significant and insignificant moments. Another "New Year" will be here before we know it!

Buena Vista *Elementary (K-6)*

1330 Buena Vista Way, Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5400 • <http://buenavista.schoolloop.com/>



Tina Howard
Principal

Teaching Through Technology

The Social Connection is a student-generated, video-production program with the purpose of teaching appropriate behavior based on district character traits. The program began in response to an increase in the number of social challenges among a group of second-grade students. Teachers teamed to address the issue proactively. Mrs. Laski, Mrs. Taunt, and Mrs. Fischer worked together to form a project that incorporated peer conflict problem-solving skills, independent partner work, and technology.

To begin, student groups were organized based on their current bullying issues; second-grade students were paired with fifth-grade mentors. Currently, the groups meet twice weekly to discuss assigned character traits and create goals for their current project. The students worked together to design scripts, role-play scenarios, and create video products using a Flip video camera. Teams discover examples of each character trait on the playground and use their video cameras to capture those examples for use in their projects. The videos are edited and used during monthly student success assemblies, proactively addressing and modeling kindness toward others. Additionally, a Web-based link for teachers, parents, and students outlines the program, shows video segments paired with citizenship traits, and provides curriculum ideas and bullying/citizenship resources. Currently, the fifth-grade mentors have created a blog and add simple entries, book and video recommendations specific to social skills, and individual goals to focus on throughout the week.

Overall, the students have made a lot of growth, both personally and working together as a team. It has been wonderful seeing the students create scenarios and problem solve without teacher direction. The Social Connection has been student-driven, and teacher facilitation has been collaborative. As the school year comes to an end, the Social Connection has made an impact on the several students, and we look forward to using the program school-wide in the years to come.

The pilot of 20 iPads in room 17 has received glowing reviews from students. With a focus entirely on making progress with the learning standards, the fourth- and fifth-graders are beyond enthusiastic, unafraid, and natural-born tablet users. For the 10 and 11 year-olds to have such broad mobile access to content on the Internet and content within tablet applications is nothing short of transformational. Students have used their tablets widely for their poetry unit. Using “apps” called Stack the States and States and Capitals, students have voraciously tackled the California state learning standard of knowing their states and capitals. Collaborative online writing has opened another avenue for addressing writing standards. State reports have been researched and written, revised and e-mailed. California Spanish mission projects have begun. This is just some of what we’ve done so far, and that was in the first week! You can read more information about the iPad pilot program at <http://carlsbadtech.wikispaces.com>.



The Social Connection getting ready for a live performance.



The fifth grade Social Connection mentors.



Fifth grade & second grade students practice their own creative role-plays based on character traits.



Take 2!

Calavera Hills *Elementary (K-6)*

4104 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-6400 • <http://ches.schoolloop.com/>



Leslie Harden
Principal

Much to Celebrate

While the college basketball teams were having March Madness, the fifth grades from all elementary schools in Carlsbad were having their own version with the third annual Mini March Madness Basketball Tournament. Sponsored by and held each year at Poinsettia Elementary School, the tournament consists of boys and girls teams from each school competing in a round robin tournament for the district championship. Congratulations to our girls team for this year's championship performance! We now proudly display the trophy in our front office. Congratulations, too, to our boys team for making it to the semi-finals. A special thanks to teachers and coaches, Bob Burns and Wade Williford.

The 2011 Teacher of the Year, Sheli Koopsen, was celebrated and honored at a school-wide assembly on March 14. As a second-grade teacher, Mrs. Koopsen has the interests and success of her students in the forefront at all times. She is a teacher leader in innovative strategies which increase active learning in her classroom, build student confidence, and increase student learning. As one of her colleagues wrote, "Sheli not only inspires me to continue seeking fresh ideas on a regular basis, but she constantly gives me hope that one can continue to love this profession after years and years." She is a passionate and dedicated teacher who provides inspiration to our staff. It is our great honor to have her as a part of our Coyote family.



Boys and girls basketball teams celebrate the girls championship win at this year's Mini March Madness.

Coyote Cavern Productions (CCP) celebrated another successful musical production, "Aladdin, Jr." With a cast and crew of over 125 elementary and middle school students in third through eighth grades, and under the direction of producer/director extraordinaire Katie Gardner, this year's production included nine musical numbers, numerous set and costume changes, and a level of energy and talent for which CCP has been known. Katie Gardner, commenting on this year's cast and crew, shared, "We wish you could have witnessed the high level of professionalism and dedication exhibited during the rehearsal process, making this a remarkable experience for performer and audience alike." Congratulations on another great run!

Calavera Hills *Middle School (6-8)*

4104 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/ 331-6400 • <http://calavera.schoolloop.com/>



Catina Hancock
Principal

'AVID' for College and Careers

When you arrive at CHMS, you can't miss the college-going culture. Students throughout our school are reading, writing, asking challenging questions and working together. AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) is an elective offered in schools across the globe, but at our school, lessons learned from AVID impact students in every class. In March, the AVID program and the guidance department worked together to bring College and Career Week to CHMS students and parents. The week kicked off with a College Night. Over 100 students and parents learned about preparing for college from speakers from Cal State San Marcos, Mira Costa and National University.

During advisory, CHMS students learned about different college systems. Sixth grade learned about California State University system, seventh grade learned about the University of California and eighth grade studied private and out-of-state universities. To display what they learned, each class decorated their door to represent their favorite school!

On Thursday and Friday at lunch, students had an opportunity to learn about a variety of careers. Students met with professionals from interesting careers such as law enforcement, professional soccer, photography, marketing, professional race-car driving, Navy fighter piloting, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, medicine and more!

As a culminating activity on Friday, all CHMS students visited the AVID College Fair. At this event, Ms. Stapleton's AVID class displayed their knowledge of over 20 different colleges and universities including UCSD, Harvard and San Diego State. Students also participated in a college-planning session presented by Marivel Rojas, an outreach recruiter for CSUSM.

Students enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the careers they might not otherwise know about. At the AVID College Fair, students learned about creating a six-year academic plan for completing the University of California's A-G admission requirements. Students also learned about researching various college majors, academic programs and financial aid.

Teachers at CHMS know that future success starts right now. Our teachers encourage students to reach for the stars while keeping their feet on the ground. We are proud that our students are starting to plan for their futures today!



AVID students show off their knowledge of Wimbledon College of Art.



Students Meet an FBI Agent at Career Day.

Hope *Elementary (K-6)*

3010 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5900 • <http://www.hope.schoolloop.com/>



A Role Model for the Arts

Like all schools, we love to celebrate our staff and students when we recognize their success stories. Recently our music teacher, Sharon Evans, provided us with even more reasons to celebrate.

Richard Tubbs
Principal

Mrs. Evans was recognized by the California Association for Music Education with their Outstanding General Music Educator Award. This was in honor of her many years of devotion, patience and commitment to music and to the students of music, and for inspiring them to attain the highest levels of music education, appreciation and performance.

But that wasn't all. At the annual awards dinner, she was also surprised with the FORTISSIMO Choice Award for all of San Diego County!

Not only does Mrs. Evans provide an exceptional music program, she also serves as an excellent role model for our community whenever she promotes community service opportunities in Carlsbad and San Diego.



Hope Elementary music teacher Sharon Evans with her fifth grade handbell students.

The Students Get Involved, Too

Her Hope Handbell group is perhaps the only one of its kind in San Diego. But what really sets them apart is their volunteer work in the community. One special visit took them to the The Ronald McDonald House, a "home away from home" for families whose seriously ill children need to undergo medical treatment at nearby hospitals.

During this annual visit the students made lunch for the families, donated a dozen boxes of food items for the pantry, delivered inspirational notes of encouragement from the other students at Hope, and even performed a mini-concert.

The board of trustees from the Ronald McDonald House recently sent a letter of thanks. They wrote, "We were very impressed with each of you. Everyone had wonderful attitudes, got along well and really wanted to make a difference. We are so grateful that you took time out of your week to put a smile on our families here at the Ronald McDonald House. You truly made our House come alive with your enthusiastic attitude, and we can't thank you enough!"

Thank you, Mrs. Evans, for making a difference with our students and the community. And thank you, Hope Handbell students, for your compassion and service to others. You rock!!

Jefferson *Elementary (K-5)*

3743 Jefferson St., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5500 • <http://jefferson.schoolloop.com/>



Reaching Out to School, Community and Beyond

As an authorized International Baccalaureate Programme school, Jefferson has a vision for students and staff: "By educating students, we create a better world." This year, Jefferson has realized that vision in a variety of ways.

The second-grade vision was of Carlsbad business partnerships. The students visited business people in Carlsbad and learned first-hand about what they do in our city. They also created "Flat Stanley" versions of themselves and corresponded with business members to develop communication skills. Then, they developed presentations with business members and produced a directory with participating businesses. Their final project was a "business expo," open to the public.



Second graders' Flat Stanleys.

Parents and teachers also collaborated on the vision by presenting several parent-education nights open to the local community. Some highlights were Reading and Math Nights, a screening of "Race to Nowhere" and an intergenerational IB Experience night.

This year, Jefferson reached out beyond the oceans to a Kenyan orphanage with our "Bucks to Beds" yearlong fund-raiser. In collaboration with our local Kids for Peace chapter, Jefferson students were able to have face-to-face time with the orphanage director and one of the student leaders as well as time online and via phone. The relationships built through those exchanges deepened



Students and parents enjoy learning the IB way at the Intergenerational IB Experience Night.



student commitment to get the African children off the floor and into comfy beds.

Finally, the public is invited to share our vision and enjoy Jefferson's Second Annual Fifth-Grade Exhibition Night. This event is a demonstration of students' learning over their years in the IB Programme. Cooperative teams of three students produce an inquiry-based multimedia presentation on a topic that intrigues them. Then they present at the Exhibition. This year's overarching theme is "Water." Some topics chosen by students this year are the impact of water pollution on sea animals, the chemistry of water and how to construct a water filter.

Want to learn more about water? Come to the Jefferson auditorium at 6 p.m. and catch the vision!

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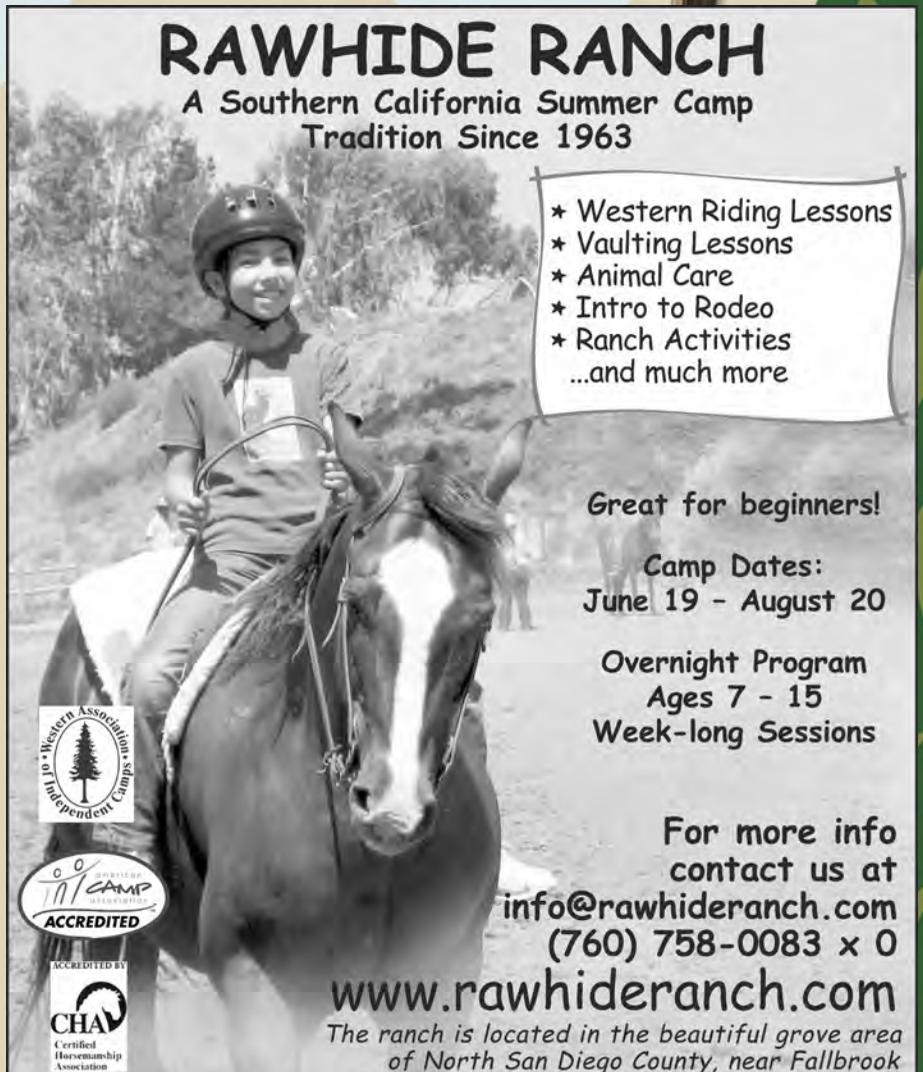
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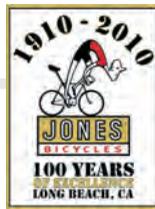
The ranch is located in the beautiful grove area of North San Diego County, near Fallbrook



Keeping Up With the Jones'

Wear It—Or Don't Ride!

By Lisa Genshock



Some of my best Summer memories are of riding my Schwinn Stingray Fair Lady bicycle. It was a hand-me-down from my older sister, and I loved it. I had a mod flower power banana seat with orange, red, and purple daisies all over it. The purple metallic paint sparkled in the sun. To me, it signified freedom. Peddling happily, I would ride to my friend Linda's house, one-half mile away.

I loved the wind blowing through my hair as I rode. So, when my Dad came home one day with a helmet, I was mortified. "Wear it" he said, "Or don't ride your bike."

According to the latest statistics from the National SAFE KIDS Campaign, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) nearly 50 percent of children 14 and under hospitalized for bicycle-related injuries are diagnosed with a brain injury. In California, it is law that all persons under the age of 18 years must wear a helmet while bicycling.

Parents, put a helmet on your child and wear one yourself. You are the example.



Jones Bicycles & Skateboards, 5332 East 2nd St., Long Beach, CA 90803, 562/434-0343
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CITY OF CARLSBAD
 Parks & Recreation

Gearing Up for Summer



Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel

For some parents, the arrival of summer means less stress because the school schedule is not a part of the daily routine. For other parents, having the children home all day every day is stressful. Whichever arena you are in, the reality of life is that summer vacation is almost here for the traditional schools.

Children may get more wound up, more disagreeable, more difficult to manage as the start of summer gets closer. Change is stressful, even if it is for the better. The break in routine is stressful for children and adults. It is advisable to keep your discipline strong so that you glide into summer with boundaries in place. Consistent boundaries will also help your child to contain

his or her behavior and to feel safe.

My discipline system is mentioned on parentingsos.com and my new book, *Don't Feed the Dragon*, is a discipline manual divided into three sections: (1) what parents need to understand about children in order to successfully guide them; (2) my discipline system, and (3) answers to 130 of the top concerns of parents, listed in alphabetical order. The book is age-appropriate from tots through the teens and is available on parentingsos.com.

Having your discipline system in place, it is wise to sit down as a family and make a list of things that can be done during free time. The list may be posted in a place where children can use it as a reference. To quell the endless, "I'm bored" message that children who are not used to having non-structured time often begin chanting when school ends, offer two choices: "You may refer to the chart that we created or I will choose a chore off the chores chart that will help you dispel boredom." This plan might allow you to have your whole house cleaned in the first week of summer!

Training for the Future

Summer is a wonderful time to train your darling children to do chores. Finally, they have time—the constant excuse during school months! Children will leave home some day—I promise!—and when they do, they need to know how to take care of a house and themselves. Chores teach a child that a house does not clean itself and how to do fundamental tasks, such as clean a toilet. If you have a housekeeper, create a space each week that the children are responsible for in terms of upkeep and give the tidiness angel one less area to clean.

It is important that children are not in so many activities that their lives become stressful. Children need time to be children! If you want your child to be successful in school, have at least a half hour a day that is devoted to school skills. If each child took a 30-minute "chill break" and read for that amount of time, their future teachers would be ecstatic! Every child needs quiet time each day that does not involve any media or mechanical gadgets, including during the summer.

Enjoy Your Children

Most important of all, enjoy your children! There will never be another summer like the one ahead of you. Your children will not be this age ever again. Create some sort of structure and have some time that is not structured. Don't send your children to other people to play all the time—what each child wants more than anything else is time with you. It is easy to forget that when you are trying to keep the energy-packed chicks busy.

P.S. Thanks to all the teachers who gave so much of themselves this school year to help our children be all that they can be!

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel has written three books. She has taught school, raised two children, worked as a consultant to schools and has taught parenting for the past 20 years. Sandy lives in Meridian, Idaho. www.ParentingSOS.com

Baseball Terms Word Search Contest



NEW Rules!!!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search. When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that is the word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put CRL in the subject line)

Entries must be received by June 15, 2011

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

- | | | | |
|---------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Balk | Curve ball | Home run | Second base |
| Ball | Donnybrook | Infield | Short stop |
| Baseman | Dugout | Manager | Sinker |
| Batter | Error | Out | Strike |
| Bench | Fielder | Outfield | Third base |
| Bullpen | First base | Pitcher | Umpire |
| Catcher | Floater | Rhubarb | Walk |
| Coach | Foul | Runs | |
| Crowd | Home plate | Screwball | |



**Congratulations to Our February Winner:
Seek 'n Find Contest: Ashley Lang
Congratulations to Carolyn Alkire**

(who is the only person to guess what Netragrednik spells when the letters are unscrambled)

E	R	I	P	M	U	F	U	H	K	P	I	Y	H	A
B	S	H	O	R	T	S	T	O	P	R	N	F	C	F
U	O	A	K	L	I	T	O	M	F	E	F	O	A	E
L	L	A	B	N	R	R	U	E	I	H	I	U	O	I
L	A	E	K	D	B	E	A	P	R	C	E	L	C	A
P	L	E	R	Y	N	R	S	L	S	T	L	R	X	L
E	R	A	N	R	H	O	E	A	T	A	D	E	B	J
N	Y	N	B	U	O	S	C	T	B	C	M	D	P	C
B	O	B	B	W	M	R	N	E	A	D	N	L	I	E
D	B	A	T	T	E	R	V	D	S	O	R	E	T	K
W	R	G	F	G	R	R	K	X	E	X	L	I	C	I
B	K	L	A	B	U	Z	C	I	M	C	L	F	H	R
C	L	N	H	C	N	E	B	S	A	I	E	T	E	T
K	A	N	O	F	S	O	R	O	N	E	Y	U	R	S
M	W	I	C	I	J	G	T	P	D	U	G	O	U	T

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Kelly *Elementary (K-5)*

4885 Kelly Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5800 • <http://kelly.schoolloop.com/>



Tressie Armstrong
Principal

Information Broadcasting!

Individual commitment to a group effort—that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.
—Vince Lombardi

School partnerships with community businesses tied to student learning equal a winning combination! Kelly Elementary School is very proud of the Kelly Broadcasting Company! Under the direction of Philip K. Ireland, who works for a video-production company, and Gabie Norton, Kelly School third-grade teacher extraordinaire, our Kelly Cougars have created a program worthy of recognition.

The students are learning all about creating intriguing story lines, filming, interviewing, sound production and editing a final film production. Using film production as a means of mastering English/language arts standards provides an exciting and engaging method for guaranteeing student engagement in their own learning. So far, the team has produced a learning video for classroom use on prepositional phrases and a documentary on the meaning of student engagement. During these project-based learning activities, the students increase their skills in writing, speaking, listening and developing an incredible sense of poise in working with the public.



Tyler and Zoe double check their images!



Riley Fels learns to use the camera!

Our students truly are enriched through the high quality experience they receive in the Kelly Broadcasting Company. In fact, the KBC product is so professional that for the second year in a row, they have been invited to produce the video production for the Carlsbad Chamber's Outstanding Educational Award dinner program held in May at a resort to honor programs around the North County! Teams of students visit every school-finalist program to video components of the nominees, to be edited into an entertaining production on the evening of the awards ceremony! This year, our Kelly Broadcasting Company is also filming themselves, because they have been recognized as finalists for the arts category of Outstanding Educational Programs! Way to go, KBC Kelly Cougars!

Magnolia *Elementary (K-6)*

1905 Magnolia Ave., Carlsbad, CA, 92008 • 760/331-5600 • <http://mes.cusd.ca.schoolloop.com/>



Jimmy Hines
Principal

An "Association" of Support

As I reflect upon this past school year, I can't help but think of how fortunate Magnolia Elementary is to have an ever-growing and supportive Parent Teacher Organization that gets involved in so many aspects of our school's life.

That the PTA continues to grow is a clear reaction to our overall population increase, and a greater desire on the part of our community to become more involved in the daily workings of the school.

The resources that they provide are unending, and span all grade levels. This year alone our PTA has provided 12 new classroom computers, new picnic benches for the kindergarten playground, a new art program, walkie-talkies for school safety, physical education instruction, kindergarten aides, and a new bully-prevention program.

In addition, our PTA continues to support many annual school functions, such as the father/daughter and mother/son events, science day, and Staff Appreciation Week. They also support our continuous "Going Green" recycling campaign, which this year alone has raised almost \$4,000!



Building Capacity

Perhaps more unique than any of the previously mentioned activities, our PTA has also taken the initiative to raise enough money for each of our students to receive their own Spirit Wear T-shirt.

Whenever anyone visits our school on Spirit Wear Friday, they are amazed to see the great sense of pride and energy that is displayed by so many of our students when they proudly wear these "Got Paw?" shirts.

In all, the PTA does a terrific job of looking at the "whole" school in terms of help. They know and understand that building a strong sense of support for a school site goes far beyond academics. It must also take into account what a school's culture represents to the entire learning community.

More importantly, our PTA understands that it is "people power" which makes the biggest difference in terms of contributions. It is not just about getting volunteers for events. Rather, it is taking the time to get inside our classrooms and contribute to the important work of the teaching staff.

As we move forward in these times of budgetary uncertainties, at both the state and county level, I am comforted by the thought that Magnolia Elementary has a PTA which will keep growing in every way. We will continue to build capacity regardless of any future challenges. That's because we are Magnolia!

Pacific Rim *Elementary (K-5)*

1100 Camino De Las Ondas, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6200 • <http://pacificrim.schoolloop.com/>



Robert Devich
Principal

Dedicated to Students

Pacific Rim Elementary School's 2010-2011 Teacher of the Year is Mrs. Shauna Bloomquist. Mrs. Bloomquist was recognized at the May 11 Board meeting at the Carlsbad City Council Chambers, along with the Teachers of the Year from other Carlsbad Unified School District schools. Mrs. Bloomquist was selected by her peers for being "extremely dedicated, patient and gentle." Mrs. Bloomquist is "very involved on campus as a teacher and parent, serving as the kindergarten representative on the School Leadership Team and a parent volunteer for the fifth grade and is active in community sports." According to her fellow teachers, "Parents know they are getting a quality teacher who loves her job when they bring their new kindergartners to Pacific Rim Elementary School for the first time." These are only a few of the comments submitted to nominate Mrs. Bloomquist for the Pacific Rim Teacher of the Year.

At the staff meeting where Mrs. Bloomquist was "crowned" the Pacific Rim Teacher of the Year, she expressed her gratitude to Mr. Devich, the kindergarten team, and Pacific Rim teachers and staff for the honor of being selected this year. She also expressed that she is so fortunate to work with such a dedicated group of teachers who care so deeply about the students.

Congratulations, Mrs. Bloomquist! We are proud of your distinction and glad you are part of the Waverider team at Pacific Rim!



Mrs. Bloomquist and Students: Camden Keller, Makenna Malone, Hunter Eaton, Grace Phillion, Alex Rivas Coelho, Subha Subramanian.



Kindergarten Teammates:

Melanie Lupica, Shelby Shira, Shauna Bloomquist, Jenessa Stayton, Sylvia Trenton.



Pacific Rim's Crowned Teachers 2004-2011: (Front) Peggy McGowan, Anne Uber (Back) Katie Jordan, Shauna Bloomquist, Megan Smith, Corey Sims.

UP FOR DEBATE! • FROM PAGE 1

Humor, Insight, Commitment

Before performing his Humorous (actually, LOL funny) Interpretation, Event Captain Devin McDaniel reveals, "Public speaking is among the major fears of most people." If he ever was afraid, you'd never know it now as he cavorts on the stage, playing several characters with physical agility and spot-on humor, the likes of which can be seen on "Saturday Night Live."

Davin Curtis confides, "The process teaches me not only how to speak, but how to think." His Original Oratory on "Happiness" eloquently proves the point. He begins with a comparison of two workers who view similar situations with vastly different perspectives and his speech holds the audience with insightful, compelling words.

Team President Alynia Phillips, a senior, exemplifies the very best of CHS Speech-and-Debaters. Eager-eyed, poised, mature and articulate, she says, "I've learned to broaden my thinking, become more tolerant and consider both sides of controversial topics. I plan to use what I've learned to enter law school, study constitutional law and ultimately prosecute hate crimes."

Team members conduct six-week workshops at our middle schools, so it won't be surprising in a decade or two to witness these great debaters helping to shape the future of our community, and our country.

If you'd like to help CHS Speech and Debate competitors by putting your money where their mouths are, donations to enable tournament trips are welcomed. Please contact mcurtis@carlsbadusd.net.

Selected 2011 Triumphs

- January: Winter Debate
CHS won 2nd overall out of 16 schools; two 1st-place team trophies; Best Speaker individual award.
- February: Individual Events
CHS captured 1st out of 11 schools; six 1st-place trophies out of 12 events.
- March: Sweepstakes
CHS won 1st at State Qualifying Tournament; earned 31 spots. Davin Curtis and Natasha Maldini earned San Diego County Top Competitor and Runner-Up of the Year, respectively; Devin McDaniel, 2nd place Speaker of the Year.
- Currently:
Sam Gardner and Yujia Pan have won first place in regional contests, on their way to higher levels.

Poinsettia *Elementary (K-5)*

2445 Mica Road, Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 760/331-6500 • <http://www.pes.cusd.ca.schoolloop.com/>



Steve Ahle
Principal

An "Ooblicking" Success

Springtime is now a tradition for science adventures at Poinsettia School. Science Day was an ooh-ing, aah-ing, oozing, and "ooblicking" success, where fun learning abounded. Kindergarten through fifth-grade students approached the activities with curiosity and verve. They were not disappointed.

Students enjoyed an array of hands-on, grade-appropriate science activities and experiments. Mini-chemists played with ooblick, striving to ascertain if the goo is a solid or liquid. Future surgeons dissected animal parts, from cow eyes to owl pellets. In preparation for astronautic adventures, students practiced balance and motion skills with zooms, twirly birds, rollers and Lego levitators. Constellations, the lunar eclipse, coloring flowers from the inside out, and chemical reactions were all researched and documented by the young scientists.

Assisted by parents, environmentally savvy students eagerly delved into the secrets of a hydrogen-powered car and tested the levels of alkali in the various liquids we drink. The San Diego County Office of Education came out with their Green Machine, involving making clouds and handling earth worms, and the Splash Lab, which added to everyone's delight.

Kindergarten students gained a well-grounded understanding of the parts of a plant by transplanting flowers.

The next day, the children were treated to an assembly on Mad Science sponsored by our PTA. The assembly pulled all of these activities into an extravaganza followed by the chorus of "ooohs" and "ahhhhs" emanating from our student audience.

From chemical reactions to constellations, Poinsettia's 2011 Science Day was an ooblick of enlightenment and delight.



Students get down and clean beneath the hood of a GM fuel cell vehicle.



Kindergarten students display their transplanted flowers.

Valley *Middle School (6-8)*

1645 Magnolia Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008 • 760/331-5300 • <http://vms.schoolloop.com/>



Cesar Morales
Principal

Three Strategies for Learning

It's all about teaching and learning at Valley Middle School.

Below are three strategies that the VMS team embarked on this academic year to bolster its responses to the three fundamental questions that drive the curriculum and instruction philosophy:

What do we want students to learn? How will we know if they learned? What will we do if they don't learn?

Common-Course Syllabi: All teachers collaborated with their grade-level colleagues to develop a common-course syllabus for each course offered at Valley Middle School. The objective of the syllabus is to ensure clear communication among parents, students and teachers about the scope and sequence of the curriculum for each class as well as clarifying the assessments tools that teachers will utilize to confirm that students are learning the proposed content standards. In addition to highlighting curriculum and assessments, the course syllabus details the necessary materials needed for each class, as well as how students can access additional academic support. You are invited to visit the VMS homepage and select the Curriculum and Instruction tab to preview our common course syllabi at vms.schoolloop.com.

Instructional Rounds: The Instructional Rounds model originates from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and is adapted from the medical rounds model that doctors use. In essence, a group of three to five teachers and one administrator visit classroom teachers while they are giving instruction. The objectives of the first set of Instructional Rounds are as follows: learn different instructional approaches and techniques used by VMS colleagues, develop skills to describe what we see as it relates to teaching and learning, and celebrate the great teaching taking place at VMS. All Valley Middle School teachers participated in Instructional Rounds during the last week of March.

Student Engagement: What is student engagement? This is the question the Valley Middle School team was asked to answer. In the responses came many examples of what it looks like, what you hear when student engagement is taking place, and many strategies that can be employed to ensure that a lesson is designed to obtain a high level of student engagement.

In the end, Valley Middle School defined student engagement as a state of learning in which students demonstrate high attention and high commitment. We invite you to preview our student engagement video in high definition at <http://vimeo.com/18829908>.



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SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1



Dr. John Roach

Christine Mazurkiewicz is Lead Nutrition Services Assistant at Kelly Elementary. Principal Tressie Armstrong nominated her for providing outstanding service to students during the remodeling of the school's kitchen. She states, "Chris maintained healthy and satisfying nutritional services for the children by moving wherever there was space to accommodate her equipment and by creatively setting up an outdoor café. Chris managed to make the remodel not a disruption, but an adventure."



Christine Mazurkiewicz
in the makeshift Kelly kitchen

I had the pleasure of nominating Web Developer Sharan Merchant for her unparalleled combination of technical skills, positive attitude, work ethic and ingenuity. Under Sharan's able hand, our website at www.carlsbadusd.k12.ca.us provides thousands of visitors with important information. She possesses an artistic slant to photos, a way with words and dedication to researching and providing resources.



Sharan Merchant

Laurie McCormick, currently a Worker's Compensation/Benefits Technician, was nominated by Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services Torrie Norton, who relates, "As Office Assistant Sub-Finder Operator, Laurie arrives by 6:00 a.m. to ensure that each classroom with an absent teacher is filled with a qualified substitute. Despite her hectic schedule, her morning smile continues throughout the day."



Laurie McCormick

Congratulations to All Classified Employees of the Month

Our 2010-11 Classified Employees of the Month exemplify the very best of our District team. They include administrative and instructional assistants and people filling other key positions, including Hope Elementary Health Technician Carolyn Robertson, who has served the District since 1974 and is retiring in June. Looking back upon her years of service, Carolyn reports, "I have felt like a mom, grandmother and tooth fairy rolled into one!"

Together, these and all CUSD classified employees people share a defining trait: their dedication. In the words of Christine Mazurkiewicz, they proclaim, "I love my job!"

It certainly shows.

SPORTS • FROM PAGE 1

In other activities, the Band enjoyed an undefeated season, earning a second consecutive championship at the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Award (SCSBOA) festival as well as a percussion award. Like Band, the Chamber Orchestra earned a Unanimous Superior rating at SCSBOA. Sound Express soared to several noteworthy recognitions at area events while the Chamber Singers received a Superior rating at this spring's California Music Educators Association Festival.

Doing Well and Doing Good

In addition to excelling at their chosen activities, these students are great sports and good citizens who give back to the community in many ways. The Lancer Dancers, for instance, celebrated their national triumph with a free performance; admission to the event was a donation of canned food to feed the hungry.

Enriching efforts feed students' souls, add to Carlsbad High's tradition of success and enhance participants' academic achievements. CHS Principal Maggie Stanchi has observed, "Students who are engaged in school activities and connected with something beyond their classrooms do well academically. I'm very proud of our students, staff and families who devote the time, energy and commitment to excellence."

Let's hear it for our kids!



Lisa Rodman
President



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To Celebrate Mother's Day, I'm Giving Ten Moms A Free Family Legacy Planning Session And a Free Manicure/Pedicure!



My name is Kristina Haymes. I'm your local Personal Planning Lawyer and mother of three. I know how hard moms work. I know moms are super busy and don't often have time for themselves, so I would like to give San Diego mothers a free manicure/pedicure! I will tell you

how to receive your free gift, but first...

One way for moms to show how much you love your family is to make sure your kids are taken care of. **For this reason, I am waiving the regular \$750 Planning Session fee for any mom who makes an appointment this month for a Family Legacy Planning Session.**

During your Planning Session you will:

- Choose the right guardians for your kids without making any of the common mistakes most parents (and even lawyers) make.
- Get your financial house in order and keep it that way.
- Ensure your kids inherit your values.
- Discover how to legally avoid all estate taxes and keep your family out of court!
- Learn the secret to protecting your kid's inheritance from lawsuits and divorce.
- Find out how to leave your loved ones a gift far greater than all the money in the world.

The planning session is absolutely free and there is no obligation and no pressure.

Haymes Law Group P.C.

www.HaymesLawGroup.com

(858) 794-1426

If you are one of the first 10 moms to schedule your free Legacy Planning Session, I will also give you a gift certificate for a free manicure/pedicure when you come in to meet with me.

Schedule your Family Legacy Planning session and receive your free gift

Call (858) 794-1426

Are Your Kids Protected If Something Were To Happen?

Free Living Trust and Child Guardianship Workshop at Playwerx in Carlsbad

Friday, June 10, 2011, 5:45 to 7:00 p.m.

To register, call **(858) 207-4884** or visit
www.caKidsGuardPlan.com

Bring the whole family! Your children can play while you learn how to protect your children so they never end up in the arms of strangers and how to protect your assets from unnecessary taxes and probate fees.

Pizza and refreshments will be provided.

**Plus \$1,750
in gifts and a
dinner raffle.**

**Register Now!
Space is limited
to 12 families!**

