

SCHOOL CALENDAR

School Governing Board Meetings
Acalanes Union
 High School District
 Board Room AUHSD Office
 1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette
 Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 pm
 Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 7:30 pm

Lafayette School District
 LAFSD Office
 3477 School Street, Lafayette
 Monday, Oct. 13 at 7:00 pm
Orinda Union School District
 OUSD Office
 8 Altarinda Road, Orinda
 Monday, Oct. 13 at 4:00 pm

Moraga School District
 Joaquin Moraga Intermediate
 School Auditorium
 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
 Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 7:30 pm

Del Rey Pumpkin Patch is Green – Don't Miss It!

By Jean Follmer

Del Rey Elementary School in Orinda will hold its annual Pumpkin Patch on October 11 from noon to 3:00 pm. In addition to the pumpkins and traditional activities, Del Rey is adding some new activities that promote Earth consciousness.

Making their Pumpkin Patch debuts will be a 6-foot diameter canvas Earth ball as well as 50-foot long solar bags. "It is important to remind everyone to be Earth-friendly and Earth-conscious and have fun at the same time. We want to show that 'green' activities can be incorporated into any event. When was the last time the kids could hold the whole Earth in their hands?" asked Pumpkin Patch Coordinator Charmagne Peters. "Anybody can get a jump house; how fun is it to play with the world? Our Earth ball that will be featured this year is currently a classroom project. The canvas ball comes to us unpainted, so we've decided to have the 5th



grade classes paint in the continents and bodies of water. So not only does it become an education experience, but an event that the students can bring ownership to," said Peters.

The 50-foot solar bags hold over 200 cubic feet of air. "The solar energy of the sun heats the air inside the bag and within minutes it rises and floats up to 50 feet in the air," said Peters.

The Pumpkin Patch will also feature the Garden Committee this year. Peters said "Our Garden Committee is harvesting fresh lavender" for the kids to make sachets with. The proceeds from the lavender sachets will go directly to Del Rey's "Math in the Garden" program.

Del Rey is also taking other environmentally conscious measures. "We are composting using scraps from the kitchen and are really focusing on the environment. There are lots of exciting things going on at Del Rey," said Peters.

Other Halloween Events and Activities

Sleepy Hollow Elementary School Pumpkin Patch Saturday, October 18th from 11:00am-3:00pm. Bring your child to Sleepy Hollow School for games, food and fun at our annual fund raising carnival. 20 Washington Lane, Orinda.

The Moraga Juniors annual Halloween Carnival will take place on Sunday October 26, 2008, from 10:00-2:00 at Camplindo High School at 300 Moraga Road in Moraga. It is a fun and fanciful event perfect for children ages 2 to 8 years, and attracts over 500 children each year. Participants will be able to choose a pumpkin from the pumpkin patch, enjoy carnival games with prizes for all and a festive art center with trick or treat bags and face painting. In addition, children can visit a variety of fun booths including "The Land of Oz," "Oscar," "Catch the Joker," pocket witch, and a Cakewalk as well as a Toy walk. Lunch, snacks and refreshments will be sold at the Leaky Caldron Café and various homemade ghoulish goodies will be sold at the Carnival bake booth. Admission is \$3 per child, plus a small charge for game tickets and food. All children are encouraged to come in costume. Each year, MJWC raises funds to benefit a variety of philanthropies including local libraries, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), BARM (Bay Area Rescue Mission), Royal Family Kids Camp, and other organizations that serve the women, children and the homeless of Contra Costa County. For more information please contact Michelle Dow at Halloween@moragajuniors.org.

*Engaging Minds
 Inspiring Creativity
 Enriching Lives*



5th Grade educational trip
 Marin Headlands, 2008

PRESCHOOL THROUGH 8TH GRADE

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION
 Limited Openings for the 2008-09 school year.

WEEKLY TOURS - 8:30am - 10:00am
 October 3, 10, 17, November 21
 November 7 - Middle School Tour
 November 14 - Kindergarten Tour
 Please register online at www.saklan.org

OPEN HOUSE
 Sunday, November 9, 2008 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm
 Parents & students are both welcome to attend.

Admissions Contact:
 925-376-7900 x16 or admissions@saklan.org



saklan
 valley
 school

1678 School Street
 Moraga, CA 94556
 925.376.7900
 www.saklan.org

Lamorinda Schools

Acalanes Holds Annual Community Service Fair

By Jean Follmer



Sophomore Jard O'Rourke, Senior Jane Loria, Senior Rebecca Colby, Senior Jenny Reich, Senior Linda Swift and Junior Ellie Stern at the Acalanes Community Service Fair
 Photo Jean Follmer

Acalanes High School recently held its annual Community Service Fair on campus. Over thirty vendors were present to solicit the required community service hours of the Acalanes students. The fair is run by students on the Acalanes Community Outreach Board. "The Community Outreach Board plans the Community Service Fair so students can fill their community service requirements," said Ellie Sterns, a Junior and Board member. The fair was part of an entire week of community service related activities that included stuffing brown bag lunches for Meals on Wheels and writing and mailing letters to our military troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Vendor Sandy Long of the small non-profit, Active Reading Clinic, said, "We have all of these needs like data entry and filing. To be able to come here and tap into this enthusiasm is very cool." She said they had already filled four sheets worth of volunteers. Long also said she appreciated the level of

organization at the event: "They directed me in, took my things from my car and walked me to my table." Shelter, Inc. of Contra Costa County also had accolades for Acalanes. "Acalanes has been a really big presence in our organization. It helped start our teen organization. They've done tons of drives for us and the overall support has been very helpful. We can always count on them," said Theresia Ortiz of Shelter, Inc.

In addition to outside entities like Active Reading Clinic, Shelter, Inc., Bay Area Rescue Mission, Animal Rescue Fund and the American Cancer Society, there were student-run service organizations seeking help. New Global Citizens (NGC) is one of those organizations. NGC is a national program that seeks "to educate, equip, and mobilize young people to help solve the greatest challenges faced by communities around the world." It's made up of student-run high school teams throughout the United States

that "select one of NGC's global partner projects" to focus on. The Acalanes team "is helping kids in India (near New Delhi) who pick through trash to make money," said Senior Rebecca Colby. The kids suffer from related health issues and Colby said they are trying to "help break the continuing cycle of poverty. It's great because we have a community service requirement at the school. I've been looking for a way to combine my interests for awhile and I want to give back. We're going to be on the Earth for a long time."

Stern said the Community Outreach Board sponsors many opportunities to serve throughout the year. The number of required community service hours increases with each year as does the number of those hours that must be filled off-campus. Stern said some of the off-campus places they'll offer service opportunities at will be Glide Memorial and the San Francisco Zoo.

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