

The Nugget



News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office

May/June 2011

Holly Hermansen, Superintendent



This issue of the Nugget contains time sensitive workshops, programs, and activities plus 'save-the-dates' for FY2011-12. End the year with a shot of inspiration and mark your calendar now.

News & Notes ...

First Annual Science Olympiad: A Great Success

By PRSD Supt. Britta Skavdahl, Ed.D.



Science Olympiad - Can Car Race

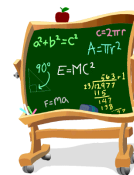
The Pleasant Ridge Union School District was delighted to sponsor the 1st Annual Elementary Science Olympiad for Nevada County. The event took place on the campuses of Magnolia and Cottage Hill Schools on Saturday, May 7. Eleven teams from Scotten, Alta Sierra, Cottage Hill, Grizzly Hill, Clear Creek, Pleasant Valley and Grass Valley Charter Schools competed in the event. Teams were made up of students in grades 4th - 6th.

Students who participated in the Science Olympiad were engaged in a variety of challenging and motivational events. Competitions were fast-paced, hands-on, and covered Earth, Life, and Physical Science. For many of the stations, students had to prepare in advance. The day provided a nice balance of skills including: mastery of science concepts, processes,

inquiry, application, and teamwork. Each of the events was organized and staffed by a community volunteer who also had to prepare their station appropriately, such as building a race track, writing test questions, or supplying owl pellets.

Science Olympiad (www.soinc.org) is a national non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of science education in grades K-12. Anyone that participated in this year's Science Olympiad would agree that the event met that goal in addition to being a great amount of fun. Someone was overheard saying that it was about time to have a hearty and healthy competition that was not sports; giving other students an opportunity to strut their stuff. Final results of this year's competition can be found on page 4 of *The Nugget*. Organizing for the FY2011-12 Science Olympiad will begin in September. We're looking forward to expanding school participation.

3rd & 5th Math Teachers and 7th, 8th, & High School Algebra Teachers: Countywide Math Collaborations Planned for fall 2011



Because of the exceedingly positive feedback from our pilot program with 4th grade math teachers, the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office and district superintendents are expanding math collaboration programs to 3rd & 5th grade math teachers and 7th, 8th, & high school algebra teachers. The goal is to enable every math teacher in the county to be informed and feel confident about effective practices at their grade level. NCSOS will strive to have every math teacher in the county, at each grade level,

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attend the series of collaborations to be a true success. At the culmination of each grade level series, teachers will be refreshed with new tools and understanding. There will be one follow-up collaboration for 4th grade teachers at the beginning of the school year. Participating teachers will receive e-fliers in the fall but dates have already been selected and can be put on your calendar *now*. The collaborations/trainings are as follows:

THIRD GRADE TEACHERS SCHEDULE

Month	3 rd Grade
Sept.	Wed. 9/7 8:30-11:30
Oct.	Tues. 10/4 12:30-3:30
Nov.	Tues. 11/1 8:30-11:30
Dec.	Thurs. 12/8 12:30-3:30

FOURTH GRADE TEACHERS SCHEDULE

Month	4 th Grade
Sept.	Sept. 9/15 12:30-3:30

FIFTH GRADE TEACHERS SCHEDULE

Month	5 th Grade
Sept.	Wed. 9/7 12:30-3:30
Oct.	Tues. 10/4 8:30-11:30
Nov.	Tues. 11/1 12:30-3:30
Dec.	Thurs. 12/8 8:30-11:30

7th, 8th, & HS ALGEBRA TEACHERS SCHEDULE

Month	7,8,& HS Algebra
Sept.	Thurs. 9/15 8:30-11:30
Oct.	Wed. 10/5 8:30-11:30
Nov.	Tues. 11/8 8:30-11:30
Dec.	Thurs. 12/1 8:30-11:30

High School Students Explore Careers in Health: Summer Institute offered June 20th-23rd

By Sharyn Ward Turner, MA, RN
Coordinator of Student Health

“So you think you want to be a nurse?” “How do you know you don’t want to be a cardiac surgeon, a physical therapist, a nuclear radiologist, or a forensic pathologist?” These are just a few of the numerous health careers students will be exposed to if he/she applies for the 9th Annual “*Exploring Careers in Health*” Summer Institute, taking place June 20th-23rd for students entering grades 9-12.

This project is a collaborative approach to a problem that has far-reaching implications in Nevada County for youth and the community. It combines the efforts of the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools and Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital to address the need for an educated and competent workforce and it reflects both short term and long-term strategies in youth development and service learning. Community financial support is provided by the Nevada City 49er Rotary and Soroptomist International of the Sierra Foothills. The institute is no charge to the participant.



Students participate in multiple “hands-on” activities utilizing Sierra College Nursing Department’s patient simulator, including specific scenarios such as protocol in response to a gunshot wound to the chest or respiratory arrest from a teen drug overdose. Presentations and field trips include

visits to Western Sierra Medical Clinic of Grass Valley, Physical Therapy facilities and exposure to multiple health career opportunities in both public and private sectors, including diagnostic as well as therapeutic services.

Course objectives include: identifying several professions and their attributes in the healthcare field; identifying characteristics of his/her personality that make them well suited or not to pursue a health career; learning to conduct themselves in a professional manner within ethical and legal boundaries; learning educational requirements of various health professionals, including scholarship opportunities; and, providing orientation to volunteer service and work experience in the health fields. As one student summarized, “This was an awesome experience that I will always remember the rest of my life.” It will only get better from here!”

To apply: go to www.nevco.org for the application and click on ‘links & resources’. For more information contact Sharyn Turner MA, RN, Coordinator of School Health with the Nevada County Schools at (530) 478-6400, ext. 245 or sharyn@nevco.k12.ca.us.

**Safe Schools/Healthy Students:
Year Two in Retrospect
By Project Director Marina Bernheimer**

As we conclude the second year of our four-year Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant (SS/HS), we thank all the teachers and administrators who have worked with us to implement evidence-based programs and curricula in support of local students and their families in Western Nevada County. As a result of SS/HS programs, local students in grades kindergarten through 5th are receiving social/emotional

support through Second Step curricula. The *Olweus Bullying Prevention Program* is being implemented in every elementary and middle school district in western Nevada County to improve school climates for all students. We can all look forward to long term county-wide effects of this program. The Girls Circle/Boys Council support groups are being implemented in middle schools in collaboration with DVSAC. High School students with more intensive needs are being served by *Reconnecting Youth* classes, *Aggression Replacement Therapy* (ART), and substance use reduction classes like KIDS and the Teen Project.

For the first time in our County's history, students who are uninsured or under-insured have access to mental health support at no cost thanks to SS/HS services. Hundreds of students are receiving mental health support from the SS/HS

Behavioral Health Therapists and Crisis Counselor(s). Our SS/HS Family Resource Centers are supporting families by providing: clothes closets, computer labs, parenting classes, food pantries, employment support, and more.

This summer, our GREAT (Gang Reduction Education and Training) Academy will serve 200 students at sites in Grass Valley and Nevada City. This collaboration with the Grass Valley Police Department provides fun and educational activities at a low cost for students during the summer months.

We are grateful for the support of the countless teachers and administrators who are working in partnership with us to implement SS/HS programs and activities in Western Nevada County. We look forward to continuing our work over the next two years. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of children and their families.

Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All

Trainings & Collaboration Meetings

Pre-School & Kindergarten Workshop: 'Do you let me fly?'

NCSOS and Gold Country Association for the Education of Young Children (GCAEYC) are sponsoring this workshop that examines New Zealand's Reggio inspired approach to curriculum and environment. Presenter Annie White has recently returned from a study trip in New Zealand and will cover such topics as: light table & art areas, high trust model, outdoor environments and more.

The workshop takes place Monday, June 13 at NCSOS/Houser Room, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m., \$7 per person includes a light dinner. RSVP to Judy Nielsen at: judy@nevco.k12.ca.us (530) 478-6400 x208.

Explicit Direct Instruction with John Hollingsworth

Hold the date: There will be a Kindergarten thru 12th grade workshop regarding Explicit Direct Instruction with presenter John Hollingsworth, a lead educational researcher in the effectiveness of this teaching strategy. Explicit Direct Instruction refers to a method of teaching that requires the

teacher to develop specific learning strategies, promoting consistent interaction between students and the teacher. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2011, from 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., \$45. per person. Further details will be provided in the fall but mark your calendar now.

CPR & First Aid Training Continues thru-out Summer

A complete list of classes and additional information can be found at www.nevco.org. For reservations contact Anna McMillen at amcmillen@nevco.k12.ca.us or phone (530)478-6400 x 201. Upcoming classes are (if not listed class is full):

Thurs. 7/21	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Sat., 7/30	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thurs., 8/11	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Field Trips

Free Audubon Workshops Offered

It's not too early to consider an Audubon Society workshop in your classroom next year. The local chapter of the Audubon Society will conduct one-hour workshops about birds. All presentations are free. For more info or

to schedule a classroom visit contact Jim Groeser at 432-6596.

Opportunities for All

Community Service Opportunity for High School Students

The Audubon Society needs high school students to volunteer for the Audubon station at The Children's Festival on Friday, July 15. Students will assist pre-k thru lower grade students paint wood cutouts of birds. Volunteer session sign-ups are from 8:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. For more info or to sign-up contact Pat Cobbler at (530) 273-0322.

Summer activity reminder: Book Reviews from your 6th-12th Grade Students

Carol Guild, editor of the Learning Page for the Union newspaper, will be highlighting book reviews by students as a regular feature. To submit student reviews send to cguild@theunion.com along with the student's photo and a photo of the cover of the book. This is a great summer project for students that love to read and write.

The Children's Festival July 15, 2011

The Children's Festival, a Nevada County 'institution' now in its' third

Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All continues on page 4

generation of attendees, is a Renaissance Fair for children of all ages. The faire will be coming back to Pioneer Park on Friday, July 15, 2011. The morning session is from 9 a.m. – noon. The evening session is from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Admission is only \$3 per session and includes a multitude of activities. All materials and supplies are provided. There will be arts & crafts, music, jugglers, face painting, castle building, fortune telling, fencing demonstrations, craftsmen, and a fire-breathing dragon! Costumes are encouraged. For more info. visit online at www.thechildrensfestival.com.

Adult Soapbox Derby

The first annual Adult Soapbox Derby will be held Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Pioneer Park on Nimrod Street, from Gracie Road to Park Avenue. Race proceeds will benefit improvements to Pioneer Park. Organizers hope that in future years improvements will include the only

closed loop bicycle path in Nevada County that will be safe for children.

The Pioneer Park pool will be open for ½ price on the day of the event. There will be Go-Kart rides for kids on the basketball courts. And, Cub Scout Pack 23 will have a pinewood derby building contest for all ages.

Swing Into Summer With Jazz Camp

Sierra Jazz Society offers Jazz Camp again this summer, Wed. July 20 – Sunday July 24, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and is held at the Nevada City School of the Arts. Jazz Camp is for all ages, all instruments and voice. Learn how to improvise or improve your skills from professional staff. Bill Douglass and Nora Nausbaum are the directors of Sierra Jazz Society’s Jazz Camp. The faculty of nine are kind, patient, and great teachers. The public concert on Sunday July 24 will feature students and faculty.

A limited number of work-study

scholarships are available. For more info.: www.sierrajazzsociety.com/jazzcamp.html or contact registrar Julia Glasse: phone 273-0568 or email Julia@sierrajazzsociety.com.

Earth Encounters Summer Camp

Shady Creek Outdoor School and the Nevada County Land Trust collaborate to offer environmental day camp at the Burton Homestead in Nevada City. Camp begins June 13 and runs for three weeks in full or half day sessions. Camp includes hands-on activities while exploring the environment. Teen leadership opportunities are available. For more info or to register on-line: www.nevadacountylandtrust.org or call Jean Gilbert at (530) 272-5994 x4.

‘Imaginarium’ Sky Shows Continue in 2011

See full schedule on page 5 of *The Nugget*. For more information call the Astro-phone at 263-4586.

2011 ELEMENTARY SCIENCE OLYMPIAD RESULTS

Overall

First Place ~ Alta Sierra Team 1
 Second Place ~ Alta Sierra Team 2
 Third Place ~ Clear Creek

<u>Event</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>
A is for Anatomy	Cottage Hill Team 3	Scotten Team 1	Alta Sierra Team 1
Barge Building	Grizzly Hill School	Scotten Team 1	Scotten Team 3
Bridge Building	Scotten Team 1	Alta Sierra Team 1	Alta Sierra Team 2
Calculator Contest	Cottage Hill Team 3	Pleasant Valley	Grass Valley Charter
Can Race	Scotten Team 1	Clear Creek	Grizzly Hill/Pleasant Valley
Don't Bug Me!	Scotten Team 1	Cottage Hill Team 2	Pleasant Valley
Food Web/Owl Pellets	Cottage Hill Team 1	Cottage Hill Team 2	Cottage Hill Team 3/ Scotten Team 3
Mystery Architecture	Pleasant Valley	Scotten Team 1	Grizzly Hill
Rock Hound	Alta Sierra Team 1	Alta Sierra Team 2	Cottage Hill Team 3
Solar Collector	Cottage Hill Team 2/ Alta Sierra Team 1	Scotten Team 3	Grizzly Hill

Starry, Starry Night	Alta Sierra Team 1	Clear Creek / Cottage Hill Team 2	Cottage Hill Team 1
Straw Egg Drop	Scotten Team 3	Alta Sierra Team 1	Pleasant Valley
Surf the Net	Cottage Hill Team 1	Grass Valley Charter	Clear Creek
Tennis Ball Catapult	Cottage Hill Team 1	Alta Sierra Team	Clear Creek
Water Rockets	Cottage Hill Team 3	Cottage Hill Team 1	Alta Sierra Team 2
Zowie Metrics	Clear Creek	Alta Sierra Team 2	Cottage Hill Team 1/ Pleasant Valley



Imaginarium 2011 Astronomy Sky Show Schedule

Date*	Start Time	Cosmic Chat (featuring talk by Wayne Watson)	Comments
April 22	8:30 pm to 10:30	Call 263-4586 for info on any chats, or latest info one week prior to sky show.	Saturn, Orion Nebula, Milky Way, Clusters. Variable star-- Algol, Lyrid meteor shower. Minor planet Juno. M65, 58-- Elliptical galaxies.
May 20	8:30 pm to 10:30	"	Saturn, Minor planet Juno. M105 elliptical galaxy. M83, 89, 104 spiral galaxies.
June		"	No sky show in June. Saturn. Mercury low after sunset
July 22	9:00 pm to 11:00	"	Saturn, Mercury. Milky Way. Minor planets Juno, Pallas. Ring nebula, Hercules cluster, M98 spiral galaxy.
August 19	8:30 pm to 10:30	"	Last week of Perseid meteor shower. Milky Way, globular clusters, "double-double", galaxies, nebulae, summer triangle. Saturn, Neptune, Uranus. Minor planets Juno, Pallas, Vesta. Dumbell and Omega nebula.
September 16	8:00 pm to 11:00	"	Andromeda Galaxy. Milky Way. Saturn, Neptune, Uranus. Minor planets Juno, Pallas, Vesta. Triffid nebula.
October 21 PENDING WEATHER	7:30 pm to 10:00	"	Milky Way, Andromeda. Jupiter, Uranus, Neptune. Minor planets Ceres, Pallas, Vesta. Lagoon nebula. Spindle galaxy. Andromeda. Pleadies.
November 18 PENDING WEATHER	7:00 pm to 9:30	"	Leonid meteors, Andromeda Galaxy. Pleadies. M77 spiral galaxy. Minor planets Ceres, Pallas, Vesta.

Comments:

* These events are all on a Friday night. If some special astronomical event appears like a bright comet or eclipse, then we may have additional sky shows, or combine the event with an existing show. It may be necessary to reschedule a show for unforeseen circumstances, so always check: 1. The Astro phone 263-4586 one week before a sky show. 2. the Thursday Union Prospector section on the Thursday prior to the scheduled date. The shows begin about one hour after sun set, and it generally takes 90 minutes for total darkness after it sets.

We generally view double stars, globular clusters, near star clusters, galaxies, planets, and nebula.

The 'Imaginarium' owns several scopes for the shows: 6" computerized refractor, 5" Schmidt-Cass (SCT), 6" computerized SCT, AstroScan, and a solar telescope. The solar telescope is used for day time viewing of the sun for special functions.

The sky shows are held at Tobiassen Park near the Madelyn Helling Library. The library is near the County Rood Center facility off of highway 49. It's about two miles northwest of downtown Nevada City. Park in the library lot and walk up the road about 100 yards to the ball field, which will be on your left.