The **Nugget**

News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office

April 2019  Scott W. Lay, Superintendent

**EARTH DAY – APRIL 22, 2019**

**Earth Day!**

Our goal is not just an environment of clean air and water and scenic beauty. The objective is an environment of decency, quality and mutual respect for all other human beings and all other living creatures.” Gaylord Nelson

**Hello Spring!**
Nevada County Speech Tournament - Grades 4-8

Sixty-four of the top oration students, grades four to eight, from fourteen local public and private schools, recently competed in the countywide Speech Tournament. The tournament was coordinated by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools (NCSOS) office and sponsored by Tri Counties Bank, the Rotary Club of Grass Valley and the Nevada Theatre Commission. This year’s speech topic was “The Greatest Moment in History”.

The preliminary and semi-finals competition for students in grades four to eight was held on March 7th at Calvary Bible Church. The tournament was conducted in a “round-robin” fashion, with students reciting speeches three times, each time to a different judge. Semi-finalists were determined, and their speeches were recited one last time in front of three judges. Three finalists from each grade were then selected to proceed to the Speech Finals competition. The initial judging team consisted of 14 volunteers from local businesses and organizations as well as retired professionals. The speeches were evaluated on content and delivery with a time limit of no less than two minutes and no more than three and a half minutes.

The student finalists presented their speeches at an evening program on March 12th, held at the historic Nevada Theatre. The esteemed panel of judges consisted of representatives from local Toastmasters groups. Each finalist received a first, second, or third place trophy and a $25 Book Seller gift certificate. These awards were presented by Scott W. Lay, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools; Katie Sapp, Tri Counties Bank Branch Manager; Kris Stepanian, Rotary Club of Grass Valley President.

Special thanks to tournament coordinators Stephanie Facchini and Sharon Shafran, our sponsors, and volunteer judges and timers.

List of winners on page 3
The 2019 Speech Tournament winners are as follows:

**4th Grade:**
- **1st Place:** Whitney Parnow - Deer Creek
- **2nd Place:** Talli Davis - Deer Creek
- **3rd Place:** Taylor Browning - Scotten School

**5th Grade:**
- **1st Place:** Grant LaCosse - Lyman Gilmore
- **2nd Place:** Riley MacDonald - Grass Valley Charter
- **3rd Place:** Elsie Herzog - Grass Valley Charter

**6th Grade:**
- **1st Place:** Arianna Drageset - Seven Hills
- **2nd Place:** Morgan Parnow - Seven Hills
- **3rd Place:** Jamie MacDonald - Mt. St. Mary Academy

**7th Grade:**
- **1st Place:** Ashlynne Browning - Lyman Gilmore
- **2nd Place:** Amarah Cox - Lyman Gilmore
- **3rd Place:** Aspen Kendrick Cisneros - Grass Valley Charter

**8th Grade:**
- **1st Place:** Elsie Luisetti - Seven Hills
- **2nd Place:** Jocelyn McKinley – Magnolia
- **3rd Place:** Emmaline Harms - Mt. St. Mary Academy

First place Speech winners, Elsie Luisetti, Ashlynne Browning, and Arianna Drageset, perform their speeches on KVMR’s “Educationally Speaking”, with show co-hosts, Scott W. Lay, NCSOS Superintendent, and James Berardi, Twin Ridges School District Superintendent.
**Editor’s Note - Celebrate Our Students!**

As NCSOS Tournament Coordinator for the NCSOS Geography, Spelling, Writing and Speech Tournaments, I have the privilege to support many of Nevada County’s high-achieving students from grades 4-8. I say ‘privilege’ because it is truly inspiring to be in a support role to these hardworking kids. Students dedicated to scholastic excellence do not find their way to the top on their own – the support of their educators and families is essential to foster those striving for their “personal best”. I am honored to be a ‘silent partner’ in this process.

This inspiration led me to attend several extracurricular events, as a spectator. The first of which I will report about was a Nevada Union Girls’ basketball game, held on home turf, on a mid-week evening. NU played against Ponderosa High School, which is located in Shingle Springs (1+ hour drive in each direction). I met several parents from our home team as well as families of the visiting team. “What a LONG day for these folks” I thought, carting their girls hither and yon, and on a school night! The family enthusiasm and devotion was palpable among the bleachers. The spirit that night was very high as the season was coming to a close, celebrating team Seniors who are set to graduate in 2019. The NU Seniors bestowed flowers upon Ponderosa Seniors, while NU freshman, sophomore and junior players gave testimony to their own Senior leaders. It was moving to witness the camaraderie among the teams, players, and cross-team relationships. The game was exhilarating and the talent mind-blowing.

Get out there folks – cheer, root and stomp. These kids have earned our appreciation!

Stay tuned for further “field trip” updates by yours truly.

Sharon Shafran, Editor—The Nugget
Nevada County Arts Council will present its 3rd Annual Sierra Poetry Festival on April 27, 2019 at Sierra College in Grass Valley, attended by some of our most exciting local, national and international poets and performers.

Tickets and information here
Phone: (530) 278-5155

Read about farmers bringing spring into the classroom and beyond

Free Easter Egg Hunts

Scotten School Field
10821 Squirrel Creek Road
Saturday, April 20th
Pancake breakfast—8:30am
Egg hunt—9:00am
273-6425 ext. 701

Western Gateway Park
Penn Valley
Saturday, April 20th - 9:00am
Photo with the Easter Bunny
Free children’s Book Giveaway
Free Bracelets & Hand painting

Nevada County Sudoku Society
Children’s Team Tournament
Sunday, April 28, 2019
Nevada Union High School
Deadline to enter: April 22, 2019
Entry is free.
All teams must be 3 or 4 students from 2nd to 7th grades.
For information or entry call 477-6282
Teams can be from schools or organizations such as Scouts, FFA, church groups, or private families unassociated with any organization.
We welcome all teams.

STUDENT FLIGHT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP
Requirements and more information

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Climate Change Agents Summer Camp 7/16-7/20
Register here
More info

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SOCIAL
DISCOVER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT IMMERSION AND ENGAGEMENT IN THE NATURAL WORLD

GRASS VALLEY BREWING
APRIL 11TH
4:30 - 6PM
A COLLABORATIVE CONVERSATION SERIES EVENT
141 E MAIN ST, GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945
"K-12 TEACHERS & ENVIRONMENTAL
More information here

FOOD LOVE FARM SUMMER CAMP
2019 Camp Sessions: July 8-12 & July 15-19
More Info

Submissions
Do you have a positive news story to share?
Do you know an unsung hero in our community who quietly does good deeds?
Something that inspires you?

The Union is launching a new monthly page called “Our Community” which will focus on great people, places, and things in our community from the eyes of you, our friends and neighbors.
Submit your good news stories of up to 250 words to Valerie to be considered for inclusion in this page, which will run on the fourth Saturday of the month. Please include a high resolution photo attachment if possible.

Submissions can be made to Valerie Costa at vcosta@theunion.com
Call 530-477-4237 with any questions

Students
$5.00
Chaperones are FREE
More info
Or call: 530-273-4431

Nevada Union Theatrical Dance Presents
ON BROADWAY

May 2nd 10 a.m. to noon
Don Baggett Theatre
Nevada Union High School
$5 per student, chaperones are free
Questions? (530) 273-4431 x 2228 or cwaadman@nuhsd.com
Quick Reference Calendar

Calendar events have been highlighted in previous editions of *The Nugget* and are listed in chronological order. Back issues of *The Nugget*, with additional information, can be found at [The Nugget Back Issues](#).

**CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo Check Class**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues, April 23, 2019</td>
<td>CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed, May 8, 2019</td>
<td>CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, May 23, 2019</td>
<td>CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
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The cost of the class is $45.00 and must be paid PRIOR to us sending you a link to the on-line course – we accept exact cash or check only. NOTE: the fee is non-refundable.

You can either stop by our office to pay or mail the check - payable to **NCSOS**.

**Please do not mail cash.**

Mail checks to: NCSOS 380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley, CA 95945 ATTN: CPR.

**BTSA Teacher Induction Program**

All seminars are 4:00-7:00PM, held in the Training Room at the NCSOS office:

380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley

To learn more, visit [North Coast School of Ed](#).

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<tr>
<td>Tues, April 2, 2019</td>
<td>BTSA/CTIP Year 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed, April 3, 2019</td>
<td>BTSA/CTIP Year 2</td>
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**Kindergarten Roundup Info Here**

**Partners Family Resource Centers**

*Grass Valley ☺ Penn Valley ☺ San Juan Ridge*

*Volunteer tutors needed! [MORE INFO](#)*
Poetry Out Loud encourages students to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. For more information contact: Lead Teacher Liaison Steve Hansen at shansen@njuhsd.com or Coordinator and Coach Julie Valin at juleree_99@yahoo.com or go to Poetry Out Loud.

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<tr>
<td>April - all month</td>
<td>National Poetry Month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Throughout April</td>
<td>Sierra Poetry (Fringe) Festival – Pop-Up Poetry Events</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6, 2019</td>
<td>Nevada County STEAM Expo (for Poetry Out Loud Nevada County finalists whose poetry choices associate to STEM subject matter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27, 2019</td>
<td>Sierra Poetry Festival (for Poetry Out Loud Nevada County finalists)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29 – May 1, 2019</td>
<td>Poetry Out Loud National Finals</td>
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Grass Valley School District - Child Nutrition Program

Monthly Updates  *  School Lunch Menus

Nutrition and Education Information  *  More Information

Submissions for future issues:

Have you something to share in future issues of The Nugget?

Please submit your request by the 15th of the preceding month for inclusion in the following issue.

Email: sshafran@nevco.org