

SEPTEMBER 2005:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/29/05

NEWS RELEASE

Invitation to Community to Attend Special GRAMMY Event Tuesday, October 11, 2005

Auburn High School extends an invitation to the community to attend a special GRAMMY event on Tuesday, October 11, 7:30 p.m. in the Auburn Performing Arts Center. This gala concert is to celebrate the presentation of the prestigious GRAMMY award for excellence in a high school music program to Auburn High School's music department for the fourth time. Of the more than 18,000 high school music programs nationwide, Auburn High School as chosen as one of only 35 schools to receive this recognition. The Auburn High School's music directors: Brett Dupree, band director; Dale Johnson, orchestra director; and Kandy Gilbert, choir director have designed a musical program showcasing orchestra, band, and choir students. Auburn High School directors will present the GRAMMY award to a community member who is representative of the broad support of the school's music program.

Auburn High School music alumni, their families, former music teachers, and staff members are among the groups from the community who will be honored that evening.

The GRAMMY Foundation, a non-profit arm of the Recording Academy, is dedicated to advancing music and arts-based education across the country and ensuring access to America's rich cultural legacy.

For more information, contact Auburn High School principal, Paul Harvey, at (253) 931-4880.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/29/05

NEWS RELEASE

Four Auburn Boys Raise Funds for Red Cross

Four fifth grade students from Lea Hill Elementary School are considered "Home Town Heroes" by their principal, Donna Dussault-Walker. The four boys: *Brice McCullough*, *Tylor Cooper*, *Mik Hughes*, and *Andrew Upchurch*, and other neighborhood boys raised over \$1,000 for the American Red Cross by holding a bake sale on Labor Day weekend. The boys sold cookies and soda to raise the money.

For more information, contact Lea Hill Elementary School principal, Donna Dussault-Walker at (253) 931-4982.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/29/05

NEWS RELEASE

Julie Futch Selected As One of Top Fifty Girl Basketball Players

Julie Futch, Auburn Riverside High School senior, was selected by the women's basketball journal, Full Court Press, as one of the top 50 girl basketball players in the Class of '06 for her basketball abilities as a guard. The rubric that was used to determine the top 50 female basketball seniors focused on projecting the athletes' college performance. The guide determines that "factoring in anticipated improvement...means attitude is critical." The following colleges and universities have sent letters of interest to Julie: Gonzaga, University of Washington, Portland State, and Washington State.

For more information, contact Auburn Riverside High School athletic coordinator, Bev Spalding, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/26/05

NEWS RELEASE

Ilalko PTA Races to Support Katrina Victims

With the turmoil caused by Hurricane Katrina there are more than 247,000 displaced children in the State of Louisiana. Ilalko Elementary PTA in Auburn School District has developed an aggressive fundraising campaign to support the Louisiana State PTA and Louisiana Education Department. The initial activity was a coin and book drive that began on September 12th through the 26th. As of September 22, \$750 in coins as well as 100 books have been gathered and donated by Ilalko students

At the school's upcoming Open House and Ice Cream Social to be held on Tuesday, September 27, Ilalko students will have an opportunity to donate funds to have their picture taken while sitting in a yellow BMW Race car. The race car is owned by Mike Helton of RTG Motorsports. The car's owner has had the car stenciled with "Team Ilalko PTA," the PTA's website, and the state PTA slogan – every child. one voice. The car will be at the Oktoberfest NW Celebration held on October 6-9 at the Puyallup Fairgrounds. The race car owner and PTA members will be collecting funds for Katrina survivors.

The car owner has donated 80 T-shirts that say "Racing for Katrina Relief" for the elementary school to sell to raise relief funds. T-shirts will be sold for \$15.00 each. The Ilalko Elementary PTA has approached local businesses for sponsorships of a minimum \$100 for the fundraising campaign. One hundred percent of the fundraising money will be donated to the Louisiana State PTA and Louisiana Education Department.

The Team Ilalko PTA race car will be participating in an eight-hour Endurance Race to be held on Saturday, October 15 in Portland, Oregon.

For more information, contact Ilalko Elementary School PTA Co-President, Julie Hindman at (253) 288-2206 or Suzanne Nagy, Charity Organizer at (253) 939-9598.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/19/05

NEWS RELEASE

John Keister Will Share Life-Saving Experience at AED Fundraiser

The public is invited to a compelling fundraising event, *The Heart of Auburn Schools*, that will save lives by placing Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) in local schools. Guest speaker, John Keister, former host of the Seattle television hit, *Almost Live* during its 15-year run on KING TV, will share his testimonial about an AED life-saving incident at the event. During John Keister's many years on *Almost Live!*, he won 10 local Emmy Awards for his hosting, performing, and writing talents. His work has appeared on the Seattle NBC and CBS affiliates as well as nationally on Comedy Central, HBO, and FOX. Mr. Keister is a life-long Washington resident and a graduate of the UW. The fundraising event will be held on Saturday, October 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Truitt Building, 102 West Main, Auburn, 98001. Longhorn Barbecue will cater the event; a no-host bar will be available. Tickets are \$25 a person. All proceeds will go toward purchasing AEDs for all schools and buildings in Auburn School District. An AED costs approximately \$1,400. The evening will include stories from heart attack survivors. Every year in the U.S., 220,000 people suffer sudden cardiac arrest –7,000 of them are students. Out of the total number, only 5% or 11,000 survive. Fatal arrhythmia (irregular beating of a heart) can only be reversed with early electrical shock delivered by an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). The ability to successfully convert this certain death to "a save" drops off 7 to 10% every minute a shock is delayed.



John Keister

The Heart of Auburn Schools committee, comprised of local physicians and community members, is leading a campaign (which includes the fundraising event) to place an AED within “two to three minutes of every student” and person on school district property. To achieve this goal, a total of 54 AEDs needed to be purchased. Since the beginning of the committee’s campaign, 11 AEDs have been ordered for schools. The committee is dedicated to educating the community about the need for AEDs and to equip every building in the Auburn School District with an AED.

For more information or to buy tickets or become a table captain (for a table of eight) or to make auction donations, contact Daryl Thompson at (253) 931-4713 or dthompson@auburn.wednet.edu.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/19/05

NEWS RELEASE

Lions Provide Health Screening for Washington Elementary Students

The Lions’ Health Screening Unit, a 62-foot long mobile vehicle that travels throughout Washington and Northern Idaho, will be visiting Auburn schools. On Tuesday, October 4, Auburn Noon Lions and health professionals will be providing health screenings to the students at Washington Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Northwest Lions Foundation for Sight and Hearing's goal is to speed early detection of health problems through the screening so that corrective assessment and intervention steps can be taken. In 2005, they expect to screen more than 25,000 school children throughout the states. This is the first year that the Lions will be partnering with the Auburn School District to provide this important screening for students.

For more information, contact Washington Elementary School principal, Eric Daniel, (253) 931-4988.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/19/05

NEWS RELEASE

Dick Scobee--Brown's Buzz-Cuts

Dick Scobee Elementary School will be holding a fundraising event, Brown’s Buzz-Cut Night, on Friday, September 23 at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to raise funds for the American Heart Association’s Heart Walk in hopes of earning another Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) for the school. Mr. Brown, the principal, does not have much hair and is looking for students, staff, and parents to join him through participation in this event. Four hair stylists from Gene Juarez Beauty Salons will be donating their services to the event and will buzz-cut anyone’s hair for a donation of a dollar or more.

“This is going to be a really fun way for our school to make one more push towards reaching our goal,” said Brown. “Not only are we helping an amazing organization, but we are also making our school a safer place for students, staff, and parents alike.”

The school needs to raise a total of \$2,500 in order to earn the AED. One AED was earned by the staff, students, and parents last year as well by participation in the Heart Walk sponsored by the American Heart Association and Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle. The Heart Walk will be held on Saturday, September 24, 2005 at Qwest Field in Seattle.

For more information, contact Dick Scobee Elementary School principal, Greg Brown, at (253) 931- 4984 or gbrown@auburn.wednet.edu.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

Rev 9/23/05

NEWS RELEASE

Seventh Annual "Reaching Out Fair" Thursday, October 13

In Auburn, the public is being invited to attend the seventh annual "Reaching Out Fair," on Thursday, October 13, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Auburn Performing Arts Center (PAC). The fair, which will be co-hosted by the Auburn School District, Green River Community College, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, and the Cities of Auburn, Algona, and Pacific, will focus upon sharing information about the community resources essential to keeping children and youth safe.

The "Reaching Out Fair" will present student talent and student testimonials about individuals who have made a difference in their lives. The fair emphasizes the importance that individuals can continually make to others and will be reflected throughout the event.

An information fair featuring community resources such as Auburn Parks and Recreation, YMCA, Auburn Youth Resources (AYR), Green River Community College, Children's Home Society, and others will be available to event participants from 6 to 7 p.m. in the PAC lobby. The information fair will be specifically geared toward middle school students. Free refreshments including pizza, cookies, and punch will be provided.

The Auburn Youth Council has donated three \$100 gift certificates from Zumiez, Hot Topic, and Old Navy to be given to middle school students attending the "Reaching Out Fair" based upon their participation in the information fair.

The four middle school assemblies promoting the Reaching Out Fair will occur at the following schedule:

- Mt. Baker Middle School – Monday, October 10 at 8:15 a.m.
- Cascade Middle School – Tuesday, October 11 at 1:15 p.m.
- Rainier Middle School – Wednesday, October 12 at 8:15 a.m.
- Olympic Middle School – Thursday, October 13 at 1:15 p.m.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/9/05

NEWS RELEASE

Sterling Savings and World Vision Storehouse Provide Tools for Learning

At Terminal Park Elementary School, Sterling Savings, in collaboration with World Vision Storehouse, will be making a presentation of 400 backpacks for the entire student body at an all-school assembly on Tuesday, September 13, at 9 a.m., in the gymnasium. The two organizations have already provided all students at Terminal Park Elementary with school supplies that included: lined paper, spiral notebooks, glue sticks, rulers, erasers, three-ring binders, dividers, pens, and pencils. Terminal Park Elementary School was chosen as one of three schools because of student and staff shopping patronage, student thank you notes, and the principal's thank you notes. Principal Tim Carstens appeared on a KOMO broadcast in an info-mercial about the program that benefits students.

For more information, contact Principal Tim Carstens at (253) 931-4978.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/9/05

NEWS RELEASE

City and Schools Celebrate Kids Walking and Biking Safely to School

The "Safe Routes to Schools" ribbon-cutting event will be held on Thursday, September 15, at 10 a.m., at Pioneer Elementary School, 2301 M Street Southeast, in Auburn. The event will celebrate the completion of sidewalks and a non-motorized path near Pioneer Elementary School that will allow 120 students to safely walk and bike to and from the elementary school. The construction was performed by the City of Auburn and was funded by a \$121,770 "Safe Routes to Schools" grant awarded to Auburn School District and the city by Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

Auburn School District will provide a security guard on a police-standard bicycle to monitor the newly improved walking and bicycling routes before and after school. The grant also funded a railroad safety program at two high schools and a middle school near the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad; safe walking and bicycling assemblies; and bicycling field trips.

The event will be hosted by Linda Cowan, Auburn School District Superintendent and Mayor Pete Lewis, City of Auburn. Representatives from WSDOT and the Bicycle Alliance of Washington will also be in attendance. Twelve bicycles funded by a mini-grant from the Bicycle Alliance of America will be given to Pioneer Elementary School students; the students will also be fitted with brand new bicycle helmets from the Auburn Fire Department.

For more information, contact Daryl Thompson, Auburn School District Public Information, at (253) 931-4713 or Duanna Richards, City of Auburn Executive Assistant to the Mayor, at (253) 931-3041.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

9/9/05

NEWS RELEASE

Fundraiser Will Save Lives

The public is being invited to a compelling fundraising event, The Heart of Auburn Schools, that will save lives by placing Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) in local schools. This inaugural fundraising event will be held on Saturday, October 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Truitt Building, 102 West Main, Auburn, 98001. Longhorn Barbecue will cater the event; a no-host bar will be available. Tickets are \$25 a person. All proceeds will go toward purchasing AEDs for all schools and buildings in Auburn School District. An AED costs approximately \$1,400.

The evening will include stories from heart attack survivors. Every year in the U.S., 220,000 people suffer sudden cardiac arrest – 7,000 of them are students. Out of the total number, only 5% or 11,000 survive. Fatal arrhythmia (irregular beating of a heart) can only be reversed with early electrical shock delivered by an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). The ability to successfully convert this certain death to “a save” drops off 7 to 10% every minute a shock is delayed.

The Heart of Auburn Schools committee, comprised of local physicians and community members, is leading a campaign (which includes the fundraising event) to place an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) within “two to three minutes of every student” and person on school district property. To achieve this goal, a total of 54 AEDs needed to be purchased. Since the beginning of the committee’s campaign, eleven AEDs have been ordered for schools. The committee is dedicated to educating the community about the need for AEDs and to equip every building in the Auburn School District with an AED.

For more information or to buy tickets or become a table captain (for a table of eight), contact Daryl Thompson at (253) 931-4713 or dthompson@auburn.wednet.edu.

Auburn School District No. 408
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9/2/05

NEWS RELEASE
2002 ARHS Graduate Wins PAC-10 Title for Women's High Jump

Robin Mikesh, a 2002 Auburn Riverside High School graduate, won the Pac-10 title for women's high jump at the track conference held in Los Angeles last spring. The winning 5' 10'' high jump was a career best for the 5'6'' Mikesh. She represented her college, Washington State University, as a junior in the competition. Mikesh' high school career included numerous school high jump records and three state high jump championships. She is currently majoring in hospitality-business management while participating in track on an athletic scholarship at Washington State University.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

OCTOBER 2005:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/31/05

NEWS RELEASE

ARHS Students Compete Well at Gig Harbor High School Speech and Debate Tournament

The Auburn Riverside High School debate team competed at the Gig Harbor High School Speech and Debate Tournament on Friday and Saturday, October 28 and 29. The team did very well, earning six awards. The following students won Superior Awards at the tournament:

- Tera Crossley, Novice Lincoln Douglas Debate
- Jack Peace, Open Expository and Open Oratory
- Ryan Mace, Novice Oratory
- Megan Harris, Novice Oratory
- Yuliya Yakimchuk, Novice Oratory

Mark Davis is the Auburn Riverside High School debate advisor. For more information, contact Mark Davis at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/28/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Mountainview High School Dedication

The Auburn School District is inviting the public to attend the dedication of the district's newly opened school, Auburn Mountainview High School (AMHS). The ceremony will be held Sunday, November 20, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. in the school's theatre. The program will include guest speakers and a tour of the facilities following the ceremony. Refreshments will be served. For more information about the ceremony, contact AMHS principal, Bob Odman, at (253) 804-4539.

Auburn Mountainview High School, the district's third comprehensive high school, opened its doors to approximately 1,000 students, grades 9-11, in September 2005.

The high school was funded by a bond approved by local voters in 2003.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/26/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Receives Fred Meyer Grant

The Auburn School District Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy (PT/OT) department has recently been awarded a grant of \$1920 from the Fred Meyer Foundation. Physical therapy assistant, Jean Branesky, wrote the grant which requested the funds to purchase an upper body exercise bicycle that would be beneficial for students with special needs. Ms. Branesky works primarily with students at Auburn High School.

The district's PT/OT department works with students with disabilities to help them access their education. The special exercise bicycle will enable the high school students in wheelchair to participate in a general education P.E. class, achieve aerobic workout, and demonstrate to their peers the abilities of differently-abled students.

The Fred Meyer Foundation and its advisory committee members were particularly impressed by the successful track record of the Auburn School District PT/OT department and its programs," Glynda Brockhoff, philanthropy coordinator for Fred Meyer and the Fred Meyer Foundation, said.

The Foundation's community grant program is driven by 29 local advisory committees made up of local Fred Meyer associates who research nonprofit organizations in their communities and then award community grants.

"These grants are the result of true community efforts involving both our associates through our annual Employee Giving Campaign and our customers through the contributions they make in our stores using the Make Change Count coin boxes and scan cards at the checkstands. The dollars collected through these employee and store efforts are combined and then allocated by the advisory committees as community grants in the four western states where we have stores," Brockhoff said.

The Fred Meyer Foundation assists nonprofit organizations dedicated to helping children and reducing hunger in communities served by 129 Fred Meyer stores in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

For more information, contact Jean Branesky at (253) 931-4927.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/26/05

NEWS RELEASE
"Kids Make a Difference Day"

Kim Foss, Lea Hill Elementary School fifth grade teacher and ASB advisor, spear-headed the school's first "Kids Make A Difference Day." The project's focus was to clean-up the school's National Educational Landmark Nature Trail. Ms. Foss brought together students, families, and local scout groups in a joint effort to clean up the heavily overgrown trail. The volunteers worked from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 22. The end result was a freshly spruced up trail where litter, blackberry bushes, and overgrown greens are now removed, making the trail attractive for class visits and studies.

For more information, contact Lea Hill Elementary School principal, Donna Dussault-Walker, at (253) 931-4982.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/25/05

NEWS RELEASE
Nancy Zehnder Elected Twice into Washington State Coaches Association Hall of Fame

Nancy Zehnder, retired Auburn High School physical education teacher and coach, has the prestigious honor of being elected twice into the Washington State Coaches Association Hall of Fame for two sports - volleyball and softball. Although it has been 10 years since Ms. Zehnder coached softball, she was one of the few high school coaches whose teams had won multiple state championships in softball before it changed from slowpitch to fastpitch. Ms. Zehnder has recently been selected to be inducted into the Hall of Fame for her outstanding career as a volleyball coach. On Saturday, November 12, Ms. Zehnder will be inducted at a luncheon into the Hall of Fame for softball and then in the evening she will be inducted into the Hall of Fame for Volleyball at the state volleyball tournament in Everett.

For more information, contact Bob Jones, Auburn High School athletics/activities coordinator, at (253) 931-4880.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/20/05

NEWS RELEASE

Wal-Mart Donation Will Enhance Student Learning

Wal-Mart in Auburn has donated two Compaq Presario computers and two color printers to West Auburn High School for student use. Principal Brad Sprague says, "This generous donation will allow our students the opportunity to enhance their Grad Plan graduation presentations and support our staff in guiding students to a professional presentation product. We are thankful for Wal-Mart's donation and look forward to sharing our student and staff successes from the donation of the computers and printers."

For more information, contact WAHS principal, Brad Sprague, at (253) 931-4990.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/20/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District National Merit Finalists

Several students in Auburn School District have recently been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship program: Auburn Riverside High School -National Merit Semi-finalist – *Aaron Kaufman* and National Merit Commended Scholars –*Llewelyn Chapdelaine* and *Ashley Dean*; Auburn High School – National Merit Commended – *Zach Brand Cousy*.

Those academically talented high school seniors who are National Merit Semi-finalists will have an opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 8,200 Merit Scholarship awards worth over \$33.9 million. Scholarships awarded through the Merit Program are underwritten by nearly 500 independent sponsor organizations and institutions, as well as the National Merit Scholarship Corporation funds.

The nationwide pool of National Merit Semi-finalists was designated on a state representational basis; the number of Semifinalists in a state is based on its percentage of the national total of graduating high school seniors. Semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants in each state and represent less than one percent of the state's seniors. About 90 percent or approximately 15,000 of the Semifinalists are expected to advance to the Finalist level of the competition and approximately 7,200 Finalists will become Merit Scholarship winners.

Those students who are National Commended Scholars are among approximately 34,000 Commended Scholars across the nation being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Scholars placed among the top five percent of more than one million students who entered the 2006 Merit Program by taking the 2005 Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) qualifying test when they were juniors.

For more information, contact ARHS counselor, Laurie Dooley, at (253) 804-5154 or AHS counselor, Judy Lutton, at (253) 931-4880.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/19/05

NEWS RELEASE

School Board of Directors to Recognize Auburn High School Senior - Cody Marlenee

On Monday, October 24, the Auburn School Board of Directors will recognize Auburn High School senior, *Cody Marlenee*, for his excellent high school career. "Cody Marlenee is a great student, a great leader, and a great citizen," says Auburn High School (AHS) principal, Paul Harvey. Cody is a hard working, dedicated student athlete and is one of the leaders on the successful football team. "Cody has worked hard for four years and has become one of the best defensive football players in the South Puget Sound League. He is an outstanding citizen and a first class representative of the Trojan football program and Auburn High School," said AHS head football coach, Gordon Elliott. Cody was selected as a King County Journal Athlete-of-the-Week for his football performance. Meri Benedict, AHS leadership advisor, praises Cody. "I am very impressed with Cody Marlenee. He is a quiet, strong leader. He speaks

truthfully and honestly, which gains the respect of his peers. He has taken some courageous stands to protect the dignity of other students, again, very quietly, but solidly. When Cody speaks, other students listen. He has a hilarious sense of humor and uses it well.”

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/19/05

NEWS RELEASE

School Board of Directors to Recognize Lynda Randolph, Olympic Middle School Teacher

On Monday, October 24, the Auburn School Board of Directors will recognize ***Lynda Randolph***, Olympic Middle School eighth grade language arts teacher, for her outstanding career. In 1986, Ms. Randolph graduated from Ridgefield High School in Southwest Washington where her father was superintendent of the Ridgefield School District. In 1990, Ms. Randolph graduated from Washington State University (WSU) with a major in English and a minor in history and a teaching certificate. In 1991, she completed her student teaching at Olympic Junior High where she was hired as a full-time teacher the following spring. Ms. Randolph has taught her entire career at Olympic, teaching 7th grade and 8th grade reading, language arts, and social studies. “Olympic is special because of the staff’s commitment to encouraging our students to be the best they can be despite obstacles and challenges. Having spent 15 years in this school, I have seen a lot of people come and go. The one constant is that Olympic is really about doing what is best for kids...in all areas, even if it means change or stretching on the staff’s part. I truly enjoy coming to work each day!” Ms. Randolph grew up in a family of teachers (both parents, a grandmother, two aunts, and two uncles). Despite her resolve not to be a teacher, while she was serving as a high school camp counselor she experienced such joy in “watching young minds explore and get excited about new ideas and experiences,” that she studied education in college. “I love...the joy of knowing that what I’m doing makes a difference in the lives of these students. I take that as a serious honor and responsibility.” Ms. Randolph is considering a masters degree in counseling. She is also considering becoming a lay pastor in her church. Ms. Randolph and her family enjoy the outdoors. She is also very involved in her church and coordinates its adult education program.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/19/05

NEWS RELEASE

ARHS Teacher Selected as Washington State Council for Social Studies Teacher-of-the-Year

Cheryl Moyd, Auburn Riverside High School history and psychology teacher, has been selected as the Washington State Council for Social Studies Teacher-of-the-Year. She received her award this on past Saturday , October 15, at Edmonds Woodway High School. Nola Wilson, Auburn Riverside High School assistant principal, describes Ms. Moyd as the “last person to give up on a student. She finds anyway possible to keep a student connected to...school in general. Often these students visit her long after they have graduated and consider her more of a life coach than a past teacher.” Ms. Moyd has been an instructional leader who works diligently to strengthen her and her colleagues instructional skills and strategies for success within the classroom. She has been instrumental in developing the Auburn School District’s U.S. History frameworks and aligning them with the state Grade Level Expectations (GLEs). Ms. Wilson states, “Ms. Moyd considers it a personal responsibility to help students succeed on the WASL...” She describes Ms. Moyd as “a poster child for outstanding social studies teachers.”

For more information, contact Nola Wilson, ARHS assistant principal, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/19/05

NEWS RELEASE
AED Fundraising Event was a Heart Stopper

When *The Heart of Auburn Schools* committee, comprised of local physicians and community members, began a campaign to place an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) within "two to three minutes of every student and person" on Auburn School District property several months ago, they were determined and passionate about their cause. But they had no idea as to the magnitude and intensity of the communities of Auburn, Algona, and Pacific's response to their mission.

Prior to the committee's fundraising event that was held last Saturday evening, October 15, in the Truitt Building in Auburn, several donations had been made to the campaign to purchase AEDs. Also, several schools were able to earn AEDs by participating in the American Heart Association's HeartWalk or through PTA donations. Nevertheless, funds for 46 AEDs still needed to be raised at an approximate cost of \$1,400 each.

As Saturday's fundraising event began, over 200 local residents including physicians, firefighters, government leaders, school staff, PTA parents, and principals, flocked into the dinner auction. Throughout the program, the guests were moved by local survivor stories that included a popular principal's wife; a former Auburn judge; a young mother waiting to give birth to her first child; and a school employee who was brought back to life with an AED installed in her school a week prior to her collapse. With heartfelt emotion, John Keister, guest speaker and former host of the Seattle television hit, "Almost Live!," shared his testimonial about an AED life-saving incident of which he had been part. The committee's goal of educating the community about the ability of AEDs to save the lives of young and old alike was being accomplished.

Dr. Stephen H. Anderson, the *Heart of Auburn Schools* chairperson, then led the guests in one of the most heartwarming shows of community support since the final scene in the movie, "It's a Wonderful Life." Bid paddles symbolizing the life-giving paddles of an AED were raised continuously across the crowded room as guests generously and eagerly donated to ensure that each of the hearts representing a school was filled on the banner above Dr. Anderson's head. By the end of the rousing paddle-raising, the event had garnered enough donations to place an AED in every school and district building.

Because of the commitment of the *Heart of Auburn Schools* committee and the generosity of the community, Auburn School District has the honor of being the only district in the nation to have a life-saving AED within "two to three minutes of every student" through private donations.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan, at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

10/3/05

NEWS RELEASE
Five Auburn Schools Walk for Heart

Five Auburn schools participated in the American Heart Association's 2005 Heart Walk that was held on Saturday, September 25 at Qwest Field (Seahawks Stadium) in Seattle. By having a certain amount of participants and pledges for the Heart Walk, the qualifying schools earned an automatic external defibrillator (AED) and training for school staff. Dick Scobee, Lea Hill, and Lake View elementary schools successfully earned an AED as well as supporting the worthwhile Heart Walk by either having the required 100 walkers or fundraising the required \$2,500 in pledges. Olympic Middle School is still waiting to learn if their numbers were sufficient to earn an AED. The school earned one in the 2004 Heart Walk as did Dick Scobee Elementary. Cascade Middle School did not achieve its goal, but staff and parents are participating in the Heart of Auburn Schools fundraising event to be held on Saturday, October 15 in the Truitt Building.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

NOVEMBER 2005:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/30/05

NEWS RELEASE

Nixie Van Selus Selected as First Recipient of the Betty Smith "Spirit of Education" Award

Long-time community volunteer, *Nixie Van Selus*, was selected as the first recipient of the Betty Smith "Spirit of Education" award for her 35 years of service to the students of West Auburn High School. Mrs. Van Selus has volunteered in the school's teen parent program, contributing countless hours in the Family and Consumer Science classes. She has also served on the program's advisory board. The Cities and Schools Forum which is comprised of Auburn School District; the cities of Auburn, Algona, and Pacific; Green River Community College; and the Muckleshoot Tribe created the award to recognize community volunteers in memory of Betty Smith who served as an Auburn School director for 12 years and as a school counselor for Tacoma School District for 30 years.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/30/05

NEWS RELEASE

Child Nutrition Program Selected to Receive the 2006 Expanding Breakfast Grant from Washington State Dairy Council

Auburn School District's Child Nutrition Program has been selected to receive the 2006 Expanding Breakfast Grant of \$3,000 from the Washington State Dairy Council. Auburn School District was lauded for its innovative concepts to increase middle school breakfast participation by bringing breakfast to the students. The district proposed using the grant funds to start a Grab and Go "where the kids are" program. Each of the district's four middle schools will receive \$750 to increase participation by students in the breakfast program. Eric Boutin is the Auburn School District Child Nutrition supervisor.

For more information, contact Auburn School District Child Nutrition Supervisor at (253) 931- 4972.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/2/05 - [Correction]

NEWS RELEASE

Educational Program and Operations Levy to be Placed on Tuesday, February 7, 2006 Ballot

At the Monday, November 28, Auburn School Board meeting, the directors unanimously approved Resolution 1066 to place an educational program and operations replacement levy on the Tuesday, February 7, 2006 ballot for local voters approval. The educational program and operations replacement levy will provide approximately 18% of the district's programs and services.

An educational program and operations replacement levy requires local voter approval to continue the current educational programs and services provided to local students. The levy will collect \$21,100,000 in 2007 and \$22,100,000 in 2008, replacing the expiring 2005 and 2006 levies. (Levies are not cumulative and must be renewed to maintain current educational programs.) The levy funds will be used to provide for portions of the education program not supported by the state's basic education allocations. Underfunded programs include: basic instructional programs; education of students with disabilities; gifted education; maintenance and custodial services; and transportation operations. Programs that are not funded at all by the state and are totally dependent on levy dollars are all Auburn School District athletics such as fast pitch, track, basketball, and activities such as debate, band, and orchestra. The actual levy tax rate is \$2.75 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for 2005. The projected levy rate for taxpayers is \$2.64 in 2006. If approved, the replacement levies are projected to be \$2.78 for 2007 and \$2.78 for 2008. The passage of this levy ensures the continuation of current educational programs.

If approved, the educational program and operations levy will maintain the same total tax rate. This total tax rate, which includes previously approved school construction bonds, will remain level at \$5.35 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2007 and 2008.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/29/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School Board Recognizes Pat Thompson

On Monday, November 28, the Auburn School Board of Directors recognized ***Pat Thompson***, office assistant at Evergreen Heights Elementary School, for her caring service to elementary school students. In 1982, Ms. Thompson started with the Auburn School District as a substitute para-educator. She became a para-educator at the Alternative Junior High. "I loved working with those students," said Ms. Thompson her next position was as office assistant at Evergreen Heights Elementary where she has worked for 23 years and calls "home" because of the students and staff. "The staff is the greatest. Many of them are also like family and have been there being great supportive friends," said Ms. Thompson. "I enjoy watching the students grow up and return to visit with their families. I have been unofficially "adopted" by some of my former students, and have been invited to first communions, birthday parties, graduations, and even weddings. They are all "my kids"- I care about each of them." Ms. Thompson also works part-time as a certified nursing assistant, CNA, at Pediatric Interim Care Center (PICC) in Kent. She works with newborn infants that are addicted to drugs or alcohol, and brings them through their withdrawals. "I have been there for 14 years, and again, love "my babies". I guess that I was meant to spend my life with children of all ages," said Ms. Thompson. In her spare time, she loves decorating, "exploring," gardening, going to a good movie, collecting Longaberger baskets, spending time with her grandchildren and traveling. Her future plans include traveling to Maui and staying for two to three months to allow her to become part of the community. Anne Gayman, Evergreen Heights Elementary School principal, praises her, "Ms. Thompson works "behind the scenes" to take care of all are families. Her first priority is taking care of our needy children by making sure they have warm clothes, food to eat, and a warm, friendly smile each morning. Not only does Ms. Thompson take care of our families, she takes care of school personnel as well. This year she planned and organized a "Thank You" luncheon for the maintenance crew and bus drivers. She often thinks of those that are our unspoken heroes and creatively plans surprises to let them know we appreciate them and their service to children."

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/29/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School Board Recognizes Washington Elementary School Fifth Grader - Katie Carson

On Monday, November 28, the Auburn School Board of Directors recognized Washington Elementary School fifth grader, ***Katie Carson***, for being an outstanding student. "Katie is one of our finest students at Washington Elementary. She exemplifies the traits we would hope to instill in every student. She is a leader and a role model for her peers. She works hard in school, is an honor roll student, and earns straight As. She has passed every section of the WASL in reading, writing, and mathematics! Learning is important to her," said Mr. Eric Daniel, Washington Elementary School principal. Katie also actively participates in the student council as a fifth grade representative for her class. She communicates well with her peers and has no problem speaking to the entire student body. She made an excellent speech this year. She also provides service to others as a safety patrol member, lunch helper, kindergarten helper, and works in the library. Her classroom teacher, Mr. John Markwell, says, "Katie will go out of her way to jump in and help out." Katie is involved in many extra curricular activities; she plays flute in the school band, was a member of this year's volleyball team, and participates in the "Feeling Good Mileage Walking Club." Katie has received the Student-of-the-Month Award for September, the Honor Roll award, and has been recognized for her quality work by it being posted on the Principal's Wall of Excellence. Outside school, she plays softball for Auburn Parks and Recreation. Katie has played the piano for three years. She is also active in church including volunteering for church service projects. Katie also loves to read. In the future, she plans on attending college, attending BYU where her father went to school. She plans on being an author and illustrator of chapter books for children.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/29/05

NEWS RELEASE
ARHS Forensic Team Hosted Annual Speech and Debate Tournament

The Auburn Riverside High School (ARHS) Forensic Team hosted its annual Speech and Debate Tournament on Friday and Saturday, November 18 and 19. The following ARHS students earned awards: *Yuliya Yakimchuk*, Open Expository speaking, First Place and a state bid; *Ryan Mace*, Open Expository speaking, Third Place and a state bid; *Christine Pyle*, Open Expository speaking, Fourth Place and a state bid; *Alaina Gordon*, Open Expository speaking, Finalist; *Mason Riney*, Open Expository speaking, Finalist; *Jolene Keller*, Open Interpretive reading, Third Place; *Joe Lawrence*, Open Humorous Interpretation, Second Place; and *Kate Thomas*, Open Oratory, Finalist.

For more information, contact ARHS debate and speech advisor, Mark Davis, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/21/05

NEWS RELEASE
Adopt-a-Family

The Auburn Riverside High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) club is organizing an Adopt-a-Family drive in which high school students can participate. The drive is to provide holiday assistance to the growing number of families that require some assistance each year. Childhaven, a non-profit agency that protects abused children, has submitted 34 families to sponsor for the holiday season. The Childhaven information provided includes; the type of family, their names, gender age, needs, and hopes. The ARHS classes and clubs will collect non-perishable foods and gifts for the families. The items that the high school groups purchase will be collected by Friday, December 16.

Sara Graves is the Auburn Riverside High School Family and Consumer Sciences teacher. For more information, please contact Sara Graves at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/17/05

NEWS RELEASE
AHS Yearbook Staff Recognized for Third Consecutive Year

The Auburn High School (AHS) Yearbook staff has been recognized for the third consecutive year by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for excellence in journalism. The AHS yearbook was judged against rigorous, journalistic standards and was selected as one of the top books in the nation. This continues a tradition of excellence in the AHS yearbook program: the 2003 Invader yearbook received a bronze medal; the 2004 yearbook received a silver medal; and the Invader staff has earned a gold medal for volume 93, the 2005 yearbook. The editorial staff of the 2005 yearbook consisted of: *Janel Brown*, editor-in-chief; *Rachel Richardson*, assistant editor; and section editors - *Jaylynn Markwald*, *Quincy Mortimer*, *Kelsey Konold*, *Monica Warnock*, *Julie Murphy*, and *Christine Nordstrom*. Julie Bonefas was the yearbook advisor for Auburn High School for these editions. She is currently the Auburn Mountainview High School Activities Coordinator.

For more information, contact Julie Bonefas at (253) 804-4539.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/16/05

NEWS RELEASE
AMHS Marching Band and Color Guard Have Success at Competition

At the Veterans Day Band Competition held on Saturday, November 5 at Auburn Memorial Field, Auburn School District's newest high school, Auburn Mountainview, was represented well by its color guard and marching band students.

Performing in their first competition, Auburn Mountainview's students earned First Place in the Novice Division while competing against three other bands and color guards.

The Auburn Mountainview High School band director is Derek Pyle. For more information, contact Derek Pyle at (253) 804-4539.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/16/05

NEWS RELEASE
ARHS Forensic Team Competes at Puyallup High School Tournament

The Auburn Riverside High School (ARHS) Forensic team competed at the Puyallup High School Tournament on Saturday, November 12. The team made an excellent showing and the following students earned awards:

- Leighton Bowman - Finalist, Novice Extemporaneous Speaking
- Ryan Mace - Finalist, Novice Expository, Third place Novice Oratory
- Kate Thomas - Second place, Novice Dramatic Interpretation, 1st place, Novice Oratory
- Jack Peace - First place, Senior Expository, Finalist, Senior Oratory
- Tai Weinman - Secnd place, Speech to Honor Women
- James Amis - Finalist, Novice Humorous Interpretation
- Yuliya Yakimchuk - Finalist, Novice Oratory
- Meagan Pries - Third Place and a state seat, Senior Oratory

For more information, contact Mark Davis, ARHS debate advisor, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/16/05

NEWS RELEASE
Auburn's Newest Elementary School Has Been Named

At the Monday, November 14 Auburn School Board meeting, the school directors unanimously selected the name of the district's 13th elementary school which is scheduled to open September 2006. The new school, which is currently under construction, will be named Lakeland Hills Elementary School. The school site is located in the extensive Lakeland Hills neighborhood in south Auburn.

Last June, the Auburn School District directors invited the community to help name its new elementary school. Approximately 200 names were suggested by the community by the deadline of Thursday, October 13. The directors' selection process was based on the Auburn School District Board Policy 9250 which delineates the school naming process: "...In selecting a name, the board will give preference to names identifying the geographic area of the community served by said facility."

For more information, contact Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Kip Herren, at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/15/05

NEWS RELEASE

AMHS Speech and Debate Team Compete at Puyallup High School Tournament

Auburn Mountainview High School's speech and debate team competed at the Puyallup High School Tournament on Friday and Saturday, November 11 and 12. Freshman *Travis Nuttall* earned Third Place in Humorous Interpretation. Greg Collette is the AMHS debate and speech advisor.

For more information, contact Greg Collette at (253) 804-4539.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/17/05 - Correction

NEWS RELEASE

Mt. Baker Middle School Awarded Grant from Muckleshoot Charity Fund for Drumming Classes

Mt. Baker Middle School choir/music teacher, *Dorraine Eash*, was awarded a \$1,500 grant from the Muckleshoot Charity Fund for the school's 7th/8th Afro-Caribbean drumming classes. The grant funded the purchase of 11 conga drums and auxiliary percussion instruments for drumming.

For more information, contact Dorraine Eash at (253) 804-4555.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

Revised: 11/10/05

NEWS RELEASE

Veterans Day

Auburn School District schools are celebrating Veterans Day with many activities and events. Some of these include:

- Alpac Elementary had "An American Tribute" program on Friday, November 4 at 2:55 p.m. in the gym.
- Chinook Elementary will have an assembly on Thursday, November 10 at 2:00 p.m.
- Dick Scobee Elementary had a Veterans Day program with the principal on Wednesday, November 9. The principal told the students their "homework" was to tell their parents two things they had learned during that assembly.
- Evergreen Heights Elementary will have an assembly on Thursday, November 8 at 2:00 p.m.
- Gildo Rey Elementary School will have an assembly at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10.
- Pioneer Elementary will have a Veterans Day assembly on Thursday, November 10 at 2:55 p.m.
- Hazelwood Elementary will have an assembly at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 10.
- Ilalko Elementary had a Veterans Day assembly on Thursday November 10 at 9:15 a.m.
- Lake View Elementary had a Veterans Day assembly on Thursday, November 10 that includes airmen from McChord Air Force Base.
- Lea Hill Elementary will have a Veterans Day assembly at 2:15 p.m. on Thursday, November 10.
- Terminal Park Elementary will have an assembly on Thursday, November 10 at 2 p.m. with veterans speaking and select choir performing, a student-produced slide show.
- Washington Elementary will have a Veterans Day assembly at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10.
- Cascade Middle School had an assembly at 9:45 a.m. on Thursday, November 10.
- Rainier Middle School has an entire hallway devoted to Veterans Day and there was an all-school assembly on Wednesday, November 2 at 1:30 p.m.
- Auburn High School had two Veterans Day assemblies at 12:30 p.m. and at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8 and all US History classes visited the Vietnam memorial on 11/4.

- Auburn Mountainview High School had an assembly at 9:52 a.m. on Thursday, November 10.

For more information, contact Daryl Thompson at (253) 931-4713.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/8/05

NEWS RELEASE
ARHS Speech and Debate Team Continues Tradition of Excellence

The Auburn Riverside High School (ARHS) Speech and Debate team continued the tradition of excellence at the Whitman College tournament over the weekend of November 4 - 6. *Jack Peace* and *Tara Low* tied for First Place in Oratory and with no way to break the tie, a coin was tossed and Tara took the first place trophy and Jack took the second. Jack also took First Place in Expository Speaking and Tara took Third Place in Interpretive Reading. Both Tara and Jack have qualified for the state tournament that will held in March. Mark Davis is the ARHS debate and speech advisor.

For more information, contact Mark Davis at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

11/1/05

NEWS RELEASE
AHS Blood Drive Helps Save Lives

On Wednesday, November 2, Auburn High School students will once again try to accomplish a goal to host a blood drive that will save hundreds of lives. Last year the school set a Puget Sound Blood Center mobile blood drive record with the largest number of donations ever made in one day by a single organization. Enough blood was donated -- 476 units -- to potentially save the lives of 1,400 individuals. The school registered 915 donations over the entire year.

This year's drive will be held in the school's gym, known at "The Pit," on Wednesday, November 2, 2005 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The school expects another large group of students to participate; more than 300 students have signed up to donate so far.

High schools in Western Washington provide approximately 16 percent of the community blood supply and help the Blood Center maintain one of the nation's most stable blood supplies.

For more information, contact Auburn High School principal, Paul Harvey, at (253) 931-4880.

DECEMBER 2005:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/21/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Puts Replacement Levy on February 7 Ballot

Auburn School District has placed an educational program and operations replacement levy on the Tuesday, February 7, 2006, ballot for local voters' approval. The educational program and operations replacement levy will provide approximately 18% of the district's programs and services.

An educational program and operations replacement levy requires local voter approval to continue the current education programs and services provided to students. Levies are not cumulative and must be renewed every two years to replace retiring levies.

If approved, the educational program and operations levy will maintain the same total Auburn school tax rate. This total tax rate, which includes previously approved school construction bonds and a technology levy, will remain constant at \$5.35 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2007 and 2008.

A levy provides funds to the district for day-to-day school programs and operations. It bridges the gap between state funding and the cost of current programs and funds teachers, classroom materials, transportation, maintenance and custodial services and extracurricular activities. The educational program and operations levy funds 18% of the district's operating budget - the remainder of the district's budget comes from state funding (69 percent), federal funding (eight percent), and other sources (five percent).

The state formula for funding basic education does not pay for the current levels of staffing and services provided by Auburn School District and other school districts. To fund the difference, districts must submit levies to voters to maintain appropriate levels of staffing and services. Underfunded programs include: instructional programs; education of students with disabilities; gifted education; maintenance and custodial services; and transportation operations. Programs that are not funded at all by the state and are totally dependent on levy dollars are all Auburn School District athletics such as fastpitch, track, and basketball and activities such as debate, band, and orchestra.

Levy propositions require a 60 percent supermajority to pass.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/16/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District's Post-Secondary Night Offers Students and Parents Options for Life After High School

Auburn School District will be hosting its tenth annual Post-Secondary Night on Wednesday, February 8, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Auburn Riverside High School. The evening's program will allow students and parents to explore various options for high school graduates such as community and technical colleges, four year public and private colleges, career training programs, apprenticeship programs, and military services. Parents and students from all district middle schools and high schools are being encouraged to attend this event.

The evening will begin with a short presentation in the main gym at Auburn Riverside at 7 p.m. after which students and parents can attend break-out sessions on numerous topics including admissions to 4 year public and private colleges and universities, community and technical colleges, financial aid, athletics at the college level, Tech Prep college credit available at the high schools, and Running Start/Advanced Placement options. In addition, there will be an information fair in the Commons where representatives from numerous colleges, universities, career schools, the military services, apprenticeship programs, and several programs offering transition resources to special needs students will be ready to answer questions and share information. There will be over 80 different

institutions and programs represented at the Post-Secondary Night Fair. This event will provide valuable information for students as they make plans for "life after high school."

For more information, contact Laurie Dooley, ARHS career counselor, at 253-804-5161, Renee Myers Globe, AHS career counselor, at 253-931-4929, or Carol Lynn Hanson, AMHS career counselor, at 253-804-5195. Please contact Laurie Dooley if assistance is required for the hearing impaired.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/16/05

NEWS RELEASE

Erica Sage - ARHS Language Arts Teacher Completes National Board Certification

Erica Sage, Auburn Riverside High School Language Arts teacher, recently completed her National Board Certification as a classroom teacher. Board certification is a very rigorous process and is only obtained by a select number of teachers annually. National Board certification is a year-long introspective process which includes creating a portfolio of work that documents a teacher's success in the classroom as evidenced by their students' learning. The teacher candidates also complete a series of tests designed to measure their knowledge of content.

For more information, contact Auburn School District Human Resources, Debbie Leighton, at (253) 931-4916.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/14/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Schools Compete to Donate Food for Local Families

From January 9 to 20, 2006, all twenty schools in Auburn School District will participate for the second year in a food drive competition which will benefit local families served by the Auburn Food Bank.

In the past, Auburn schools ran food drives before the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Because the Auburn Food Bank had continually experienced a fall-off in food donations after the holidays that greatly impacted local families, last year the schools began an after-holidays food drive with the hope of providing food through the lean times of winter.

The Auburn Food Bank was awed by the magnitude of the response it received from the Auburn School District students and staff when this event was inaugurated last school year. Totally, 45,395 pounds of food were gathered for local families during the January 2005 food drive.

Local restaurants will be sponsors for a celebratory meal for the winning class in each of the schools participating in the January 2006 Food Drive Competition.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/14/05

NEWS RELEASE

ARHS Pep Band Performs on KOMO TV

On Monday evening, December 12, the Auburn Riverside High School (ARHS) pep band performed on KOMO 4 television station during the post-Monday night football game. The name of the wrap-up show that the students performed on was "After the Game". The 60-piece pep band played their favorite tunes and enjoyed performing in Fisher Plaza.

When KOMO 4 contacted ARHS band director, Meghan Wagner, she jumped at the chance to give the students an opportunity to perform on live television. "This is a very valuable experience for these students. They have worked hard throughout the football season and this performance was a great way to let some light shine on the ARHS band students."

In addition to this performance, the band students at ARHS are busy getting ready for basketball games and also their winter concert which will be held on December 14th. The ARHS Wind Ensemble, an audition-only band, will return to Seattle on December 20th to perform at Winterfest in the Seattle Center House.

For more information, contact Meghan Wagner at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/12/05

NEWS RELEASE

ARHS Forensic Team Competes Well at Winter Classic Speech and Debate Tournament

The Auburn Riverside High School (ARHS) Forensic team competed at the Rogers High School Winter Classic Speech and Debate Tournament on Friday and Saturday, December 9 and 10. The following students earned awards in their events. Some students also earned the opportunity to compete at the state-level competition which will occur this spring:

- ***Alaina Gordon***, Open Humorous Interpretation, Second Place and a state bid
- ***Joe Lawrence***, Open Humorous Interpretation, First Place and a state bid
- ***Joe Lawrence*** and ***Tana Loan***, Open Dual Interpretation, Third Place
- ***Tara Low***, Open Expository Speaking, First Place and a state bid
- ***Jack Peace***, Open Expository Speaking, Third place
- ***Jack Peace***, Open Oratory, Finalist
- ***Meagan Pries***, Open Oratory, Finalist

For more information, contact Mark Davis, Auburn Riverside High School debate advisor, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/9/05

NEWS RELEASE

AHS Music Students Selected for All-State Choirs and Bands

Several Auburn High School (AHS) band and choral music students have received top honors by being selected to participate in the 52nd annual Washington Music Educators Association (WMEA) All-State Bands, Orchestras, Choirs and Jazz ensembles. The AHS students listed below will join 1,100 other outstanding student musicians in Yakima in mid-February:

Erin Durch, Wind Ensemble, Flute; Joshua Linders, Wind Ensemble, Bass Clarinet; Jodie Rottle, Chamber Orchestra, Flute; Daniel Siegmund, Wind Ensemble, Trumpet; Chris Goodwin, Symphonic Choir, Tenor 1; Bailey Goranson, Treble Choir, Soprano 1; and Emily Yarnold, Treble Choir, Soprano 2. Brett Dupree is the AHS band director and Kandy Gilbert is the AHS choral teacher.

The All-State jazz groups will rehearse from February 15-18. The All-State bands, orchestras and choirs will convene February 17-20. The finest high school musicians in each of these categories will rehearse together under the direction of world-renown conductors and present their final concerts in the Capitol Theatre and SunDome. These WMEA All-State musicians were selected through auditions to participate in this outstanding event, which is sponsored by the Washington Music Educators Association.

Well-known Washingtonians who have participated in All-State include jazz saxophonist, Kenny G.

For more information, contact AHS principal, Paul Harvey, at (253) 931-4990.

12/8/05

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Schools Participate in Holiday Giving

Auburn schools will be having holiday giving activities to help local families. Some of the activities include:

- Alpac Elementary School matches needy families with two local churches, an ARHS club, and the City of Pacific who provide presents for the children and a holiday meal. Three teachers are sponsoring a family for Christmas.
- Chinook Elementary School will have a holiday giving tree where staff and community members can purchase gifts for an individual student or an entire family.
- Dick Scobee Elementary School has a dozen or more families that request help for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The school matches the requests with local families, organizations, and churches so they have a holiday meal and presents for the children. This year, Dr. Matson's dental office, Lifegate Foursquare Church, Marshals, Remax Real Estate, the school PTA, and staff are among those that are helping out. There will be a giving tree that staff can participate in to help meet the needs of one of the families.
- Evergreen Heights Elementary School has a giving tree for needy families.
- Gildo Rey Elementary School has stockings for needy children.
- Hazelwood Elementary School has a giving tree for needy Hazelwood families and provides holiday food baskets for the families.
- Ilalko Elementary's PTA will have a giving tree for five adopted families. Ilalko is also participating in the Starlight Toys for Kids through Starbucks.
- Lake View Elementary School has a giving tree so staff and community members can purchase gifts for needy children in the area. Lake View is also collecting clothes and toys for families in the school community to be distributed before winter vacation.
- Lea Hill Elementary School has a holiday giving tree supporting 10 families in its community. Also, the school is having a meal drive to provide a holiday meal to each of these ten families with either food or monetary donations.
- Pioneer Elementary School students are working in partnership with the Fred Meyer's Starbucks to collect toys for seriously ill children. The Starlight Starbright Foundation is sponsoring the drive, but Starbucks is rewarding each classroom that participates with a cocoa and cookie party. The Pioneer PTA is conducting a coin drive in each classroom with contributions going to the Auburn Food Bank. Grace Community Church is holding the third annual Christmas Giving Tree for the students and families of Pioneer Elementary. Fifty-five needy families will be receiving gifts for each family member. In addition, each family will receive a gift certificate for food and other necessities. In all, 700 gift tags were placed on the Christmas Giving Tree. Members of the Grace congregation selected all gift requests.
- Terminal Park Elementary School has an Adopt-A-Family program for the third year in which new, unwrapped gifts are brought in and matched with needy families. Also, the school's PTA is donating \$500 towards holiday baskets for families.
- Washington Elementary School is gathering Holiday Food Baskets. Each classroom is adopting local families for the holidays. Before winter vacation, each family will receive a food basket filled with everything they will need for a holiday meal. Top Foods is donating the turkeys. Classroom collection of specific meal items will take place December 1 through December 16.
- At Cascade Middle School, each grade level is adopting two families to support. Sixth grade is purchasing items for two of their families--both students and staff will help with this. Builder's Club spent last week at the retirement home where students delivered their hand-made cards and sang Christmas Carols to the residents. The week of December 5-9, the Builder's Club will have its Christmas party and students will bring in items for an agency that puts together stockings for homeless kids. The club just finished its Humane Society pet food drive and earned over \$200 for the pet food bank and took in over 300 pounds of food. This pet food bank supplies pet food to senior citizens and homeless citizens who want to keep their pets and enrich their lives. The club members also will work at the food bank again this month and are gearing up for the big Auburn Food Bank drive next month! As a yearly tradition, Cascade choirs make special visits to people in the community. On December 8, the 7th grade choir will perform at the Auburn Senior Citizen Center and the week of December 12-16, the 6th grade choir will sing at Top Food and Drug. In Cascade's name, the store will donate \$50 to the local Food Bank. Afterwards, the sixth grade students will stop at the Auburn Meadows Assisted Living Home to spread holiday cheer.
- Mt. Baker Middle School families will benefit from two different activities. The Messiah Lutheran Church will provide seven school families with food and gifts. The school staff is helping four other families with holiday support.
- Olympic Middle School's Builder's Club's current project is to raise school-wide awareness of recycling. The service club has received information and materials from the City of Auburn and the members are making posters for each classroom and the office areas to increase recycling efforts. The City provided the service club with information for holiday waste prevention and alternative gift-giving ideas as well.

- Rainier Middle School's Kiwanis-sponsored Builder's Club is collecting hats and mittens for children.
- Auburn High School's leadership class is having a Teddy Bear drive for the DAWN organization.
- At Auburn Mountainview High School, the fabric design class will visit an adult family home. Each student will make and take a batik ornament and card for the residents. The students are meeting the residents, making each one a holiday card, bringing treats, and singing holiday songs in English and Ukrainian. The Horticulture Club is selling wreaths with a yet-to-be determined amount going to the local food bank. The business classes have taken five nametags from the Giving Tree at Lea Hill to adopt for the holidays.
- At Auburn Riverside High, many activities are happening for the month of December. FCCLA is organizing Adopt a Family program again this year. Groups participating include DECA, leadership, classrooms, forensics, and Honor Society. Another project around the school is a winter warmth drive--collecting blankets, coats, mittens, and hats for local organizations helping those without a home. Another group will visit a local senior home to provide treats, music, and activities this month.
- West Auburn High School staff will give a Surprise Santa set of gifts to needy students. Also, staff will bake cookies for all students to be served in home rooms and commons area.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/4/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School Board of Directors Recognized Mary and Denis Goodwin with Gold Star Award

On Monday, December 12, the Auburn School Board of Directors recognized Mary and Denis Goodwin, community members, for serving the students in the Native American after school literacy program at Chinook Elementary School. Pat Fleming, Native American Resource Room teacher, praises the Goodwins for "faithfully coming to Chinook one day a week from October to May, to tutor students who stay after school for literacy." The Goodwins became involved with volunteering because of the Muckleshoot tribe and their involvement in the Muckleshoot Pentecostal Church. Mrs. Goodwin is a retired special education teacher and Mr. Goodwin loves kids and reading. They selected Chinook Elementary because it was across the street from their church. When asked what they think their presence in the classroom means to students, they answered, "We hope it says grandparents (and other adults) care about this generation and are willing to help work toward success. We try to be consistent and show love and interest in the students and their lives."



Without a doubt, what the Goodwins enjoy most about volunteering are the students. "Their enthusiasm as the students actually read is so admirable. We are also so impressed with the staff and their willingness to help after school," said Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin. Chinook principal, John Sander, lauded Mary and Denis Goodwin, "Denis and Mary represent the best that the community has to offer. The opportunity they provide to our students to spend time with caring, consistent adults is tremendous. They are truly making a difference in the lives of our students and we are very grateful for their time, talent, and dedication."

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

12/2/05

NEWS RELEASE
Window Painting Contest

For the second year, Auburn downtown businesses are having their windows designed and painted by local students for the holiday season. The young volunteers are supervised by school staff as the students bring the store windows to life with creative holiday designs. The windows have to be completed by Saturday, December 3, for the Santa Parade in downtown Auburn. Ribbons and photos of the student artists will be displayed in the windows. Pop Images is making plaques for the award winning windows.

Cascade Middle School administrative intern, Nancy Peterson, has coordinated the program for the schools. Auburn Downtown Association executive director, Debbie Luce, coordinated the businesses.



The following schools, school staff, and businesses are participating:

- Auburn High School - Leah Song - (Chic Chateau)
- West Auburn High School - Linda Myers, Colleen Rayburn - (Pop Images)
- Cascade Middle School - Nancy Peterson - (Whisker's Café)
- Rainier Middle School - Diane Abraham - (The Mane Team Salon)
- Dick Scobee Elementary School - Greg Brown - (First Step Children's Museum)
- Evergreen Heights Elementary School - Ashley Martinson-Voshell - (Top Nail)
- Gildo Rey Elementary School - Pat Christensen - (Good Kitty Bad Kitty)
- Pioneer Elementary School - Sharon Saito Thompson - (Thakhak Thai Cuisine)
- Terminal Park Elementary School - Julie Murphy - (Rottles)

For more information, contact Nancy Peterson at (253) 931-4995.

JANUARY 2006:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/30/06

NEWS RELEASE

Mt. Baker Middle School Teacher is Published in Puppetry Book

Marianne Parr, drama teacher at Mt. Baker Middle School, has an essay featured in the recently published book entitled *Puppetry in Education and Therapy: Unlocking doors to the Mind and Heart*. This anthology features best practices in puppetry in the U. S. The editors of the book, Matthew Bernier and Judith O'Hare, are college professors and professional puppeteers. The book focuses on three uses of puppetry: education, therapy, and assessment. Articles were solicited from members of Puppeteers of America, a nonprofit organization for both professional and amateur puppeteers, an organization to which Ms. Parr belongs.

Ms. Parr and her sixth grade students have been building rod puppets since 1996. Ms. Parr writes her puppet plays which present issues relevant to the middle school student. The puppets and puppet plays provide positive memories for students and parents alike.

For more information, contact Mt. Baker Middle School teacher, Marianne Parr, at (253) 804-4555.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/17/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School Honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The nation will honor Civil Rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., on Monday, January 16. Auburn schools are commemorating Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday with various activities:

- Gildo Rey Elementary School held an assembly on Monday, January 9.
- Evergreen Heights Elementary School held an assembly on Friday, January 13.
- Isaiah Johnson, Mt. Baker Middle School assistant principal, is speaking at Ilalko Elementary School on Tuesday, January 17 at 2:40 p.m.
- Hazelwood Elementary School is having individual classrooms recognize the work and efforts of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during classroom studies. A portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. completed by Mrs. Wright's class is a highlight.
- Lake View Elementary School will be having an assembly on January 17.
- Lea Hill Elementary School third graders will be performing in an original Dr. Martin Luther King production that music teacher, Sarah Samuelson, has written and is directing an evening performance on Tuesday, January 17 at 7 p.m. for families. The production will be the school's Bully Prevention Kick-off week, January 17-20. There will be two school assemblies on Friday, January 20, at 1:15 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.
- At Pioneer Elementary School, the school librarian, Mr. Hoskin, dedicates a week of library classes to educate students about the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- Terminal Park used the closed circuit TV system to broadcast dedicated message about Dr. King on Friday, January 13.
- Washington Elementary School held an all-school assembly on Friday, January 6. The highlight of the program was when several fifth grade students read Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s *I Have a Dream* speech. Students in every grade will be doing classroom-based projects and activities before the holiday.
- Mt. Baker Middle School had a 45-minute assembly on Monday, January 9, that included a slide show tribute to Dr. King, and performances by the Mt. Baker choir, orchestra, and band. A student leader shared portions of Dr. King's speech and a staff member gave a chronological report on Dr. King's life and accomplishments.
- On Tuesday, January 10, Cascade Middle School students in Literacy classes were involved in an activity that students segregation and special grouping of individuals.
- On Friday, January 20, an all-school assembly will be held at Olympic Middle School in which students will be presenting biographical information on Dr. King, presenting a poem recitation with a visual display, as well as music and choral recitation of *I Have a Dream*.

- Rainier Middle School will have an assembly that will present a multi-media commemoration of Dr. King's life. Also, sixth grade students will develop a school hallway to commemorate Dr. King and another hallway entitled, *It's My Life*, will commemorate others who have also overcome obstacles such as Rosa Parks.
- Auburn High School will focus on encouraging students to have a Day On, not a day off, as The King Center requests. There was a Martin Luther King, Jr., assembly on Friday, January 13. The assembly included a memorial to Rosa Parks, a Latino youth band, a video, a slide show, and a skit, including a chronology of Dr. King's life.
- Auburn Mountainview High School held an assembly on Friday, January 13.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/11/06

NEWS RELEASE

Seattle Opera Performs at Pioneer Elementary

During the week of February 14-17, Pioneer Elementary School's fifth grade students will be experiencing performing arts first-hand. The Seattle Opera Young Artists Program will be conducting a four-day artist-in-residency workshop for the Pioneer students. Six opera singers, a pianist, a music director, and a stage manager will actually produce Richard Wagner's opera, *The Rhinegold*, at the school. The Pioneer fifth grade students will be involved in acting, singing, and stage movement as well as set preparation and "front of the house" activities. With only one week to prepare, the fifth grade classroom teachers and the music teacher will be coordinating activities to ready the students for the performance on Friday, February 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the Pioneer Elementary School gymnasium.

During this very special assembly/performance, all Pioneer students will take in the sights and sounds of the production. Through teaching materials provided by Seattle Opera, all students will be introduced in their classroom to opera and the unique story of *The Rhinegold*. This mythological story will have special meaning to Pioneer students as their teachers relate it to anti-bullying strategies they are learning about. This enrichment program was made possible through a grant from The City of Auburn and the support of the Pioneer Elementary School PTA.

For more information, contact Pioneer Elementary School principal, Debra Gary, at (253) 931-4986.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/11/06

NEWS RELEASE

ARHS Speech and Debate Team Competes Well at University of Puget Sound Tournament

The Auburn Riverside High School (ARHS) Speech and Debate team competed at the University of Puget Sound Tournament on Friday and Saturday, January 6 and 7. The team made an impressive showing, earning several awards and been seeded in the state tournament. To date, the Auburn Riverside Forensic team has earned more opportunities to compete at the state tournament than every other school in the West Central District region. The following students earned awards.

- James Amis, Superior Award (First Place), Open Humorous Interpretation, as well as state competition.
- Kelsey Hettman, Excellent Award, Open Humorous Interpretation, as well as state competition.
- Joe Lawrence and Tana Loan, Superior Award (First Place), Dual Interpretation, as well as state competition.
- Joe Lawrence, Excellent Award, Open Humorous Interpretation, as well as state competition.
- Tara Low, Excellent Award, Expository Speaking
- Tara Low, Superior Award, Oratory, as well as state competition.
- Jack Peace, Superior Award, Expository Speaking, as well as state competition.
- Jack Peace, Superior Award, Oratory, as well as state competition.

Mark Davis is the ARHS debate and speech advisor. For more information, contact Mark Davis, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/5/06

NEWS RELEASE

ARHS Teacher Presents on State-level High School Panel

Geri Rohlff, Auburn Riverside High School language arts teacher and department chair, will be participating as a panel member at the High School Summit presented by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) on Tuesday, January 17 at the Seattle Convention Center. Dr. Sue Shannon, OSPI senior researcher, organized the summit with the goal to improve high schools' organizational structures and practices to respond to all students and to increase their learning.

The panel which Ms. Rohlff is participating on will highlight ideas from research for improving high schools. The panel, "Getting the High Schools We Need: Lessons from Research and Practice," will have different high school representatives sharing their successful strategies that are aligned with research such as school-wide improvement, transition and mentoring programs to support freshmen, credit recapture, intervention, and dropout prevention programs.

Ms. Rohlff is a master teacher who was selected as the Teacher-of-the-Year for the region of King County, Pierce County, and Bainbridge Island in 2004.

For more information, contact Rod Luke, executive director of K-12 learning, at (253) 931-4903.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/5/06

NEWS RELEASE

Olympic Middle School's Students are Committed to Service

The Olympic Middle School service organization, the Builders Club, has been very active during the 2005-06 school year. During September, the club organized a team to participate in the American Heart Association and Children's Hospital HeartWalk. The team raised \$1,600 and earned an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) to be installed in their school to save lives. The Builders Club students coordinated with the Auburn High School service organization, the Key Club, and collected bags full of clothing, toys, and school supplies for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The students also sponsored a UNICEF drive which raised \$200 – half of which was donated to Katrina victims and half to help children internationally. During December, Builders Club members were finalizing the emergency kit collection for the school. Students were bringing in granola power powers, packaged fruit snacks, and individual juice drinks to be stored in the school's emergency container. The members also made signs to label the yard lines on the school's football field for classes to be able to identify their assigned spot for emergency drills.

Olympic Middle School Builders Club's current project is to raise school-wide awareness of recycling. The club received information and materials from the City of Auburn and members are making posters for each classroom and the school's office areas to promote and increase recycling efforts within the school.

Susan Kindem, sixth grade CORE teacher, is the Olympic Middle School Builders Club advisor. For more information, contact Susan Kindem at (253) 931-4966.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/4/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School Board of Directors Recognize Rainier Middle School ASB President Nick Courtney

On Monday, December 12, the Auburn School Board of Directors will recognize Rainier Middle School eighth grade student, Nick Courtney, for being an outstanding student. As Rainier Middle School's ASB president, Nick contributes much to his school environment. He is a natural born leader and continually takes an active role in providing activities through his position as ASB president. "Nick spends countless hours working before and after school, and many times into the evening. His contagious energy, his strong self confidence, and ability to be a positive leader continually impress those around him," said ASB advisor, Jana Thomas. Diane Abraham, leadership and computer applications teacher, praised his leadership style as well. "Nick led this year's first pep assembly, along with another student, and many staff members congratulated the leadership class on the excellent job they did. One of the reasons it went so well was due to Nick's leadership abilities."



Nick has a very unique talent for making everyone feel important and demonstrating that he cares about them. He treats all students the same. "I really enjoy Nick's enthusiasm. He has a great sense of humor, but couples it with knowing when to focus and be on task. He makes every classroom enjoyable to come to," said Kirk Jonasson, eighth grade Algebra teacher. "Nick is a gregarious student whose enthusiasm is infectious. His positive influence in class motivates his peers to produce their best work. Nick is a self-starter who continually pushes himself to his best. His leadership comes with little effort and is sincere," said Paul Prather, eighth grade U.S. History teacher. Nick participates in wrestling and football at his school and is known for his hard work and his setting an example to his teammates.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

1/3/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School Board of Directors Recognize Program Specialist Brian Tinsley

On Monday, December 12, the Auburn School Board of Directors recognized Brian Tinsley, program specialist, for his excellent service to students with special needs. Born and raised in Lynnwood Washington, Mr. Tinsley attended Lynnwood High School. He began working with students while in high school in the class, Careers with Children. "I quickly discovered though that I enjoyed the class and working with kids was something I was good at." Mr. Tinsley continued to work with kids as a camp director and later as a para-educator in a special education classroom. He earned his bachelors degree in special education from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington and is currently pursuing his administrative credentials at the University of Washington. After he graduated from college, Mr. Tinsley worked as a structured learning center teacher at Trask Middle School in Wilmington, North Carolina.



Mr. Tinsley is an incredibly understanding and motivating educator for several reasons. "I struggled throughout my years in public education. Eventually, I dropped out of high school and moved to live with my grandparents in North Carolina. They were not satisfied to let me believe that I could not be successful in school and enrolled me in an adult high school program. With their guidance I learned that I could experience success in school and I went on to the local community college and then the University of North Carolina," said Mr. Tinsley. Mr. Tinsley is very committed to working with students with special needs. "It is my desire to impact all students, but I hope I am able to reach some who, like me, experience little success in school and believe they can not accomplish great things. I want to give to those students what my family gave to me--the chance to experience success." Mr. Tinsley continues, "The best parts of my job are the opportunities I have had to advocate and support students and families. I am committed to making sure that we do all we can to provide a quality education to students with special needs in the Auburn School District. Working previously as a transition specialist and now as a program specialist has afforded me many opportunities to grow and develop skills both inside and outside of the classroom." Jennifer Traufler, executive director of student support services, lauds Mr. Tinsley. "Mr. Tinsley does amazing work every day for students and staff. He has an awesome gift for connecting with people and has focused a great deal of his time on supporting new staff. He is a very involved educator and is very committed to the education of students. He is an outstanding and dedicated educator!"

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

FEBRUARY 2006:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

2/23/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District ECE Teachers Have Their Work Published

Auburn School District Early Childhood Education (ECE) teachers: *Denita Blount, Joy Huft, Peggy Mayer, Kim Nelson, Dorothea Peters*, and former ECE teacher, *Hannalore Hoffman*, have had their work from the last two years recently published. Their work focused on Early Literacy with the Washington Research Institute as well as the development of Literacy Bags for Supporting the Family's Home Literacy Activities and was recently published in the journal, Young Exceptional Children Monograph Series No. 7, "Supporting Early Literacy Development in young Children" by DEC, a subdivision of Council for Exceptional Children.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

2/3/06

NEWS RELEASE

2006 Food Drive Competition Results

On Friday, February 3, Jack Laverty, the Auburn Food Bank executive director, announced the results of the 2006 food drive competition between schools in Auburn School District. From January 9 to 20, all 20 schools in Auburn School District had participated for the second year in a food drive competition benefiting local families.

The winning schools that donated the most food per student were:

- High school level: Auburn Mountainview High School with 5.95 lbs. per student
- Middle school level: Cascade Middle School with 8.44 lbs. per student!
- Elementary school level: Hazelwood Elementary School with 14.56 lbs. per student!

The grand totals of food donated for the two years of the competition were:

- **2006:** 63,821 lbs + \$4,804.49 = 68,625.49 pounds
- **2005:** 45,395 lbs + \$816.65 = 46,211.85 pounds

This year's total donation from the schools was an increase of 22,413.64 pounds of food.

Mr. Laverty praised all the participating students and schools "for the ones who truly win are the families and individuals who come into the food bank, ask for help, and receive it. The only reason they get that help is because of the generosity of this community and, specifically, this food drive this time of the year from your students."

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

2/3/06

NEWS RELEASE

AHS DECA Students' Qualify for State DECA Competition in March

The following Auburn High School Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) students have won at the regional DECA competitions and have qualified for the state DECA competition in March:

- Apparel and Fashion Marketing - ***Latia Lou, Sarah Coke, Ashleigh Keiser, and Rachel Hernandez***
- Food Marketing Management - ***Kassie Babcock***
- Marketing Management - ***Sean Peckham***
- Business Services Marketing - ***Kristina Nash***
- Retail Merchandise Management - ***Ashley Shull and Ashley Tallent***
- Restaurant Marketing Management - ***Kelli Nishimoto***
- Vehicles and Petroleum Marketing - ***Freddie Griffith***

State winners will represent Auburn High School DECA at the international competition in Dallas, Texas in May.

Jim Burton is the Auburn High School DECA teacher. For more information, contact Jim Burton at (253) 931-4880.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

2/3/06

NEWS RELEASE

AHS Advanced Marketing Specialist Students' Projects Qualify for State DECA Competition in March

At the recent regional Distributive Education Clubs of America (DEC) competition, all the Auburn High School Advanced Marketing Specialist students' projects qualified for State DECA Competition in March:

- Chapter Civic Consciousness Project - ***David Wilde and Courtney Campbell***
- Public Relations Promotional Project - ***Joni Gibson and Alexandra Johnson***
- Entrepreneurship Promotional Project - ***Ashleigh Keiser and Justin Edwards***
- Creative Marketing Project - ***Olivia Lewis-Pena and Ashley Trbovich***
- Chapter Award Chapter Project - ***Ashley Shull and Kayleigh Henning***
- Merit Awards Project - ***Sean Peckham***

Jim Burton is the Auburn High School DECA teacher. For more information, contact Jim Burton at (253) 931-4880.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

2/3/06

NEWS RELEASE

DECA Project Receives Gold Level Certification

One of the Auburn High School's Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) Marketing Specialist projects has received top honors at the international level of DECA competition. The project has been awarded Gold Level Certification.

Over the course of three months, seniors *Annie Arrasmith* and *Kelli Nishimoto* of Auburn High School wrote a 72 page School-Based Enterprise (SBE) project for the national DECA competition project that was designed to give an inside look to all of the aspects of a DECA student store. The project includes written chapters describing store operations, teaching curriculum, merchandising, security, accounting, marketing, inventory, location and accessibility, vendors, displays, promotions, and many other parts involving the store and the training of students who work in it.

The students who earned Gold Level status for their SBEs will be recognized in Dallas, Texas during the International DECA Career Development Conference in late April.

Jim Burton is the Auburn High School DECA teacher. For more information, contact Jim Burton at (253) 931-4880.

MARCH 2006:

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

3/30/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Students Win ACAP Slogan Competition

ACAP Child & Family Services announced the winners of its slogan competition at its fund-raising breakfast on March 17. Alix Martinet from Auburn Mountainview High School was the grand prize winner, delivering a strong slogan: Teaming Up for the Next Generation. Sarah Soldatenkov from Hazelwood Elementary was the primary winner with the slogan: Making Families Together. Stefanie Range, the middle level winner from Mt. Baker, took home honors with the slogan: Let Us Be Your Helping Hand. Jefferson Moore from Auburn Mountainview was the secondary level winner with the slogan: Improving Childrens' Lives, One By One.

ACAP judged the competition based on the following criteria: slogan states what ACAP is about; slogan does not exceed one sentence; slogan is written in ink or computer generated. Artwork accompanying slogans was required to characterize the slogan's message.

For more information, contact Auburn Mountainview High School's VisCom and Drawing teacher, Cary Davidson, at (253) 804-4539.

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

3/30/06

NEWS RELEASE

National Library Week Open House at Auburn Mountainview High School

"Change your world @ your library" is this year's National Library Week theme, which kicks off April 2. The Auburn Mountainview High School Library is hosting an open house on Wednesday, April 5, from 3-5 p.m. The open house will feature technology available to students, including the library's Web page, and other technological resources. Students will demonstrate library technology during the event.

For additional information, contact Nancy Tapp, Auburn Mountainview High School librarian, at (253) 876-2510.

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

3/30/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Riverside High School Students Create Campus Holocaust Memorial

The Auburn Riverside High School German Club is creating a memorial on campus in remembrance of the Holocaust. Students are fund-raising money to purchase a pink flowering cherry tree and a plaque. The maintenance department will plant the tree, along with help from the German Club members, on Wednesday, April 5, at 2:45 p.m.

The tree will be planted outside the German classroom. The color pink symbolizes innocence and banishing hatred.

For more information, please contact Stacy Bardsley, German teacher at Auburn Riverside High School, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/27/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Mountainview Jazz Ensemble/Combo Competes at Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival

The Auburn Mountainview High School Jazz Ensemble and Combo competed for the first time at the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow, Idaho, on February 24-26.

The Jazz Ensemble took fifth place out of 20 bands. The Jazz Combo took eighth place out of 14 competing combos. Alto Saxophonist, ***Tyler Kion***, and Drummer, ***Daniel O'Neil***, each received Outstanding Superior Solo Performance Awards in an ensemble setting.

The festival competitions featured more than 375 high school and secondary school bands, combos, and soloists. Groups from across the U.S. and Canada performed to earn Outstanding Young Artist awards.

For more information contact Derek Pyle, AMHS Director of Bands, at (253) 804-4539, ext. 6050.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn High School Wins State Debate Championship

The Auburn High School Debate team won the State Debate Championship on March 17-18, the third time in the last four years.

Three forms of debating contests are offered at the finals: cross examination (CX), Lincoln-Douglas (LD), and Student Congress. Auburn Seniors Nathan Cohn and Katy Ferguson captured first place in CX debate, and the team of seniors Ryan Morgan and Jackie Lawrence took fifth place in CX debate. CX speaker awards went to Cohn, second place, Morgan, fourth place, and Lawrence, fifth place.

In LD debate, Auburn senior Bryan Leonard finished in third place. He also won the Top Speaker award in LD this year. No Auburn High students participated in Student Congress.

Cross-examination debate, commonly referred to as policy debate, means two-person teams alternately debate an Affirmative round for and a Negative round against a debate resolution developed by the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) used throughout the academic year. This year's resolution focused on curtailing the U.S. federal government's ability to either detain without charge or to search without probable cause. Lincoln-Douglas debate, known as value debate, is named after the seven debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas in the fall of 1858, when the two candidates vied for the Illinois seat in the Senate. In LD debate, one student debates against another, alternating sides on resolution that changes every two months. The topic at State was whether juveniles charged with violent crimes should be tried and punished as adults.

For more information, please contact Bob Horlick, Auburn High School Director of Forensics, at (253) 931-4719.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District's Board of Directors Honors Staff Member Frank Nelson

The Auburn School Board of Directors will recognize Frank Nelson, supervisor of operations and facilities maintenance, for his outstanding service to Auburn School District.

Serving in his position since 1981, Mr. Nelson supervises district custodians, paint shop staff, carpenters, and laundry staff. As supervisor, he is on call 24 hours a day and monitors all district buildings and schools. Mr. Nelson enjoys his job. "There is something different happening all the time, and I work with such a diverse group of people. Everybody has a specialty, which makes it easy to draw on their strengths. There is great staff in all the departments. As supervisor, I get the compliments, but they are the direct results of the staff's work ethic," says Mr. Nelson. "I just give them support, like finding solutions to problems."

In his spare time, Mr. Nelson tends to his small farm and beloved animals. He also restores old cars and enjoys hunting and fishing. His favorite pastime, though, is spending time with his five granddaughters, ages one to 16, and his two daughters.

For 20 years, Mr. Nelson has been very active in the local Optimist Club, serving as an original charter member as well as lifetime member. He also donates his time in other local volunteer activities and services. "I like to help others. That's the way it was in my hometown of Apache, Oklahoma. Everyone helped others." Mr. Nelson graduated from Apache High School and attended Cameron Junior College in Oklahoma. He then served in the Navy for four years and worked for The Boeing Company for two years. Mr. Nelson moved to the Northwest because of his job with Boeing.

In 1973, he was hired by Auburn School District as a third shift custodian at Cascade Junior High, where he worked for six years. He was promoted to head custodian at Evergreen Heights Elementary School for two years and then head custodian at Lakeview Elementary School for one year. "Around the community, I always see former students who are now adults. They come up and still remember me for being a school custodian all those years ago," recalls Mr. Nelson.

Mr. Nelson pursues professional growth by attending Washington Association of Maintenance and Operations Administrators (WAMOA) workshops. "I am always looking for products and equipment that do things more efficiently. Auburn School District is so committed to the upkeep of our schools and buildings, and the community supports that." Randy Thomas, director of maintenance and operations, praises Mr. Nelson for his more than three decades of service, "Frank's promotions throughout the years were a direct result of his strong work ethic and dedication. Teachers always know Frank will go the extra mile. The district as a whole is fortunate to employ such an outstanding administrator."

For additional information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District's Board of Directors Honors Student Erik Vatne

The Auburn School Board of Directors will recognize Erik Vatne, a Mt. Baker Middle School eighth grader, for being an outstanding student.

Erik sets the bar at school, daily contributing to classroom discussion, achieving high marks, and participating in band and jazz band, as well as theater and choir. The term "well-rounded" pops into the mind of Mt. Baker Principal Louanne Decker. Erik's language arts teacher, Ms. Stonack, says, "We see the hope for our future in Erik. He contributes positive energy to every classroom he enters."

Erik is an Honors student and also enjoys reading. His goal is to read the top 100 novels of all time. He's also a movies and music buff, outsmarting his teacher, Ms. Stonack, one afternoon in computer lab. Ms. Stonack asked Erik if he had ever seen the movie *Easy Rider*. He replied, "Of course," and further pointed out that Jack Nicholson was nominated for best supporting actor. Ms. Stonack

disagreed with Erik. An Internet search ensued, and the class learned Erik was right, finding it amusing that Ms. Stonack would actually disagree with Erik about any movie or music trivia.

Erik Vatne is a young man who will go far. His future is bright and promising, and his parents are one hundred percent supportive of his individuality and interests. "He will make his mark on the world, whatever he decides to do," remarks Ms. Stonack.

For additional information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/20/06

NEWS RELEASE

It's Time: 2006-07 Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for Auburn School District's 2006-2007 school year will begin on April 17, 2006. Elementary schools will be open for registration between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. daily. Parents are encouraged to register their five-year-old children on or shortly after this date. Early registration helps the schools plan effectively, have sufficient staff, and create a smooth introduction for students entering kindergarten.

Parents must bring their child's official birth certificate and a current immunization record at the time of registration. The legislature passed a state law requiring parents to present immunization information documenting that their children meet the state requirements before being registered at school.

The local elementary schools can provide a list of all needed immunizations, or view them online at <http://www.auburn.wednet.edu/immunization/Default.htm>. Newly required immunizations include: a second MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) for students entering K-12; the three-shot series for Hepatitis B for students entering K-9; and one dose of varicella (chicken pox) after their first birthday for children entering K-6.

All elementary schools will host kindergarten orientation activities as follows:

School	Day	Date	Time
Alpac	Thursday	May 18	6:30 p.m.
Chinook	Wednesday	May 31	6:30 p.m.
Dick Scobee	Wednesday	May 17	11:30 a.m.
Evergreen Heights	Wednesday	May 17	12:30 p.m.
Gildo Rey	Thursday	May 18	10:45 a.m.
Hazelwood	Wednesday	May 17	3:30 p.m.
Ilalko	Wednesday	May 17	3:30 p.m.
Lake View	Tuesday	May 23	6:30 p.m.
Lea Hill	Wednesday	May 24	4:00 p.m.
Pioneer	Thursday	June 8	11:40 a.m. 4:00 p.m.
Terminal Park	Wednesday	May 17	11:30 a.m.
Washington	Wednesday	May 10	3:15 p.m.
Lakeland Hills (at Ilalko)	Tuesday	May 16	3:30 p.m.

For additional information, contact your neighborhood elementary school or Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/16/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Rotary Club Selects West Auburn High School Senior as Student of the Month

On March 15, Nicole Rudloff, a senior at West Auburn High School, was honored as the Auburn Rotary student of the month. She attended the recognition luncheon with Steven Payne, West Auburn High School business education instructor, and her mother, Linda Rudloff.

Nicole is a bright student who is graduating in June in only three years. Her incredible work ethic and go-getter attitude makes her a model student. She is a member of the Voc Ed Club and a student council representative. Nicole plans to attend Green River Community College in the fall and then transfer to University of Washington to pursue her B.S. in nursing. She already has earned over 20 college credits through her Tech Prep work.

“Nicole’s just a great all-around kid. I am lucky to be her advisor and looking forward to see where life takes her,” says Mr. Payne.

For additional information, please contact Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/16/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Teachers Awarded OSPI Scholarships

Lisa Horn and ***Diane Schiesz***, Gildo Rey Elementary School teachers, both received \$1,250 scholarships from OSPI to pursue National Board Certification. Only fifteen scholarships were awarded.

The program is optional and requires teachers to create a portfolio and take an essay test to demonstrate that they have met the national standards for teaching. Once a teacher passes the rigorous exam (only about half of the teachers pass the first time), the state rewards teachers National Board Certification, which includes a \$3,000 stipend annually. Additionally, teachers with certification can obtain a teaching certificate in any state.

For additional information, contact Robin Logan, Gildo Rey Elementary School Principal, at (253) 931-4952.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/16/06

NEWS RELEASE

Expansion Management Magazine Awards Blue Ribbon to Auburn School District

The Auburn School District has been rated one of the top public school districts in the United States in *Expansion Management* magazine’s 15th annual Education Quotient issue.

Expansion Management annually compares more than 2,800 school districts across the country on how well the district is preparing its students to be part of the workforce after graduation. The special report is mailed to over 45,000 corporate subscribers who have indicated they are considering expanding into new areas.

Auburn School District received the Blue Ribbon Award, ranking in the top 33 percent of all evaluated school districts.

For additional information, please contact Associate Superintendent Mike Newman at (253) 931-4930.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/16/06

NEWS RELEASE

Lea Hill Elementary School Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Look who's 40! Lea Hill Elementary School in Auburn is celebrating its 40th anniversary on April 28, starting at 4:30 p.m., with a tour of the school and grounds. Past and present teachers, staff, and students are welcome to come and sign the timeline. There will be pictures to see and stories to share. Students will display their artwork, and the Music Club will lead everyone in a sing-along.

Come see the change at Lea Hill Elementary School.

For additional information, contact Lea Hill Elementary Principal Donna Dussault-Walker at (253) 931-4982.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/13/06

NEWS RELEASE

Increased Breakfast Participation in Auburn Schools

Auburn School District's Child Nutrition Program received a \$3,000 Expanding Breakfast Grant from the Washington State Dairy Council in early 2006. The district's four middle schools—Cascade, Mt. Baker, Olympic, and Rainier—each received \$750 to increase breakfast participation.

All four middle schools have reported a tremendous breakfast participation increase between September 2005 and February 2006:

- Cascade up **43%**
- Mt. Baker up **51%**
- Olympic up **14%**
- Rainier up **126%**

For more information, contact Eric Boutin, Supervisor of Child Nutrition Services, at (253) 931-4927 or via e-mail at ChildNutrition@auburn.wednet.edu.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/13/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Riverside High School Forensic Team Competes in State Tournament

The Auburn Riverside Forensic Team competed at the State Tournament on Saturday, March 11. The team placed second overall out of nearly forty 4A high schools. This is the tenth year Auburn Riverside has placed in the top five at the State individual events tournament. Thirteen students competed in the tournament. The following students earned top awards and will also represent Auburn Riverside High School at the National Tournament in Dallas on June 18-23:

- ***Alaina Gordon***, 2nd place in Humorous Interpretation
- ***Joe Lawrence***, 3rd place in Humorous Interpretation
- ***Tara Low***, 3rd place in Oratory
- ***Jack Peace***, 1st place in Expository
- ***Joe Lawrence*** and ***Tana Loan***, 2nd place in Dual Interpretation

Mark Davis, Auburn Riverside High School debate and speech advisor, recognizes the hard work and effort the students have invested into the forensic team: "This marks the culmination of a year of dedication and hard work, and we are very proud of these students and the entire team for all of their accomplishments."

For additional information, contact Mark Davis at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/9/06

NEWS RELEASE

First Annual Writing Contest Prepares Auburn Students for the WASL

On Wednesday, March 15, at 8:45 a.m., Mount Baker Middle School will announce the winners of its first annual seventh-grade writing contest, sponsored by *NW Cuts N' Stuff*, a new King County-based publication.

The competition—opened only to seventh graders—fine-tunes students' writing skills for their upcoming reading and writing WASL tests. Students also vie for the cash prizes: \$50 for first place and a pizza party for the winner's Language Arts class, \$30 for second place, and \$20 for third place.

The writing prompt selected honored Black History Month: How has Black History Month impacted your life? Students voluntarily submitted their writing, and winners were determined based on the following criteria: grammar, syntax, organization of material, and personalization of their answer.

For additional information, please contact Assistant Principal Isaiah Johnson of Mount Baker Middle School at (253) 804-4557.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/7/06

NEWS RELEASE

Attendance Area Changes in the Auburn School District for 2006-07

A committee of citizens in the Auburn School District have been meeting for the past six months to adjust attendance areas to accommodate the opening of Lakeland Hills Elementary School and to balance student populations between Cascade Middle School and Rainier Middle School. The committee will recommend these boundary changes to the school board on March 13. Subsequent to this meeting, the committee will be presenting the recommendations at two informational meetings:

- **Where:** **Mt. Baker Middle School**
Room: Commons
Date: Wednesday, March 15
Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** **Cascade Middle School**
Room: Commons
Date: Thursday, March 16
Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

For information or questions, contact Dr. Kip Herren, Deputy Superintendent, at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/7/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Riverside High School Forensic Team Reaches Nationals

The Auburn Riverside High School Forensic Team competed at the National Speech Qualification Tournament on Thursday and Friday, March 2 and 3. Team members earned an impressive four of the eight available individual event slots in the 2006 National Forensic League (NFL) National Tournament.

Nationals will be held from June 18-23 in the Grapevine/Colleyville Independent School District, near Dallas/Forth Worth, Texas. The following students beat out fellow competition to attend Nationals in these events:

- **Jack Peace**, Oratory
- **Tara Low**, Oratory
- **Alaina Gordon**, Humorous Interpretation
- **Joe Lawrence** and **Tana Loan**, Dual Interpretation

For additional information, contact Mark Davis, Auburn Riverside High School debate and speech advisor, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/6/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Students Win Washington State PTA Honors

Two outstanding students in the Auburn School District are award-winners of the 2005-2006 Washington State PTA Reflections Program.

Karol Jezek from Lake View Elementary School, receiving an Award of Excellence in Primary Literature, and **Kylie Magar** from Hazelwood Elementary, receiving an Award of Excellence in Intermediate Choreography/Dance, will be honored at the Washington State PTA Reflections Awards Ceremony on April 1, 2006, from 1:00-3:30 p.m. at the Highline Performing Arts Center, 401 South 152nd Street, Burien, WA 98166. The ceremony is open to the public and free of charge.

The annual cultural arts Reflections Program encourages students to pursue artistic expression, offering students the opportunity to create art in four areas: literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts. The Washington State PTA also offers two non-traditional categories: film/video and choreography/dance. Each year students create art supporting a specific theme. This year's theme is "I Wonder Why..." Students from across the state submitted their works of art to their local PTA or PTSA, and awards were presented in each arts category, for each grade division.

For a complete listing of award recipients, visit www.wastatepta.org/programs/Reflections/reflections_winners2006.htm.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/6/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Mountainview Large Mixed Ensemble Headed to State

The newly opened Auburn Mountainview High School is sending its large mixed ensemble—the first music ensemble of any kind from Auburn Mountainview—to the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association/Washington Music Educators Association State Solo and Ensemble Contest in Ellensburg, Washington, on Friday, April 28.

Ensemble members include: *Sara Mellado, Kailen Best, Katie Farrell, Lauren Frerichs, Jamie Ritson, Jessica Kion, Daniel Frerichs*, and *James Manuel*. The ensemble performed “The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee” by Jean Berger, “an incredibly difficult contest piece to learn and perform,” according to Karen Frerichs, Auburn Mountainview’s Fine Arts Choral Director. “Yet the students practiced it as often as possible, and I knew they were capable of keeping perfect intonation.”

This state-renowned competition highlights Washington’s finest high school music students, featuring 22 regions. Winners in each category from the 22 regional contests move on to the state competition, where first, second, and third place awards are selected.

Categories in the small and large ensemble contest include: woodwinds, brass, percussion, strings, women’s vocal, men’s vocal, and mixed vocal. Solo categories include: seven woodwind, five brass, four percussion, four strings, six vocal, piano, guitar, and harp.

For additional details, please contact Karen Frerichs, Fine Arts Choral Director, at (253) 804-4539 ext. 6101.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

3/2/06

NEWS RELEASE
Ask the Dietitian!

On Monday, March 6, Auburn School District’s Child Nutrition Services website goes live with a new “Ask the Dietitian” link.

Parents, students, teachers, and staff now have personal access to Jill Dobson, Registered Dietitian and Consulting Dietitian for the District’s Child Nutrition Department. Dobson is available via e-mail to answer any questions pertaining to health, diet, and general nutrition in the school breakfast and lunch programs or other general nutrition-related topics. This exciting new feature for Child Nutrition Services augments its already informative website, such as food specification sheets that list all ingredients and nutritional analysis for the programs’ entrees. Eric Boutin, Supervisor of Child Nutrition Services, states, “‘Ask the Dietitian’ is an exciting new resource for students to ask about any nutritional questions they may have, plus it is a feature teachers and parents in the district can use to gather information on the meal programs offered at school.” Explore this new feature by visiting the Child Nutrition Services website at <http://www.auburn.wednet.edu/childnutrition/Default3.htm>.

For more information, contact Eric Boutin, Supervisor of Child Nutrition Services, at (253) 931-4927.

APRIL 2006:

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

4/24/06

NEWS RELEASE

Lea Hill Elementary School Celebrates Fortieth Anniversary

On April 28, Lea Hill Elementary School is celebrating its fortieth anniversary on campus from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Former and current teachers, administrators, students and parents are invited to walk down memory lane. Celebratory activities include: school tours, nature walks, a photo montage, a slide show and classroom viewings. In addition, people are invited to contribute to the interactive timeline, which will be set up in the gymnasium.

Reflection speeches and fond memories will be shared, as well as refreshments.

For more information, contact Lea Hill Office Manager Lori Sanford at (253) 931-4982.

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

4/20/06

NEWS RELEASE

Summertime Meals Available to All Community Children and Youth

The Auburn School District, the City of Auburn, the City of Pacific and participating community organizations will partner this summer to offer free meals to children from late June to September. Last summer more than 40,000 meals were served.

All children and youth ages 1 to 18 can stop by one of the dozen locations throughout the community, including Les Grove Park, Brannan Park, Pacific Community Center and multiple school sites. Nutritious lunches will be served, and some sites will also provide healthy breakfast items and snacks. The program is also available to youth-related groups such as sports teams, day cares and youth camps.

If your community group would like to sponsor a location or receive meals, please contact Eric Boutin at ChildNutrition@auburn.wednet.edu or at (253) 931-4927. A complete listing of meal sites will be available in June. Please visit <http://www.auburn.wednet.edu/childnutrition/Default3.htm> for updates.

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

4/20/06

NEWS RELEASE

Improvement Underway at Lea Hill Elementary's 10-acre National Education Landmark Reserve

On April 22, classroom improvement projects will begin at Lea Hill Elementary School's 10-acre National Education Landmark Reserve.

Home Depot will sponsor a team from The Leadership Institute of South Puget Sound, working in cooperation with the Auburn Eagle Scouts, Boy Scouts and Lea Hill Elementary School volunteers, to provide the following improvements: install new and more durable bench seating; design and erect a podium/teaching station for instructors; research and create a laminated information sheet regarding the reserve for instructors/youth; and improve the existing trail system within the reserve.

This project will provide an opportunity for teachers to educate within an environment that has been designed to enhance the learning experience within a natural setting.

Volunteers are welcome. Food and drinks will be provided by Subway, Domino's and Fred Meyer. For more information, contact Sonya O'Brien at (888) 841-0164 or sobonvashon@gmail.com.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/20/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Senior Awarded Boeing Merit Scholarship

Aaron Kaufman, a senior at Auburn Riverside High School, has been selected as the winner of the corporate-sponsored Boeing Merit Scholarship.

Approximately 1,000 outstanding high school seniors will receive corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards financed by some 300 companies, foundations and other business organizations. More than 1.3 million juniors in nearly 21,000 U.S. high schools entered the 2006 Merit Scholarship competition.

Aaron submitted a substantial amount of information and fulfilled certain requirements to attain Finalist standing, including presenting an outstanding academic record; being endorsed and recommended by the school principal; earning SAT scores that confirmed the qualifying test performance; and providing an essay describing activities, interests and goals. Some 15,000 Semifinalists advanced to the Finalist level and only half of the Finalist group was selected as Merit Scholarship winners. Aaron also had to meet the criteria of his scholarship sponsors. Corporate sponsors generally provide Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who are children of their employees, residents of communities the company serves, or have plans to pursue majors or careers the grantor wishes to encourage.

Most corporate-sponsored scholarships are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and range from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Others provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Recipients can use the awards at a regionally accredited U.S. college or university of their choice.

For more information, contact Laurie Dooley, Auburn Riverside High School Career Counselor, at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/20/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Rotary Club Selects Outstanding Future Leader as Student of the Month for April

On April 18, Bryan Leonard, a senior at Auburn High School, was honored as the Auburn Rotary's student of the month for April. He attended the recognition luncheon with Paul Harvey, Auburn High School Principal, and his parents, Kenneth and Marcia Leonard.

Bryan is a young man of incredible talent and character. His academic work is always innovative and creative. He has been the driving force behind many successful leadership events and projects.

He also has a remarkable gift of patience as a high school student. He is able to work with administrators of Auburn High School, understanding the processes people and systems need to undergo in order to function correctly. He displays outstanding assertiveness and negotiation skills. Bryan's high level of responsibility and commitment allow him to succeed in virtually every endeavor he undertakes.

Last year Bryan served as Junior Class President. This year he works as a Teaching Assistant for Ms. Benedict, an Auburn High School Leadership Teacher. He is a member of the speech and debate team. He also plays racquetball and spends many hours video editing and listening to music.

According to Ms. Benedict, "Bryan's blend of academic excellence and relational giftedness make him an exceptional person who has great leadership potential."

For additional information, please contact Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/19/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Family Selected for Home Makeover

On April 29, the Wolf family from Auburn's Lea Hill area will wake up in their much loved, hazardous, older house, but fall asleep in a beautifully updated home. The home makeover entails installing a new furnace and flooring, drywall and a roof, remodeling the kitchen and bath, adding new landscaping, painting inside and out, building a deck, and adding a gabled front door entry and surprise interior decorating accents for the girls' bedrooms as well as the master bedroom.

Rebuilding Together South Sound (RTSS), an affiliate of the national non-profit organization Rebuilding Together U.S.A. (formerly Christmas in April), is the mastermind behind the home makeover. RTSS brings together community volunteers to help low-income homeowners continue to live in warm, safe and independent homes. RTSS selects homes of the elderly, people with disabilities and families with children to rejuvenate on two national Rebuilding Days—one in the fall and one in the spring.

The Wolf's home on April 29 is just 1 of 27 homes that will be repaired and cleaned up in the South Sound. Over 500 volunteers make these Rebuilding Days possible, offering a hard day's labor to better their communities and the lives of their friends and neighbors. Companies and community groups donate money to sponsor a house so that materials can be purchased at no cost to the homeowners. RTSS also provides year-round services such as minor home repairs or modifications for the homeowners they help on Rebuilding Days.

For additional information on the Lea Hill home makeover project, contact Lea Hill Elementary School Principal Donna Dussault-Walker at (253) 931-4982. For additional information on Rebuilding Together South Sound, contact Board of Director Bernie O'Donnell and employee of OPUS Northwest at (206) 779-8794.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/13/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Student Isaac Lomeli Awarded United States Academy National Math Award

The United States Achievement Academy (USAA) announced that Isaac Lomeli, an Auburn Riverside High School senior, has been named a United States National Award Winner in Mathematics. Mr. Zeiger, Isaac's teacher, nominated Isaac for the award.

The Academy selects USAA winners upon the exclusive recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors and other qualified sponsors, and upon the selection criteria set forth by the Academy. The selection criteria includes: student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, and dependability.

This prestigious award honors fewer than ten percent of all American high school students. Dr. George Stevens, Founder of USAA, states, "Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly, USAA winners should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement."

For more information, contact Auburn Riverside Mathematics Teacher Ernie Zeiger at (253) 804-5154.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/13/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Announces "Whole Foods Day"

On April 27, Auburn School District's Child Nutrition Services will host a "Whole Foods Day" in district elementary schools. The cafeteria will serve a whole foods based menu to complement the department's ongoing efforts in providing healthy and nutritious foods to children's diets. The featured entrée is oven roasted chicken quarter (brushed with olive oil and lightly sprinkled with kosher salt and black pepper), served with a side dish of brown rice baked with saucy beans. Lunch also includes low-fat or non-fat milk, and a trip through the always available fresh fruit and vegetable salad bar. Students can enjoy this great lunch for only two dollars.

Children and adults receive benefits from eating whole foods—foods that are consumed in a similar state to how they exist in nature. Although many foods can be part of a healthy diet in moderate amounts, Child Nutrition Services is working to increase awareness and consumption of eating foods in their more natural state. For example, when children eat whole grain bread instead of white bread, they are eating the bran from the grain, which provides fibers helpful in preventing obesity and certain cancers, and in managing diabetes. When they eat white bread, they are not consuming these grains because the grains are removed in the refining processes.

For additional information, contact Eric Boutin, Child Nutrition Supervisor, at (253) 931-4972, or e-mail childnutrition@auburn.wednet.edu.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/13/06

NEWS RELEASE

Evergreen Heights Elementary School Choir Singing National Anthem at Mariners Game

The Evergreen Heights Elementary School Choir, conducted by John Ansotigue, will be singing the national anthem for the Seattle Mariners at Safeco Field on Wednesday, May 24, at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Ansotigue submitted an audition tape, and the Mariners selected the 50-member choir to sing the pre-game salute. The choir is made up of third, fourth and fifth graders who are spending many rehearsal hours preparing for this exciting event.

The choir will also be singing the national anthem for the Tacoma Rainiers at Cheney Stadium on Monday, May 29, at 1:35 p.m. This is the choir's third performance at Cheney Stadium in three years. They also recently sang the national anthem for the Western Hockey League's Seattle Thunderbirds at Key Arena.

According to Mr. Ansotigue, "These musical performances provide kids with experiences they can take with them throughout their lifetime."

For more information, contact Music Teacher John Ansotigue at (253) 931-4974.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/12/06

NEWS RELEASE

Dick Scobee Elementary Star Readers Win Bronze in King County Library System's Global Reading Challenge

Four teams of fourth and fifth graders from the Auburn, Tukwila, Mercer Island and Lake Washington School Districts competed for the title of Grand Champions in King County Library System's sixth annual Global Reading Challenge on March 31. Dick Scobee Elementary School's Star Readers team took home the bronze medal.

Each team represented a region of King County and advanced through school, school district and regional challenges. All teams demonstrated knowledge of ten books chosen by KCLS librarians. Students met Lensey Namioka, the author of *Half and Half*, one of the books from this year's booklist. She signed one of her books for each team member. Other teams competing were the Potato Team from Lakeridge, the Mercer Island School District; The Super Readers from Cascade View, Tukwila School District; and the Book Blasterz from Elizabeth Blackwell, Lake Washington School District.

The Global Reading Challenge is modeled after the popular Battle of the Books and has been well received by students in nine school districts around King County. In 2001, the first Global Challenge in King County was initiated in Auburn with two schools and 42 students. This year the program highlights 43 schools and over 1,300 students and generates enormous enthusiasm among participants, as well as their parents, peers and teachers. This collaborative effort was born primarily to promote the love of reading and to have fun while doing it. It has also provided a recreational outlet for readers, promoted teamwork and introduced children to a wide variety of multicultural reading materials.

For additional information, contact Terry Hendershott, children's librarian for the Auburn, Algona Pacific and Muckleshoot Libraries, at (253) 931-3018 ext. 110.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/12/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn's Dick Scobee Elementary School Principal Visits "Other" Dick Scobee

On March 31, Greg Brown, principal of Dick Scobee Elementary School in Auburn, visited the only other school in the United States named after astronaut Dick Scobee. The Dick Scobee Elementary School of San Antonio welcomed Principal Brown Texas-style at its monthly pep assembly, the "Scobee Shout-Out." The kids' hoo-ha preceded Principal Brown's address to the crowd, where he told students fun facts about the Dick Scobee students in Auburn. He presented the school with memorabilia and passed out letters written by the Auburn students, which shared more information about their school. The San Antonio students were thrilled to receive the letters and promised to write back about their school. Jeff Davenport, principal of Dick Scobee Elementary School in San Antonio, presented Principal Brown with memorabilia to take back to his students.

Both principals had the opportunity to discuss their education systems, and Principal Brown toured the entire school. A first grade girl even made a sign that read: "Welcome to Scobee!"

For additional information, please contact Principal Greg Brown at (253) 887-1081.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/7/06

NEWS RELEASE

Anne Baunach Receives Board of Directors' Gold Star Volunteer Award

The Auburn School District Board of Directors presented the Gold Star Volunteer Award to Anne Baunach, in recognition of her selfless contribution to district citizen and campaign committees, at the April 5 board meeting. Ms. Baunach's commitment to the district is evident. Most recently Anne co-chaired the attendance area committee, working diligently to ensure a balanced and fair boundary change. She also co-chairs Auburn Citizens for Schools and volunteers for the Auburn School District Levy/Bond Publications Committee and Terminal Park Elementary.

Over the years as a district volunteer, Ms. Baunach has witnessed the fruits of passing two construction bonds, a technology and bus levy, as well as three maintenance and operations levies. "I see the benefits of those successful campaigns each day in my children's education. I remember the first time I visited the new Auburn Mountainview campus. It was so exciting to see the finished product and how all those hours of attending community coffee gatherings, making phone calls, waving signs, and preparing mailings paid off."

Ms. Baunach's volunteer spirit reaches beyond the school district to community organizations. She is a member of Soroptimist International of Auburn, a volunteer at Messiah Lutheran Church, and a member of the City of Auburn Arts Commission.

Some may wonder where Ms. Baunach finds the time and energy to wholeheartedly volunteer in not one, but in multiple capacities. “I live my life by a Margaret Meade quote, ‘Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever does.’ I give back to my community because I believe I can make a difference,” reflects Ms. Baunach. She sure does.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

4/6/06

NEWS RELEASE

Two Auburn Juniors Selected to Study Infectious Diseases During Summer Break

Eugeney Polupan, a junior at Auburn Mountainview High School, and ***Allison Frost***, a junior at Auburn Riverside High School, were selected to serve a summer internship with the Seattle Biomedical Research Institute (SBRI). Eugeney and Allison will work directly with scientists in the research and study of infectious disease.

SBRI studies 11 of the most infectious diseases in the world—including Malaria, African Sleeping Sickness, trypanosomes, Chagas Disease, Leishmaniasis, Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS—and targets the world’s most underserved populations. Eugeney and Allison will focus their summer work in the study of one of these diseases. SBRI will continue to support Eugeney and Allison in their senior years of high school, as SBRI notifies them of scholarship opportunities, writes letters of recommendation for their college applications, and invites them to participate in SBRI events as docents. The program is funded by the Ginger and Barry Ackerley Foundation and the Byron and Alice Lockwood Foundation.

For more information, contact Deborah Rumbaugh, Auburn Mountainview High School Science Department Chair, at (253) 804-4539, or Judy Shaw, Auburn Riverside High School Science Department Chair, at (253) 804-5154.

MAY 2006:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/23/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District's Board of Directors Honors Staff Member Michelle Hupperten

On Monday, May 22, the Auburn School District Board of Directors recognized Michelle Hupperten, TOSA Instructor at Pioneer Elementary School, for her outstanding service to the Auburn School District.

One of Michelle's favorite pastimes, especially on a summer afternoon, is to lounge in her backyard and read voraciously. Her choice of literature may be a *New York Times* best seller or perhaps a research book discussing metacognitive strategies. Whatever the topic, Michelle loves to read. Her love of reading reaches beyond the warm days of summer, spilling over into the lives of students at Pioneer Elementary School.

Nine years ago, Michelle was hired as a first grade teacher at Pioneer and then decided to pursue second grade for a few years. In 2002, Pioneer had an opening for a Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) instructor. Essentially, the position would reduce class sizes throughout the building during small-group reading blocks. Michelle considered the opportunity and decided to go for it, as she felt ready for a change. The chance to teach reading to students at all grade levels and to connect to the reading groups despite not being the students' classroom teacher sounded both different and challenging. "I am very flexible and you have to be in order to do the job I do," remarks Michelle. "Our school benefits and I benefit because I am flexible to change, and I like variety. My job is constantly morphing." For instance, Michelle most recently transitioned from teaching reading to grades one through five to only fourth grade. Fourth grade classrooms were overloaded, and Michelle stepped in to alleviate some of the pressure.

Recently Michelle's fourth graders tackled the WASL. "The students were actually excited to take the WASL. The fear factor wasn't there this year," states Michelle. She was a major factor in helping to reduce stress among the students, primarily because of her experience one year scoring the WASL reading test as part of a teacher opportunity created by OSPI. She used her experience and new knowledge to guide her students' preparation for the reading test. The opportunity provided her information to share with the students about how to specifically understand the questions being asked, techniques on how to answer correctly, and how judges, like herself, score answers. She also used practice tests and provided her students opportunities to practice their test-taking strategies until they became comfortable with the format.

Michelle also commits herself to advancing the reading comprehension of students district-wide. Monthly she presents the latest "best practices" on reading strategies to Pioneer staff. She has also presented to staff at Hazelwood Elementary and Terminal Park Elementary. While Michelle never dreamed of presenting her teaching strategies to others, she has grown to enjoy the collaboration with her colleagues. "Presenting successful strategies to other teachers for their classroom use is one of my proudest professional development accomplishments by far," states Michelle.

Another proud role Michelle plays is as a member of Pioneer's Bully Prevention Committee. The committee educates students, staff and parents on what bullying is and how to handle it. The committee performs skits to model problem-solving techniques to students who may experience bullying. Skits are performed at school-wide assemblies, parents' open house and during teacher meetings. Michelle knows firsthand that students are receiving and processing these messages. One student approached Michelle about two of his friends who were bullying him into deciding which of the two he wanted to be friends with more. Michelle was able to guide the student to a safe solution by helping him problem solve.

And there's more. Michelle participates in Pioneer's SIP Committee and in the District's In-service Advisory Committee and Reading Adoption Committee.

At the end of the day, Michelle truly believes that school needs to be a safe place, a refuge if you will, for children. "My reading groups are a good place because students receive more individualized attention. They experience positive adult interaction at school, which helps build their confidence levels dramatically," says Michelle. "My students deserve the same level of respect and support I receive from my peers."

And so while you may have heard the saying, Don't judge a book by its cover, in Michelle's case it's the converse. With Michelle what you see is what you get: relational, knowledgeable, passionate, flexible...and the list runs on.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan, at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/23/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District's Board of Directors Honors Student Tiffany Ferderer

On Monday, May 22, the Auburn School District Board of Directors recognized Tiffany Ferderer, a fourth grader at Dick Scobee Elementary School, for her outstanding student achievements.

Tiffany is a fourth grader in Mr. Pfab's class. Her academic performance is Oscar-worthy. She has earned straight As in both the first and second trimesters this year.

She diligently works on her assignments and often does more than is required of her. She is a talented writer and recently wrote a compelling story. According to Mr. Pfab, "It is one of the best stories I've read in several years."

Tiffany is curious and creative. She thought it would be fun to perform a "play" using the AVerVision projector in class. Mr. Pfab told her that if she wrote a play, she could perform it for the class. The next morning she arrived with a script, props and Popsicle-stick characters. Her play centered on bullying, which highlighted the anti-bullying program occurring on campus. She has even performed it for other classes.

Tiffany serves as a conflict manager at recess and is also a member of the Young Astronauts program. She has a great sense of humor and likes to hear and tell jokes.

Mr. Pfab truly appreciates Tiffany for her ability to pay attention to valuable life lessons and for her willingness to always do what is best for herself and for others. Recently Tiffany's health class was discussing safety. Mr. Pfab mentioned that carrying a whistle is a good idea to attract attention and ward off danger. The next day Tiffany came to school with a whistle. Another time Mr. Pfab saw Tiffany riding in the front seat of a car on the way to school. Mr. Pfab asked Tiffany if that was the safest place to ride since the class had recently talked about the dangers of riding in the front seat. The next morning when Tiffany drove by, there was Tiffany, smiling and waving from the backseat. "I have enjoyed working with Tiffany this year. She brings a lot of positive characteristics to the class," says Mr. Pfab.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan, at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Honors Muckleshoot Tribe with Community Recognition Award

On May 19, the Muckleshoot Tribe was honored by Auburn School District at the WASA community recognition awards luncheon. Virginia Cross, a Muckleshoot Tribal Council member, accepted the award on behalf of the Muckleshoot Tribe. She was accompanied by Superintendent Linda Cowan and Assistant Director of Native American Programs Denise Bill. The award is presented to a community member or group in recognition of contributions to education.

The Muckleshoot Tribe fervently supports life-long learning in the Auburn School District and believes that as more Native people further their education, the more they will contribute to the community at-large. For instance, the Muckleshoot Tribe offers full college scholarships to all tribal members who desire to continue their education. Scholarships are available for all universities and for all degree programs.

The Muckleshoot Tribe also provides resources to educate the local Native American youth. Annually, the Muckleshoot Tribe contributes \$400,000 to the Native American Achievement Center's educational programs offered at three district schools—Chinook Elementary School, Olympic Middle School and Auburn Senior High School—and the Virginia Cross Native Education Center, an Auburn School District high school program located on the reservation.

Students receive individualized instruction from the Center's programs, including tutoring, mentoring and counseling. Teachers provide students with guidance and problem-solving skills to navigate the school system successfully. In addition, every July the Muckleshoot Tribe supports the summer academy reading and literacy program for Native American students in grades K-12.

The Muckleshoot Tribe supports additional district programs and activities, such as school PTAs and sports teams, through the Muckleshoot Charity Fund. Other tribal programs benefit the greater Auburn community and include a reservation-based health and wellness center, state-of-the-art child care center and housing program.

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Receives Washington State Dairy Council Grant

On May 16, Auburn School District's Child Nutrition Services department received a \$5,000 grant from the Washington State Dairy Council to provide classroom nutrition education in four elementary schools.

The grant will fund a Registered Dietitian to train the schools' kitchen managers to go into fourth grade classrooms to make health and nutrition presentations focused on good food choices and the benefits of healthy eating, with a particular emphasis on the value of calcium in one's diet.

A unique spin of the grant is that funding includes training a group of fourth grade students who learn about the good food choices to then present the health and nutrition information to third grade classrooms in the schools.

The program will commence with the 2006-2007 school year.

For additional information, contact Eric Boutin, Child Nutrition Supervisor, at (253) 931-4972, or e-mail childnutrition@auburn.wednet.edu.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Hires Executive Director for Elementary Education

Robin Logan, Principal of Gildo Rey Elementary School, has been appointed Executive Director for Elementary Education commencing with the 2006-07 school year. Mrs. Logan replaces Carol Carlson-Ray, who is retiring in June.

Mrs. Logan has served in the Auburn School District for 26 years. She has a rich background in education. Mrs. Logan has taught preschool, elementary school, ELL and college extension classes. She has worked for many years as a Reading Specialist in several Auburn schools. She has been the principal of Gildo Rey since 1999. Last year she was recognized as South King County's principal of the year.

Mrs. Logan is a leader in the district in education reform and is respected for providing guidance that inspires high performance through mission-driven leadership.

Concerning her new appointment, she comments, "I am very humbled by the opportunity to serve the wonderful teachers and administrators of the Auburn School district in the capacity of Executive Director for Elementary Education. The commitment to excellence that drives the work we do for our children is powerful and compelling work."

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Rotary Club Selects Auburn Mountainview High School Junior as Student of the Month

On May 17, Kailee Fiksdal, a junior at Auburn Mountainview High School, was honored as the Auburn Rotary student of the month. She attended the recognition luncheon with ASB Advisor Julie Bonefas and her parents, Steve and Kelly Fiksdal.

Kailee focuses much of her attention on what many teens don't even consider—others. She is the president of Guiding Relationships and Inspiring Peers (GRIP), a student club based on a simple premise: within every school, an informal "helping network" exists. Students with problems naturally seek out other students and occasionally teachers or other school staff whom they trust. They seek them out for advice, for assistance or just for a sympathetic ear. GRIP members use this existing helping network, which provides training to students and adults who are already perceived as "natural helpers."

Kailee mentors younger kids as a gymnastics coach. Her 14 years of experience proves invaluable to the coaches on staff. Kailee also is the junior class secretary and the varsity captain on the AMHS cheer squad. Recently, Kailee was elected senior class historian/reunion coordinator—duties she will assume next school year.

After Kailee graduates in June 2007, she plans to attend a four-year university and major in business. Her top choices are Arizona State University or Hawaii Pacific University.

"Kailee is one of those rare students who comes along and, through her actions, makes a lasting impact on her school. She cares deeply for her schoolwork and her classmates, and for making AMHS a great place to be. Kailee strives to reflect her personal pride and the respect she feels for school through everything she does. She is truly a quality person, and I am honored to know her," states Mrs. Bonefas.

For additional information, please contact Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn High School Marketing-Bound Senior Wins Washington Awards for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) Scholarship

Cayden Dedera, a senior at Auburn High School, was recently awarded a Washington Awards for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) Scholarship. In 2006, only three vocational students from each of the 49 legislative districts were honored for outstanding achievement in vocational/technical education. High schools, skills centers, and community and technical colleges are eligible to nominate students based on the following criteria: occupational proficiency, leadership, community activities, work experience and other qualities.

Cayden has completed her Marketing program and is currently taking Keyboarding, Computer Essentials, Visual Communications, Independent Living, Careers with Children and WBL Marketing.

The WAVE Scholarship provides six quarters or four semesters of tuition and services/activities fees at a Washington State institution of higher education, an accredited Washington State independent college or university, or a licensed private vocational school. The scholarship is for undergraduate study only and cannot exceed the annual full-time, resident, undergraduate tuition and services/activities fees in effect at the State-funded research universities. The student must maintain a GPA of 3.0 to continue using the award.

For more information, contact Reneé Myers Globe, AHS career counselor, at (253) 931-4929.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/17/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Hosts Elementary School #14 Groundbreaking Ceremony

The groundbreaking ceremony for Auburn School District's fourteenth elementary school is on Friday, May 19, at 3:15 p.m. The new school site is on Lea Hill off 132nd Avenue SE, due south of Auburn Mountainview High School. It is scheduled to open in September 2007. The ceremony is open to the public.

Parking is available in the high school parking lot off 132nd Avenue SE at 292nd Street. Sturdy walking shoes are recommended. Allot 15 minutes to park and walk to site.

For additional information, contact Public Information Officer Amy Spence at (253) 931-4713.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/17/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Hires New Principal at Lea Hill Elementary School

Ed Herda has been named principal for Lea Hill Elementary School in the Auburn School District commencing with the 2006-07 school year. Mr. Herda replaces Donna Dussault-Walker, who is retiring in June.

Mr. Herda earned his bachelors in elementary education from Eastern Washington University and his masters in school administration from Central Washington University.

Mr. Herda currently serves as an elementary assistant principal at Naches Trail Elementary School in the Bethel School District. Prior to his time at Naches Trail, Mr. Herda spent five years teaching fifth grade at Terminal Park Elementary School in the Auburn School District.

For additional information, contact Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/12/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Mountainview Junior Captures Bronze Medal in Marimba Solo

Aaron Dunham, a junior at Auburn Mountainview High School, won third place for his Marimba Solo at the WIAA-WMEA STATE Solo and Ensemble Contest at Central Washington University on April 28-29.

Aaron played the Marimba, a large version of the Xylophone with a darker and lower set of tones. His musical selection was "Two Mexican Dances, for Marimba," composed by Gordon Stout.

This is Aaron's second appearance at STATE but first top-three performance. He now has the distinct honor of being Auburn Mountainview's first band member to win a state award for excellence in an instrumental music performance.

The STATE Contest features over 1,800 students who qualified at the Regional Contest held in February.

For more information contact Derek Pyle, AMHS Band Director, at (253) 804-4539, ext. 6050.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/12/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn High School Band Wins Big at State Solo and Ensemble Contest

Auburn High School Band members captured top honors at the WIAA-WMEA STATE Solo and Ensemble Contest at Central Washington University on April 28-29.

Seniors Caroline Bonner and Adam Range won first place in Small Percussion Ensemble, performing a Marimba Duet by Keiko Abe, "Wind Across Mountains." The nine-member Large Percussion Ensemble placed third and performed Steve Riley's "Eye Irascible." Members include: Adam Range, Caroline Bonner, Willis Barton, Heidi Brandner, Jonathan Angle, Susan Kramer, Andy Patton, Anneliese Kellogg and Caleb Valdovinos.

Third place Mixed Vocal-Small Duet winners were senior Emily Yarnold and sophomore Thaddeus Wilson.

State Soloist winners included: Emily Yarnold, third place in Mezzo Soprano; Caroline Bonner, third place in Timpani Solo; Josh Linders, first place in Alto-Bass Clarinet Solo; Adam Range, first place in Marimba Solo; and Daniel Siegmund, first place in Trumpet Solo.

The STATE Contest features over 1,800 students who qualified at the Regional Contest held in February.

For additional information contact Brett Dupree, Auburn High School Band Director, at (253) 931-4719, ext. 1517.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/8/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Mountainview High School Hosts First Annual Plant Sale

The Auburn Mountainview High School FFA will host its first annual plant sale on May 10-12 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Auburn Mountainview is located at 28900 124th Ave SE in Auburn, and the plant sale will be on the East side of the high school in the greenhouse.

Students have produced a wonderful selection of fuchsia baskets, petunia baskets, geraniums, annuals, herbs and vegetables, perennials and color bowls. Prices range from \$0.75 to \$18.00.

The spring plant sale is the culmination of a lot of hard work by the FFA members and the students in the horticulture classes. "We started with a new but completely empty greenhouse in January, and now it's bursting with color," says FFA Advisor Regina Grubb.

All of the proceeds from the plant sale go toward the leadership activities of the FFA, enabling the members to hold their annual banquet, give awards, and travel to other contests and leadership functions throughout the year.

A complete list of available plants can be found at the AMHS student Web page, <http://www.auburn.wednet.edu/amhs/students.htm>, under "Horticulture Club." For more information, contact FFA Advisor Regina Grubb at (253) 804-4539, ext. 6200.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/4/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Appoints New Principal at Ilalko Elementary School

Adam Couch, Assistant Principal of Ilalko Elementary School, has been hired as the Principal of Ilalko beginning in September. Mr. Couch replaces Ryan Foster, the recently hired Principal for the new Lakeland Hills Elementary School opening this Fall.

Mr. Couch has spent the last year serving as Assistant Principal. Prior to his time at Ilalko, he taught fourth and fifth grade math and science classes at Gildo Rey Elementary School. Mr. Couch earned a B.A. in Education and a Masters in Education Administration from Central Washington University. His focus was elementary education and reading and teaching English as a Second Language (ESL).

Mr. Couch is known for his service leadership style and staff motivational strategies. He builds foundational relationships with staff and students and expects hard work in return. Over the years, he has spent many hours pursuing educational grants to provide more opportunities for his students and school buildings. He has also developed and aligned various math and science curriculum, and served as chair on district-wide committees such as the Boundary and Science Committees.

For additional information, contact Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/1/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Awarded Superintendent of Public Instruction's Academic Improvement Award

On April 24, the Auburn School District Board of Directors received commemorative plates that represent the gains made in the Academic Improvement Awards Program for 2004-2005. The plates were adhered to the Academic Achievement Award Plaque presented to the district last year for gains made in 2003-2004.

Schools and districts receive Academic Improvement Awards if they reduce by 10 percent the number of students who miss meeting the reading, mathematics or writing goals from one school year to the next. A school district earns this distinction in reading, writing and/or mathematics for the fourth, seventh and/or tenth grade levels.

Auburn School District earned the 2004-2005 distinction in the following areas:

- Fourth grade reading and writing
- Seventh grade reading and writing
- Tenth grade reading

For more information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

5/1/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District's Board of Directors Honor Staff Member Donna Dussault-Walker

On Monday, April 24, the Auburn School District Board of Directors recognized Donna Dussault-Walker, principal of Lea Hill Elementary School, for her outstanding service to the Auburn School District.

Donna Dussault-Walker learned about compassion and perseverance at a young age. She by no means enjoyed living with leg calf perthes—a disease confining Donna to a leg brace and wheelchair—yet it awakened Donna to the realization that she could still live life like “normal” kids with the help of her family and friends. “My parents continually reminded me that I could do anything I set my mind to,” recalls Donna. “And because my life was filled with compassionate and caring teachers like Mrs. Batterberry, my kindergarten teacher, I always knew I wanted to teach and give back to others.”

Donna eventually overcame her hip disease and walked again by the end of first grade. She relearned how to walk, achieving what was highly improbable, because she had already learned she could do anything she set her mind to. And so foreshadows most of Donna's life.

Donna has set and achieved many life goals, including college degrees and career promotions, but what's resided at the core of her goals has always been about giving back—to yourself and to others. Donna has also come to the conclusion that to give to her full potential she must replenish her mental, physical and relational reserves.

Giving to one's full potential is possible, and Donna is a testament to this. Donna has dedicated 30 years of her life to the education profession. She spent her first 18 years in the Tahoma School District, teaching third and fifth grades, and then moved to the Kent School District, balancing a classroom of sixth graders, a handful of cross-country runners and the duties of camp director. At this time, with a nudge from her husband, John, she began pursuing her master's in curriculum and instruction and a certificate in education administration. In 1999, degree in hand, Donna accepted the Principal post at Lea Hill Elementary School and has experienced an unexpected but wonderful seven years.

“In my first months at Lea Hill we lost a fifth grader to an unexpected brain tumor. One year five staff members all had babies. The mixture of tragedies and joys during my time at Lea Hill has created a community bond unprecedented in my career,” reflects Donna. “What is remarkable is that the bond extends into the classroom. The kids feel the connection, giving them a better sense of community.”

Donna extends herself above and beyond for her Lea Hill students. She hosts groups of kindergarten students in the principal's office for “Munchies with Mrs. Walker.” Kindergartners share goodies with Donna as she reads them stories, setting a positive tone for the new students. Donna never fails to remember a birthday. Every morning during announcements, Donna wishes students and staff members with birthdays a warm birthday greeting and delivers a birthday pencil to those students. Life is in the details for Donna. It matters to her to greet each child by name and to offer warm hugs and kudos.

For Donna, a cohesive and relational community environment is paramount to the children's academic successes. Her philosophy has even helped parents overcome cultural differences. “If a child feels safe and secure in a structured environment, the child will succeed. We are setting them up for success,” states Donna.

Donna is a heartfelt educator who inspires others to give back to their communities, to their schools and to their families. Even though Donna will be retiring from the Auburn School District this June, she will always live by Lea Hill's “Pride” motto, which colorfully adorns the gymnasium walls: positive attitude, respectful, integrity, dependable and effort.

For additional information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/1/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District's Board of Directors Honors Student Nicole Rudloff

On Monday, April 24, the Auburn School District Board of Directors recognized Nicole Rudloff, a senior at West Auburn High School, for her outstanding student achievements.

Nicole is a bright student who is graduating in June in only three years. She attended West Auburn's summer school program the past two summers. Her incredible work ethic and go-getter attitude make her a model student, which are just some of the reasons Nicole won Auburn Rotary's Student of the Month for March.

She is a member of the Vocational Education Club and a student council representative. She also played on West Auburn's volleyball team. Nicole plans to attend Green River Community College in the fall and then transfer to the University of Washington to pursue a bachelor of science degree in nursing. She already has earned over 20 college credits through her Tech Prep program. Nicole enjoys helping people and recognizes that nurses are always meeting the needs of others.

Nicole's advisor, Mr. Payne, applauds Nicole for her tenacity. Despite already completing her math requirements for graduation, Nicole chose to take an advanced math class, instead of an easy elective, for her own benefit for college preparation. "Nicole's just a great all-around kid. I am lucky to be her advisor and looking forward to see where life takes her," says Mr. Payne.

Nicole's family plays a special part in her desire to succeed. Her mother, Linda Rudloff, her sister, Sarah, and Nicole's two-year-old son, Aiden, are three big reasons for her success. In her free time, Nicole enjoys hiking, camping and running. After graduation, Nicole plans to vacation at the Florida Keys and visit relatives in South Dakota, as well as attend a camp for prospective nurses in Tacoma.

For additional information, contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

5/1/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Is Awarded *Expansion Management Magazine's* Blue Ribbon

On April 24, the Auburn School District Board of Directors recognized Capital Projects Executive Director, Jeff Grose, and Capital Projects Coordinator, Robert Kenworthy, for receiving a Blue Ribbon Award from *Expansion Management* magazine.

The Auburn School District has been rated one of the top public school districts in the United States in *Expansion Management* magazine's 15th annual Education Quotient issue.

Expansion Management annually compares more than 2,800 school districts across the country on how well the district is preparing its students to be part of the workforce after graduation. The special report is mailed to over 45,000 corporate subscribers who have indicated they are considering expanding their businesses into new areas.

Auburn School District received the Blue Ribbon Award, ranking in the top 33 percent of all evaluated school districts.

For additional information, please contact Associate Superintendent Mike Newman at (253) 931-4930.

JUNE 2006:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

6/28/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District and City of Pacific Awarded Grant for Summer Literacy Program

The Auburn School District received a grant for \$3,990 to ensure that children in the City of Pacific eat healthy food and stay engaged in literacy enrichment activities all summer long. From July 31 to August 17, at the City of Pacific Community Center, 20 Pacific students entering the fourth or fifth grades will focus on reading and writing, building their literacy skills. These hands-on, "food-based" activities will combat summer learning loss. Children will also receive free meals, made possible through the US Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program.

Eric Boutin, supervisor of Child Nutrition Services for the Auburn School District, submitted the grant proposal. The grant—made possible through Feed Your Brain, a collaborative project involving School's Out Washington, the Children's Alliance and the Discuren Charitable Foundation—will provide funding for staff, curriculum, supplies and materials.

Most people think that childhood hunger is most acute in the winter months, but studies show that summer is the hardest time for children to find consistent meals. Families who depend on free school meals to help with food bills are often overwhelmed and turn to food banks. Nationwide demand at food banks increases by 30 percent each summer. In addition to hunger, kids are also at risk of experiencing learning loss during the summer months when they do not engage in educational activities. Some researchers believe that summer learning loss is the primary contributor to the achievement gap that exists between low-income and middle-class students.

For additional information contact Eric Boutin, supervisor of Child Nutrition Services, at (253) 931-4972.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

6/28/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Recipient of Washington Traffic Safety Commission Grant

The Washington Traffic Safety Commission awarded the City of Auburn a \$15,000 grant to install flashing beacons in three elementary school zones. The flashing beacons will replace existing signage on East Main Street near Washington Elementary, on M Street SE near Gildo Rey Elementary, and on 12th Street SE near Terminal Park Elementary.

The flashing beacons are designed to notify drivers when they are entering a school zone, and to provide an additional safety measure that will benefit school children, especially walkers and cyclists, in Auburn. The beacons are scheduled to be installed in the three elementary school zones in September 2006.

For more information contact Amy Spence, publications and grants supervisor, at (253) 931-4713.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

6/22/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Rotary Club Selects Auburn Riverside High School Senior as Student of the Month

On June 14, Patricia Egwuatu, a senior at Auburn Riverside High School, was honored as the Auburn Rotary student of the month. She attended the recognition luncheon with Janalyn McKeehan, Dean of Students, and her mother, Florence Egwuatu.

Patricia excels in the classroom, tackling AP History, Calculus, Language and Literature courses. She also participates in Concert and Symphonic Band. She is a member of Key Club, the Honor Society, Student Council, and the National Honor Society and National Honor Roll.

To top off her academically and socially robust resume, she also is a fervent supporter of youth, volunteering in a myriad of services to better the lives of underprivileged children. Patricia states it is her compassion for others that drives her to sacrifice some of her loves to help others in need. She also values her patient spirit, claiming this helps her when volunteering with children.

Her volunteer service over the years includes: providing after-school tutoring to elementary school children; mentoring children at and publishing newsletters for the Tender Years Academy Center; coaching basketball techniques to young girls through Junior Ravens, an after-school program at Auburn Riverside.

Patricia plans to study Pre-Med at University of Washington next fall. Her goal is to graduate with a doctorate degree and then travel to Africa to give back to the countries, Nigeria and Uganda, which are a part of her heritage and culture. "I want to be able to give all children the proper health attention they deserve," states Egwuatu.

For additional information, please contact Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

6/8/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Awarded "Meals for Kids" Grant

Auburn School District's Child Nutrition Services Department was recently awarded a \$5,162.69 "Meals for Kids" grant. The funding allows the department to expand its summer food service program.

Currently, the program provides free meals to children from late June to September at various community sites in Auburn, Algona and Pacific. The additional funding will pay for special serving equipment the Child Nutrition Services Department will use to serve the 40,000 plus off-site meals.

All children and youth ages 1 to 18 can stop by one of the 23 locations throughout the community. For a full listing of sites go to <http://www.auburn.wednet.edu/childnutrition>.

Nutritious lunches will be served, and some sites will also provide healthy breakfast items and snacks. The program is also available to youth-related groups such as sports teams, day cares and youth camps.

For more information contact Eric Boutin at ChildNutrition@auburn.wednet.edu or at (253) 931-4972.

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

6/8/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Announces Meal Sites for Summer Food Service Program

The Auburn School District, the City of Auburn, the City of Pacific and participating community organizations will partner to offer free meals to children ages 1 to 18 from late June to September. Last summer more than 40,000 meals were served. The program is also available to youth-related groups such as sports teams, day cares and youth camps.

The following sites will be serving nutritious lunches, and some sites will also provide healthy breakfast items and snacks:

Open: June 26th – September 1st Monday – Friday (closed July 4th):

Les Gove Park – The REC Center

Lunch (11:30 am – 12:30 pm)

1005 12th Street SE

Brannan Park

Lunch (12:00 pm – 12:30 pm)

611 28th St. NE

Memorial Park

Lunch (12:00 pm – 12:30 pm)

Park Ave & Auburn Way N

Cedar Lanes Park

Lunch (12:00 pm – 12:30 pm)

25th and K Street SE

Scottie Brown Park

Lunch (12:00 pm – 12:30 pm)

8th & Henry Road NE

Centro De Amistad Apartments

Lunch (11:00 am – 11:15 am)

506 21st Street SE

Auburn Pines Apartments

Lunch (11:00 am – 11:15 am)

515 N Division Street

Pacific Community Center

Lunch (11:30 am – 12:30 pm)

100 3rd Ave SE

Rotary Water Park

Snack (3:00 – 3:15 pm)

1020 Deal's Way SE

Open: June 26th through August 18th Monday – Friday (closed July 4th):

Algona – Pacific Library

Lunch (12:00 pm – 12:30 pm)

255 Ellingson Road

Family of Grace Church (Lea Hill)

Lunch (11:00 am – 11:30 am)

31317 124th Ave SE

Auburn Boys & Girls Club @ Firwood Circle

Lunch (11:30 am – 12:00 pm)

313 37th Place SE

Auburn Neighborhood House @ Burndale

Lunch (11:00 am – 11:30 am)

930 18th Place NE.

Cobble Court Apartments

Lunch (12:45 pm – 1:00 pm)

345 Pacific Avenue North

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

6/8/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Teen Selected as Miss Washington's Outstanding Teen 2006

Lakeland Hills' Outstanding Teen, Stefanie Range, 13, was crowned Miss Washington's Outstanding Teen at the third annual Miss Washington's Outstanding Teen Pageant at the Auburn Performing Arts Center on May 28.

Stefanie, the daughter of Jane and Allen Range, is a Mt. Baker Middle School eighth grader. Her platform is *Enhancing Communities Through the Arts*, and her career goal is to become a veterinarian.

Stefanie is an avid singer and performed *Shy* from the musical *Once Upon a Mattress* for the talent portion of the competition. She had the honor of playing the male lead of *Gavroche* in *Les Miserable* and was recently awarded the role of *Liesl* in the Auburn Dinner Theatre's production of *Sound of Music*.

Rounding out the top five were first runner-up Spokane's Outstanding Teen, Emily Roll; second runner-up Snohomish County's Outstanding Teen, Jean-Sun Ahn; third runner-up Sammamish's Outstanding Teen, Veronica Miracle; and fourth runner-up Moses Lake's Outstanding Teen, Caitlynn Lawson.

Eighteen teen contestants competed for the honor to represent Washington State at the second annual Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageant in Orlando, Florida, August 16-19.

As part of the Miss Washington Scholarship Organization, a preliminary to Miss America, Miss Washington's Outstanding Teen encourages teens to pursue scholastic excellence, community involvement and positive lifestyle choices.

For more information contact Amy Spence, public information officer, at (253) 931-4713.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

6/8/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Selects Outstanding Teachers of the Year

The Auburn School District announces the 2006 award winners for Teacher of the Year. One high school teacher, one middle school teacher and one elementary school teacher were selected at the district level—Judith Shaw, Dale DeVries and Vickie Leaf. Two of the teachers, Judith Shaw and Dale DeVries, have been selected to move on to the regional competition. One teacher from each region will move on to the state competition. Then the state winner will move on to the 2007 national competition.

Judith Shaw

Auburn Riverside High School
Science Teacher and Department Head

"My deepest passion in teaching is to reach *all* students in my teaching."

Mrs. Shaw believes in reaching all of her students in the classroom, and she does so through inquiry-based learning and hands-on activities. Mrs. Shaw's working relationships with Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (FHCRC) and Seattle Biomedical Research Institute (SBRI) not only allow her classroom use of modern biotech equipment—equipment most other high school students do not have access to—but also the opportunity to develop a biotechnology course for high school students in the Auburn School District.

Mrs. Shaw spends countless hours outside the classroom serving as Science Club Advisor and Assistant Drama Coach. She also assists students after school, helping them review material for the Advanced Placement Exam. Furthermore, Mrs. Shaw takes on multiple leadership roles at the building, district and state levels. She serves on a number of committees, including the state's Science Assessment Leadership Team (SALT), which prepares the Science WASL for its final operational form. She is also the regional representative for the Washington Science Teachers Association (WSTA). Mrs. Shaw is currently connected with University of

Washington's Genetics Project. One of her students recently landed a summer internship in the program. Mrs. Shaw also develops curriculum and is a trainer of trainers for both the district and outside organizations such as the Highline School District, Eastside Catholic High School, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Green River Community College.

Mrs. Shaw's classroom contributions and professional development growth are lauded by many of her colleagues. Auburn Riverside math teacher Mr. Arrigoni states, "Her teaching is a poster board for what should take place in the classroom."

Dale DeVries

Olympic Middle School

Sixth Grade Teacher

"I find that the best way to effectively reach my students is to put myself in their place by asking myself the question, 'What keeps my attention?'"

Mr. DeVries believes in building relationships with his students in order to engage them in active learning. "The students see commitment and honesty from a trusted adult/mentor, and they see a teacher who won't let them down," states Mr. DeVries. He also establishes connections with parents, believing that their involvement in their child's educational journey is a key factor to the child's success. He always strives to use materials that are relevant to his students. For example, when he teaches Ancient History, he always connects the past with his students' present life situations.

DeVries has been honored at Olympic by both his principal and fellow teachers as the "instructor you would most like to model." He has been selected out of the building staff to set up a reading strategies program for sixth graders. He teaches these strategies to eight other sixth grade classrooms, which help the students better understand science texts, social studies texts, math texts and so on. At the same time, he is able to model teaching strategies to all of the teachers.

Mr. DeVries's impact reaches beyond the classroom. He coaches football, basketball and track at Olympic. He also co-teaches the Native American Summer Academy every July, and he is involved with FFA. He is a member of the music and drama teams at his church and volunteers in the nursery. Recently, Mr. DeVries had the opportunity to travel to Senegal, Africa, to teach kids and other teachers, and to help run a basketball camp in a remote village. "Mr. DeVries is one of those rare individuals who does not let school, city or world boundaries keep him from working with children in need," states Olympic Principal Paul Douglas.

Vickie Leaf

Ilalko Elementary School

Primary Specialist

"If something doesn't work, I don't give up. Instead, I try a different perspective and maintain my high expectations."

Mrs. Leaf is responsible for social studies, science, health and integrated technology instruction for first and second graders. Students participate in technology-based activities such as photography and movie production, as well as gardening, mapping, measuring and cooking. Mrs. Leaf's classroom is currently the home of Pomeranian goslings, listed by the Livestock Conservatory as critically rare (less than 500 in the U.S.). These rare goslings started as eggs, which were incubated, turned, hatched and cared for by first and second graders during science class. Ilalko will be recorded in record books for helping to reestablish the rare birds that will be given to a local poultry farm. Real-life activities that captivate and engage students make learning real and important in Mrs. Leaf's classroom. First-grade teacher Mrs. Surber recalls Mrs. Leaf's "Little House on the Prairie" activities, where children traveled back in time to experience "covered-wagon packing" challenges. Students actually made butter and even candles.

Mrs. Leaf is highly active in Auburn School District's science alignment team. She rewrote science curriculum that has been disseminated district wide. In addition, she is a member of Ilalko's SIP committee and a building technology leader for troubleshooting hardware, software and integration problems.

Mrs. Leaf has participated in McTeacher Night, a fundraising event for the Algona-Pacific food bank. She organizes the Dr. Seuss/Geo Night, an event celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday and the unique characteristics of other countries. She also teaches Sunday school and works on the video team at her church.

On top of everything else, Mrs. Leaf pursues educational grants to benefit her students. She has been the recipient of multiple grants, including a Boeing Science and Technology Grant, enabling her to purchase technology pieces for greenhouse record keeping and greenhouse equipment; a Fred Meyer Foundation Grant that helped purchase a greenhouse for Ilalko students; and others focused on science, music and technology.

For additional information, contact Amy Spence, public information officer, at (253) 931-4713.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

6/8/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn Mountainview Band and Choir Receive Superior Marks at Idaho Music Festival

On June 3, the Auburn Mountainview High School Jazz and Show Choirs and Wind and Jazz Ensembles competed at the Music in the Parks Festival in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. The students performed exceptionally, bringing home superior ratings and first place honors in the following categories: Show Choir, Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble.

To top off the great performances, the Jazz Ensemble took home the Overall Award for Most Outstanding Jazz Band.

Several soloists received special recognition for their individual performances: Michelle Happenny, tenor sax; Scott Amundson, trombone; Justis Tena, alto and bari sax; Jessie Kion, bass.

For more information contact Derek Pyle, AMHS Director of Bands, at (253) 804-4539, ext. 6050.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

6/8/06

NEWS RELEASE

Donna Worman Receives Board of Directors' Gold Star Volunteer Award

On Monday, June 12, the Auburn School District Board of Directors will present the Gold Star Volunteer Award to Donna Worman, in recognition of her volunteer support at both Auburn Riverside High School and Auburn Senior High School.

Donna Worman retired from the Auburn School District nine years ago; yet, she has volunteered her time and service to both Auburn Riverside High School and Auburn Senior High School since retiring. Every Thursday morning, Donna helps Language Arts teacher Geri Rohlff at Auburn Riverside High School "with whatever needs to be done," according to Mrs. Rohlff. Donna also volunteers in the counseling office at Auburn Senior High School.

In Mrs. Rohlff's class, Donna performs a plethora of tasks, from helping students review vocabulary to WASLette tutoring to flashcard making to photocopying to administering benchmark reviews. "Donna does it all, and she does it all with a smile every Thursday morning," states Mrs. Rohlff.

New students quickly attach themselves to Donna because of her warm, genuine care. She monitors their progress, talks with them about how to be successful and acknowledges their hardships and challenges. She makes them feel welcome.

English language learners appreciate Donna's unending patience when she helps them with their class work. Her humor makes them comfortable and willing to share their stories and challenges with her. Donna encourages them and always tells them she's jealous because she only speaks one language. Last year student Domka Schmidt informed Donna that they shared the same name. Donna learned her name was Domka, so Mrs. Rohlff's class called her that for a time. Another student, Tarmeeek, shared stories about India and elephants, and when Donna went home, she found unique elephants on the Internet and sent them to Tarmeeek so he could explain them to her on the following Thursday.

When Donna joins her husband, Bob, on trips, she feels guilty because she's not in class to help the students. She brings them things—like cool pencils from Hawaii and candy—when she returns. A holiday does not pass without Donna sharing candy or doughnuts with the students. During graduation, she hands out cards to the seniors with thoughtful notes about their successes and wishes for their futures.

Each December, Donna purchases a new almanac for Mrs. Rohlff's classroom. She teaches students how to use an almanac, and whenever former students return to visit, they ask Mrs. Rohlff if Donna still comes by and gives the class almanacs. Two former students went to war in Iraq, and when they wrote to Mrs. Rohlff, they asked about Donna. "Thoughts of Donna resonate in the students' hearts. Donna makes everyone feel at home and at ease. She values education, and she values the Auburn community," says Mrs. Rohlff.

JULY 2006:

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

7/25/06

NEWS RELEASE

Dr. Therald Leonard Retires from the Auburn School Board

After giving 31 years of service, Dr. Therald Leonard, Director of District 5, is retiring from the Auburn School Board.

Dr. Leonard's long legacy of serving the communities of Auburn, Algona and Pacific began in 1974—the year he moved his family to Auburn to start a dental practice. In 1975, Dr. Leonard served as chairman of Auburn School District's first citizens' Ad Hoc Committee. The committee was charged to study district facilities and to make recommendations to the school board. Their final recommendations were to remodel Auburn High School, including the stadium, as well as to build a Performing Arts Center. His consistent leadership and forward-looking thinking has provided stability and direction to the board. He has contributed to the innovation and enhancement of children's education in the district year after year.

Dr. Leonard's tenure with the Auburn School Board is the longest of any director. He lauds the district for its consistency in providing quality educational programs and maintaining all of the schools in the best possible condition.

For more information contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

7/25/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Seeking Applicants for the Position of School Board Director for District 5

The Auburn School Board seeks applications from interested citizens for the position of school board director for District 5. The following are the specifics regarding this vacancy:

1. The appointee to fill this position shall meet the requirements provided by law for school directors and shall serve until the next regular school district election (fall 2007) at which time a successor shall be elected.
2. The appointee must be a citizen of the United States and the state of Washington and a registered voter.
3. The appointee must live within the boundaries of District 5 in the Auburn School District—the eastern portion of the school district.

Applications must be submitted for this position by 5 P.M. on Tuesday, August 8. Send applications to Ray Vefik, Board President, 915 Fourth Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002. Applications should include a brief resume of qualifications, background and reasons for interest in serving on the school board.

Public interviews will be held on Tuesday, August 15, with appointment to be announced on August 15. Swearing in of the new board member will take place at the regular board meeting on Monday, August 28.

For more information regarding this position and for specifics on District 5 boundaries, contact any present board member or Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

7/24/06

NEWS RELEASE

Local Doctor Wins Washington State Association of Career and Technical Education Award of Merit

Dr. Graham Reedy has been selected by the Washington State Association of Career and Technical Education (WA-ACTE) for the Award of Merit. The WA-ACTE Award of Merit is given to the “business firms, industries, farm and home leaders, boards of education, boards of trustees, lay citizens group, state or national committees, and any other types of organizations that have contributed significantly to Career and Technical Education.”

Dr. Reedy, a local doctor specializing in family practice and sports medicine, has made significant contributions to the Auburn School District, and specifically Career and Technical Education, over the years. His roles include: member of Auburn School District’s Sports Medicine Advisory Board for the past 12 years; team physician for Auburn Mountainview High School’s sports teams; host physician and speaker for the 2002 Washington Vocational Sports Medicine Association’s (WVSMA) Competition; and volunteer sports medicine advisor for Sumner School District.

One of Dr. Reedy’s most well-known contributions was his leadership role in the 2004 Heart of Auburn Schools Committee—a committee comprised of local physicians and community members who developed a campaign to place an AED within two to three minutes of every student and person on school district property. Every year in the U.S, 220,000 people suffer sudden cardiac arrest; 7,000 of them are students. Out of the total number, only 5% or 11,000 survive. Fatal arrhythmia (irregular beating of the heart) can only be reversed with early electrical shock delivered by an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). The ability to successfully convert this certain death to “a save” drops off 7-10% every minute a shock is delayed. Because of Dr. Reedy’s successful campaign, Auburn School District now has AEDs within two to three minutes of every student and staff member.

The WA-ACTE awards banquet is on Sunday, August 6 at 6 p.m. at the Red Lion Hotel at the Park in Spokane, Washington. Dr. Reedy will be out of the country, but a representative will accept the award for him on his behalf.

For more information contact Cindi Blansfield, Coordinator of CTE and Technology, at (253) 931-4903.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

7/20/06

NEWS RELEASE

Rainier Middle School Assistant Principal Appointed Principal Post at Chinook Elementary School

Leonard Holloman has been named principal for Chinook Elementary School in the Auburn School District commencing with the 2006-07 school year. Mr. Holloman replaces John Sander, who accepted the Director of Assessment and Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA) position in the Auburn School District.

Mr. Holloman has been the assistant principal for the past four years at Rainier Middle School. This past year, Mr. Holloman was selected as the Association of Washington Middle Level Principals’ 2005-06 Assistant Principal of the Year for the South King County region. Prior to his successes at Rainier, he taught at West Auburn High School. Mr. Holloman began his teaching career at Desert Winds Elementary School in Tucson, Arizona.

Lenny graduated from the University of Arizona with his Bachelors of Science in health science. He earned his masters in education and principal credential from City University.

Mr. Holloman brings to Chinook Elementary School a commitment to providing education that is based in the research of best practices. He believes that establishing and maintaining a positive school climate while continually raising standards is paramount for a successful school. He is very much looking forward to contributing to the great program.

For additional information, contact Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kip Herren at (253) 931-4920.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

7/11/06

NEWS RELEASE

Evergreen Heights Children's Choir to Sing National Anthem at Five Major Sporting Venues

John Ansotigue, director of the Evergreen Heights Elementary Children's Choir, will showcase his talented and popular children's choir at five prime sporting venues during the 2006-07 school year.

The children's choir will be performing the national anthem at Key Arena, Safeco Field and Cheney Stadium, and twice at the University of Washington Hec Edmundson Pavilion—one basketball game and one volleyball game.

Dates to follow shortly.

For more information contact John Ansotigue, Evergreen Heights Music and PE Specialist, at (253) 931-4974.

Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002

7/6/06

NEWS RELEASE

Sixth Grader Vies for Top Honors at 2006 US Pokémon TCG National Championships

On July 1-2, Cascade Middle School student, Zane Nelson, competed in the 2006 U.S. Pokémon TCG National Championships in Columbus, Ohio. Over 537 competitors vied for top honors in their respective age brackets: 10 and under; 11 to 14; and 15 and over.

Zane and 130 other 11- to 14-year-olds battled it out in card games, channeling skill, strategy and creativity to capture the coveted prize—advancing to the 2006 Pokémon TCG World Championships in Anaheim, California, on August 18-20.

Zane finished in fifth place, advancing to the World Championships. He won a trip for two to Anaheim to compete, as well as a \$750 scholarship and “a lot of new playing cards,” according to his mom, Niki Nelson.

For more information, contact Amy Spence, publications and grants supervisor, at (253) 931-4713.

AUGUST 2006:

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

8/31/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Hires New Administrators for the 2006-07 School Year

Four new administrators have recently been hired in the Auburn School District.

Stacy Jordison is a new assistant principal at Auburn High School. Ms. Jordison has taught at the elementary, junior high and high school levels. Most recently, she has been a teacher of physical education and a coach at Auburn High School. She completed her internship last year at Auburn High, providing her a working knowledge of the school. She also created solid relationships with staff and students, which will help provide a seamless transition. She looks forward to continuing the work of the School Improvement Planning process, supporting all students—especially those of diverse backgrounds—and inspiring students and educators.

Rob Swaim transitioned into the Career and Technical Education assistant director position. Mr. Swaim was most recently an assistant principal at Auburn High School. Previously he was an assistant principal in the North Thurston School District and the Clover Park School District. Mr. Swaim is a team player, who is self-motivated, well organized, flexible, dedicated and enthusiastic. He anticipates working with colleagues to achieve learning goals in the area of Career and Technical Education. Mr. Swaim's experience as a high school assistant principal, his understanding of state reform, and his desire for excellence make him a perfect fit for this position.

Jack Madigan is the new assistant principal at Rainier Middle School. Most recently Mr. Madigan was an elementary principal for the Northshore School District's summer school and extended school year program. He has 16 years of experience at the middle school level and has been an instructor in the Master in Teaching program at City University for the past three years. Mr. Madigan's credentials also include implementing a progressive discipline system that promotes positive behavior choices and improves student learning, as well as serving on a number of technology improvement teams and providing instructional leadership. Prior to working in the Northshore School District, Mr. Madigan taught in the Issaquah and Lake Washington School Districts.

April Hurlbert has been hired to fill the duties of the supervisor of transportation/driver trainer. Ms. Hurlbert has 21 years of experience working in student transportation. Most recently she was a router/dispatcher for the Auburn School District. She has been a certified driver trainer since 1992 and developed a training program for the drivers in the Puyallup School District.

For more information contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

*Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002*

8/23/06

NEWS RELEASE

Auburn School District Extends Application Period for the School Board Director District 5 Position

Auburn School District is extending the application period for interested citizens to apply for the vacancy in Director District 5 for the Auburn School Board. Applications may be submitted through 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 28. The following are the specifics regarding this vacancy:

1. The appointee to fill this position shall meet the requirements provided by law for school directors and shall serve until the next regular school district election (fall 2007) at which time a successor shall be elected.
2. The appointee must be a citizen of the United States and the state of Washington and a registered voter.
3. The appointee must live within the boundaries of District 5 in the Auburn School District—the eastern portion of the school district.

Interested candidates should send applications to Ray Vefik, Board President, 915 Fourth Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002. Applications should include a brief resume of qualifications, background and reasons for interest in serving on the school board.

For more information regarding this position and for specifics on District 5 boundaries, contact any present board member or Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.

***Auburn School District No. 408
915 4th Street Northeast, Auburn, WA 98002***

8/7/06

NEWS RELEASE

Heidi Harris Named Coordinator of Curriculum for Auburn School District

Heidi Harris, former teacher and librarian at Hazelwood Elementary School, has been selected to fill the duties of Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction and Staff Development, for the Auburn School District.

Mrs. Harris was instrumental in developing the elementary toolkit for enrichment and in training staff in its use. She has served on multiple district committees and is looking forward to influencing staff and students through curriculum selection, incorporating best practices and planning for the district's future by providing in-service training.

Prior to working for the Auburn School District, Mrs. Harris was a foreign exchange program coordinator for American and Japanese high school students. She currently holds a master of curriculum design and instruction, and is applying to graduate school to begin her administrative certificate work this fall.

For more information contact Superintendent Linda Cowan at (253) 931-4914.