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May Madness!

Dancing, discussing, and designing

Welcome to the awesome *and busy* month of May at AFE. This month is the **Prom** for high schoolers, a special presentation on **condors**, **Talent Sharing**, our final **Town Hall Meeting**, and the **Human Race**. [To check out our special section on how you can take part in the Human Race, click here](#)—you don't have to attend to participate! Also, don't forget to turn in your [yearbook pages](#) and [share your talent!](#)

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Quick Dates:

Date	Event	Time
5/2	Small Schools Prom	7:30pm
5/5	Community Council meeting, Palazzo	1:15pm
5/7	Condors presentation [info]	2pm
5/9	The Human Race [info]	
5/12	Talent Sharing Submission Deadline [info]	3pm
5/18	Individual yearbook pages due [info]	
5/22	Talent Sharing [info]	7pm
5/27	Town Hall Meeting	7-9pm
6/2	Mollie's retirement party	2-4pm
6/5	Celebration potluck [info]	5:45-8pm
6/12	AFE Beach Bonfire	6-10pm



Save the Date!

Our AFE High School Graduation and Eighth Grade Promotion will be held in the multipurpose room on our campus on **Thursday, June 11th**, at 7:00 pm.

Communication at AFE:

- [Staff directory with office hours](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Class information](#)

- [AFE Online Bulletin Board](#)

This month at AFE Small Schools Prom

"Masquerade" is the theme for this year's Small Schools Prom, to be held at Portuguese Hall on **Saturday, May 2nd**, from 7:30-11:00pm. All AFE high school students are invited to attend. Prom bids are \$35 single or \$50 pair and will be for sale sometime after spring break. Hope to see you there!

Human Race

AFE will participate in the Community Fundraiser, the Human Race. All proceeds benefit AFE. This year the Human Race will take place on **May 9**, the day before Mother's Day. [Check out the box at the bottom of this newsletter for details on how you can participate.](#)

Talent Sharing at AFE

Talent Sharing, Friday, May 22, 7pm
Dancers, Musicians, Martial Artists, Comedians, Actors, Mathematicians, Scientists, Magicians, Jugglers, and talents of all stripes welcome! Step right up to one of the greatest Variety Shows on Earth! [Click here for details.](#)

May Town Hall meeting

AFE Community News

RC News

After graduating from UCSC in spring of '91 I saw a job position with the City Schools working with homeschoolers. Once I walked into the district office to meet the principal and the first two teachers at AFE, I was very excited about working in the new alternative school for the district. We started with 35 students and 2 teachers in a small building we shared with the district media center. AFE has grown and moved many times since then until settling here at BSSC, which really seems like our forever home. I have been so fortunate to work with all the teachers who are very committed to our students and families.

I have enjoyed so many aspects of this incredible community that it is with great sadness that I am announcing my retirement in June. I have given a lot of thought to this and I came to the conclusion that I have four grandchildren whom I cherish and want to spend more time with while they are young. The hardest part will be missing all of you. The teachers are my dear friends as are so many of the

May 27 7 - 9 pm in Rm 2

Come, meet others, and share in creating our vision for next year! We'll be starting the Town Hall with snacks and time to socialize, then making some decisions together about how to budget and spend our fund-raised money. Childcare provided (see below).

Is there an activity for next year you would like the parent club to support? Fill out and return a proposal and come to the Town Hall Meeting where we will decide as a community what to fund. Proposal forms are in the RC on Mollie's desk.

Proposal guidelines: Proposals are requests for money to support activities such as classes, workshops, and/or events. Requests can be for materials and/or instruction, but all paid instructors must be hired through the school district. We have a new requirement that someone (most likely the proposer) is willing to remind participant's of the parent club's role in supporting the activity and report back with some information (such as number of participants). Proposals are due in the RC by May 20.

Childcare/Kids' Night Out: We will be repeating our Kids' Night Out with Adam Yarme and Ric Howard creating a safe and fun play environment for our kids. Activities will be in the Palazzo Studio and outside on the big field (weather permitting).

parents and the students that I have come to know and love. I would like to come back as a volunteer to get the best of both worlds. I want to thank all of you for the kindness and patience you have given me, and the joy and laughter you have shared with me. Remember to come in and browse and enjoy our new arrivals, have some tea and enjoy meeting with other families.

Enjoy your homeschool journey.
Mollie

Returning Your Library Materials

May 29th is the deadline for returning library materials.

Textbooks are due by June 5th or sooner if you can.

If you have any questions or concerns about your materials please email me or stop by. I'm always happy to give you a printout or email of your checked out items.

Please look for lost items in our lost and found bin outside the door. Also smaller items are under the check out counter in a small bin.

Our free boxes under the counters by the sink are filling up. I would appreciate any help in removing these items before the end of May.

Thanks so much,
Mollie

Yearbook

Yearbook pages have started to trickle in! Now is the time to reflect on your year and get those pages made.

Individual pages are due **May 18th!** Please remember the purpose of the guidelines is to minimize the work of the technical editor (Zan) and to maximize the quality of the yearbook. Please read and follow them! Zan would love to help anyone who needs it—from explaining the guidelines to helping you create your page—please just ask. (email to afeyearbook2015@gmail.com is best.)

Guidelines: [Click here for the yearbook guidelines.](#)

June Events

Mollie's Retirement Party

Please join us in honoring our librarian, Mollie Jarow. Our beloved Mollie has been with AFE since the beginning, and we are going to miss her greatly! You are all invited to a celebration for Mollie on **June 2nd, from 2-4 pm** in Palazzo Studio. We will serve tea and treats (please bring a snack to share if you would like) and have a chance to share some appreciations of Mollie. Call Nancy to inquire or assist 429-3898 x334

Enrollment for Next Year!

Dear Families,

Please let your consultant teacher know whether or not you are planning to return to AFE next year.

We have a long waiting list of families wishing to enroll and need to know how many available spaces we will have.

Interdistrict Transfers—If you have an Interdistrict Transfer and plan on returning to AFE, please renew your transfer this month!

Parent Club

We are now a 501(c)3 nonprofit! Don't forget to visit [the Parent Club box](#) at the bottom of this page. Parent Club supports theater, music, clay studio, sports, and more!

[Donate](#)



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AFE Community

Classes

Soccer

6th - 12th graders

The season is going well with good effort, positive attitudes, skill development and fun team competition. Way to go players!

Practices are Mondays and Wednesday from 2:00-3:30. Games

Celebrate!

Homeschool Sharing, Celebration of the Year and Potluck, 6/5 Friday, June 5th, 5:45–8:00, Harvey West Park

Though homeschooling doesn't "end" at the end of the "school year" (June 11th), it is a great time to acknowledge and celebrate both our individual and shared journeys. Our end of year homeschool celebration event for all students will take place at the Friendship Garden Picnic Area at the far end of Harvey West Park (drive past Costco and the pool to get there).

At this event we have the tradition of sharing food, homeschooling projects (see below) and appreciation as we gather to celebrate a year of growth in all of us.

- **POTLUCK***: Details in next month's newsletter. *Green Reminder for all: Please bring our own washable dishes! Thanks!
- **HOMESCHOOL SHARING!** Students, we invite you to bring a project you enjoyed working on to share with others. What might that be? Science projects, art projects, a story you wrote, a drawing, a photograph-anything that brought you joy.
- **BUBBLES!** We will be having fun with soap bubbles. Please

on Fridays, time TBD each week, hopefully around 1:00. The season ends at the end of May. Bring a soccer ball if you have one, sunscreen, water bottle, cleats and shin guards too (or at least good athletic shoes).

Big thanks to Laura, Casey and Kris for their help with coaching and all the families for their support!!!!

For all AFE sports the AFE Parent Club and AFE staff ask that all players and their families help with fundraising to meet the cost for our team participation in the league. The soccer team fee is \$600.

Peter and Therese

Extra Games Group

Canceled for the rest of the year. See below for *regular* Friday Games Group, which is not canceled.

Guitar Group

Thursdays 1-2:00 Palazzo studio
Our meeting **time has changed** to Thursdays at 1:00. We have been meeting weekly and have mastered and performed two songs: "Under the Boardwalk" and "Big Yellow Taxi." Look for us at Talent Sharing! We are always interested in new players so contact Therese if you are interested in joining us. tjohannesson@sccs.net.

Madrigal Singers

bring bubble blowing equipment to share, if you have some.

- **YEARBOOKS!** Our great Yearbook team plans to have them ready in time to pick up at the celebration. Bring a pen to sign each other's yearbooks.

We would love help with table decorations. If you have flowers to donate please contact Therese Johannesson or Jasmin Gerer. For more information in general, contact your consultant teacher.

AFE Beach Bonfire

Friday, June 12th, 6–10:00pm

Please join us for a Beach Bonfire to celebrate the end of another great year of homeschooling. Everyone's invited! We'll meet at Twin Lakes Beach at the end of 7th Avenue. Bring finger food or snacks to share. I'll bring skewers if anyone wants to bring things to cook on the fire.

Bring: firewood, beach toys, instruments, warm clothes, chairs and blankets, or whatever else you think would make for a really fun evening. Call Nancy for more info at 429-3898 x334

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Enrichment Classes Music, Movement and Art Kindergarten-Second Grade

The Madrigal Singers have performed twice this month; once busking downtown to raise money for the Ashland Trip, and once for BSS Children's Day Celebration. It was fun to celebrate Shakespeare's alleged birthday and to share our 15th century music with larger crowds. The downtown audience seemed to really enjoy us and were especially supportive, both pedestrians and businesses. If you are an experienced Choral singer and would like to join our group, please contact Therese at tjohannesson@sccs.net

Clay Studio

with Kathleen Peppard

Tuesdays, 1-3 pm. Clay Studio is an open studio environment, all ages.

Students under 9 must be accompanied by an adult. The materials fee is \$35 per student per semester (less than \$3 a week). This pays for the clay, glazes, and firings. Partial scholarships are available; talk to your consultant teacher—no one will be turned away.

Global Environmental Challenges

10th-12th Grade

Monday & Wednesdays 10:30-11:45

Taught by AFE Alum Barak Wouk

How might climate change affect you?

What could it mean for society? How

Mondays & Thursdays, 10:00–12:30

Thérèse Johannesson

Maker Monday: April was a fun month with lots of celebrations of flowers! With Teachers Joanne and Kathleen, we made succulent garden planters, and with Teacher Jasmine, we painted flowers and made May day baskets with the help of classroom parent, Hiranya Kleisch.

In May, back w/teacher Therese, we will illustrate our "Newspaper Articles" that we have been



recording all year. We'll also make a whole class graph of our weather this year, and do more painting.

Returning Families: We are very interested in your Maker Monday ideas, especially if you would like to lead a Maker Project. Please contact Therese with your ideas. We will provide the support!

Magical Mystery Tour

Thursday: In April we have been exploring shadow and mirror dancing, the difference between skipping and galloping and even preparing for the Maypole dance! We've been expanding our Spanish vocabulary and added two new Spanish Songs to our repertoire, "¿Qué color es ese?" and "De Colores." We continue to enjoy group games and have added

might society respond to this kind of challenge? In this class we will explore these types of questions using the latest science.

Barak studied Sustainable Development at Columbia University and Ecological Design at Prescott College. Contact him at barakwouk@gmail.com.

Glee Club

The goal of Glee Club is to have fun by creating a safe environment for self expression. Under the guidance of an AFE



parent, Glee Club participants have the opportunity to sing each week, perform together as a group, learn about movement, and support others in their experiences. Grades 5-12 are welcome to participate. **Wednesdays from 1:30-3:15pm** in the Multi-Purpose Room. This class is FREE. Parent contact: Lucia Paxton (luciasciarpa@yahoo.com) If there are any questions, please connect with me directly.

Shawn's Super Sewing Class

Do you have an interest in learning to sew using a sewing machine? If you have never sewed before but want to...this is the class for you. We start

Hopscotch and Jump-rope.

This Thursday we will celebrate May Day with a potluck lunch and the Maypole Dance. Grandparents are encouraged to attend! The rest of May will include more song and dance.

K-2's In the Garden: Our class is carefully tending a beautiful May garden with herbs, pole beans, chard, snap dragons, daisies, columbine, California poppies, sweet peas and a variety of volunteer flowers as well. Thanks to Becky Steinbruner for obtaining soil for our beds!

[Click here to view K-2's wonderful year in pictures!](#)

Animals

3rd–5th Graders

Wednesdays 10:00–12:30

Mark Thomas

Animals class continues to explore the big, wide, weird and wonderful world of animals every Weds. from 10-12:30 in Classroom 1. We will begin the month sharing our animal reports. By the end we will be sharing our 3D animal models and our animal habitat dioramas. Our last field trip will be a big one: The Oakland Zoo! **on the last Wednesday of the month, the 27th.**

The Brain Explorer

Middle School

Tuesdays 10:00–12:30

with paper sewing and move slowly from there. Projects include coasters, to fabric shopping sacs to jammie pants. Shawn's Super Sewing Class is scheduled for **Thursdays 1:00 to 3:00**. Please contact Shawn by email, shawnlorette@mac.com or by phone, 831-426-2004. Students provide their own sewing machines, scissors and fabric. There is a small class fee of \$5.00 each class.

High School A Cappella

Our High School A Cappella Group is an audition group for students who are really interested in singing in harmony. We will do songs from other a cappella groups such as "Pentatonix," Please contact Therese if interested. Together we will create a rehearsal schedule.

Please contact

Therese: tjohannesson@sccs.net

Games Group

Come over to Room 2 **every Friday between 12 and 3** for good times with friends old and new, and AFE's very large collection of award-winning and classic games for all ages (K - 100+)! Games Group is facilitated by emeritus mom Tané.

Bring your own games and/or snacks to share as well! The youngest among us can often be found sitting in the middle of the room playing with

Peter Deutsch

It has been a fun and fast month for our class. We have delved deeper into mood, sleep, dreams, hypnosis, mental health, and creative problem solving. Students are finished with (or finishing) their research reports on a mental illness and we have had time to share that work in class.

In May students will continue their work on the Mind Museum projects for our final class on 5/26/15. Families are invited to join us for part of that class period and a potluck lunch. As a class we will also investigate more aspects of brain health, addiction, stress, creative thinking, memory, multiple intelligences, learning styles and study skills.

Express Yourself

Middle School

Tuesdays 10:00–12:30

Nancy Aylsworth

Students have been writing delightful stories this month. From kidnapped painters to teens on all kinds of dangerous and/or spectacular adventures, interesting characters have emerged in students'



stories. We looked at the life and work of Gustav Klimt and created our own gold acrylic "Tree of Life" paintings,

Lego or blocks, or outside playing tag, in addition to the games, and parents can usually be found socializing, knitting, etc. while playing games, so truly something for everyone!

High schoolers, please sign yourselves in and out on the form at the checkout counter in the RC.

As our middle schoolers and younger students need to be supervised by an adult while they are at AFE and not in a class, we need 2 parents to sign up for every Games Group to hang out in the yard, keep an eye on the kids, and have fun themselves (getting to know other parents, play a game themselves, knit...).

There will be a sign-up sheet at Games Group, or you can sign up online with [Sign-Up Genius](#).

Scottish Country Dance

Wednesdays 3:30-4:30, in the Branciforte multi-purpose room. Come try it once for free! Ages 8 and up. It's great exercise for the brain and the body, and fun too!

Contact: meridith.a.cook@gmail.com

Water the Weeds Teen Improv

4-5:30 on Wednesdays, Room 2 at AFE. It's liberating, social and fun! To register, call Joya at 831-426-2935. This art form is personal, collaborative,

which you can see on the wall in our classroom. Students made metal embossed milagros under the tutelage of local artist Lynn Gunther. And thanks to parent Nicole Gardner we received some instruction on, and a chance to make, Zentangles - doodling with style and the purpose of relaxation! We have worked on using commas correctly, edited stories, discovered new and interesting words, and shared poems.

Each week we also took some time in our class to play games outdoors. In our final month we will be completing art projects and final story drafts. Families of the students in this class are invited to a pot luck and **Art Show on May 26th** from 12-1. Many of the middle schoolers will be heading to Pinnacles for our end-of-year campout **May 29-31**. [Click here to view more Zentangles](#).

Topics in Ecology

High School

Thursdays 1-3:00

Joanne Brown

How do animals communicate with one another and their environment? This is one of the many questions posed last month in Topics in Ecology. Tom Kieckhefer, from Save the Whales, presented a workshop on marine mammal adaptations and communication. Students then chose their own species for further study.

tender, playful, relaxing, adventuresome and a true gift to the audience. The first class is free if you're new to Water the Weeds.

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Around Town Support Youth Artisans!

Live Oak Family Resource Center features youth vendors at their Mother's Day Gift Fair on May 2. For more information, [click here](#).

Nature Walk and Book Signing



Join AFE author **Kelly McCandless** for a free nature walk and book signing at the UCSC

Arboretum, as

she walks the trail loops highlighted in her recent book, *The Budding Naturalist's Guide to the UC Santa Cruz Arboretum*. **Sunday, May 17**, 9am-12pm. [More information](#).

Have you made it to the Maker

Faire yet?

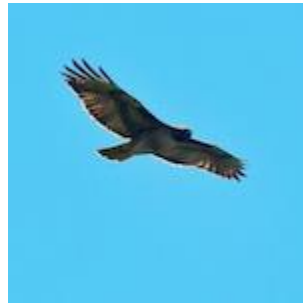
Tickets on
sale now

The Maker Faire



Students wrapped up an overview of California's bioregions by creating entertaining Bioregion Infomercials. Thanks to Madison for filming and editing this project!

As an introduction to our study of local ecosystems, David Casterson,



author of *In The Company of Redwoods*, shared his techniques on hand tinting photos of the redwood plant community. Students will use David's book as a field guide during upcoming field trips to Henry Cowell Redwoods and Quail Hollow County Park. We will focus on three local ecosystems: Redwoods, Santa Cruz Sandhills, and Riparian Woodland.

[Click here for photos of our recent visit to Elkhorn Slough and our *In the Company of Redwoods* presentation.](#)

Everyone is invited to join our Ecology class for a presentation on **CONDORS by John Moir, author of *Return of the Condors***. The presentation will be on **Thursday, May 7th, 2:00pm, AFE Room 2.**

Spring

warm sun
muddy feet
the gurgling stream

an excited cry of a young girl

takes place **May 15,16,17th** in San Mateo. [Buy advance tickets here](#)—note that the Sunday "family" pass does not specify a nuclear family!

Kids' Triathlons

[Norcal Triathlons](#) offers three kids' triathlons over the hill this summer—they are fun and not super intense. This will be Kees and Nico's third summer doing them. You can do one or all and they are for kids up to 15. There is one for each month—June, July, and August. I want to put the info out to the AFE community and offer any assistance (tips, answer question, etc) for any families interested. Candi Vandermeer [\[email\]](#)

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Homeschool Highlights

Japan Exchange

Hana

Gardner and Carlin Cook had a

wonderful experience traveling to Shingu, Japan



with the Santa Cruz Sister City Delegation March 27 to April 5. Each has expressed what a life-changing trip this was. Hana's host-family sister Yuka will be traveling to Santa Cruz this summer to spend a week with us!

a flash of movement

the surface of the water breaks

a small splash

then a larger one

she comes up grinning

a small brown frog

in her muddy hands

-Maddy Stafford

Dramatic Literature

Shakespeare Class and Ashland Trip

High School

Thursdays 10-12:00

Jasmin Gerer

This month 58 students and parents will be heading to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival Tues May 5th– Fri. May 8th! Upon our return, our class has its final meeting on May 14th with a discussion of the four productions we've studied and seen.

A special THANK YOU to:

- all who contributed treats and especially to **Molly Meyers** for beautiful individual berry tarts for our Shakespeare Birthday Celebration last month
- **Cameron Meyers** and **Cheyenne Loftus** for sharing their love of *Guys and Dolls*, and teaching our class about musical theater.
- **Freddy Menge** for sharing his

We are very excited. [Click here for photos.](#)

AFE's Fledgling TARC Team Finishes 5th in NorCal!

AFE's first ever TARC team had an amazing last day of flying and ended up doing pretty darn well for a ragtag group who started months after big public schools and well-funded privates. On their last flight, last motor, last hour to qualify (3/29/15 at Moffett Field), their rocket exploded 300 feet in the air?! The team did a quick rebuild, used simulation software (and educated guesses) to calculate the needed weight to add to the rocket due to a new and bigger motor, and flew their last qualifying flight in the very last minutes.

Their 3 qualifying flights placed them:

- 108th out of 685 teams nation-wide...
- 5th in the Northern California "regionals"...
- 13th out of all the teams in California...



...in their first year and not starting until late January!

experience of life in Taiwan to help us better understand the political and cultural

background of the play Secret Love in Peach Blossom Land

- Alumna **Megan Hulse** for being a wonderful teaching assistant and support throughout the semester!

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High School Corner Math Plus

Cabrillo students are INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND MATH PLUS, a FREE one-week intensive math review!

June 15-19, 2015

August 17-21, 2015 (9 am - 3 pm)

To register, [complete the registration survey](#).

UCSC Summer Session

Half price for high schoolers!

Your students get 50% off over 120 courses if it's the summer before their JR or SR year!! That's \$135 per unit. [Click here for course list and more information](#).

Free PSAT Prep

Students taking the PSAT this fall will face a completely new, redesigned test which aligns with the new SAT. Kaplan is offering a free online test preparation class on **May 9**. [See](#)

The cut-off for the top 100 teams was a score of 40.00; the AFE TARC'ers scored 42.4.

Parent **Jay Friedland** says: Special thanks to **Keith Veditz, Abe Jellinek, Truxton Fulton, Theo Littlestone,** and **Benjamin Kolland** for your participation, patience, and commitment to something new. Thanks as well to **Jasmin Gerer** for supporting the idea in the first place and throughout and to our homeschool parents and AFE supporters, as well as our rocketry sponsors who donated money and equipment. [\[Photo\]](#)

Benjamin Kolland Testifies in Sacramento

Assembly Bill AB476 is a potential law that would allow model rockets in California to be flown up to 1500



grams, rather than the current limit in California of 500 grams. It's kind of hard to have the limit of 500 grams when the other 49 states have a 1500 gram limit. When I heard about the bill up for a hearing in committee on a JSA day, I decided to try to go. My dad works with folks in the Sacramento government and he knew how to offer ;>, so I was invited to testify to the committee. "I guess you can tell I

[details.](#)

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Thanks Back to Nature

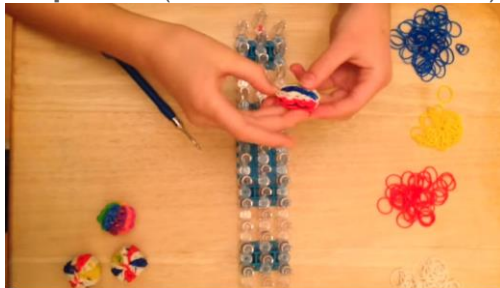
Thank you to **Becky Steinbruner** for leading monthly hikes.

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Creativity Corner

Rainbow Looming is a very fun type of art. You can make many creative things with rubber bands! If you would like you can check out my You Tube channel "Stephanie's Creative Creations" [here](#) and take a peek at what it is all about. The ones I demonstrate are advanced projects. Have fun creating!!

Stephanie (AFE 6th Grade Student)



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really like rockets" was part of my presentation. It passed unanimously out of committee! It now goes to the entire assembly for a vote, and hopefully on to the Senate and Governor Brown's desk. [\[Photo\]](#)

Robot Song

At Follywood many of us got to see an excerpt of the latest music video that AFE alums **Nathan Kennedy, Garret Landon**, and **Connor Quinto** were working on. What we got to see was a work in progress that has now been completed! [Here is their update.](#)

Diving Champ

After only competing for one season, AFE 2014 Grad, **Max Glynn** is headed to the State Community College Diving Championships next week AND to UCSC next year! [See the Sentinel article.](#)

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AFE Talent Sharing

Dancers, Musicians, Martial Artists, Comedians, Actors, Mathematicians, Scientists, Magicians, Jugglers, and talents of all stripes welcome! Step right up to one of the greatest Variety Shows on Earth! Please fill out your Talent Sharing Form complete with the way you'd like to be introduced and drop it in the envelope next to the sign up in the RC.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS TUESDAY MAY 12, 3:00!!

All acts subject to approval by the AFE staff so we need to see lyrics, scripts, etc by MAY 12, in order to give approval in time way for any necessary revisions.

Here is our plan for the evening:

- Arrival, Set-up, & Potluck at 5:30pm
- Performer's Meeting at 6:00pm
- Talent Sharing Starts at 7:00pm

Potluck Info:

Part of our Talent Sharing includes sharing our cooking talents! And to ensure that we have sustenance and not too many desserts we have a system that rotates through the years. Please look at the list below and use your child's last name to determine what to bring. Bread and butter and drinks will be provided by your staff. Please plan to bring enough to serve at least 10–12 people.

- A–J Salads • K-R Desserts • S–Z Main Dishes

Green Reminder for all:

Rather than just using items once and tossing them for convenience sake, it is traditional at AFE to reduce and reuse at our potlucks. That is why we bring our own washable dishes, cups, & eating utensils. In this way, we minimize our home-school community's impact on the earth's resources and landfills! Thank You!

Message for Performers:

To make things go smoothly, please be at the 'Talent Sharing' performers meeting in the Multipurpose Room at 6:00pm that evening to get information on the line-up, stage directions, sound check and performance pointers.

If you would like to help, have ideas or questions, please contact Therese Johannesson, tjohannesson@scs.net.

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The Human Race

HUMAN RACE IS SATURDAY MAY 9th

Rain or SHINE

We have raised 9% pf our \$10,000 Goal!!!!

Great News...

I have some fantastic news: An Anonymous donor has made a fun offer:

"I would like to donate a matching fund of \$1000 for families in the Human Race. For 10 new families who will join I will match the first \$100 that they raise with \$100."

So, now is a great time to **sign up as a NEW member** of AFE Homeschool Human Race team member. Raise \$100 and our gracious donor will match it with \$100!!!!

Parents, Students and teachers, I am reaching out to encourage more participation in OUR AFE Team Human Race Fundraising event. This first month of AFE Team efforts has raised \$897.82, by 10 team members!! YES!! Thanks to all that have donated and made their personal page.

AFE Parent Club, Inc officially became a non-profit this year. Let's support them in supporting us!

- **Did your child participate in the school play? AFE Parent Club, Inc**
- **Does your child have fun each week at Glee Club? AFE Parent Club, Inc**

The list of activities that the AFE Parent Club, Inc supports financially goes on and on. Even if each parent raised \$100 for the AFE Human Race Team, we would meet our goal of \$10,000.

There is less than a month to hop on board and start asking your friends and family to support our AFE Human Race Team.

How can you participate?

1. **Get the kids involved.** Pledge forms are at the RC. Walk around the block and ask your neighbors to sponsor you for the Human Race. \$5 \$10 , it all adds up!! Please let me know if you are going this route. (all pledge forms should go to me, Lucia Paxton, so I get them to the Volunteer Center before May 7th)
2. **Do you own a business?** Sign up your business on the Human Race website and begin to raise \$ for AFE. It is good advertising for your business and good for AFE!!
3. **Become an AFE Team member!!** Go to our [AFE team home page](#) and at the very top right hand of the page, click "join team". Make sure to "select Agency" , AFE Parent Club. Inc. [Our page link.](#)
4. **SHARE our page on Facebook.** Yup, there is a button for that too! [We even have a Facebook Team page!!](#) Join it and invite others to join as well. If all you can do is to spread the word, then great!!

I am grateful to our community. I know it is nearing the end of the school year, so many different things going on. I urge you all to participate on what ever level you can, even if it is keeping the intention for us to raise \$10,000!

Thank you, Lucia Paxton

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Yearbooks!

The yearbook will once again be in color! The yearbook will once again be in color! All pages have the same technical requirements listed below. If you need any help with these guidelines please ask Zan, our technical editor.

AFE Yearbook Guidelines

- Page size: 8.5 x 11 inches
- Margin/white border: at least 1/4 in. on all sides. (3/8 to 1/2 in. is better)
- File Format: jpg (max. quality) or pdf
- Resolution: 300 dpi
- Submit as email attachment to afeyearbook2015@gmail.com

Individual pages

Every student has the opportunity to create a page of pictures and text to commemorate their year!

Follow all the guidelines above plus:

- File name: Lastname_firstname_YB15.extension (i.e. John Smith's file would be Smith_John_YB15.jpg)
- Deadline: **Monday, May 18th**

Events/classes pages

If you are submitting a page for an event or class please let us know! Follow all the general guidelines above plus:

- File name: Event/class_YB15.extension (i.e. the Glee club file would be Glee_YB15.jpg)
- Deadline for events or classes: **Friday, May 15th.**

—The Yearbook Team, Shawn Lorette Hoover, editor

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AFE Parent Club

What's the Parent Club?

The AFE Parent Club financially supports the AFE community. In the past, we have provided funds to enable or enhance programs, activities, and events. We also help with supplies and resources. Some of the things that have been supported by the AFE Parent Club in the past few years include: Theater for all ages, sports teams for grades 6-12, Clay Studio, Games Group, Economics class for high schoolers, Orff music for elementary students, family poetry workshops, field trips, staffing for the resource center. We also have donated supplies for Family Art Night; resources—books, games, audio CDs, DVDs—for the resource center; classroom supplies for teacher-led classes; art supplies for the Palazzo Studio; and lots more.

The Parent Club relies on donations and fundraising in order to offer support for all these things. Without fundraising, these programs, classes, activities, and resources will no longer be available at AFE. Please take the time to see how you can help by reading and following the Everyday Fundraising Checklist below that will help you help the Parent Club with as little hassle as possible.

Thank you for supporting the AFE Parent Club.

—The Parent Club Board

AFE's Everyday Fundraiser Checklist

Our ongoing fundraiser are all ways to make money for AFE doing the things you already do! We believe that if everyone at AFE participated in, and encouraged their friends and family to participate in these easy programs it will go a long way towards our fundraising needs.

- **eScrip and eScrip Online Shopping Mall:**
 - Register online so that a portion of your purchases is donated to AFE. *See details below.*
- **Staff of Life Scrip:**
 - Use Staff of Life Scrip whenever you shop there. *See details below.*
- **New Leaf eCard:**
 - Pre-purchase a New Leaf eCard. *See details below.*
 - Ask your friends and family to purchase Staff Scrip or eCards from AFE.

More information about these and other fundraisers is available on the [AFE Website's Fundraising page](#):

Escrip

Escrip is an easy way to donate to AFE. Follow these instructions to get registered:

- **eScrip:**
 - Register your credit, debit, and grocery cards so that a portion of your purchases is donated to AFE. Go to www.escrip.com to register your cards. The AFE Parent Club's group # is [500007112](#).
 - Ask your friends and family to register their cards for AFE.
- **eScrip Online Shopping Mall:**
 - [Sign up and go through the eScrip online portal whenever you shop online](#) and up to 16% of purchases will be donated to AFE. You can also sign up for Auto Earn so you don't have to go through the Mall every time.
 - Ask your friends and family to use the [Online Shopping Mall portal for AFE](#).

Staff of Life Scrip

Please contact Melisa Schwarm to buy Staff of Life Scrip: Use the contact info on the roster for Otto or [send email](#). I am happy to answer any questions and explain how you can contribute to AFE fundraising just by using scrip to buy anything from Staff. There is NO cost to you, the donation to AFE comes from Staff of Life when you use scrip for your purchases!

New Leaf eCards

Leaf Community Markets offers natural and organic foods and a convenient way to raise money for our school. Use your eCard when paying for groceries and feel good knowing you and New Leaf are supporting the education of our children. There are 3 New Leaf stores where your cards will work:

- 41st. Ave., Capitola
- Pacific Ave., downtown Santa Cruz
- Fair Ave., on the Westside

There are 3 NL locations your card will NOT work:

- Felton
- Halfmoon Bay
- Boulder Creek

This is how it works...

Purchase a New Leaf Gift Card (eCard) from me (with a check made out to the AFE parent club or cash) and a percentage of that amount goes directly back to AFE:

- 4% on \$50
- 5% on \$100, \$250, and \$500

You may also order \$150, \$200, or even \$1,000. The amount must be in increments of \$100's or \$50's.

I will place the order, deliver your card to the RC, and maintain the last 6 digits of your card number. When you use your card, select gift card as your method of payment. Once your card is empty *don't throw it away*. Your card may be refilled with those 6 digits.

Orders will be placed once a month. Please email or call when you are ready to order or refill your card. Payment must be received ASAP. You can put a check or cash in the New Leaf envelope at Molly's desk in the resource center. Please make checks out to AFE PARENT CLUB.

This month's deadlines are: Orders by **Thursday, May 14th**. Payments must be in by **Friday, May 15th** no later than **2PM**.

Please respond by email directly, *not to the Bulletin Board*.

Thank you very much for participating, we can use every bit of support right now.

Victoria Harder, vlharder@yahoo.com



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Newsletter submissions

Parents, staff, and students are encouraged to submit content for our newsletter. The submission deadline is 1 week before the first day of each month. We especially need content for **AFE News**, **Homeschool Highlights**, **Homeschoolers Abroad**, and **Student Showcase**. If you would like to write a

short piece on any homeschooling-related topic, please do! [Email Suki](#).

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