

Does your email reader truncate long messages?

[View this email in your browser](#)



Welcome to Summer!

But school is not over yet...

This month is all about tying things up and starting summer off right! Check out the events box below for celebrations. If you want to know what's coming up next year, visit [Fall Enrichment Classes](#) and make sure to [Mark Your Calendar](#) with important fall dates. Not all of our [Community Classes](#) are on hiatus this summer—make sure to check what's going on. Finally, please make sure to [check out our ongoing Student Activities page](#), which is full of photos from the entire school year. Happy summer, everyone!

Table of Contents

- [For Families Leaving AFE](#)
- [Taking a Look at our Year!](#)
- [This month at AFE](#)
- [Enrichment Classes Roundup](#)
- [Fall Enrichment Classes](#)

- [AFE Community News](#)
- [AFE Community Classes](#)
- [Homeschool Highlights](#)
- [Around Town](#)
- [Shakespeare to Go Fieldtrip](#)
- [AFE Parent Club](#)
- [Newsletter submissions](#)

Quick Dates for this month:

	Event	Time
Date		
6/2	Mollie's retirement party	2-4pm
6/5	Celebration potluck [info]	5:45-8pm
6/11	High School Graduation and Eighth Grade Promotion	7pm
6/12	AFE Beach Bonfire [info]	6-10pm

Mark your Calendar

Aug. 24	Consultant teachers return and will be in touch with you to schedule your first meeting.
Aug. 25 & 26	Paperwork Parties 10:00 - 4:00 at the RC to complete Re-enrollment Paperwork
Aug. 26	The AFE school year officially begins. Re-enrollment Paperwork must be completed on or before the 26th. New Family Orientation- Details will be announced for new families
Sept. 2	AFE Community Gathering at Branciforte Small Schools Campus at

	2pm. Learn about upcoming events and network with other homeschooling families.
Sept. 11-13	Community Camp Out at Camp Loma

For Families Leaving AFE

If you are leaving AFE at the end of this school year, please help us by clicking "unsubscribe from this list" at the bottom of this email. We'll be sorry to see you go—if you want to stay in touch, you are welcome to continue to subscribe to the Online Bulletin Board.

Communication at AFE:

- [Staff directory with office hours](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Class information](#)
- [AFE Online Bulletin Board](#)

Taking a Look at our Year!

ENRICHMENT CLASSES

- Magical Mystery Tour: (K-2) with **Thérèse Johannesson** with parent assistants, **Hiranya Kliesch** and **Gwyn Hight** and other parents
- Maker Monday (K-2) with staff and parents
- The Human Body (3–5) with **Peter Deutsch & Ayala Younger**
- Animals (3-5) with **Mark Thomas**
- Brain Explorer (6-8) with **Jasmin Gerer, Ayala Younger, Peter Deutsch & Milton Huang**
- Express Yourself (6-8) with **Nancy Aylsworth**
- Creative Writing (9-12) with **Joanne Brown**
- American Government (9-12) with **Mark Thomas**
- Ecology (9-12) with **Joanne Brown**



- Dramatic Literature (9-12) with **Jasmin Gerer**
- High School and family Madrigal Singers with **Thérèse Johannesson**

SPORTS

- Volleyball with **Peter Deutsch**
- Basketball with **Mark Thomas**
- Soccer with **Peter Deutsch & Thérèse Johannesson** (supervision) with **Laura Slaven,** and **Casey Meyers** as coaches.



FOR ALL AGES

- “Night at the Wax Museum” directed by **Terri Steinman**
- Open Clay Studio with **Kathleen Peppard**
- Family Choir with **Thérèse Johannesson**

STUDENT-LED CLASSES/GROUPS/EVENTS

- JSA Junior State of America — **Prema Drew, Cameron Meyers** and Teacher Advisor **Jasmin Gerer**
- Fall, Winter, & Spring Conventions — Thank you to all parent drivers and to **John Meyers** and **Doug Schwarm** for being chaperones for Winter Congress in Sacramento
- JSA Halloween Family Dance
- JSA Roaring 20’s Dance and Casino Night
- Rainbow Alliance



ALUMNI/PARENT-LED CLASSES/WORKSHOPS/GROUPS

- Health for High Schoolers with **Amanda Clark**
- Economics for High Schoolers with **Dorothee Ledbetter**
- Global Environmental Challenges with **Barak Wouk**

- Yearbook — **Shawn Lorette Sheahan-Hoover, Zan LaHara & Mimi Cafiero**
- Sewing with **Shawn Lorette Sheahan-Hoover**
- Games Group with **Tané Tachyon**
- Glee Club with **Lucia Paxton**
- Pysanky Egg Dyeing with **Karylann Love**
- Featured Artist of the Week
- Graduation Lei making with **Melisa Schwarm** and parents
- Guitar Group taught by **Thérèse Johannesson**
- Hiking Group with **Becky Steinbruner**



FIELD TRIPS

- SC County Fair
- JSA Conventions Fall, Winter, & Spring
- Oregon Shakespeare Festival Trip
- K-2 Enrichment Class field trips
- Animals Class monthly field trips
- Ecology class field trips
- Yosemite Week organized by **Elise McCandless**
- Middle School Pinnacles Campout
- Shakespeare to Go: As You Like It

AFE COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Welcome Gathering
- New Families Orientation Night
- Camp-out at Camp Loma
- Beach Bonfires
- cAFE (music and dinner on the lawn)
- Homeschool to College Info Night
- Gardening/Campus Beautification
- AFE Fall Town Hall Meeting
- Family Art Night



- Follywood Film Festival
- Info Night for New Families
- Talent Sharing and Celebration Potluck
- AFE Spring Town Hall Meeting
- High School Prom
- Promotion Celebration & Potluck at Harvey West 6/5
- Graduation 6/11

FUNDRAISING

Special Thank You to:

- Staff Scrip — **Melisa Schwarm** and supporting parents
- New Leaf eCards & Scholastic Books — **Victoria Harder** & supporting parents
- Drive for Schools Fundraiser — organizer **Zan LaHara** and all who participated
- Human Race — **Lucia Paxton** and all who walked
- Parent Club — **Ellen Baker, Suzanne Tuescher, Ruthie Yarme, Zan LaHara, Meridith Cook**
- Class Dismissed Film — **Jasmin Gerer & Zan LaHara**
- **Judy Reveaux-Wright** Shakespeare Scholarship Fund — **Ann Suchomski, Helene Milner**, the families who contributed and the Madrigal singers who busked

COMMUNICATION

Tremendous Thanks to:

- Newsletter editor/publisher **Suki Wessling** for providing us with news and resources monthly!
- Website Master **Cynthia Baxter** for her dedication the past 10 years of maintaining the AFE website and laying out our graduation program
- Online Bulletin Board Queen **Tané Tachyon** for creating and monitoring our bulletin board



AFE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (formerly site council)

Thank you for your leadership and year round meetings to increase communication between staff and families: **Zan LaHara, Ruthie Yarme, Meridith Cook, Ellen Baker** who met with **Mollie Jarrow, Nancy Aylsworth,** and **Daniel Denton**

BSSC SITE COUNCIL

We appreciate **Becky Steinbruner, Cory Meyers, Leah Jacob, Joanne Brown,** and **Daniel Denton** for attending meetings to represent AFE on our campus Site Council.

PHOTOS, ART, & LITERATURE

Check out our [Student Activities page](#), [Student Art Gallery](#), and [Literary Journal](#) for a year of great work by students and staff.

This month at AFE Mollie's Retirement Party

Please join us in honoring our librarian, Mollie Jarrow. 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

Celebrate!

Celebration of the Year and Potluck,

AFE Community News Enrollment

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!

Thank you! from Mollie

Dorothee Ledbetter has volunteered

**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 and appreciation as we gather to celebrate a year of growth in all of us.

- **POTLUCK***: Please plan to bring enough to serve at least 10–12 people.
 - A–F Main Dishes • G–S Salads • T–Z Desserts
 - *Green Reminder for all: Please bring our own washable dishes! Thanks!
- **BUBBLES!** We will be having fun with soap bubbles. Please 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

here for 9 years. Her technology skills are outstanding (thank you husband Loren as well) which has kept us up to speed in the tech world at the RC.

Dorothee's organizational abilities have eased the flow of work for me and especially for the students, teachers and parents as well as her attitude of positive behavior to change problems into solutions! Of course being friendly and well versed in home schooling has been a fortunate plus for all of us. Thank you Dorothee!

AnnMarie Jauregui-Theodosis has been volunteering in the RC for the last two years as RC Library helper. She helped keep our Resource Center clean and organized. She was willing to do all sorts of tasks! Thank you Annmarie for such a great job!

I want to thank **Suki Wessling** for her terrific job of getting our newsletter out each month!

I want to thank **all the parents** (too many to list) who have stepped up to help me with various tasks: taking our free book bins to charity, bringing items to the big building, cleaning, painting, weeding, buying supplies off our wish list, writing grants, teaching classes, supporting fundraisers, you name it and the parents are here willing to help. Thank you, it just couldn't be done without you.

I will miss you all but hopefully I will see you again as a volunteer!

With love and gratitude,

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

Mollie

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

Parent Club

We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit! Parent Club supports theater, music, clay studio, sports, and more!



Don't forget to visit [the Parent Club box](#) at the bottom of this page for more fundraising information.

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

Enrichment Classes Roundup

Parent Club Thank You's!

Every year I am astonished by how much free money the AFE Parent Club gets because of Staff of Life. This year, since the beginning of last summer, our community has received ~\$1770 from Staff of Life! Thank you **Staff of Life!**

AFE has a lot of community members who shop there regularly and trade their money for SCRIP which is how Staff knows how much to give AFE. The whole community benefits from the money raised and we are all grateful to those of you who are participating in this program! I want to give a special shout out to 2 families:

Marki Lewin-Welsh will be graduating this year. Her family has participated in the SCRIP program since the start 6 years ago. They trade ~\$4000 a year for Scrip. With Staff's 5% donation for all Scrip bought the Lewin-Welsh family has contributed at least \$1200 to the AFE Parent Club just by shopping at Staff and using Scrip (the \$1200 is a donation from Staff, it didn't cost the Lewin-Welshes anything to raise that \$ for AFE!) - THANK YOU Lewin-Welshes for your dedication to this program & best wishes to Marki!

Ellen Baker, Parent Club President, decided that all of her friends who

Music, Movement and Art

Kindergarten-Second Grade

Thérèse Johannesson

Maker Monday in May: Thanks to all who contributed to our incredible Maker Monday classes, especially to John Rible, our mentor and volunteer, who brought us many art and nature projects. Thanks to the many parents who led or assisted in this class and especially thanks to our incredible staff who rotated through with amazing projects and ideas.

Magical Mystery Tour Thursday in

May: Thanks to all of you that practiced for and participated in the Talent Sharing. What a lot of fun! Thanks to those of you that created and presented your own act! Fantastic!

K-2's In the Garden: Our Maypole celebration seemed to help our garden grow!

The Brain Explorer

shop at Staff of Life should buy Scrip (even if they don't have anything to do with AFE). She is responsible for ~\$7-8000 in scrip sales this year! That means this year alone she raised \$350-400 for the AFE Parent Club! WOW!!! THANK YOU Ellen!

If you shop at Staff, consider trading \$ for Scrip & help this fundraiser continue to be an easy money maker for AFE - It costs you \$0! 100% of the donation comes from Staff of Life. [Click here for details.](#)

Melisa

AFE Talent Sharing 2015

Congratulations to all of the amazing performers! I can see that this will not be the only stage upon which many of you will enjoy applause. Keep giving your heart and your intention to your passions, pushing through the blocks and distractions that keep you from practicing and performing. Mostly, keep doing it because it meets a need in you to create and....it's fun! Here is what one parent said about our show!

"I enjoyed all the acts! A great variety of talent. Here are my absolute favorites:

- The adorable and zesty K-1 Magical Mystery Tour
- Andre's hip hop (more, please!)
- Lydia Harder talking about the Rotary Club (I'm going to check

Middle School

Peter Deutsch

The class celebrated our semester of study on the human brain on 5/26/15 with a fun “Mind Museum” sharing of student projects, games and a great potluck.

I want to thank this great group of students for their interest, attention, effort and the inclusiveness of everyone in our class time, it had a big impact for all of us.

I also want to give great appreciation to Milton for his weekly insights, slideshows, and deep knowledge of the topics that he shared with our class.

Enjoy summer! Go forward and go for it with a “growth” mindset!



Express Yourself

Middle School

Nancy Aylsworth

Our final month of this class has been filled with writing poems (Haiku and other), short essays and final

drafts of student stories. [[Read here.](#)]

We created art with water colors, micrography, and Rangoli (Indian colored flour art - [photos](#)). I have loved



it out)

- Maddy Stafford's poems (I usually don't easily connect with poetry, but her grabbed my mind and heart - newsletter, occasionally?)
- Jackson Damhorst's riffs. Wowee! Great flow.
- And, of course, Glee with 21 Guns! Mmh-hm!
- And all the singers, fighters, rocketeers, players. And the band.

Applause for our stage hands, Sophia & Hana: so smooth! And Hayley was brilliant as sound tech (with hardly any experience, for an truly challenging and hard job!). Very cool, guys."

Thérèse

Typing Agent

It is with great excitement that I announce that the district has purchased student licenses to a great keyboarding program called Typing Agent! It is a web-based typing skills program. This means that it is accessible from any computer with internet access! Hooray! If your student is in Grades 2-5, I have set up an account for them. [You can access the account using this link.](#) Click on the Typing Agent logo to get to the login page.

User Name: Student ID#

Password: bssc

teaching this class and thoroughly enjoyed experiencing middle schoolers expressing themselves in so many different ways. You all rock!!!

Topics in Ecology

High School

Joanne Brown

Many thanks to author John Moir for visiting our class this month and sharing the inspiring story of the condor's recovery from the brink of extinction. John donated a copy of his book, *Return of the Condor*, to our resource center. It's available for check out. John shared with me how much he appreciated the thoughtful comments and questions from students after his talk.

We explored the mysteries of plant interactions and the amazing coyote-wolf



hybrid. Check out the following documentaries to learn more.

- "[What Plants Talk About](#)"
- "[Meet the Coywolf](#)"

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Pogonip coastal prairie restoration.

Many thanks to Peter Wampler of the Natural History Museum for giving

Please feel free to [contact me](#) if you have any questions! Thanks so much!
Jolene

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

AFE Community Classes

Note: Many classes have ended, so notes below reflect only those classes with news for June.

Games Group

Games Group will still be in Classroom 2 on June 5, but I'm not sure about the 12th—a lot of times we do meet one last time there the day after graduation, for one thing to be one more place/time to pick up yearbooks, but it depends on how things are going by then, whether the consultant teachers will be in that day and want students around and so on. Once the June 12 issue gets settled (sometime into June) I will post to the mailing list about it. Tané

Scottish Country Dance

Note: Scottish Dance will meet the first two Wednesdays in

June. 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

us this opportunity. Our students had great enthusiasm for removing invasive French broom. Their determination resulted in a large area being cleared of broom [Check out the photos of their greatest triumph](#) -- the removal of the largest broom of the day!

There are so many great projects going on worldwide to improve the environment, restore ecosystems, and protect endangered species. For the final class project, each student will research and report on one of these success stories.

Topics in Ecology Part 2 will be offered in the fall. The course will include a variety ecological topics, new guest speakers, field trips, working on a rain catchment project on our campus, and more.

Thank you to the students and parents this semester for their enthusiasm and participation in our class!

Dramatic Literature

AFE Soccer

6th – 12th grade

Our season finished with a fun match and victory against a mixture of other players including some AFE alumni, including coach Casey! There was continued good effort, positive attitude, skill development and fun team competition throughout the whole season. Way to go players!

Our All-Stars for the final All-Star event for the league were Kassiah Anderson, Stephanie L'Heureux, Dylan Slaven and Poppy Tozer. Congrats to them and to everyone for their outstanding work!

Again, we want to thank to Laura, Casey and Kris (and other parents) for their help with coaching and all the families for their support, it is what makes it possible.

Peter and Therese

AFE Hiking Club

Summer Schedule

Greetings, AFE Hikers!

The Hiking Club will be meeting weekly this summer! Our first hike will be **Friday, May 29**, 2pm at Arana Gulch. Meet at the corner of Mentel and Agnes (that is in the neighborhood of AFE) at 3pm. Bring water and snacks.

During the month of June, we will meet each Thursday at noon. Locations will be decided by the group

Shakespeare Class and Ashland Trip

High School

Jasmin Gerer

58 participants, four days, four plays, three workshops, two prologues, and one flat bus tire.

"Overall, it was another amazing year in Ashland. Every year is different, from the plays to the people to



the things that we do. Of course something had to go wrong (thank you tire for blowing up on us on the way back) but all in all I thought that the trip went smoothly and was very successful. I thoroughly enjoyed this year's workshops: the poetry workshop, our stage combat workshop and the discussion with an actor. All were insightful and engaging and I learned a lot from each workshop."

[Click here for photos!](#)

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

Fall Enrichment Classes

K-2 Enrichment

Kindergarten-Second Grade

Thérèse Johannesson

Maker Monday Parent Co-op. The Maker Monday Learning Circle will be back by popular demand! This

at the previous week's hike.

July's hikes may be in the evening on Thursdays, with a FULL MOON HIKE **July 2** in Pogonip. Stay tuned and check the AFE Online Bulletin for details.

August's hikes will return to Thursday noon hikes, unless there is great support for some evening hikes.

Questions or suggestions? Please call Becky Steinbruner 831-685-2915 Tally-ho!

Becky

Glee Club

Glee Club is done for the year, and is seeking a new parent volunteer to lead it next fall.

JSA

JSA, AFE's high school debate club, capped off a great year with the election of new officers. [Click for photos.](#)

AFE Volleyball - Fall

The AFE Coed Volleyball teams compete in the Alternative Schools Sports League (mostly High Schools). The teams are open to students in 6th – 8th grade as well as 9th – 12th. Everyone is encouraged to come join us!

Our practice schedule this fall is Mondays 1:00-3:00 and Wednesdays 10:00-12:00. The practices and our

Parent-led Co-op will happen as long as we have parents signed up to lead the activities. We need every parent to sign up to lead 2-4

lessons/activities/field trips throughout the year, depending on the number of students in the class. A teacher will anchor the group by gathering the students for circle, managing transitions and any other group management. The activities will all be parent led. If you have a child in this Learning Circle, there will be a mandatory meeting in September to further explain how the Parent Coop works, and to explore the available resources.

Thursday Movers and Shakers

w/Therese: This Music and Movement Learning Circle will continue to sing and explore music and movement in an Orff inspired way using our whole bodies and large instruments with a focus on listening, creating, and cooperating. Thursday Movers and Shakers will also include some field trips, with Santa Cruz County as our theme. Each month we will also include some literacy activities and a trip to the BSS library.

K-2's In the Garden: Our class will continue to tend our AFE garden. We are looking forward to a harvest festival in Fall!

California History

Grades 3-5

games will be on the Main Beach courts between the wharf and the Boardwalk. Games are on Fridays between 12 and 2.

Any questions contact me directly at 429-3898 ext 330 or email.

Thanks, Peter

Sewing with Shawn

Sewing class is over, but will continue next year. Stay tuned for details.

Shawn

AFE Guitar Group

This is a parent led class. Please consider joining us next year! Look for sign ups at the Back to School Gathering in September.

AFE Madrigal Singers

If you are an experienced Choral singer with an affinity for early music and would like to join our group, please contact Therese at tjohannesson@sccs.net

AFE High School Acapella group

Are you a moderately experienced High School singer that would like to branch out into more challenging music, like covers that the group "Pentatonix" does? Please consider joining this group. Learn more about it and look for sign ups at the Back to

Wednesdays 10:00–12:30

Nancy Aylsworth

This year-long class is a very hands-on opportunity to explore the history of our town and state. Field trips will allow us to see first hand where some of California's first people lived, view exhibits with artifacts from the various phases of the state's history, explore our local mission, and spend a night of reenacting history in Sutter's Fort in Sacramento. Class will include a snack time and outside games when weather permits. Parent participation is an important component of this class due to its many field trips and projects. I look forward to working with all of you to create a dynamic and memorable year together. We'll have a parent meeting before class begins in the fall. Call Nancy Aylsworth for more information at 429-3898 x334.

Marine Science

Grades 6-8

Tuesdays from 10-12:30

Mark Thomas

Marine Science for 6-8th graders will be Tuesdays from 10-12:30 for the Fall semester, and also for the Spring semester. The course will feature hands on activities, science journals, science reports, science illustration, 3D model building and field trips the last Tuesday of each month to the tidepools, the elephant seals, the Aquarium as well as a boat trip. If you

School Gathering in September.

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

Homeschool Highlights Literary Journal

Read stories and poems by AFE students in [our online literary journal!](#)

Success at the State Science Fair

Santa Cruzans in general did great at the [State Science Fair in Los Angeles](#) this year, placing



one 3rd, two 4ths, and five honorable mentions. Three AFE students competed: Abe Jellinek (Mathematics & Software, "Lingua: Programming for the Uninitiated"), Benjamin Kolland (Applied Mechanics & Structures, "Separation Anxiety: A Plan for Safer Model Rocket Deployment", fourth place), and Max Freedman (Electronics & Elettromagnetics, "KAPower Ball: Generating Power with a Soccer Ball", fourth place). Congrats to all! [\[Photo\]](#)

Science Fair: Do You Really Like to Build and Test?

have any questions, please contact Mark. Thanks!

Science Fiction Literature

**Grades 6-8, fall or spring semester
Tuesdays, 10:00–12:30pm in Room 2**

Peter Deutsch

Peter and students in grades 6–8 will explore the genre of science fiction literature and some classic stories and authors. We will look at the common questions and issues that are addressed in this genre (What might the future be like? How might technology and science discoveries affect us? What if...?). In class we will: read short stories, view science fiction films and shows, discuss and analyze the materials, work in teams to design alien worlds and fictional stories, and share this work through art, performance and writing. Students will be expected to read and analyze a novel and a movie outside of class time. Active learning, games and some PE will be a regular part of the class. We will also have a short break for snacks in the middle of the class time. Peter will teach both fall and spring sessions.

Questions? Contact Peter at 429-3898 x330 or pdeutsch@sccs.net

Topics in Ecology, Part 2

by Benno Kolland

Along with Abe Jellinek and Max Freedman, I went to State Science Fair in May, representing AFE. It's held in Los Angeles at the California Science Center. (Note to space fans: they have the Space Shuttle Endeavor there.) For me, State Science Fair was the final stop in a long trip of building and testing. I expected to have a challenging but reasonably simple time. I was wrong! [[Click here to read on!](#)]

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

Around Town Connections

Do you want to connect with other homeschoolers this summer? Here are some suggestions:

- Join the [SantaCruzHomeschooling Yahoo Group](#): Ideas for fieldtrips, discussions, local info
- Join the [HomeCruzers Facebook Group](#): Local connections and events
- Check out the [Discovery Learning Center](#): Minecraft Club, math games, parent support

Free School

A new free school in Santa Cruz has started. A free school is a no-cost educational project for all ages that

High School

Thursdays, 1-3pm AFE Room 2

Joanne Brown

Up to 5 high school credits in life science upon completion

Are you intrigued by unusual animal adaptations, sky islands, fire ecology or field trips? If you answered yes to one of these questions, Topics in Ecology Part 2 may be the course for you. This course is open to all high school students and will include a variety ecological topics, new guest speakers, field trips, construction of a rain catchment project on our campus, and more. Questions? Contact Joanne Brown jvbrown@sccs.net 429-3898 ext. 237.

Leadership & Communication

High School

Grades 9–12. Thursdays, 10am to noon, Room 2

Jasmin Gerer

Would you like to communicate with greater confidence and make a difference in life? If yes, join this course to become a more effective speaker, listener, and writer. Learn how your own and others' communication styles influence your relationships. Gain more confidence and skills for job interviews, learn how to present your ideas persuasively, and focus on developing

facilitates learning, growth, and face-to-face interactions outside of traditional educational institutions. Free school classes can be taught anywhere, by anyone. To see more classes or get more information, go to iwillmeetyouhere.org.

Teen Summer Intern City of Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz is running a paid internship program for 8 weeks. Teens will have an opportunity to work in various departments within the city. [More details.](#)

FREE Movies on the Beach

Wednesday Nights at 9:00pm, at the Main Beach near the Beach Bandstand:

- June 24 The Lost Boys
- July 1 The Breakfast Club
- July 8 Pee Wee's Big Adventure
- July 15 Dumb and Dumber
- July 22 The Princess Bride
- July 29 Jumanji
- Aug 5 Ferris Bueller's Day Off
- Aug 12 Back to the Future, Part II

Japanese Cultural Fair

Saturday, June 6, 11-6pm
Mission Plaza Park, Santa Cruz
Free admission!

Kids' Triathlons

communication skills that are of particular interest to you. To receive the full 5 English credits, at least three hours of research, reading, writing, and speaking practice outside of class weekly will be an integral part of the course. For questions contact Jasmin Gerer at 429-3898 x332 or by email at jgerer@sccs.net.

Writer's Workshop

Discovering Stories Within And Around You

Open to all high school students
Spring 2016

Up to 5 Credits in English
Joanne Brown

This course will focus on crafting creative nonfiction in a variety of forms, including memoir, personal essay, articles, travel writing, and reviews. We'll add in some purely creative writing and perhaps a dash of poetry just for fun. There will be lots of opportunities to share your writing with your peers. You'll examine the work of a number of well known nonfiction writers. Hope you'll join us in the spring! Contact Joanne Brown jvbrown@sccs.net 429-3898 ext. 237.

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

[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 [\[email\]](#)

Camp Create

Camp Create at Motion Pacific combines movement with a variety of other mediums of creative expression. More info at motionpacific.com.

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

Shakespeare to Go Fieldtrip

Friday morning **June 5th 11am**, Shakespeare to Go performs an innovative, entertaining 50 minute adaptation of the comedy *As You Like It* on the Second Stage at USCS Performing Arts. For those who don't yet know, Shakespeare to Go is a group of UCSC actors that tours schools throughout the year. Their "traveling production closes the season with a performance on campus featuring ten student actors who, with nothing but a bare stage and minimal costumes, create dozens of characters—old and young, rich and poor, majestic and humble." This performance is free and will be followed by a Q & A.

If you'd like to carpool, meet at the RC at 10:20. We will depart at 10:25.

If you plan on meeting us up at UCSC Performing Arts Second Stage, get there by 10:45 to park and walk up the hill.

The Second Stage theater is across from the main theater and easy to find. Parking is \$4 per car.

You can [read *As You Like It* online at No Fear Shakespeare.](#)

Those of us who have seen past Shakes to Go performances are fans. Those who haven't yet seen one of their productions will surely enjoy this one!



—Jasmin

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, June 18th**. Payments must be in by **Friday, June 19th** no later than **2PM**.

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

Victoria Harder, vlharder@yahoo.com

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

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](#).

Copyright © 2015 Alternative Family Education, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

MailChimp.