

# Pleasant Views

Volume 43, Issue 11 April 5, 2010

Pleasant Hill School

434 West Illinois Avenue

Palatine, IL 60067

## April

- 8 Kindergarten "Rec Night"  
—7:00-8:00pm, Gym
- 9 Multi-Cultural Fest  
—5:30-8:00pm
- 13 PTA Meeting —7:00pm,  
Teacher's Lounge
- 14 Board of Education Mtg  
—7:00pm, Sundling Jr.  
High
- 15 Chorus Concert  
—7:00pm, Café
- 16 Moms & Munchies, last  
names A-L—8:15-8:45am,  
Café
- 22 Waste Free Lunch  
Earth Day
- 23 Moms & Munchies, last  
names M-Z—8:15-8:45am,  
Café
- 29 Big Band Concert  
—7:00pm, Café

### Mark your calendar:

PTA Meeting,  
Open House, and  
Ice Cream Social!

May 5th  
6:45-8:00pm

## PTA Presidents' Message

**D**ear Pleasant Hill Parents and Guardians,  
Spring is in the air! It is hard to believe we are well on our way to the final third of this school year. Where did the time go? As usual, we have been so busy with schoolwork, sports, clubs, and all the other requirements of the family...like work, meals, housework and trying to keep everyone healthy. It's amazing how quickly 24 hours can just seem to disappear.

Have you ever noticed, however, that no matter how busy you seem to be when a friend or family member is in need—you can always find the time to help? We MAKE time to cook dinner for a family in need. We MAKE time to talk to a friend who is going through a hard time. We MAKE time to run an errand for someone who can't. We MAKE time to take a friend to the doctor. We MAKE time to help someone who needs advice or help in something we are an "expert" in. We MAKE time when our child really needs one more story, a few more minutes to talk or someone to play a game with when they've had not such a great day. Isn't funny how we can always find time when it matters?

In the PTA, we have had wonderful volunteers who have been able to MAKE time to help our school and our children. These are parents, guardians and grandparents who have all been able to MAKE time. This month alone, we will see Dave Larsen finish off months of hard work with the Rec Nights. We have the phenomenal Multi-Cultural Fest committee, led by Yukari Lofton and Rita Poklacki, who are preparing for our fabulous evening on April 9th. We have the Welcome Committee team of Helen Baker, Chris Farrahar and Susan Carlson (with a bunch of other volunteers) who are getting set for Moms N Munchies. Finally, we have Amy Cox, Dianne Kraus and Melissa Mavromatis who are planning for a great Ice Cream Social at the end of the month. All of these people have been able to MAKE time to help. Can you?



...continued on next page

- Matt Palcer, Principal ● Kristy Seifert, Assistant Principal
- Margo Ban and Donna Hirsch, PTA Presidents ● PTA Website: [www.phpta.org](http://www.phpta.org)
- Jan Sieben and Penny Schmit, Newsletter Editors

## PTA President's Message, Cont'd

We are still looking for volunteers to MAKE time to help with our PTA committees for next year. Though next year seems even farther away—we do our planning at the end of this year. This is your opportunity to MAKE time for something that interests you and will help the school and kids. Remember, when you MAKE the time to help, you also get to MAKE the committee your own. You can work on it at your own time, you can use your own ideas (don't worry we will also provide you with information on how the committee has worked in the past)... basically you can MAKE it your own!

Here are the areas where we still need help. Please contact Donna at [gredon-hirsch@yahoo.com](mailto:gredon-hirsch@yahoo.com) or at 847-934-3071 if you are interested. Not sure which one will suit you best? Give a call and I'd be happy to talk!

**Bilingual Liaison** – Help translate PTA documents for bilingual parents.

**Fall Fest** – Coordinate the fall evening family event.

**Make a Difference Club** – Provide support to the club which focuses on community service.

**MANNA** – Coordinate gift card program that provides cash back to PTA.

**Newsletter** – Coordinate and publish the bi-monthly PH Views newsletter.



**Parent Education** – Collect information on parenting and schooling issues for publication in PH Views and website.

**Publicity** – Identify and coordinate recognition for PH students and PTA events.

**Recreation Nights** – Coordinate evening events of relay games for kids and their parents. Different nights occur for boys and girls in different grades.

**School Kits** – For 2010 – 2011, design a new school kits type program for implementation for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

**School Pictures** – Work with vendor and school to coordinate school picture and retake days.

**Staff Appreciation** – Coordinate staff appreciation events throughout the year and for the annual Staff Appreciation Week in the spring.

**Variety Show** – Participate on the team to coordinate the student auditions, main rehearsals and show.

**Volunteer Coordinators** – Coordinate the annual sign-up of volunteers for PTA events and provide to committee chairs. Encourage volunteer participation throughout the year and compile volunteer hours.

**Yearbook** – Organize volunteers to take pictures at school events. With a team, assemble materials for publication utilizing yearbook software.

*Donna Hirsch, PTA Co-President*

# Yearbook

All yearbook orders received have been submitted to Lifetouch. We will no longer accept any more. Thank you to everyone who got their orders in on time. The yearbooks should be sent home the first week of June. The final yearbook pages have also been submitted to Lifetouch. This year's Multicultural Fest, Moms & Munchies, and Field Day will be in the 2010 - 2011 yearbook. Thank you to everyone who submitted pictures.

*Cathy Peterson, Yearbook Chairperson*

# Nurse's Corner

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Physicals

Please be advised that the 6th grade Physical Exam packet was sent home 3/15/10 with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Please call the health office should you require another packet. Physical exam forms are due in August by the first day of school. Please make your doctor appointment now. Parents please fill out the back upper portion of the exam form, sign & date it. Make a copy of the filled out exam & return to the health office as soon as completed or mail it in during the summer months. Proof of a dental exam is a state requirement for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Students wearing glasses or contacts. Please submit a Vision Exam form filled out with the student's next appointment.

### Medication Administration Policy

Before a student may receive, possess, or consume prescription or nonprescription medication, the student's parents/guardian and physicians must complete a Medication Administration Form and have it on file in the health office at the child's school. The form shall specify the appropriate dosage and time when the medication must be administered.

Any changes in the original physician's order must be provided to the school in writing by the physician. Medication must be in its original container or a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacist or physician.

Thank you,

**Angie Novak—847 963-5902**



## Help Raise \$750 for PH PTA

Spring is here and the kids start to get anxious and have difficulty following instructions or staying focused? Pleasant Hill PTA and W. Kim Tae Kwon Do will be hosting a 4-week class and 100% of proceeds will benefit PH PTA. This is our second after school enrichment program which focuses on behavior modifications with emphasis on respect and discipline. This training is combined with martial arts to improve communication and basic defense skills. "Building Future Leaders for Tomorrow" program is a hands-on interactive program for kids K through 6th grade. During the last program in January, families of Pleasant Hill helped to raise over \$500 for the PTA and had many positive things to say about this program. Look for sign up sheets coming in the next couple of weeks... Also check out W. Kim Tae Kwon Do at the Multi-Cultural Fest for more information.



**Session Dates:** Wednesday, April 28, May 5, May 12, and May 19  
**Time:** 3:30 - 4:15pm  
**Cost:** \$39 for 4-weeks instruction, including a free t-shirt from W. Kim TKD studio  
**Registration:** First come basis, class holds 20 kids so sign up early  
**Benefit:** 100% of proceeds benefit PH PTA!!

## Boxtops... and More

Welcome back from Spring Break! Did you go somewhere? I spent a lovely week in Arizona visiting family and watching the Cubs (they lost)...ah, springtime...

In addition to the sunny land of Arizona, I spent an afternoon at...Boxtops University! I know, it sounds so corny—but it was fun, and informative! It was a nice program, good lunch, and a lot of crazy people like me sharing ideas to help our schools. Did you know that the Boxtops we send in are burned to provide energy to 38 homes in Minnesota? The Boxtops on packages have a 4-year expiration date when placed on a package? And that some of our local schools have earned up to \$6,700 in Boxtops? We can do better. According to the Boxtops site:

***“Your school can earn up to \$20,000 from each of the four Box Tops for Education program components (Clip, Shop, Reading Room and My Class Essentials).”***

That’s a lot of fundraising that we wouldn’t have to do. Take a look at these programs on their site: [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) You can do a lot of on line shopping and support Pleasant Hill. You can use gift cards

at this site, too.

And, now, there is a NEW promotion sponsored through Boxtops and SUPERVALU (Jewel-Osco). It is an ONLINE program that will help us get the Boxtops into our account. We are STILL collecting them; this is a specific Jewel-Osco program. So, please take a moment to review this program and sign up at

[www.GrowingLocalLearning.com](http://www.GrowingLocalLearning.com). By doing so, we will get 5 bonus Boxtops. Tell a friend, and we will get 5 more. And a chance to win a bunch of Boxtops. It is a new program, so as I learn more details , I will let you know.

Look for Boxtops coming out (Fall?) on some new products: Progresso Soups (I see a label war coming!), Gold Medal Flour, Totino’s party pizzas, and Betty

Crocker Cake mixes!

Thanks to my new Ohio Boxtops mom Michelle Donisi—who donated her bonus Boxtops to Pleasant Hill.

Does everyone know that Cheerios now come in chocolate...?

Chris Howard-Menk, [howardmenk@comcast.net](mailto:howardmenk@comcast.net)

***My apologies to Linn Corfield at the UPS Store—I listed his store address incorrectly in a previous newsletter. Visit Linn at 1935 S. Plum Grove Rd. Bring in your clean packing peanuts for recycling. Thanks again, Linn.***



### 7 Wonders of the Everyday World

1. ***Wearing underwear just out of the dryer***
2. ***When cashiers open up new checkout lanes at the grocery store***
3. ***Intergenerational dancing***
4. ***Paying with exact change***
5. ***Fixing electronics by smacking them***
6. ***High-fiving babies***
7. ***The other side of the pillow***



*Excerpted from Neil Pasricha’s website: [1000awesomethings.com](http://1000awesomethings.com)*



**SPECIAL BONUSES!**  
 Start your game day fun by tailgating in the parking lot at the Sears Centre!

**VISIT THE FAMILY FUN ZONE!**  
 - Face-Painting -  
 - Giant Bounce House -  
 - Sgt. Slaughter & MORE! -

**POSTGAME AUTOGRAPHS DOWN ON THE FIELD**  
 with the players & dancers!

**SPECIAL PLEASANT HILL ELEMENTARY OUTING!**

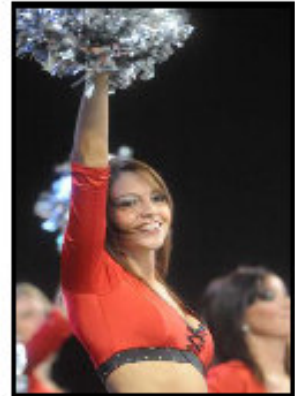
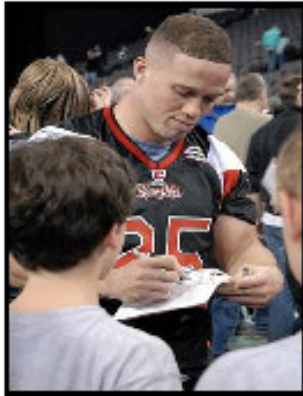
Saturday, April 24, 2010



Kickoff at 7:05pm  
 Gates Open at 6:00pm



5333 Prairie Stone Pkwy  
 Hoffman Estates, IL 60192  
 www.searscentre.com



**Special Discounted Ticket Prices for all Pleasant Hill Elementary Students and Guests!**

- Special \$9.00 Lower Endzone seating for Pleasant Hill Elementary!
- PA Recognition of your school's attendance on opening night!
- Meet Head Coach Steve "Mongo" McMichael and get pictures and autographs from the players & dancers on the field after the game!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: Pleasant Hill Elementary School AC-10-1

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Discounted Endzone Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$9.00 = Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method: (Circle One) CREDIT CARD      CHECK (payable to Chicago Slaughter)

Credit Card Info: (VISA) (MASTERCARD) (DISCOVER) (AMEX) Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV# \_\_\_\_\_

**Order Deadline: Monday, April 19th (subject to availability)** Credit Card Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Add \$2.00 Handling Fee for Mailing Tickets in Advance OR Tickets can be picked up at WILL CALL on game day.



**Please Return Completed Order Form and Payment to your Child's Classroom Teacher.**  
**Order Deadline: Monday, April 19th**  
 Questions...or Ask About Fundraising Opportunities:  
 Email: [acvek@chicagoslaughter.com](mailto:acvek@chicagoslaughter.com)



# Environmental Education

There's something about the week-long break from school for not only the kids but also we parents that serves as a turning point in the school year. Whether you 'get out of dodge' or hang out here, the break from routine is a much-needed respite. Although the resulting semi-relaxed state is quite temporary (I'm writing this on the Monday after and feeling no real relaxation anymore!), the point is that Spring Break provides a little oasis of unstructured time in the midst of that march to the end of the school year. Does that mean it provides a break from everything? Not so!

For the first time ever, our family left the state for the week—the stars must have aligned! We drove cross-country to Colorado, and although we took a break from a whole lot of scheduling, there were many things that remained part of our daily routine. One was recycling. I was shocked to find that my uncle, whose place we stayed at for the week, was totally into recycling in his condo. Who knew? Recycling was actually prominent at all of the ski resorts we visited. There were articles in the Denver Post and the Summit County newspaper that addressed environmental concerns both in the state of Colorado as well as in the country and world. Should ski lifts operate all summer long? What will the impact be on local wildlife and the local ecosystem? How can Colorado provide clean electricity to its citizens within the confines of the current coal industry? (Now THIS question sounds familiar to Illinoisans!) Just as in our state, there were lots of windmills between here and Denver—all through Iowa and Nebraska (I mean can ya miss 'em with absolutely nothing else to look at?!).

What does this all have to do with you and me? Ya know I'm gonna tell ya!

This month is the 40th anniversary of Earth Day—April 22nd. (I wish I could tell you that the inception of Earth Day is SO before my time, but I'd be lying just a little bit!!) If you check out the Earth

Day 2010 website (see <http://www.earthday.net/earthday2010>), you'll note that many feel that our world is in more danger than ever before. Okay, maybe. But what my trip reminded me is that we're all in this together, and there are people all over our country (and all over the world) who are asking the questions and doing the research and, most importantly, just simply being aware of what's happening and what could happen to our planet if we ignore the warning signs.



As is usually the case, it comes down to “what can we do?” I've said it before and I'll say it again—do what you're doing and do more of it. Check out the website above to get ideas. Surf the net for places to recycle your stuff or for stuff to buy that's made from recycled materials. Repurpose stuff

in your home—spring cleaning is upon us, and rather than toss all kinds of stuff (hear me, hubby?!), find a new use for the stuff or get together with friends and neighbors to have a garage sale so that someone else can find a new use for your stuff.

Whatever the way you choose to celebrate this 40th year of Earth Day, just keep in mind the hopefulness of Spring and the hope that with every seemingly little thing we do from an environmental standpoint in our homes or out in the world, we are bringing this planet one step closer to the healthy place we want to leave for our children and for generations to come. Happy Spring (finally!) and happy Earth Day!

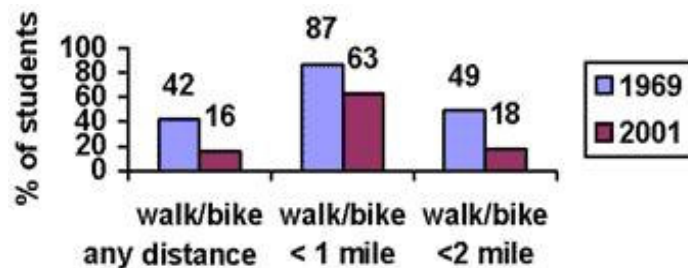
*Margo Ban*



# Let's Get Out of Those Cars!

**The data is in!**

If you had to guess what percentage of the “walker” population at Pleasant Hill actually walks or bikes to school, what would you guess? 10%? 40%? 80%? Well, if you guessed 27%, you'd be right on. Based on a recent Pleasant Hill survey, the other 73% gets driven at least one way, with just a couple per cent of those in car pools.



***Surely we can do better! Now that Spring has officially sprung, let's get outside and get that blood pumping!***



## **Did You Know:**

In 1969:

- 42 percent of all children 5 to 18 years of age walked or biked to school and 87 percent of children 5 to 18 years of age who lived within one mile of school walked or biked to school. You were probably one of them!

In 2001:

- 16 percent of all children 5 to 18 years of age walked or biked to school and 63 percent of children 5 to 18 years of age who lived within one mile of school walked or biked to school (Source: Illinois DOT)
- Less than half of students who live within a mile of school walk or bike to school even once a week (CDC, 2007)

# Make a Difference Club



Thank you to all the families who contributed recipes to the Pleasant Hill cookbook. The recipes look delicious and the members are excited about creating the final product!

The MADC club is celebrating Earth Day this year by collecting gently used cleats and trophies. Drop boxes will be placed in the front of school. Collections will begin next week and end on Earth Day, April 22nd. Please remember to tie your cleats together so they may remain a pair. The cleats and trophies will be donated to underserved youths in Palatine and Chicago. Thank you in advance for your contributions.





News flashes,  
lists, and links for  
Pleasant Hill families...

- Detailed notes from the March 10th CCSD **Board of Education Regular Meeting** can be found at [http://www.spotlightontheboard.org/d15\\_spotlight.htm](http://www.spotlightontheboard.org/d15_spotlight.htm). Agenda included: District Bonding Capacity; Expenditure Reductions for 2010/2011 and Ensuing Years; Citizens Address the Board; and Action Item: Resolution—District Bonds.
- District 15's **Connections Newsletters** can be found at the following website—<http://www.ccsd15.net/WhatsNew/NewsFromTheSchools/>
- For monthly email news information and alerts, be sure to sign up for **District 15's "E-News"** by visiting D15's website: [www.ccsd15.net](http://www.ccsd15.net). Once there, click on the D-15 icon at the bottom and you'll be prompted to provide your email address.
- **Camp Invention** will be held at Frank C. Whitely Elementary School in Palatine at the end of June. For more information go to—<http://fcwpta.org/pdf/2010/campinvention.pdf>
- For those artists who like to plan ahead—the theme for next school year's **Reflections Program** will be "Together We Can!"—<http://www.pta.org/2032.asp>
- If you have a child attending **Plum Grove Jr. High** next year and can find the time to volunteer, please email Barb Downing at [bldowning@comcast.net](mailto:bldowning@comcast.net). Positions available include Book Fair, Calendar, Directory, Environmental Ed, Hospitality, Market Day, Parent to Parent, Volunteer Coordinator, Publicity, Teacher Appreciation, Website, 8th Grade End of Year Activities and 8th Grade Dance.
- Finally, join us Tuesday, April 13th at 7:00 pm for our Pleasant Hill **PTA meeting**. Dr. Lukich, our superintendent, will be visiting us to introduce Pleasant Hill's new assistant principal for the next school year. Mr. Palcer will also be talking about the sectioning process at PH.

## A.R. Achievers!

Congratulations to the following students, each of whom reached 100 Accelerated Reader points during the month of March!

Aleezandra	Barrera
Daniel	Bellino
Jeffrey	Bellino
Sarah	Bramer
Elizabeth	Carlson
Sarina	Castella
Kaitlyn	Dunne
Mariah	Gura
Ethan	Haduch
Zubin	Havewala
Fiona	Jordan
Michael	Koziana
Andrew	Markantonatos
Sophia	Mavromatis
Ryan	McCoy
Maya	Poyraz
Thomas	Qui
Pranav	Ramachandra
Anthony	Roselli
Andrea	Smith
Nicole	Sygieda
Shreya	Tewari
Caroline	Van Roon
Katherine	Van Roon
Hunter	Veller

April 2010

Pleasant Hill School



# The Music Room

## Multicultural Fest

### Program Schedule:

**April 15<sup>th</sup> – Chorus Black Light Concert**

**All performances begin at 7:00 pm in the PH cafeteria.**

**Check back next month for next year's program dates.**

The Multicultural Fest at Pleasant Hill is coming up this month on April 9<sup>th</sup>. As part of the program, all the students will be singing the song 'The Universal Language' about how music is in everyone's culture and it does not matter where you are from or what language you speak, we can all appreciate and understand music. Please come and enjoy this great song along with the other activities at the Multicultural Fest. The fun begins at 5:30 and lasts until 8:00 in the evening. The more singers we have there, the better the song will sound!

### Musical Madness

The first and second graders did a great job on their musical last month called 'The Cheese Stands Alone'. Everyone sang their hearts out and looked like they had a blast singing all the songs about cheese. Who doesn't love rapping about all the different kinds of cheese in the world!?! They did a great job and all of their hard work really paid off. Congratulations to all of them on an excellent performance.



### Recorders are back in action!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders took a break from recorders to work on their musical and other concepts for the year but the recorders return after spring break. Please make sure your child brings their recorder to school immediately following spring break.

### Chorus Corner

The Cougar Chorus is gearing up for their Black Light Concert coming up on April 15<sup>th</sup>. They have been practicing extra hard and giving up many recesses to make the concert a success. Please remember the three after school rehearsals are scheduled for Thursday 4/8, Monday 4/12, and Wednesday 4/14 from 3:20-4:30 in the cafeteria. These are all very important rehearsals and if your child cannot make one or more of these practices please write that in an email or hand-written letter so that I can better prepare for each rehearsal. All singers need to dress in all black for the three rehearsals and the performance. All the dancers also need to wear bright white socks so that they show up on stage. Please remember to have your child wear their black clothing to school on April 15<sup>th</sup> because we will be doing the show for the other students. Also, if you are interested in a DVD of the performance please send \$15 (cash or check made out to Pleasant Hill School) in an envelope with your child's name on it by April 14<sup>th</sup>.

*Please contact me with any questions. Phone: 847-963-5935 Email: [naumank@ccsd15.net](mailto:naumank@ccsd15.net)*