

# The Village Voice

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## Enjoy Your 5 Day Weekend, See Ya Tuesday!

### CALENDAR EVENTS

#### February 2009

12,13,16 Thur, Fri, Mon—NO SCHOOL, Parent/Teacher Conferences

17 Tue—VS Board Mtg, 5:30pm

23 Mon—Site Search Committee, 5:30

25—Middle School Orientation (see below)

#### Upcoming Enrollment Meetings!

This year's **Parent Info Meetings** will be held Wed. Feb. 18, 6-8pm & Sat. Feb. 21, 10-noon.

The **Middle School Orientation** will be Wed. Feb. 25, 6-7:30. All current students in 5th grade and above and their families are encouraged to attend!

#### ONGOING EVENTS:

☞ 2nd Wed/month is Parent Council, 6:30pm

☞ Site Search Mtg, 2nd & 4th Monday/month

☞ 3rd Tues/month, VS Board Mtg, 5:30pm

☞ Every Friday—Village Café, 8:30am

☞ Every Wed—Homework Club, 3-4pm

### Release-to-Parent Drill—PLEASE READ!

In a continuing effort to improve our emergency preparedness, we will hold a **Release to Parent/Guardian Drill on Monday, March 9th**, starting at 2pm. This drill will begin with a lock down in the classroom, followed by the parent/guardian release drill. Parents will be asked to start arriving at the school by 2pm, with the expectation that our students should be off campus by the time that Ridgeline starts their drill at 2:45.

Parents will need to check in at the main office and show identification. They will sign students out, then they will be given a slip from the office with the student's name and grade on it. The office will call the classroom and tell the teacher to release the student. The teacher will then write the student's name on a slip of paper and send them down the hall. There will be a staff or parent volunteer monitor at the doorway of the upper wing and outside the office by the mailboxes in the middle wing. Parents will wait there, and students can only leave if their paper matches the parent's. This is to avoid confusion in the event that both parents were to show up.

For this drill only: For those students needing special arrangements such as: **getting picked up by a carpool or child care provider, riding the bus, or transporting self home via biking or walking**, parents need to send a written and **signed release authorization** clearly stating circumstances and directions for your student(s). These students will be released at their normal dismissal time. *Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we strive to enhance the safety of our community.*

### President's Day Rally to Protect Kids & Schools

Join **STAND FOR CHILDREN** in Salem on **Mon. Feb. 16 from 12-1pm** to show your support for schools. Legislators need to hear that Oregonians support reasonable revenue increases and targeted investments in education. By standing together we will make it possible for legislators to stand up for our children and other vulnerable members of our communities. **Get Ready To Rally!** Bring your children & a home-made sign. Prepare for rain or shine. Bring your lunch and a water bottle. Buses leave from **NEHS and SEHS at 9:45am**—call Joy at 912-2921 to reserve a spot.

### Caught Doing Good!

All of you amazing, wonderful, hard-working, creative, dedicated, ambitious, visionary, selfless, thoughtful, talented and persistent parent and staff volunteers who made the Heart of the Village Celebration such a beautiful community celebration!



### Thank You So Much!

### Village School Yearbook!

The 7th and 8th grade yearbook committee is looking for photos from Fall 2008, such as the Eugene Celebration, Dia de los Muertos, Talent Show, Winter Concert, etc. Submit photos on CD's or prints to Catia or Mr. T.

**Pictures of all students will be included in the yearbook unless parents request otherwise, including school photos and class activities.**

# Announcements

**Found: box w/ 3 keys in it in the music room.** Call Catia in the office to claim.

**Alvord Farm and Museum** will have a day of learning about animals in the winter, Fri. Feb 13th, 10am-12:30pm. Cost: \$15 per child or \$10 each for children in the same family. Good for grades 1-4. Bring a sack lunch, water bottle and signed liability waiver from our website. Pre-

registration is required; call Karen at 968-1986, or see: [www.alvordmuseum.org](http://www.alvordmuseum.org).

**Title 1 Assistant, Donna Sakamoto Crispin** has the following upcoming weaving workshops: March 1st, 10-4pm *Willow Melon Basket* \$40; March 15, 10-4pm *Intro to Cedar bark weaving*, \$40; April 5, 10-12pm *Two hour basket* \$15; April 26, 10-5pm *Pod basket* \$45. Email [d2crispin@aol.com](mailto:d2crispin@aol.com) for more info.

**Handyman for Hire**—Got building projects? Call Ron at 434-6129 for jobs both large and small. Great VS References.

**Bunny Seeks Home**—sweet dwarf black bunny looking for new home, needs big cage, preferable w/ outside time. See Catia in the office if interested.

**Village Voice Submissions** must be in the office by 10am Thursday morning. Bonus points for emailed submissions. Announcements will run for 2 weeks in a row unless otherwise arranged. All submissions may be edited for length or con-

## Upcoming Events & FYI

**We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Amy Bradsher** for her work as the School Receptionist over the past year and a half. Her warm smile and friendly voice have greeted many. Some of you may be aware that the School Administration has been stretched very thin. Last month we posted a six hour per day position that includes assisting business services with payroll and human resources, volunteer coordination, and other office duties. We will miss Amy in the office, but are very glad she will still be part of our community! Next week you will be greeted at the front desk by Ashleigh Baumgartner, who recently moved to Eugene from Fargo, North Dakota. Please help us welcome her to our community.

**Annual Giving—It's not too late to GIVE!** Many classes are closing in on that 100% participation goal. Please give what you can to support the goals of the school. Thank You!

**Immunization exclusion day is Feb. 18, 2009.** Please complete **all requested paperwork & return to Catia in the office ASAP.**

**State Testing**—State testing has begun and will be ongoing, classroom teachers have details.

**After School Choir has room for more singers!** Join the fun every Monday and Wednesday, 3:20-4:05, for all 4th-8th graders. This choir is free and taught by our 4th/5th grade choir teacher Jennifer Searl. Sign up sheets in the office.

**Homework Club**—Every Wed. 3-4pm.

**Churchill High School info meetings for 8th grade families:**

2/12/09—IHS presentation, 7pm in the Cafeteria

2/19/09—Parent & Student Info Night, Curriculum Fair, SLC

Presentation, 7pm, Auditorium

2/24/09—IHS presentation, 7pm in the Cafeteria

**Sheldon High School info meetings for 8th grade families:**

2/17/09—International HS info meeting, 7pm

2/19/09—International HS info & Spanish immersion mtgs, 7pm.

Contact Sheldon HS registrar for more information at 687-3386.

**Amazon Community Center has over 60 New Art Classes** - including an After School Arts Program called F.A.M.E. (Fun/Arts/Mania/Extraordinaire!) Reasonable rates, *free bussing from the VS to Amazon Community Center.* Call 682-5373 for more details.

**Has your household budget been affected by the economy?**

In these economic times many families who have never before needed assistance are suddenly finding themselves struggling financially. If your family is in this situation you may not be aware that free or reduced price school meals are available to qualifying families through the National School Lunch Program. See last week's Village Voice or ask in the office for details.



## Carpooling is Fun & Easy!

The following is an excerpt from a longer article run in last week's newsletter:

My name is Jim Wilcox and I live near the Village School. I am a former teacher, and currently work with the Mayor of Eugene on the Mayor's Carbon Challenge. I am presenting a plan to save money and protect the planet through a carpool plan. My plan will make the development of a carpool more efficient while retaining security and confidentiality. By using Google Maps, it is possible to place markers pinpointing intersections near families who wish to participate in carpools. Each pin would only be identified by a number and a color. When a match is created and a carpool started, the color coded pins turn green with a line between the two. A green line means the pair are still accepting invitations to participate, a red line means they are not taking more participants.

This system has many advantages, most importantly, someone can go to the map and see which families looking to carpool are near them. Also, it will show the success of the system as families sign up. And it retains confidentiality since no addresses or exact locations are listed, and names are not used. Please contact me for more info or to sign up. All information will be kept confidential. Jim Wilcox, 686-0876 [jimwilcox@comcast.net](mailto:jimwilcox@comcast.net)

# Girl's Page!!!

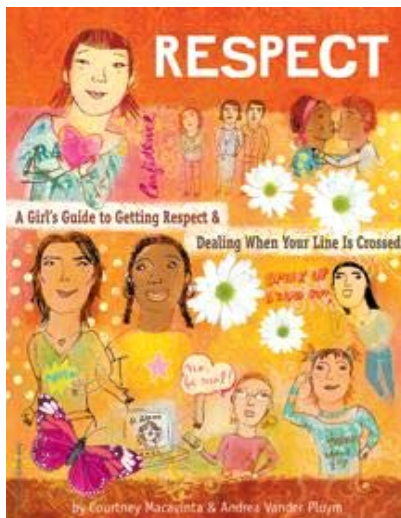
## Rise Up! Girls Empowerment Class

Do you hold back because of peer pressure? Are you affected by impossible-to-achieve media images of women? Do you want to say "yes" to your own hopes and dreams? Join the Rise Up weekend community. In the supportive company of girls and women, you'll get to make new friends, express yourself through the arts, and explore issues like relationships, body image, leadership, and empowerment. Come and surprise yourself with your own power, beauty, and creativity. For girls ages 13-18, Feb. 28 from 10am-9pm. Cost is \$40 (scholarships available). For more information call Robin at 465-2230. This event is sponsored by the City of Eugene Recreation and the Oregon Country Fair. Workshops include: Percussion, World Dance, Circus Arts, Theater for Change, Visual Arts, Zine making, Spoken Word and more.



## Girls Rule!

The "Girls Rule" Parent-Daughter Fair is a free, one-day event happening on March 14th at Lane Community College. Fun, interactive workshops include belly dancing, roller derby, scrap booking, self defense, and more. Workshops will highlight the strengths, skills, and needs of girls 9-14 and facilitate connections between girls and the adults in their lives. The Parent Daughter Fair is a collaborative effort of local organizations and individuals working together. To register and for more information about the fair and participating agencies please log on to [opheliasplace.net/girlsrule](http://opheliasplace.net/girlsrule) or call (541) 284-4335.



## While we are talking girl talk

Looking for a great book for your daughter? A parent recently showed me this one and I thought it looked fabulous:

Respect—A Girl's Guide to Getting Respect and Dealing When Your Line is Crossed. By Courtney Macavinta and Andrea Vander Pluym, published by Free Spirit Publishing.

If anyone ever wants to recommend books or write a book review for the Village Voice, we'd love it! Send articles to the school's email address or contact Catia in the office.

# Invigorating our Dragon!

The Village School student council decided to invigorate our school mascot (dragon) by having a re-design/ imagine our dragon contest. Students in grades 5-8 selected one dragon to represent their class. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade chose a dragon by Chloe, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade by Morgan, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Claire and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade a combined dragon by Amanda and Aerin.



Each drawing was displayed at the Heart of the Village celebration for the public to vote. 206 people dropped their ballots and 63% (129 votes) of the many votes went to 6<sup>th</sup> grader Morgan's dragon.

We would like to congratulate Morgan and the other three amazing drawings that were selected from their class. Look for our new dragon on some new sharp t-shirts coming soon!

*By Caitlin and Morgan for Upper School Student Council*

## Wish There Was a Way to Give to the School That Didn't Cost You Any Extra \$\$\$???

Now your wishes can come true! First, BUY SCRIP. It's super easy and great stores like Market of Choice (and many others) will donate 4% of any purchase you make with a registered credit card. To register your card(s) got to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com), and follow the directions. You can search for our school (make sure you select The Village School in Eugene, OR) or enter our # 9130886.

Also, Albertsons will donate 4% of any purchase made if you have a Preferred Saving Card (available at any Albertsons store or online at [www.Albertsons.com](http://www.Albertsons.com)) but IT MUST BE LINKED TO OUR ORGANIZATION ID # 49000122237 by FEB. 28th. If you already have a card, please take the time to relink your card(s) by FEB. 28th. If you think you have a card but can't find it, or don't know the #, call (877) 932-7948. Thank You!