

# TRIVOCIS

THREE VOICES . . . STUDENTS, PARENTS, FACULTY

APRIL 2011  
VOLUME 58, NUMBER 7

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL  
555 MIDDLEFIELD RD., ATHERTON, CA 94027 WWW.MABEARS.ORG 650/322-5311



## From the Principal

*Dear Menlo-Atherton Community:*

While winter weather is bleeding into spring, we have moved firmly into the final academic quarter for the spring semester. Our June 2nd graduation is approaching rapidly. Staying focused and engaged during the next weeks is an essential ingredient to ending the year

well.

### Budget Challenges

California remains mired in uncertainty as it relates to K-12 public education. The Sequoia District is preparing proposed cuts for centralized operations, Adult School, and each school campus. No cuts are proposed to the main instructional program at M-A but reductions to administrative and support services are on the table as possible options.

M-A Foundation dollars will allow us to somewhat blunt the potential negative effects of these reductions, if they do indeed come to pass. While possible budget reductions always create anxiety and a sense of uncertainty, programs at M-A will remain strong and appropriately staffed.

Although the Sequoia District is insulated from the more severe budget cuts affecting most California public schools, the elimination of Redevelopment Agencies and increased “fair share” contributions by Basic Aid-funded (e.g. local property tax) districts have put pressure on the bottom line.

Extending the tax increases approved in 2009, (which is theoretically slated for the June ballot pending a 2/3 vote of both houses of the State Legislature), will significantly improve the budget situation at M-A, if passed by voters.

### Facility Improvements

Unfortunately, the Measure J school construction bond cannot be used to pay for operating expenses like teacher salaries, textbooks, and utilities. It is only permissible to expend those monies on construction, renovation, and infrastructure projects.

While bond funding is significantly restricted, it will allow us to move forward with the five-classroom Media Arts Building planned for the back of campus. All project approvals have been received; bids for the project are due at the end of the month. By moving ahead in this challenging economic environment, we will increase enrollment capacity for the coming Menlo Park bulge, build in a low-cost climate, and create a series of good construction jobs for the region.

Construction will disrupt the outdoor basketball court area in front of the track and field during the 15-month construction process. Students will occupy the new digital photo, multi-media, and video production facilities in August of 2012. Our Media Arts Building will also serve as the gateway to Coach Park Field and includes visitor bathrooms and a small ticket office.

A regular classroom will also be converted into a biology classroom over the summer if all goes according to plan, and some very minor landscaping improvements will be completed.



### Calendar Highlights

- Minimum Day #4
- Friday, April 1
- Junior/Senior Prom
- Friday, April 1
- PTA Meeting
- Monday, April 4
- STAR Testing – Block Days
- April 4 – 15 (See schedule inside)
- Spring Break
- Monday, April 18 – Friday, April 22
- M-A Auction
- Monday, April 25 – Sunday, May 1

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Sign up for BearNotes and paperless TriVocis: [www.mabearspta.org](http://www.mabearspta.org)  
Send articles for next issue by Friday, April 15 to [trivocis@mabearspta.org](mailto:trivocis@mabearspta.org).

## New and Noteworthy

- National Merit Finalists were announced last month. All seven semi-finalists announced this fall have advanced to finalist status. Please congratulate: Evan Amato, Francis Kei Masuda; Mark Moritz-Rabson; Daniel O'Neel; Evan Weiner; Daniel Windham and Philip Witham.
- A lively production of the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee occurred under the direction of Ms. Zwicker-Sobrepeña in the Performing Arts Center. Music teacher Patrick Maier and Kent Kurrus assisted in the production and college advisor Alice Kleeman played piano.
- Spring sports are in full swing: Boys Tennis, Badminton, Baseball, Boys Golf, Softball, Swimming, Track, and Lacrosse.
- Congratulations to the M-A Robotics Team (#766). Over the weekend the team won first place at the UC Davis regional competition. The Bears now advance to the National Competition in St. Louis at the end of April.
- Junior Travis Anderson and Senior Victoria Fernandez presented at the College Board Regional Forum about the movie "In 500 Words or Less."
- Junior Aaron Oro was featured on the front cover of the new periodical, The Paper. The two-and-a-half page article details his extensive volunteer and mentorship work.
- All high schoolers are now required to get a T-DAP (whooping cough) shot before starting the 2011-2012 School year. Please remember to get your child this needed vaccination.

Respectfully,

*Matthew Zito, Principal*

### *Estimada Comunidad de Menlo-Atherton*

A la vez que el tiempo de invierno se convierte en primavera, hemos avanzado con paso firme hacia el último trimestre académico del semestre de primavera. Nuestra graduación el 2 de junio se aproxima rápidamente. Mantenerse enfocado e involucrado durante las próximas semanas es un ingrediente esencial para terminar bien el año.

#### **Desafíos presupuestarios:**

California sigue sumida en la incertidumbre en lo que respecta a la educación pública desde Kinder al grado 12. El Distrito Sequoia está preparando recortes propuestos para operaciones centralizadas, la Escuela de Adultos y cada campus escolar. No se proponen recortes al principal programa de instrucción de M-A, pero se están considerando reducciones en los servicios administrativos y de apoyo como posibles reducciones.

Los dólares de la Fundación M-A nos permitirán aminorar un poco los posibles efectos negativos de estas reducciones, si de verdad ocurrieran. Mientras que las posibles reducciones presupuestarias siempre crean ansiedad y una sensación de incertidumbre, los programas en M-A seguirán fuertes y con suficiente personal.

Aunque el Distrito Sequoia está aislado de los recortes presupuestarios más severos que están afectando la mayoría de las escuelas públicas de California, la eliminación de las Agencias de renovación y el aumento de las contribuciones de "justa proporción" por los distritos financiados con Auxilios Básicos (por ejemplo, impuestos a la propiedad local) han supuesto una carga en el balance final.

La prórroga de la subida de impuestos que se aprobó en 2009 (que teóricamente está programada para una votación en junio pendiente de 2/3 de los votos de ambas cámaras de la Legislatura del Estado) mejorará considerablemente la situación presupuestaria de M-A, si lo aprueban los votantes.

#### **Mejoras en las instalaciones:**

Desafortunadamente, el bono de construcción de la escuela de la Medida J no se puede utilizar para pagar los gastos operativos como los sueldos de los maestros, los libros de texto y los servicios públicos. Sólo se permite gastar esos fondos en proyectos de construcción, renovación y infraestructura.

Si bien la financiación de bonos es muy restringida, nos permitirá avanzar con el edificio de cinco salones de Artes

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17<sup>th</sup> District CCPT

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The purpose of the newsletter is to promote communication between the administration/faculty and parents. We welcome all your comments, suggestions, and articles. The mention of any business or service in this newsletter does not imply an endorsement by the M-A PTA. Send submissions by email to [trivocis@mabearspta.org](mailto:trivocis@mabearspta.org).

#### 2011 Publication Dates

Issue	Deadline	Mailing
May	Apr. 15	Apr. 27
June	May 13	May 25
Sept	Aug. 15	Aug 24

Mediáticas previsto para la parte trasera de la escuela. Se han recibido todas las aprobaciones del proyecto; las cotizaciones para el proyecto se tienen que entregar a final del mes. Al avanzar en este entorno económico difícil, aumentaremos la capacidad de la matrícula para el próximo acrecentamiento de natalidad de Menlo Park, incorporaremos un clima de bajos costos y crearemos una serie de buenos trabajos de construcción para la región.

Las obras afectarán el área de la cancha de básquetbol que está al aire libre en frente de la pista de atletismo durante los 15 meses del proceso de construcción. Los estudiantes ocuparán las nuevas instalaciones de fotografía digital, de multimedia y de producción de video en agosto de 2012. Nuestro edificio de Artes Mediáticas también servirá como puerta de entrada al campo de Coach Park e incluye baños para visitas y una pequeña taquilla.

Un salón de clases se convertirá también en un salón de biología durante el verano si todo va según lo previsto este verano, y se harán algunas mejoras de jardinería de menor importancia.

#### **Nuevo y digno de notar:**

- El mes pasado se anunciaron los Finalistas de Mérito Nacional (National Merit Finalists). Los siete semi-finalistas que se anunciaron en el otoño han avanzado a nivel de finalista. Hagan el favor de congratular a: Evan Amato; Francis Kei Masuda; Mark Moritz-Rabson; Daniel O'Neel; Evan Weiner; Daniel Windham y Philip Witham.
- Una producción animada de la obra 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee tomó lugar bajo la dirección de la señora Zwicker-Sobrepeña en el Centro de Artes Escénicas. El maestro de música, Patrick Maier, y Kent Kurrus ayudaron a producir la obra y la consejera de universidad, Alice Kleeman, tocó el piano.
- Los deportes de primavera están en plena marcha: bádminton, béisbol, softball, natación, atletismo, lacrosse y tenis y golf masculinos.
- Felicidades al equipo de Robótica de M-A (#766). Durante el fin de semana el equipo ganó y se colocó en primer lugar en la competición regional de UC Davis. Los Bears ahora avanzan a la Competición Nacional de St. Louis a finales de abril.
- El alumno de 11° grado, Travis Anderson, y la alumna de 12° grado, Victoria Fernández, presentaron la película "In 500 Words or Less" ("En 500 palabras o menos") en el Foro regional del College Board.
- El nuevo periódico, The Paper, publicó un artículo sobre el alumno de 11° grado, Aaron Oro, destacándolo en la portada. El artículo de dos páginas y media detalla sus extensas obras como orientador y como voluntario.
- Se requiere que los estudiantes de escuela secundaria se pongan ahora una vacuna T-DAP (tos ferina) antes de que empiece el año escolar 2011-2012. Por favor, acuérdesse de conseguir esta vacuna necesaria para su hijo/a.

Atentamente,  
*Matthew Zito, Director*

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## FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Supporting Excellence in Education

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL

*We called...and you answered!*

**Thank you to the M-A families who stepped up and met our  
\$50K Participation Challenge.**

As of March 10<sup>th</sup>, participation in the 2010-11 Annual Campaign was more than 80 families ahead of last year at this time....  
earning an incremental \$50,000 gift offered by members of the Foundation Board!

*Your generosity, along with that of the 556 families and friends who donated previously, will improve the educational experience for every M-A student.*

If you haven't yet made your annual gift, there's still time!  
To donate online, go to [www.mafoundation.org](http://www.mafoundation.org) and click on "Make a Donation."  
Or mail a check to Foundation for the Future, P.O. Box 1228, Menlo Park, CA 94026

Questions? Contact Cindy Folker at [cfolker@seq.org](mailto:cfolker@seq.org) or (650) 322-5311 x 5206

*The FOUNDATION for the FUTURE  
welcomes you to*



## *Get Ready for Auction!*

Visit [www.maauction.org](http://www.maauction.org) to pre-register for your free eBay membership. Already registered? Be sure you are using an email address that you check often during auction. Create a PayPal account for M-A on eBay. Checks are also accepted!

**STARTING MONDAY, APRIL 25 go online to [www.maauction.org](http://www.maauction.org) and start bidding!**  
**Auction closes SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2011.**

Don't miss your chance to bid on some of the following donations:

- ◆ Ferraris, Fine Wine and Fun at AutoVino - a party for up to 200 guests, with music provided by ReadytoPlay!
- ◆ Giants Tickets! Katy Perry Concert Tickets! GLEE Concert Tickets!
- ◆ Getaways to Manhattan, Las Palapas and San Miguel de Allende as well as Carmel and Santa Cruz Mountains
- ◆ Grade Level Gatherings, including the incoming Class of 2015!
- ◆ Gift Certificates to many fine dining establishments!

More information in the coming weeks in BearNotes!  
Questions? Email [auction@mafoundation.org](mailto:auction@mafoundation.org).

## From the PTA

If you needed a reminder of what a dynamic, engaged, creative and simply fun group of students, parents, staff and community we have at M-A, we hope you attended the PTA “Not Another High School Fashion Show” on March 5. Our biggest PTA fundraiser, the fashion show is so much more than models on a catwalk. Led by our dream team fashion show chairs (Suzanne Amato, Karen Armstrong and Jill Smith) and starring the class of 2011 seniors as models (over 200 in the senior class participated), all three shows ran like clockwork and were full of spirit, enthusiasm and joy. Kim Selby’s production and choreography were stellar, and the dance choreography of Nona Ybarra (Captivating Dance by Nona) had the audience bouncing in their seats. With over 200 parent, staff and student volunteers working behind the scenes, there are too many to thank here, but we would like to give a shout-out to the following:

Donation Drawing - Candi Athens	Publicity - Trish Gump
Dressing Rooms - Kathleen Masket, Heather Titterton	Set Construction - Daniel
DVD Sales - Amy Reardon	Set Design - Jill Smith
Graphic Design - Logo & Poster - Liz King	Store Mom Coordinators - Jane Yee Hall, Hilary Hausman
Luncheon - Noreen Carruthers, Yumiko Kelley	Store Solicitation - Lisa Dettmer, Robin Tobias
Luncheon Children’s Show - Nancy Child	Student Food - Julie Brody, Beth Harris, Darci Wentz
Make-Up - Alice Hom	Ticket Sales - Suzanne Amato, Kim Sommer
Model Coordinator - Karen Armstrong, Kristin Gananian	Treasurer - Nancy Kessler
Photographer - Nick Winkworth	T-Shirts - Renata Mullen
Program Ad Sales - Michele Culhane	Underwriting - Candi Athens
Program Content - Janet Sommer	Volunteer Coordinators - Linda Fornaciari, Kate Mulligan
Program Design and Production - Toni Tajima	Web Master - John McMurtry

An unexpected post-show treat was reading the hundreds of Facebook posts by seniors to the M-A Fashion Show Facebook group. Our senior class members know how to write touching and thoughtful thank you notes to the parent volunteers (and have taught some of us in the older generation about an unanticipated benefit of Facebook!)

### Call for 2011 Service Award Nominations!

Elsewhere in this issue of Trivocis you will find a form you can fill out to nominate individuals for a Menlo-Atherton PTA Service Award (the form will also be posted on our website at [mabearspta.org](http://mabearspta.org)). These awards give special recognition to those parents and community volunteers or organizations who have given outstanding voluntary service to Menlo-Atherton and its students.

To help inspire you, here are the award guidelines that the Service Award Selection Committee considers:

- quality, quantity and length of volunteer service
- number, size and importance of project(s)
- leadership in service and/or project(s)
- additional activities directly and indirectly benefiting M-A and/or the school district
- innovation or improvement of beneficial projects
- consistency and dependability

Please return your nominations by April 15, 2011 to the M-A Office PTA box, or by email to [president@mabearspta.org](mailto:president@mabearspta.org).

### Upcoming PTA Events

Spring can be a hectic time of year, so we have decided to consolidate several upcoming meeting dates with parent education programs to better accommodate your busy calendars. Please don’t miss these events:

**Monday, April 4, 7 p.m. in the PAC Cafeteria.** We will vote on the slate of nominees for the PTA Executive Board for 2011-2012. We will then hear from international sleep expert, Mark Rosekind, Ph.D., as he returns for a special engagement at M-A. Dr. Rosekind is an engaging speaker known for his ability to translate the science of sleep into practical strategies for improving performance, safety, and health. He is currently serving in Washington, D.C. as a member of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and is former director of the Center for Human Sleep Research at Stanford. Working with Stanford’s Dr. William Dement, Dr. Rosekind was the major architect of the program that has educated thousands of M-A students on the topic of sleep. Dr. Rosekind will be joined in the Q & A session by Menlo-Atherton parent and sleep specialist, Jerry Hester, M.D.

**Wednesday, May 4, 6:45 p.m. PTA General Meeting,** followed by a 7 p.m. screening of the documentary “500 Words or Less.”

Please join us for these excellent Parent Ed events organized by Charlene Margot, and for our brief but important PTA general meetings immediately preceding these programs.

*Carol Orton and Amy Boyle*  
2010-2011 PTA Co-Presidents  
*president@mabearspta.org*

## **De la PTA (Asociación de Padres de Familia, Maestros y Administradores...PTA)**

Not Another High School Fashion Show: Si usted necesita que se le recuerde sobre el dinamismo, compromiso, creatividad y el gusto de diversión de nuestro grupo de estudiantes, familiares, administradores y comunidad que tenemos en M-A, esperamos que hayan podido asistir al desfile de modas anual (PTA Fashion Show) este pasado 5 de marzo. El desfile de moda, que es nuestro evento que más fondos recauda, es mucho más que modelos en una pasarela. Liderada por nuestras presidentas de comité (Suzanne Amato, Karen Armstrong y Jill Smith) y nuestras estrellas de seniors de la clase de 2011 (más de 200 alumnos de esta clase participaron), cada uno de los tres eventos se desarrollaron sin problema alguno y estuvieron llenos de espíritu, entusiasmo y alegría. Tanto la producción y coreografía por parte de Kim Selby, así como la coreografía de los bailes por parte de Nona Yabarra (de Captivating Dance by Nona) mantuvieron al público brincando en sus asientos. Con más de 200 voluntarios de familiares, administradores y estudiantes trabajando detrás del escenario, son demasiados para agradecer individualmente, pero quisiéramos mencionar algunas personas a continuación:

Donaciones Para Rifa - Candi Athens  
Vestidores - Kathleen Masket, Heather Titterton  
Ventas DVD - Amy Reardon  
Diseno Grafico – Logo & Poster - Liz King  
Comida - Noreen Carruthers, Yumiko Kelley  
Comida Evento Para Ninos - Nancy Child  
Maquillaje - Alice Hom  
Coordinadora De Modelos - Karen Armstrong, Kristin Gananian  
Fotografo - Nick Winkworth  
Venta Publicidad Para Programa - Michele Culhane  
Contenido Programa - Janet Sommer  
Diseno Y Produccion Del Programa - Toni Tajima  
Publicidad - Trish Gump

Construccion De La Escenografia - Daniel  
Diseno De La Escenografia - Jill Smith  
Coordinadora De Las Mamas De Tiendas - Jane Yee Hall, Hilary Hausman  
Solicitudes a Tiendas - Lisa Dettmer, Robin Tobias  
Comida Estudiantes - Julie Brody, Beth Harris, Darcy Wentz  
Ventas De Boletos - Suzanne Amato, Kim Sommer  
Tesorera - Nancy Kessler  
T-Shirts - Renata Mullen  
Patrocinaciones - Candi Athens  
Coordinadoras De Voluntarios - Linda Fornaciari, Kate Mulligan  
Web Master - John McMurtry

Un deleite inesperado después del evento fue el leer los cientos de posts en Facebook por parte de los seniors en la sección de Facebook M-A Fashion Show Facebook group. Nuestros miembros de la clase de seniors saben muy bien como escribir comentarios de agradecimiento muy halagadores y sentimentales a los familiares voluntarios (y de paso nos enseñaron a nosotros los miembros de la generación más grande algo sobre los beneficios de Facebook!)

### **Llamada de Nominaciones para el 2011 Premio de Voluntarismos (Service Award)!**

En otra parte de esta publicación de Trivocis encontrará una forma para que nomine usted a personas para el Menlo-Atherton PTA Service Award (esta forma también estará disponible en el website en [mabearspta.org](http://mabearspta.org)). Estos premios dan un reconocimiento especial a aquellos familiares y miembros de la comunidad u organizaciones quienes han dado un servicio excepcional a Menlo-Atherton y sus estudiantes.

Para ayudar a inspirarlos, a continuación están las pautas que son consideradas por el comité de selección del Service Award:

- calidad, cantidad y duración del servicio del voluntario
- cantidad, tamaño e importancia de el (los) proyectos
- liderazgo en el servicio y/o los proyectos
- actividades adicionales que benefician directamente o indirectamente a M-A y/o al distrito escolar.
- Innovación o mejoras de proyectos beneficiosos
- Consistencia y cumplimiento

Por favor entregue sus nominaciones a más tardar el 15 de abril del 2011 a la caja PTA en la oficina de M-A , o por correo electrónico a [president@mabearspta.org](mailto:president@mabearspta.org).

## Eventos Próximos de la PTA

La primavera puede ser una temporada frenética del año, por ellos hemos decidido consolidar algunos eventos del programa de educación a familiares para facilitarles el poder agendarlos. Por favor no falte a estos eventos próximos:

Lunes 4 de abril a las 7 p.m. en la cafetería de PAC. Votaremos la aprobación de los candidatos a la mesa directiva de la PTA 2011-2012. En seguido, escucharemos del experto internacional sobre el sueño , Mark Rosekind, Ph.D., ahora que regresa para una plática especial en M-A. Dr. Rosekind es un presentador muy animado, conocido por su habilidad de traducir la ciencia del sueño en estrategias prácticas para mejorar nuestra productividad, seguridad, y salud. Está actualmente en Washington D.C., como miembro del National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) y fue anteriormente director del Center for Human Sleep Research en Stanford. Trabajando con el Dr. William Dement de Stanford, Dr. Rosekind fue el mayor arquitecto del programa que ha educado a miles de estudiantes de M-A sobre el tema del sueño. En la sección de preguntas y respuestas, el Dr. Rosekind será acompañado por el Jerry Hester, M.D., quien es un padre de familia en M-A y especialista de sueño.

Miércoles 4 de mayo a las 6:45 p.m. Junta general de la PTA seguido a las 7p.m. por una proyección del documental “500 Words or Less.”

Por favor únase y asista a estos excelentes eventos de Educación a Familiares (Parent Ed) organizados por Charlene Margot, y a nuestras breves pero importantes juntas de la PTA que tendrán lugar justo antes de estos eventos.

*Amy Boyle y Carol Orton*  
2010-2011 Co-Presidentas de la PTA  
[president@mabearspta.org](mailto:president@mabearspta.org)

## START COLLEGE NOW!

The Middle College High School program is accepting applications for fall 2011.  
Application Due April 13<sup>th</sup>

Please check out the Middle College website at  
[www.canadacollege.edu/middlecollege](http://www.canadacollege.edu/middlecollege)  
Talk to your guidance advisor  
Take the college placement exam

Cañada College Placement Exam Dates:  
Saturday, April 16 & 23  
Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

Cañada Middle College  
650.306.3120  
[canadamiddlecollege@smccd.edu](mailto:canadamiddlecollege@smccd.edu)

## Menlo-Atherton High School PTA



### Call for 2011 Service Award Nominations!

#### ADULTS OF THE M-A COMMUNITY

Each May the Menlo-Atherton High School PTA honors individuals who have contributed in an extraordinary way to M-A. These awards give special recognition to those parents and community volunteers or organizations who have given outstanding voluntary service to Menlo-Atherton and its students. To help inspire you, here are the award guidelines that the Service Award Selection Committee considers:

- quality, quantity and length of volunteer service
- number, size and importance of project(s)
- leadership in service and/or project(s)
- additional activities directly and indirectly benefiting M-A and/or the school district
- innovation or improvement of beneficial projects
- consistency and dependability

Nomination(s) submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Reason for

Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form **by 4/15/11** to M-A Office PTA Box, 555 Middlefield Rd., Atherton, CA 94027  
OR email [president@mabearspta.org](mailto:president@mabearspta.org)

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### Llamada para las Nominaciones del Service Award 2011!

#### ADULTOS DE LA COMUNIDAD DE M-A

Cada mayo, el Menlo-Atherton High School PTA honra a individuos que han contribuido de manera extraordinaria a M-A. Estos premios dan un reconocimiento especial a aquellos padres de familia, voluntarios de la comunidad u organizaciones que han dado un servicio valioso como voluntarios a Menlo-Atherton y sus estudiantes. Para ayudar a inspirarlo, a continuación están los criterios generales que el comité de selección, PTA Service Award Selection Committee, toma en consideración:

- Calidad, cantidad y duración del servicio voluntariado
- Numero, tamaño e importancia de los proyectos
- Liderazgo en su apoyo y/o en los proyectos como voluntario
- Actividades adicionales que directamente or indirectamente benefician M-A y/o el distrito del colegio
- Innovación o mejoras de proyectos valiosos
- Consistencia y cumplimiento

Nominación(es) sometida(s) por: \_\_\_\_\_

Nombre del Nominado(a): \_\_\_\_\_

Breve Razón por la cual esta siendo

nominado: \_\_\_\_\_

Mande su nominación **antes de 4/15/11** a M-A Office PTA Box, 555 Middlefield Rd., Atherton, CA 94027  
o correo electronico a [president@mabearspta.org](mailto:president@mabearspta.org)

## More Kudos for The Fashion Show

The Fashion Show is possible because of the generosity of local businesses and underwriters. Please let them know you appreciate their support!

### LEAD UNDERWRITERS

Walecka Family

### GOLD LEVEL

John McMurtry & Janet Moody

Anthony Armstrong

Kessler Family

Nisbet Family

### SILVER LEVEL

Athens Chiropractic

W. L. Butler Construction

Brody Family

Carruthers Family

Child Family

Culhane Family

The Dailey Method

Nancy Goldcamp, Coldwell Banker

Mary & Brent Gullixson, Alain Pinel Realtors

KPCB

Stanek Family

White Family

### BRONZE LEVEL

Anonymous (2)

Carlos Aguilar

Fornaciari Family

Printworks

Mohr Family

### FRIENDS OF M-A

Bloom Family

Norm Hall & Jane Yee Hall

Deal Family

Patrick Gordon & Patricia Nakache

Hayse Family

John Moragne & Kim Young

Kim Sommer

Sutton Family

Brad Sylvester & Kathy Jackson

Thygesen Family

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY: Nona Ybarra, Captivating Dance by Nona

DANCE INSTRUCTION: The M-A Dance Team

DRAWING DONORS: Trish Mitchell, LaBelle, Neiman Marcus

DRAWING TICKETS: Round Table Pizza, Menlo Park

LIGHTING & SOUND EQUIPMENT: Anthony Sutton, Musson Theatrical

LUNCHEON: Jill Elevitch, Modern Taste

PRINTING SERVICES: Dennis Cailles, Menlo Park

Presbyterian Church Copy Center

PRODUCTION & CHOREOGRAPHY: Kim Selby

PROGRAM PRINTING : Agilaire

RENTALS: Michael Hensley Party Rentals

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## Parent Education

### Stanford's Fred Luskin on Authentic Parenting

*By Charlene Margot, M-A Parent Education Series Chair*

While the words were simple, the message was profound. Speaking before a packed house in the PAC Café on March 16th, Stanford professor Fred Luskin, Ph.D. offered advice on how to be an 'authentic parent.' He encouraged parents to practice more love, kindness, forgiveness, and gratitude in our daily lives, while reminding us of the preciousness of our children and of life itself.

"Be yourself. Be who you are and parent your children from that point of view. Acknowledge that it is incomplete. But don't take on trying to be someone else. Authenticity is what kids want," he said. "You can't give your kids everything, but you can give them you."

With humor and stories from his own life experiences, Dr. Luskin acknowledged that we all carry with us the scars and wounds from our own childhoods, which we then impart to our children. Just as we resisted our parents' need to control us, so too do our kids struggle against the notion that they 'belong' to us. Fred Luskin reminded parents that we do not 'own' our children—they own themselves—and the passage of adolescence is critical to establishing independence. The greatest gift we can give our children is to learn how to give and receive love, which is the most basic human need.

"Everyone craves to love and be loved," he said.

Becoming an authentic parent requires that we work on becoming our most authentic selves. Luskin advised that true parenting does not come from a how-to book, and cannot be learned by imitating someone else's parenting style. Our kids know us best, and they are perfect barometers of our struggles and strengths. As Luskin said, "The Circle of Life is not just for the Lion King." Through understanding the notion of our interdependence, we can become better parents: "You cannot be any more an authentic parent than you are a person," he said. "You are an authentic parent, you are an authentic person, and you are who you are."

Fred Luskin earned a Ph.D. from Stanford University in Counseling and Health Psychology. He currently directs the Stanford Forgiveness Project and is a senior consultant in health promotion at Stanford. Luskin is also an affiliate faculty member of the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California, Berkeley. Over the last decade, Dr. Luskin has helped thousands of people around the world learn to practice forgiveness and lead happier, healthier lives.

### **Final M-A Parent Education Series 2010-11 Event:**

#### **AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARY "IN 500 WORDS OR LESS"**

**with Alice Kleeman, M-A College Advisor, and Student Panel**

**May 4, 2011, 7-9:00 p.m., M-A Center for the Performing Arts Theater**

ALL Parent Education Series events are sponsored by the M-A PTA and open to the Sequoia Union High School community. For more information, please contact Parent Education Series Chair Charlene Margot, [parenteducation@mabearspta.org](mailto:parenteducation@mabearspta.org) or 650.868.0590.

## **From the Guidance Office**

*By Silvia Torres-Garza, Head Guidance Counselor, Francine Andrade, Laura Duran, Karina Escobar-Weaver, Jason Kubo and Lara Sandora, Guidance Counselors*

### **Busy Bees**

The month of March was a busy time for our office. We met with freshmen students to get them registered for next year's class schedule and, if they met the summer school eligibility criteria, for summer school 2011. We also visited local middle schools to register incoming 9th grade students for their classes at M-A next fall. We appreciate your patience during this time when trying to contact us regarding your student.

### **Grades**

Third quarter ended March 18th. Please remember to visit the Infinite Campus portal site at <http://portal.seq.org> to check your student's academic progress. You should have received your student's 3rd quarter report card. Please discuss these grades with your student and, if necessary, consider what areas your student needs to improve in order to complete the semester successfully.

### **D and F Grades in Spring 2011**

Students who earn an F grade at the end of this semester in a class needed for graduation must repeat this class during summer school 2011 if they meet the summer school eligibility criteria and if space permits. Students who earn a D grade in a class required for entering a four-year college after high school need to repeat this class in order to meet college admissions requirements.

Attention Athletes: Athletes must maintain a 2.0 unweighted grade point average (G.P.A.) in order to remain eligible for sports during the 2011-2012 academic year.

## Summer School 2011 Update

Summer School will be offered at Menlo-Atherton High School and will only be open to M-A students. Enrollment in summer school is extremely limited and will be primarily for remediation for students who earned a grade of F, FA or NA in courses required for graduation and only for students who meet the summer school eligibility criteria and if space permits. Summer school will take place Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Session 1 will take place between June 14 and July 1, 2011. Session 2 will take place between July 5 and July 22, 2011. Summer Geometry is a highly selective program. Qualified students will be contacted by their math teachers.

VERY important: If a student does not attend the first day of summer school and does not call ahead to notify the summer school office, he or she will lose his or her spot. If a student misses more than 10 hours of summer school (5 hours for quarter classes) they will be dropped and not earn credit.

### Presidential Scholars

Congratulations to Menlo-Atherton senior Nikhil C. Viswanathan, one of the 2011 Presidential Scholars. The Presidential Scholars Program recognizes some of our nation's most distinguished graduating seniors for their accomplishments in many areas: academic success, leadership, and service to school and community, as well as exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts. Annually, up to 141 U.S. Presidential Scholars are chosen from seniors throughout the United States, representing excellence in education and the promise of greatness in America's youth. All Scholars are invited to Washington, DC in June for National Recognition Weekend, featuring various events and enrichment activities and culminating in the presentation of the Presidential Scholars medallion during a White House-sponsored ceremony.

### Physical Education (P.E.)

Students can take P.E. classes at a community college during the summer through the Concurrent Enrollment program. The credits students earn in these classes count towards the 20 credits of physical education required for graduation. Please refer to the information listed below for the credit conversion for students who take P.E. classes at a community college.

Colleges on Semester Schedule: Cañada College, College of San Mateo, Skyline College: 1 unit of P.E. at college = 2.5 credits of P.E. at Menlo-Atherton H.S.

Colleges on Quarter Schedule: Foothill College: 2 units of P.E. at college = 2.5 credits of P.E. at Menlo-Atherton H.S.

Students interested in this option must pick up a schedule of classes for the community college(s), as well as the respective concurrent enrollment form(s), and see their Guidance Counselor. Please refer to the forms for information on registration deadlines. Please note that it may be more difficult for students to take community college courses due to the budget crisis that is impacting our state.

Class of 2012: Please note that if you plan to complete any graduation requirements outside of the Sequoia Union High School District, you must complete all credits by the end of the Fall 2011 semester and the Guidance Office must receive your final transcript by Dec. 16, 2011. You must also obtain approval in advance to take these requirements and complete the necessary forms prior to enrolling in any classes outside the Sequoia Union High School District.

## De La Oficina de Consejería

*Por Silvia Torres-Garza, Encargada del Departamento de Consejería, Francine Andrade, Laura Duran, Karina Escobar-Weaver, Jason Kubo y Lara Sandora, Consejeras.*

### Mes Ocupadísimo

El mes de marzo fue un mes extremadamente ocupado para la oficina de consejería. Los consejeros nos reunimos con sus estudiantes para registrarlos en las clases del próximo año. Solamente los estudiantes que cumplieron con el criterio de elegibilidad para la escuela de verano fueron registrados para asistir a la escuela de verano. También visitamos las escuelas primarias locales para registrar en sus clases a los estudiantes que van a entrar al noveno grado en M-A para el próximo otoño. Les agradecemos mucho su paciencia en estos tiempos cuando tratan de contactarnos en relación a su estudiante.

### Calificaciones

El tercer trimestre finalizó el 18 de marzo. Por favor acuérdesse de visitar el sitio en el programa "Infinite Campus" <http://portal.seq.org> para revisar el progreso académico de su estudiante. Usted ya debió haber recibido el reporte de calificaciones del tercer trimestre de su estudiante. Por favor discuta con su estudiante estas calificaciones y, si es necesario, considere las áreas en que su estudiante necesita mejorar sus calificaciones para completar un semestre exitoso.

## **Calificaciones D y F en la Primavera 2011**

Estudiantes que obtienen calificación F al final de este semestre en una clase que necesitan para graduarse deben repetir esta clase durante la escuela de verano 2011 si ellos cumplen con el criterio de elegibilidad para la escuela de verano y si hay espacio disponible. Estudiantes que obtienen calificación D en una clase requerida para entrar al colegio por cuatro años después de secundaria necesitan repetir ésta clase para cumplir con los requerimientos de admisión al colegio. Atención Atletas: Atletas deben mantener un promedio general de aprovechamiento (G.P.A.) de 2.0 para mantenerse elegibles para deportes durante el año académico 2011-2012.

## **Información Reciente referente a la Escuela de Verano 2011**

La escuela de verano se ofrecerá en Menlo-Atherton High School y será solamente para estudiantes de esta escuela. La inscripción en la escuela de verano es extremadamente limitada y será primordialmente para los estudiantes que han obtenido una F, FA o NA en los cursos requeridos para su graduación y solamente para los estudiantes quienes cumplen con el criterio de elegibilidad para la escuela de verano y si hay espacio disponible. La escuela de verano se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes de las 8:00 a.m. a la 1:30 p.m. La primera sesión se llevará a cabo entre el 14 de junio y el 1 de julio del 2011. La segunda sesión se llevará a cabo entre el 5 de julio y el 22 de julio del 2011. El programa de geometría durante el verano es extremadamente selectivo. Los maestros de matemáticas van a comunicarse con los estudiantes que califiquen para este programa.

## **Muy Importante**

Si su estudiante no asiste el primer día de la escuela de verano y usted no llama con anticipación para notificar a la oficina de la escuela de verano, el estudiante perderá su lugar. Si los estudiantes se ausentan por más de 10 horas de la escuela de verano (dos días) en clases de semestre (5 horas en clases de medio semestre) se les dará de baja de la clase y perderán los créditos.

## **“Presidential Scholars”**

Felicidades a el estudiante de doceavo grado de Menlo-Atherton High School Nikhil C. Viswanathan, uno de los estudiantes del 2011 “Presidential Scholars.” El programa “Presidential Scholars” reconoce a algunos de los estudiantes del doceavo grado más distinguidos por sus logros en muchas áreas: éxito académico, liderazgo, y servicio a la escuela y comunidad, así como también logros académicos excepcionales y talento en las artes visuales, creativas, y teatrales. Cada año, un máximo de 141 estudiantes son elegidos para el programa “Presidential Scholars” entre los estudiantes del doceavo grado a través de los Estados Unidos, representando excelencia en la educación y la promesa de grandeza que hay en la juventud de este país. Todos los estudiantes “Presidential Scholars” son invitados a Washington, D.C. en junio para el Fin de Semana de Reconocimiento Nacional, el cual incluye varios eventos y actividades de enriquecimiento. El fin de semana culmina con la presentación del medallón “Presidential Scholars” durante una ceremonia patrocinada por la Casa Blanca.

## **Educación Física**

Los estudiantes pueden tomar clases de Educación Física en el colegio de la comunidad durante el verano a través del programa "Concurrent Enrollment Program". Los créditos que éstos estudiantes obtengan en éstas clases pueden sumarse a los 20 créditos de educación física que son requeridos para graduación. Por favor refiérase a la información enlistada abajo para la conversión/equivalencia de créditos para los estudiantes que toman clases de educación física en los colegios de la comunidad:

Colegios con horarios de semestre: Cañada College, College of San Mateo, Skyline College: 1 unidad de Educación Física en el colegio = 2.5 créditos de educación física en la escuela Menlo-Atherton.

Colegios con horarios de trimestre: Foothill College: 2 unidades de educación física en el colegio = 2.5 créditos de educación física en la escuela Menlo-Atherton.

Estudiantes interesados en esta opción, deben recoger un programa de clases de los colegios de la comunidad, así como también la(s) respectiva(s) solicitud(es) “Concurrent Enrollment” y también reunirse con su consejero. Por favor referirse a éstos formularios para informarse acerca de las fechas límites para registrarse.

Clase del 2012: Por favor tome nota que si usted planea completar cualquier requisito de graduación fuera de las clases ofrecidas por el Distrito Escolar de Sequoia, usted debe completar todos los créditos necesarios al final del semestre del otoño del 2011 y la oficina de consejería necesita recibir su expediente académico oficial a más tardar el 16 de diciembre del 2011. Usted también debe obtener la aprobación con anticipación para tomar estos requisitos y completar los formularios necesarios antes de inscribirse en cualquier clase fuera del distrito escolar Sequoia Union High School District.

# TESTING UPDATE

*From Steve Lippi, Instructional Vice Principal*

We are rolling through the testing season, having completed the sophomore California High School Exit Exam, the freshman Physical Fitness test in PE, and Early Assessment Essays for juniors. The next assessment on the horizon will be STAR testing. STAR will begin the week of April 4 and continue for three weeks. I've included a detailed schedule in this issue, and here are some highlights:

- Monday, April 4 – Sophomores will take the Life Science test during 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> periods
  - No schedule changes this day
  - All non-sophomores will attend their classes as normal
  - After testing, sophomores will resume their normal schedule starting 3<sup>rd</sup> period
- Tuesday-Friday, April 5 – 8 – English testing in English classes
  - Four block days this week, with the “Thursday schedule” in effect on Tuesday and Thursday, and the “Wednesday schedule” in effect on Wednesday and Friday
  - 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the test during their normal English period
- Monday, April 11 – Freshmen will test in Science; Sophomores and Juniors in Social Studies
  - Testing begins at 8:45, after 0 period
  - 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> graders will report to their 3<sup>rd</sup> period classes at 8:45 for testing
  - Seniors will report to the Performing Arts Center at 9:30 a.m. for a Senior Meeting
    - Procedures leading up to graduation will be explained
    - Seniors planning on participating in Senior Week activities or the graduation ceremony must attend
  - After testing and the Senior Meeting, students will attend Period 1 through 6 classes, with each class being 35 minutes in length
- Tuesday-Friday, April 12 – 15 – Math testing in Math classes
  - Four block days this week, with the “Thursday schedule” in effect on Tuesday and Thursday, and the “Wednesday schedule” in effect on Wednesday and Friday
  - 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the test during their normal Math period
- Wednesday-Thursday, April 27-28 – Science testing in Science classes
  - No schedule changes for the week of April 25
  - 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders will take their Science test on Wednesday or Thursday during their regularly scheduled Science class
- Week of May 2 – Make-up testing
  - We must test 85% of our students, overall and in all numerically significant ethnic categories, on all tests
  - We will make a big push during this week to catch students that may have missed a portion of testing

The data that we receive from standardized testing allows us to place students in appropriate classes, and also serves as the basis for decisions on how school resources should be allocated. Our test results over the past couple of years show that our teachers and students have been doing a great job, which really helped in our being designated a California Distinguished School in Spring 2007 and in a favorable mid-term WASC review in March of 2010. We continue to work hard at this, and I thank all the families for your continued support and understanding in making sure your students are here every day and ready to test. If you have any questions, please contact me: [slippi@seq.org](mailto:slippi@seq.org) or, by phone at: 322-5311 x 5112.

**STAR TESTING SCHEDULE 2011  
APRIL 4 - APRIL 29**

Monday 4/4/11		Tuesday 4/5/11		Wednesday 4/6/11		Thursday 4/7/11		Friday 4/8/11	
7:50 - 8:40	Period 0	7:50 - 9:25	Period 0	9:25 - 11:00	Period 1	7:50 - 9:25	Period 0	9:25 - 11:00	Period 1
8:45 - 9:35	Period 1	9:25 - 9:35	Brunch	11:00 - 11:10	Brunch	9:25 - 9:35	Brunch	11:00 - 11:10	Brunch
9:35 - 9:45	Brunch	9:40 - 11:20	Period 2	11:15 - 12:55	Period 3	9:40 - 11:20	Period 2	11:15 - 12:55	Period 3
9:50 - 10:40	Period 2	11:20 - 11:25	Break	12:55 - 1:35	Lunch	11:20 - 11:25	Break	12:55 - 1:35	Lunch
10:45 - 11:55	Period 3	11:30 - 1:05	Period 4	1:40 - 3:15	Period 5	11:30 - 1:05	Period 4	1:40 - 3:15	Period 5
12:00 - 12:50	Period 4	1:05 - 1:35	Lunch			1:05 - 1:35	Lunch		
12:50 - 1:25	Lunch	1:40 - 3:15	Period 6			1:40 - 3:15	Period 6		
1:30 - 2:20	Period 5								
2:25 - 3:15	Period 6								

Notes: On 4/4, testing in Life Science for Sophomores only during Periods 1 and 2  
On 4/5 - 4/8, testing in English classes

Monday 4/11/11		Tuesday 4/12/11		Wednesday 4/13/11		Thursday 4/14/11		Friday 4/15/11	
8:05 - 8:40	Period 0	7:50 - 9:25	Period 0	9:25 - 11:00	Period 1	7:50 - 9:25	Period 0	9:25 - 11:00	Period 1
TESTING BLOCK 8:45 - 10:35	Testing in 3rd period classes								
		9:25 - 9:35	Brunch	11:00 - 11:10	Brunch	9:25 - 9:35	Brunch	11:00 - 11:10	Brunch
10:35 - 10:45	Brunch	9:40 - 11:20	Period 2	11:15 - 12:55	Period 3	9:40 - 11:20	Period 2	11:15 - 12:55	Period 3
10:50 - 11:25	Period 1	11:20 - 11:25	Break	12:55 - 1:35	Lunch	11:20 - 11:25	Break	12:55 - 1:35	Lunch
11:30 - 12:05	Period 2	11:30 - 1:05	Period 4	1:40 - 3:15	Period 5	11:30 - 1:05	Period 4	1:40 - 3:15	Period 5
12:10 - 12:45	Period 3	1:05 - 1:35	Lunch			1:05 - 1:35	Lunch		
12:45 - 1:15	Lunch	1:40 - 3:15	Period 6			1:40 - 3:15	Period 6		
1:20 - 1:55	Period 4								
2:00 - 2:35	Period 5								
2:40 - 3:15	Period 6								

Notes: On 4/11, testing in History/Soc. Sci. for Grades 10-11, testing in Science for Grade 9; Senior Assembly beginning at 9:30  
Testing in Math classes 4/12-4/15

Monday 4/25/11		Tuesday 4/26/11		Wednesday 4/27/11		Thursday 4/28/11		Friday 4/29/11	
7:50 - 8:40	Period 0	7:50 - 8:40	Period 0	9:25 - 11:00	Period 1	7:50 - 9:25	Period 0	7:50 - 8:40	Period 0
8:45 - 9:35	Period 1	8:45 - 9:35	Period 1	11:00 - 11:10	Brunch	9:25 - 9:35	Brunch	8:45 - 9:35	Period 1
9:35 - 9:45	Brunch	9:35 - 9:45	Brunch	11:15 - 12:55	Period 3	9:40 - 11:20	Period 2	9:35 - 9:45	Brunch
9:50 - 10:40	Period 2	9:50 - 10:40	Period 2	12:55 - 1:35	Lunch	11:20 - 11:25	Break	9:50 - 10:40	Period 2
10:45 - 11:55	Period 3	10:45 - 11:55	Period 3	1:40 - 3:15	Period 5	11:30 - 1:05	Period 4	10:45 - 11:55	Period 3
11:55 - 12:30	Period 4	11:55 - 12:30	Period 4			1:05 - 1:35	Lunch	11:55 - 12:30	Period 4
12:35 - 1:25	Lunch	12:35 - 1:25	Lunch			1:40 - 3:15	Period 6	12:35 - 1:25	Lunch
1:30 - 2:20	Period 5	1:30 - 2:20	Period 5					1:30 - 2:20	Period 5
2:25 - 3:15	Period 6	2:25 - 3:15	Period 6					2:25 - 3:15	Period 6

Notes: No testing on 4/25, 4/26, or 4/29  
On 4/27-4/28, testing in Science classes for Grades 10 and 11 only  
Make-up testing for grade 9 during the week of 4/25, and for Grades 10, 11 during the week of 5/2/11

# SAT Subject Tests

By Gregg Whitnab, Math Department Chair

Many private colleges require that students take two SAT Subject Tests as part of the admission process and the UC system will take the results in consideration of their acceptance process but they are not required. Some UC majors may still ask for Subject Test results. Students must take their tests in different content areas. For example, they can take chemistry and biology but the colleges will count only one of these since they are both in the area of science. Commonly taken tests at M-A include Math II, Literature, Biology, Chemistry, US History, Spanish and French. The tests directly measure what students have learned in school, so ideally students take these tests in June at the conclusion of a particular course. Because the foreign language and math tests include content from many years of study, they may also be taken in the fall if a student is enrolled in the appropriate course. For example, a student could take the French test in November while in French IV. A student should only consider a language test if they are finishing at least three years of the language.

The SAT class is ending on April 29th and many students will then begin preparing for the SAT subject tests given on June 4<sup>th</sup>, which is the Saturday after the last day of school, Thursday, June 2nd. This year, like the last six years, we plan to open up our classes to all juniors and sophomores at M-A. We plan to offer the following topics: Math (Mr. Whitnab), Biology (Mr. Roisen), Literature (Mrs. Strub), and Chemistry (Mrs. Nersesian). Most preparatory class will run two-weeks (alternating weeks). During these two-week sessions students will review the content, take practice tests (actual tests from the past), and go over these tests. In addition to preparing for their Subject Tests, students will enjoy an additional benefit, as they will also be reviewing content for finals in some subject areas. Most classes will be from 7:50 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. except for Biology which will take place 45 minutes after school (after 3:15).

We will have to pay our teachers and we are hoping to raise the needed funds through a donation program. We are recommending a \$50 donation per class, but ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME. The Foundation for the Future is supplementing the cost but we hope that the program will be self-supporting.

If your son or daughter wishes to enroll in one or two sessions to prepare for a subject test, they can do so in Room D20 during **lunch on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**. Please be sure your son or daughter **brings the application form** below with them when he/she registers and it has your signature.

---

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Session I May 3rd – 6th & 16th – 20th      Session II May 9th – 13th & 23rd – 26th

Assigned sessions will be determined by overall student enrollment for the four review topics.

\_\_\_\_ Literature (0°)      \_\_\_\_ Math\* (0°) 0° is 7:50 – 8:40 MTF and 7:50 – 9:25 TH

\_\_\_\_ Math\* (0°)      \_\_\_\_ Biology (after school 3:20 – 4:10)

\_\_\_\_ Chemistry (0°) May 9th through May 26th (3 weeks)

\* need to be in Pre-Calculus or Calculus to do math subject test

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\_\_\_\_ Attached is \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help defray the cost  
(\$50 per class / payable to the Foundation For the Future)

\_\_\_\_ Contact me later for a donation

\_\_\_\_ Our family will not be donating but really appreciate the opportunity to take these course(s).

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If your son or daughter hasn't signed up for the subject tests and plan on taking them they should do so now. They can sign up at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). While they are asked to select their test subjects when enrolling they can generally change the test topic the day of test. If they want to add tests on test day and they are able, they will be billed an additional fee.

## FROM THE COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER

Please mark your calendars for a great event, the annual Western Association for College Admission Counseling (WACAC) College Fair. It takes place at Mission College (next to Great America) on Thursday, April 7. There are two sessions, one from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and one from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Students are welcome to stop by the Career Center for a list of good questions to ask college representatives. Colleges from all over the country will be represented; don't miss it. I'll see you there!

\* \* \*

At this time of year, many seniors feel elated and others feel deeply disappointed as they receive news from four-year colleges. It is hard for students (and families) not to take college admission decisions personally, but it is important to understand what is behind these decisions, and to take them as philosophically and positively as possible. While I have enough years of perspective to know that students who have not been admitted to the college of their choice will find a spot somewhere and be perfectly happy, students who have met with “rejection” are not ready to take such a clear-thinking attitude. We need to remember (and remind others) that it’s a time to be sensitive to the feelings of both the elated and the devastated. Students whose dreams have come true need to celebrate with a sensitive eye to those around them who have been less fortunate. Everything will be okay...but there are students right now who do not realize that ... yet.

Students (and parents) are often mystified by decisions made by highly selective colleges (I’ll call them HSCs). I hear the same questions: “Why did she get in to College X? My grades and test scores were a lot higher and I wasn’t admitted.” “What more could my son possibly have done? He seemed like the ideal applicant!” “What was College Y thinking? Nearly all of applicants from M-A were denied!” “I know a minority student [substitute “athlete” or “legacy” here!] who was admitted who didn’t have the stats my kid has!”

HSC decisions, painful as they are to students who have been denied, are not nearly as illogical as they seem, and only rarely mystify me. Here’s why:

- A “rejection” notice by an HSC is not a personal indictment of the student. Nearly all who are not selected are superb students, highly capable of college success. Most have top grades, test scores, and résumés. And they’re terrific kids! There simply aren’t enough places to accommodate them, so colleges make tough decisions. Think of the top 10% of our senior class: all have earned a 4.0 GPA or higher; most have impressive test scores. Yet statistically, if all of them applied to one of the HSCs, as few as 5–9 of the 45 would be admitted.
- Colleges have their own agendas (called “institutional priorities”) over which we have no control and often very little knowledge. The student athlete or musician who might have been admitted two years ago (or even next year) might not be what College Z needs this year! Yes, the student whose family has close ties to the college will often have an advantage; this is another institutional priority. But while a college may have a higher admit rate for students who are “legacies,” who might add to its population’s diversity, or who fill a specific need, we do not see selective colleges admitting unqualified applicants in these categories. The deny rate for these students is still higher than the admit rate!
- The “perfect” college applicant simply cannot be “created” during the high school years. Students waste energy trying to figure out what will “look good” to an HSC. These efforts are fruitless. The ideal applicant is one who has demonstrated true intellectual curiosity and vitality since long before high school (and this does NOT mean good grades—this means a genuine love of learning!). S/he is likely to be an avid reader (tackling far more than assigned reading) and an explorer of ideas. S/he is far more likely to have been extraordinarily dedicated to one or two outside interests than to have a long, varied résumé. S/he has made important contributions in the classroom that can be documented by teachers. (And yet even some of these sterling applicants will be denied, simply because there isn’t room for all of them.)
- The good news is that colleges that turn down the vast majority of applicants are small in number; most experts cite that number as approximately 50 of the nation’s 3,000-plus colleges. Fortunately, there are hundreds of excellent colleges that will warmly welcome our wonderful M-A students. In my meetings with seniors, I stressed the need to research and apply to a range of excellent colleges, and not to focus only on HSCs. Once again (the students might say, “for the millionth time”), let me reiterate that SELECTIVITY and QUALITY are not synonymous! The best college match for any student may not be the college with the biggest “name” nor the one that admitted the lowest percentage of applicants. And let’s not forget that our community colleges—with admission open to all students—remain a viable and excellent path toward a college degree.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

*Alice Kleeman, College Advisor*

## Senior Awards Night: Honoring Outstanding Achievements

The annual M-A Senior Awards Night will be held on Tuesday, May 31, at 7:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. During this inspirational evening, sponsored by M-A PTA, many hard-working and talented seniors (and a smaller number of juniors) are honored for outstanding academic and extracurricular performance as well as service to the school and community. Some of the awards will be a surprise, while many will be recognition for awards already received. Recognition is given for a wide variety of scholarships, prizes, and commendations awarded to M-A students by school and community groups. Last year, more than 200 individuals were recognized.

Invitations will be mailed to families of students who will be receiving recognition. Awards to junior students will be presented early in the program, followed by senior awards. Refreshments will be served.

Congratulations to the deserving recipients!

## SAT Prep

M-A's Own SAT Prep is enrolling students for the five-week session beginning in mid-September to prepare students for the PSAT in October. This will be our 31st year serving M-A's students as well as some from other schools, so we have a great deal of experience in knowing what works to make a student successful (even though, as in every school endeavor, a cooperative student is required). After 30 years, we know that our fifteen-hour course is entirely adequate for the training for this test. We operate on campus on Mondays and Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m., finishing the week the PSAT is given. The PSAT counts for juniors, and, as sophomores have no absolute need to take the exam, sophomore students are wait-listed in order of their enrollment. The juniors who enroll when the available seating is filled are also wait-listed, and that wait-list takes preference over sophomores.

Our fee structure depends on the number enrolled, and the charge includes all required materials. The basic fee is \$100, and our top level fee is \$225. In general, the basic fee is what we expect to charge for the PSAT, although we can make no promises. Once a student is seated on opening day, the parent is responsible for the fee unless the place can be filled by another student, in which case the first parent pays only for the actual time his/her student was in class.

As there are already students enrolled for this fall, we suggest your early action to guarantee your student's place. For all questions and answers and/or to secure your student's place, call Jane King at 323-4066 or email her at [jjcking@juno.com](mailto:jjcking@juno.com) (preferred). Remember, a fall sport may be a problem. Discussions with plan-ahead parents who have freshmen, sophomore, and junior students are part of our service. Remember our motto: "As good as the best, and better than all the rest."

*Jane King, Director*



## Mentors as Lanterns

*By Roni Gillenson, LMFT On-Campus Counseling Program Director*

Mentors, much as lanterns, can "illuminate dark and uncertain paths, calm and still doubts and fears with encouraging words, wise lessons, gentle touches, firm nudges and faithful actions." These words of Marian Wright Edelman help us to become aware of our gifts as parents. We are mentors to our children and *may* be mentors to their friends.

How many of you remember your "second mom" who lived down the street, who may have advised you about things you were too afraid to tell your own mother or father? Sometimes it is easier to talk to someone who can listen without the personal and emotional investment of a parent. Sometimes a teen needs a "listening ear" and that is the function that you as a parent can provide to your own teen *or* to their friend. This conversation reminds me of the "village" concept – that "it takes a village to raise a child." It is a way that parents can support one another – by being a friend and mentor to their friend's children.

Teens are beset by a multitude of factors in today's world – high expectations, risks of drugs and alcohol, competition, information technology, materialism, personal insecurity and fears about the future to name a few. But they are also the beneficiaries of the following: the wisdom of those who have gone before, the hope and promise of following their passion, the possibility of achieving at least part of their dream. We adults have an important role to play in our teen's development. We can help them ease their way into the adult world.

We now know from research that the adolescent brain is not fully functional until the mid-20s! Doesn't that make sense? In today's world, teens need more time to assimilate all there is to know about being an adult. We can help them along the way by being a model and a mentor to them.

Edelman, Marian Wright, *Lanterns: A Memoir of Mentors*

Fogarty, James, EdD, *Over-Indulged Children: A Parent's Guide to Mentoring*

*Adolescent Counseling Services is a community non-profit, which provides vital counseling services on eight secondary campuses at no charge to students and their families. To learn more about our services please visit the ACS website at [www.acs-teens.org](http://www.acs-teens.org) or call Christina Walker, Site Director at MA (650) 322-5311 ext. 5186. ACS relies on the generosity of community members to continue offering individual, family, and group counseling to over 1,500 individuals annually. ACS provides critical interventions and mental health services, building a better future for tomorrow. If you are interested in helping to support our efforts, do not hesitate to call to make a donation. It goes a long way in helping teenagers find their way!*

**Thank you to the following foundations that supported ACS' On-Campus Counseling Program during the 2009-2010 school year:** The Altos Foundation, Atkinson Foundation, In-N-Out Burger Foundation, Laurel Foundation, Palo Alto Community Fund, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund, Rotary Club of Palo Alto, Sand Hill Foundation, The Nick Traina Foundation, and the WD Foundation.

## Athletics

### Greetings from Your M-A Athletic Boosters

Happy Spring! M-A Athletic teams have just concluded a great Winter sports season and the Spring athletes are already deep into competition. 2010-2011 has been a great year for M-A's Athletic Boosters. In September, Boosters approved a total of \$47,000 in requests received from coaches and the Athletic Director. We met again in January and granted another \$31,000 in funding, bringing our grand total to more than \$78,000 given to our very deserving sports teams this year. Not only did our teams receive new equipment and uniforms, 13 coaching stipends were also funded. The ability to pay coaches who have in the past been designated volunteers allows M-A to continue its excellence in athletics as well as academics.

The need for Boosters support of M-A's athletic teams continues to grow. Spring brings us the annual Big Bear Run which is Boosters' only fundraiser of the year and we need your help. We would like to encourage each and every M-A student and their families to come out on Sunday, May 1 and join us on the beautiful 5K path through Lindenwood. In order for us to raise the money we need to continue to support M-A's athletes, we need donations from families and local businesses. Please see the article in this month's Trivocis for all the details about the BBR and how YOU can help.

Please visit [www.m-aboosters.org](http://www.m-aboosters.org) to see more information about Boosters, find BBR information, find links to individual team pages, see schedules, and get directions to all local high school sports venues.

Go Bears!

*Di Gow and Beth Henninger, co-chairs, M-A Athletic Boosters*



For high school sports news from the  
Central Coast Section, visit [www.ccssportsline.com](http://www.ccssportsline.com)

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Register now for the  
**6th Annual BIG BEAR RUN**  
Sunday, May 1, 2011 - 9:00 am

The Bears are ready to run. ***We need you in the race!***

#### **What is the Big Bear Run?**

The Big Bear Run is more than a 5k race or a walk - it is a fun-filled, community event and M-A Boosters' **only fundraiser raising critical dollars for all our athletic teams**. The professionally-timed Run gathers families, neighbors, friends, students, alumni, athletes and businesses together for the common goal of supporting the Bears. **The Big Bear Run and M-A sport teams are successful only with your genuine participation**. The M-A Athletic Boosters contributed over \$80,000 last year to assist in funding the basic needs of our student athletic teams which include over **900 committed student-athletes and 52 teams**, insuring that our diverse high school student body benefits from an excellent education in and out of the classroom.

#### **Why should I join the Big Bear Run?**

You don't need to be an athlete to join in the fun! Last year the Big Bear Run **raised over \$75,000** which was used exclusively to purchase critically needed uniforms, basic equipment and coaching stipends. Without this base line support, the continuity of these enriching athletic programs will be compromised as the financial need falls into the gap between basic state funding and the reality of our athletes' promise. Sports are an important part of the high school experience, whether you are an athlete or a fan in the stands.

Celebrating our 6th annual race this year, over 1,000 registered participants are expected to cross the finish line. The race registration fees only cover the basic costs of the race, so **your additional donation of any amount is so welcome and needed**. For detailed information about sponsorship levels, event details, registration information, or to donate on-line please visit the M-A Athletic Boosters website at: [m-aboosters.org](http://m-aboosters.org). For additional sponsorship information contact Michele Culhane at [michculhane@pacbell.net](mailto:michculhane@pacbell.net) or the Big Bear Run co-chairs, Diana Holliday at [dianaholliday@me.com](mailto:dianaholliday@me.com) and Kathleen Balestra at [kathleenbalestra@comcast.net](mailto:kathleenbalestra@comcast.net).

#### **How can I get my name on the popular Big Bear Run T-Shirts?**

If you help sponsor the race at a level of \$250 or more, your name will be printed on the back of over 1,000 t-shirts that are worn all over M-A and the Menlo Park area. **The shirts go to print March 31**, so don't miss your chance to show your support for Menlo-Atherton athletes.

#### **How do I register for the race?**

Mail in the registration form in this issue of Trivocis, download a form at [m-aboosters.org](http://m-aboosters.org) or register on-line at [active.com](http://active.com) (note, a small fee will be charged by active.com). Prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers in various age and gender brackets. The fastest M-A girl and boy Bear will be awarded special prizes. Attention M-A teachers and coaches - your registration is free! Just indicate your subject area or team on the registration form and send no payment! Athletes are also encouraged to participate - this is for you! There are cash prizes for the teams with the highest athlete/coach participation and/or number of participants. Athletes please indicate on the registration form **all** M-A teams in which you participate. Register today as prices go up after April 24th.

**Thank you** to all the families and companies who have already generously donated. Donations received from 8/1/10-3/23/11 at the Family Sponsor level and above:

**Platinum Sponsor:** Demandtec, Intuit

**Gold Sponsor:** 24 Lost Soles, Falkenhagen, McMurtry, Merrill Corp.

**Silver Sponsor:** Anonymous, Athens Chiropractic, Brody, Carruthers, Cogan, Coggins, Culhane, Diller, Fornaciari, GGV Capital, Jagers, Kessler, KPCB, La Plante, Nisbet, J&E Olson, Pearson Buick-GMC, Rector Porsche and Audi, Skidmore, M&M Stevens, Wentz/Z Fund

**Bronze Sponsor:** Anonymous, Bartlett, Chen, David, Edwards Luggage, Gow, Hale, Harpell, Hayse, Henninger, Holliday, Hooper, Long, K&J Mitchell, Orton, Revitalize Integrated Body Systems (RIBS), Rice, Roberts, Rosenthal, SimpleFeed, Stoner, Sunshine, Team Sheep

**Family Sponsor:** Anonymous, Aguiar, Amato, S&C Arrington, T&T Arrington, Balestra, Barry, Beckwith, M&D Bercow, Berserkers Wrestling Club, Black, R&J Bloom, Branning, Brian, Caryotakis, Chan, Child, Collom, Davis/Kite, Deal, Dettmer, Dorst, Eason, Freed, Grose, Heydari, Higgitt, Hume, L&T King, LaPorte, Lombardi, Mack, Marianacci, Mayerson, McCabe, Morris/Gates, Olsen, Oro, Perkins/Makino, Pinkston, Ramlieth, Schertler, Scheuch, Sebes, Shaffer, Shimbo, A&B Smith, Songer, Sontag, Stanek, Sylvester, Tasch, Uphoff, Vitale, The Willows Market, Windham

**In-Kind Donor:** Liz King Design, Fleet Feet Sports

Don't be in the stands for this great event...we need you in the race!

Go Bears!

# Register Now for the 6th Annual Big Bear Run, Sunday, May 1st, 2011

Supporting Menlo-Atherton High School Athletes



Location: Menlo-Atherton High School, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton, CA 94027. Early Check-in: Pick up race t-shirts and race bibs on Friday, April 29, 1:30 PM to 5:00 pm at the gym parking lot on Ringwood. Race-Day Check-in: begins on Sunday, May 1 at 7:30 AM. Note: ALL participants must pick up the race computer timing chip the day of the race. Race warm-up: 8:30 AM. Race start time: 9:00 AM sharp! Awards ceremony and refreshments follow the race. Course: A flat, 5K race/walk that starts on the Ringwood Avenue side of M-A High School. Age Groups: 12 & under; 13 – 18; 19 - 29; 30 – 39; 40 – 49; 50 – 59; 60 - 69; 70+; Awards given for all age group winners. Children welcome! No dogs, please. Sponsors: Interested in sponsoring the event? Please contact Michele Culhane at michculhane@pacbell.net or donate on-line at m-aboosters.org.

On-line Registration available at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) through April 24, 2011

Additional registration forms and information available at [m-aboosters.org](http://m-aboosters.org). M-A coaches and teachers may register for free!

	Early Registration by April 24th	Late or race-day registration after April 24th
Students (18 and under)	\$10	\$20
Adults	\$25	\$30

Registration fees cover the cost of the race only. Your additional donation to M-A Boosters supports our athletes. T-shirt is included with your registration. Thank you!

\*Please use one form per runner

Gender M  F  Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Current M-A Student? Yes  No  M-A Alumnus/a? Yes  No  Coach or Teacher? Yes  No

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size Youth Medium  Adult S  M  L  XL  XXL

We reward participation! If you're an M-A athlete or coach, please write **all** your 2010-11 sports teams: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Registration Fee(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Adult Registration Fee(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to M-A Athletics \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to M-A Athletic Boosters and mail along with entry form for each runner to:  
Big Bear Run, 900 Cotton Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Waiver: In consideration of your accepting my entry, I, intending to be legally bound, do hereby for myself and my heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims or damages I may accrue against the persons and organizations affiliated with this race for any and all injuries that may be suffered by me while participating in or enroute to or from the event. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for competition, my physical condition verified by a licensed M.D. during the last six months. For safety, no skates, no scooters, no bikes, no headphones or dogs are allowed. As part of the waiver, I acknowledge that I have read and understood all of the above.

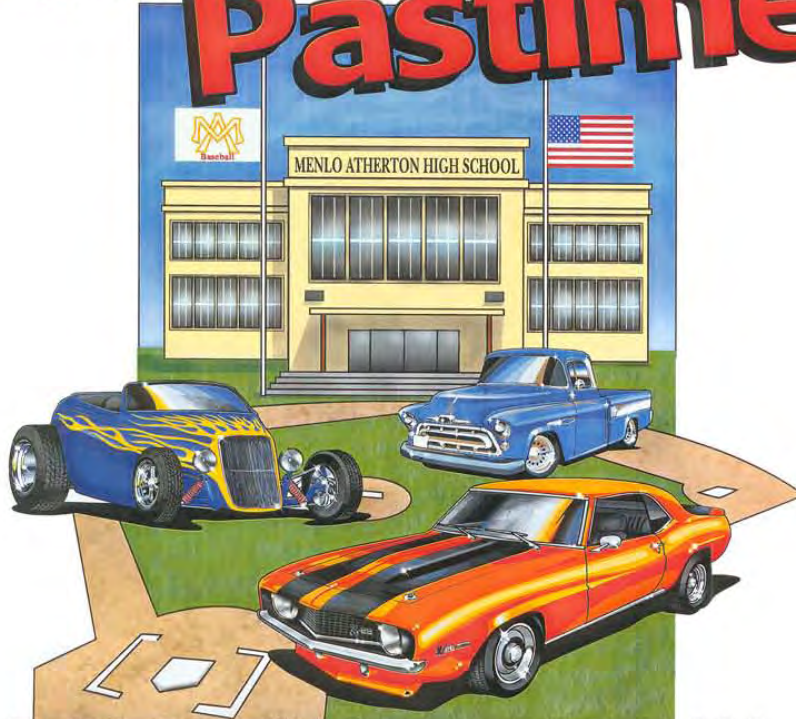
X \_\_\_\_\_

ALL ENTRANTS MUST SIGN WAIVER. IF UNDER 18, A PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST SIGN.

DATE  
8/31/10

5<sup>th</sup> Annual

# America's Pastime



## BENEFITTING M-A BASEBALL

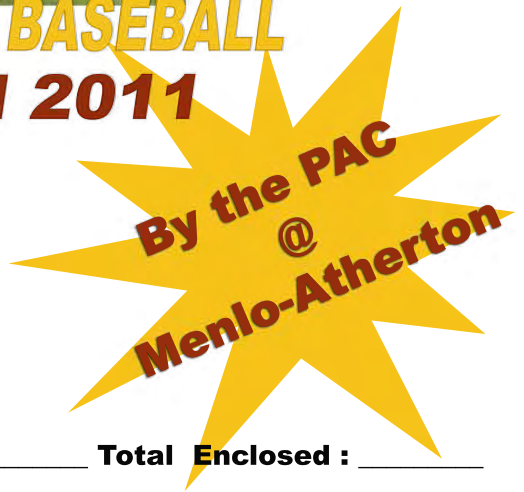
### APRIL 16TH 2011

8 AM - 2 PM

**Music, Raffles, Awards, Event T-Shirts  
BBQ & Refreshments**

**Classics Muscle Cars Race Cars Vintage  
Imports Trucks Motorcycles**

**\$25.00 Registration per Car  
(Includes one event T-shirt and Dash Plaque)**



Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size : \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed : \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check payable to MA Baseball**

**Mail form to:**

**Mike Amoroso - 555 Middlefield Rd. Atherton, CA 94027  
Questions? Please call: 650, 716.8129**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

I Hereby release MA Baseball and any employees of Sequoia Union High School District, and any city employees from any and all liability and personal or public damage resulting from any participation in this event. We also give permission to Let's Talk to use photos of the show and products to be used to publicize (e.g. event program or TB production, Web site) I am a participant in the show known as America's pastime. Please sign in agreement: \_\_\_\_\_

## Visual & Performing Arts

### M-A's "Putnam" Musical a Rousing Success!

*M-A Drama Boosters*

The six-show run of the Tony award winning Broadway musical comedy, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," was a huge theatrical success! The combined efforts of the Music and Drama Departments, the staff of the PAC, several M-A teachers and staff volunteer "bee" participants, countless parent supporters, and—we must not forget—our very talented student actors, musicians and tech crew, produced a musical to be proud of.

One audience member had this to say after the Saturday 3/19 evening performance:

"We went Saturday night to "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" without very high expectations and knew no one in the cast, but had heard about this musical comedy and thought it would be a good way to spend a rainy evening in M-A's new Center for Performing Arts. What a splendid surprise! I have seen several high school stage productions in my 67 years, but none to equal this one—truly outstanding. The script and music make for great entertainment, but only if the cast can make it come alive, and they most certainly did and with gusto." – *Robert Jack, community member*

Congratulations, and well done!

### M-A's "Putnam Spelling Bee" Indebted to Local Businesses

Local business banners festooned our stage and the sides of the orchestra seating area of the PAC – the setting for the six-show run of our Spring Musical, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." The effect was stunning—just what Artistic Director DJ Zwicker-Sobrepenna was looking for! It made for an intriguing set design and it wouldn't have been possible without the support of these local businesses: The Pet Place on Santa Cruz Avenue, The Mix on The Alameda, Pacific Consulting Group on California Avenue in Palo Alto, Menlo Clockworks on El Camino Real, Café Borrone and Kepler's Books, and of course, our own Foundation For The Future. A few loaned business banners while some had banners produced at their own expense for the show. Many made donations to the Drama Department in addition to helping us with our set design. Their belief in our show and their support are deeply appreciated by one and all. We truly hope that in sponsoring our Spring Musical in this unusual way, their businesses will benefit, too. After all, these business banners remained emblazoned across the stage for all six shows in front of the eyes of the nearly 2000 people who attended our musical. We hope they all decide to shop locally!

M-A's Performing Arts Center is a wonderful venue for the students and community alike. Our aim is to produce Broadway-caliber shows that will fill this huge theater, and be a source of pride for Menlo Park. With the continuing support of our local businesses we know we can succeed!

### Creative Self-Expression Student Art Show

Opening Reception: Thursday, April 28th 6:30-8pm

The Menlo Atherton Art Department is proud to announce the 14th annual "Creative Self Expression" Student Art Show/Exhibition which will be on display at "The Great Frame Up," also the show's sponsor, in Menlo Park from April 25th through May 14th.

The opening reception is Thursday, May 6th from 6:30-8p.m. at The Great Frame Up. Selected artwork will be featured and the event will be catered by the talented Mona Klein and her Living Skills classes at Menlo Atherton.

Show details: 45 Art Students, currently enrolled in M-A's art department, will be selected by their art teachers to take part in the show. The artists will represent both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art types from all three levels of art classes; beginning, intermediate and advanced. The student art reflects M-A's diversity literally and figuratively. We promise that you'll be impressed by what you see on display.

All two-dimensional works selected for the art show will be framed for free by The Great Frame Up. All artwork is judged by community art liaisons and cash prizes are awarded to the strongest artworks in six different categories: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced in 2-D & 3-D, also provided by The Great Frame Up. All featured students will receive Certificates of Participation and are honored for their work and efforts in the visual arts. The reception for the artists is always very exciting, and it is a real-life show experience for our artists. Marcy Magatelli, the owner of The Great Frame Up says the show is her way to "support the arts and the next generation of artists."

The juried exhibition acknowledges the students' efforts and provides incentive for them to further participate in the opportunities available in our department and potentially consider art and design as a career. The employees of The Great Frame Up share Marcy's philosophy, and help make the experience a truly educational one for the participants of the show.

**Show Date: April 25th - May 14th during normal store hours.**

**Reception Date: Thursday April 28th, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

**The Great Frame Up, 1047 El Camino Real, Menlo Park**

## **Upcoming Events: April/May**

### **Visual Arts Displays**

The Creative Self Expression Show, hosted by The Great Frame Up in Menlo Park (see article)

Ceramic I: texture hands, boxes; Administration Entrance (second half of April)

AP and Studio Art class: MA Teacher/Staff Portraits; Administration Hallway Gallery

Drawing/Painting I & II: rotating & on-going; Guidance Office

Ceramic I: texture hands; Library

Digital Photo II: rotating and ongoing; PAC Lobby

### **Performing Arts**

May 12: Spring Concert for Guitar and Choir; PAC

May 19: Band Concert; PAC

“An artist cannot fail; it is a success to be one.”

*Charles Horton Cooley*



**WANTED** - old computers and parts, working or not, for M-A PTA computer donation program. We will securely erase your information, refurbish the computer, and send it home with a hard-working, deserving M-A student. We welcome donations from individuals and corporations. To donate, or for more information contact Sue Kayton (650) 853-1711, [kayton@alum.mit.edu](mailto:kayton@alum.mit.edu) or visit <http://www.suekayton.com/MAHigh/computerdonations.htm>

**PTA COMPUTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM** - The M-A PTA wants to make sure every M-A student has access to a working computer at home. If your computer is broken or has a virus, we will fix it free. If you need software to do your schoolwork, that's free also. For help, contact Sue Kayton (650) 853-1711, [kayton@alum.mit.edu](mailto:kayton@alum.mit.edu)

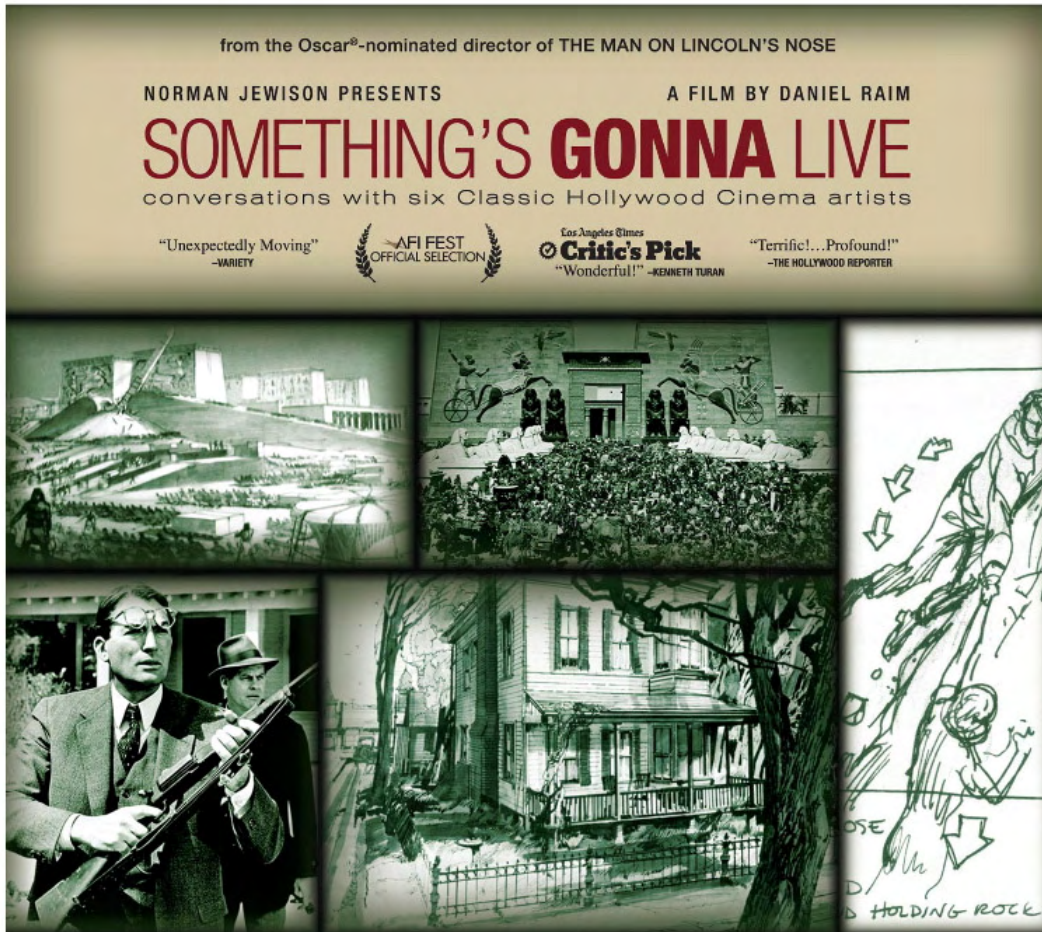
**COMPUTER VIRUS ALERT** - Many of our students are getting viruses on their computers. Usually they catch the virus by downloading free music, free games, or free pornography from the internet. Please make sure your student knows that almost all free music, games, and porn include free viruses. Installing parental control software can help protect your computer. A company called K9 makes an excellent parental control program that is free for home users. It's quick and easy to install from <http://www.k9webprotection.com> and is available for Windows, Mac, and iPhone. Make sure to pick an administrator password that is easy for you to remember, but your student won't be able to guess it. After installing, you can change the default settings so it will block Peer to Peer file sharing, which is the source of most viruses. Also beware of fake anti-virus programs which pop up a message on your computer "warning" you about an infection. Most of these are scams, not viruses. If you see one of these pop-up messages, do NOT click on it. Immediately push and hold the power button to turn the computer off, and do not return to that infected website again. Questions? Contact Sue Kayton (650) 853-1711, [kayton@alum.mit.edu](mailto:kayton@alum.mit.edu)



Please Join us for the Peninsula Premier of  
**SOMETHING'S GONNA LIVE**

**SATURDAY, MAY 7TH at 7 P.M.**

**Menlo Atherton Performing Arts Center | 555 Middlefield Rd., Atherton**



**Q&A FOLLOWING SCREENING WITH FILMMAKER DANIEL RAIM**

**For Reservations: 650.330.2512 [rlroth@menlopark.org](mailto:rlroth@menlopark.org)**

*The* Almanac

**Admission is FREE!**  
[www.SomethingsGonnaLive.com](http://www.SomethingsGonnaLive.com)



Sponsored by Friends of the Menlo Park Library

# Grad Night 2011 Information Sheet

**Grad Night Countdown has begun! Don't be left off the bus!!!**  
**Sign-Up Deadline is May 19**

**What is Grad Night?** Grad Night is a safe, sober and fun tradition for all M-A graduating seniors. Everything is provided, including food, drink, transportation, and entertainment! The kids will meet at M-A at 7:45 p.m. sharp on graduation night (June 2) and be taken by bus to a surprise location. They will return to M-A at 3:30 a.m. the next morning.

**Will we be able to have a family dinner before the Grad Night Party?** There will be little time between the end of the graduation ceremony (6:00 pm) and Check-in time for Grad Night (7:45 pm). Please plan your family celebrations accordingly!

**Is it really safe to let my graduate party until 3:30 a.m.?** Yes, if it is the M-A Grad Night party! The graduates will be transported by bus, and there will be adult chaperones and security with them throughout the night.

**What happens at the party?** The location is secret, and the entertainment is secret. But here is what we can tell you: **IT IS A BRAND NEW VENUE** and there will be non-stop entertainment for every type of personality, as well as lots of music and food!

**Why is Grad Night special?** For many seniors, this will be the first time that they have had a chance to party together. And for many, this will be the last time. But no matter their backgrounds or their futures, they will be bonded forever as the M-A Class of 2011. Grad Night will be their last high school event - an opportunity for them to celebrate their shared accomplishment.

**Who else is going?** Our goal is to get the entire M-A Class of 2011 to attend Grad Night. For the last several years, **approximately 300 seniors have attended Grad Night!**

**How do you sign-up?** Sign up forms are available at **WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG** under "**Forms and Flyers**" or "**Student Programs, Senior Programs, Grad Night**". They are also available on campus and in the senior packets. Grad Night tickets will be on sale through May 19. Please sign up! On graduation night, you will be happy you did!

**How much does it cost?** Tickets are \$100. For the first time, you are able to pay **ONLINE THROUGH PAYPAL AT WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG** (click on **Student Programs, Senior Programs, Grad Night**). You may also pay by check. Thanks to the PTA and many generous senior families, partial and full scholarships are available. We want every student to have an opportunity to attend Grad Night, regardless of the cost!

**What do I wear?** Comfortable clothes and shoes. You should also wear a jacket or a warm sweater!

**What do I bring?** Your student I.D., jacket or sweater, and a cell phone or camera, if you'd like.

**You may not bring:** Purses, bags, food, drink, yearbook, or other electronic devices. You will also not need money.

**Alcohol, cigarettes and drugs are strictly prohibited!** As part of the check-in process, students will be thoroughly screened and searched (this includes shoes and pockets).

For ongoing updates:  Find us on  
Facebook

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER NOW!**  
You can find the forms at **WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG**

## Hoja Informativa Sobre La Noche de Graduación 2011

**¡La cuenta atrás para la Noche de Graduación ha comenzado!**

**¡No dejes que el autobús se vaya sin ti!**

**La fecha límite para inscripciones es el 19 de mayo**

**¿Qué es la Noche de Graduación?** La Noche de Graduación es una tradición segura, sobria y divertida para todos los estudiantes de grado 12 que se gradúan de M-A. ¡Se proporcionará todo, incluyendo la alimentación, bebidas, transportación y entretenimiento! Los muchachos y muchachas se juntarán en M-A a las 7:45 p.m. en punto la noche de graduación (el 2 de junio) y se les trasladará en autobús a un lugar sorpresa. A las 3:30 a.m. de la mañana siguiente volverán a M-A.

**¿Podremos tener una cena familiar antes de la Fiesta de la Noche de Graduación?** Habrá poco tiempo entre el final de la ceremonia de graduación (6:00 p.m.) y la hora de entrada de la Noche de Graduación (7:45 p.m.). Por favor, planifiquen sus celebraciones familiares como corresponde.

**¿Es realmente seguro dejar que mi hijo/a que se gradúa esté hasta las 3:30 a.m. en una fiesta?** ¡Sí, si es la fiesta de la Noche de Graduación de M-A! Los estudiantes recién graduados serán transportados en autobús y habrá chaperones adultos y seguridad durante toda la noche con ellos.

**¿Qué pasa en la fiesta?** La ubicación es secreta y el entretenimiento es secreto. Pero esto es lo que sí les podemos decir: **ES UN LUGAR COMPLETAMENTE NUEVO** y habrá entretenimiento sin parar para cada tipo de personalidad, así como un montón de música y comida.

**¿Por qué es especial la Noche de Graduación?** Para muchos alumnos del 12º grado, esta será la primera vez que han tenido la oportunidad de ir juntos a una fiesta. Y para muchos, esta será la última vez. Pero no importan sus historias o sus futuros, estarán unidos para siempre como la clase de 2011 de M-A. La Noche de Graduación será su último evento de la escuela secundaria - una oportunidad para celebrar sus logros compartidos.

**¿Quién más va?** Nuestro objetivo es conseguir que asista toda la clase de 2011 de M-A a la Noche de Graduación. En los últimos años, **aproximadamente 300 alumnos del 12º grado han asistido a la Noche de Graduación.**

**¿Cómo se inscribe uno?** Los formularios de inscripción están disponibles en [WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG](http://WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG) bajo "Forms and Flyers" o "Student Programs, Senior Programs, Grad Night". También se pueden encontrar en la escuela y en los paquetes de alumnos de 12º grado. Los boletos para la Noche de Graduación estarán a la venta hasta el 19 de mayo. ¡Inscríbete! En la Noche de Graduación estarás feliz de haberlo hecho.

**¿Cuánto cuesta?** Los boletos cuestan \$100. Por primera vez, es posible pagar **EN LÍNEA CON PAYPAL EN [WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG](http://WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG)** (haga clic en **Student Programs, Senior Programs, Grad Night**). También se puede pagar con cheque. Gracias a la PTA y a muchas familias generosas de alumnos de 12º grado, hay becas parciales y completas disponibles. ¡Queremos que todos los estudiantes tengan la oportunidad de asistir a la Noche de Graduación sin importar el costo!

**¿Qué me pongo?** Ropa cómoda y zapatos cómodos. ¡También deberás llevar una chaqueta o un suéter caliente!

**¿Qué llevo?** Tu identificación de estudiante, una chaqueta o suéter y un teléfono celular o cámara, si quieres.

**No puedes traer:** Bolsas de ningún tipo, alimentos, bebidas, anuarios u otros dispositivos electrónicos. Tampoco necesitarás dinero.

**¡El alcohol, los cigarros y las drogas están estrictamente prohibidos!** Como parte del proceso de entrada, se les examinará a los estudiantes a fondo y se les hará un registro (esto incluye los zapatos y los bolsillos).

Para actualizaciones continuas:



**¡NO TE OLVIDES DE INSCRIBIRTE AHORITA!**

Se pueden encontrar los formularios en [WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG](http://WWW.MABEARSPTA.ORG)

## ATTENTION SENIORS *(and those watching closely over them!)*

As Graduation 2011 nears us, everyone wants to know the what, when and where for all of M-A's wonderful upcoming Senior events. Here is a one pager that will answer your questions or give you the contact person to in order to have your questions answered.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
13 MARCH	14 Diploma Requests distributed in econ-govt classes Grad. Speech Sign-Ups begin in B-21	15	16 Begin accepting Diploma Requests	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Diploma Requests Due to Mrs. Todd in B-20 or B-21	26
27	28	29 Grad. Speech Sign-Ups end in B-21	30 MANDATORY Grad. Speech Info Mtg. in B-21	31	1 APRIL Prom 7:00pm-11:00pm at the Gift Center	2
3	4	5 GRAD SPEECH TRYOUTS (Career Center @ 3:30)	6 GRAD SPEECH TRYOUTS (Career Center @ 3:30)	7	8	9
10	11 MANDATORY SENIOR MTG @ 9:30am in PAC Sr. Farewell Sign Ups begin in B-21	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>Spring Break</i>	19 <i>Spring Break</i>	20 <i>Spring Break</i>	21 <i>Spring Break</i>	22 <i>Spring Break</i>	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1 MAY	2	3	4	5	6 Sr. Farewell Sign-Ups end in B-21	7
8	9	10 SR FAREWELL TRYOUTS (B-4 @ 3:30)	11 SR FAREWELL TRYOUTS (B-4 @ 3:30)	12	13	14
15	16 SUPER SENIOR MONDAY @ lunch on PAC patio -Sr Wk Tix on sale -Pick up caps, gowns, announcements, etc.	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 SR. FAREWELL DRESS REHEARSAL @ 3:30	26 SENIOR FAREWELL @ 7:00pm Last day to turn in Clearance Slips to AVP office!	27 Last day to buy Sr Wk Tix Final Day of classes for Seniors!!!	28
	30 <i>No Classes</i>	31 SENIOR PICNIC Check in @ 8:00am in Gym Patio SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT @ 7:00pm in New Gym	1 JUNE SENIOR BREAKFAST @ 9:00am in New Gym GRAD REHEARSAL @ 10:15 am	2 GRADUATION: REPORT @ 3:00pm PROGRAM @ 4:00pm GRAD NIGHT @ 7:45pm-3:30am	3	

### Questions?

Regarding Class of '11 items, caps & gowns, etc.  
Regarding academic credits and graduation status  
Regarding Senior Activities  
Regarding handicapped parking and seating  
Regarding administrative intervention  
Regarding Senior Grad Night

contact Mike Eldred, [mike.eldred@jostens.com](mailto:mike.eldred@jostens.com) or 650/350-1132  
contact Guidance Office 322-5311 x5121  
contact Kelly Todd at [ktodd@seq.org](mailto:ktodd@seq.org) or 322-5311 x5250  
contact Sandy Nelson at [snelson@seq.org](mailto:snelson@seq.org) or 322-5311 x5131  
contact Judy Duran at [jduran@seq.org](mailto:jduran@seq.org) or 322-5311 x5130  
contact Amy Reardon at [amy.reardon@comcast.net](mailto:amy.reardon@comcast.net) or Cindie White at [cindiewhite@hotmail.com](mailto:cindiewhite@hotmail.com)

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# Menlo-Atherton High School Official Graduation DVD 2011

## PRE-ORDER FOR \$30 and SAVE \$5

Offer Ends: June 2nd, 2011

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\* For questions or concerns please e-mail us at [support@gradmemory.com](mailto:support@gradmemory.com) or call 866-977-GRAD

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CA Taxes, Shipping & Handling **-\$7**

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Fax 866-536-0639 | 40087 Mission Blvd Suite 236, Fremont CA 94539

## Student Leadership

### Spirit Leadership

The sophomores have just wrapped up the best ever Princess Project. The goal of this project is to collect dresses to be distributed to high school girls who can't afford prom dresses, shoes, and accessories. The sophomores also just finished their first ever M-A book drive and collected a large amount of donated books. They are planning to donate the books to the Ronald McDonald House and underfunded schools in East Palo Alto. The juniors have just finished their Amici's night, which was on Tuesday March 22, which benefits their class of 2012 and goes toward their funds for the next year. They are also planning another fundraiser, a car wash, which will happen on May 21st. Staff Appreciation week is the first week of May and the juniors are planning a breakfast to honor the hard-working teachers at M-A. The seniors are primarily working on prom which will be on April 1st at the Gift Center in San Francisco. The theme is iProm featuring Apple products and logos. They are also working on Senior Week which includes a senior picnic and breakfast, graduation rehearsal, and Senior Farewell.

### ASB Leadership

The Environmental committee is continuing to work on their monthly Farmers Markets and have begun to plan M-A's very own celebration of Earth Day, which will be held in May 18. They have also been organizing other green events for the rest of the student body including an upcoming Bike-to-School project and beach clean-up day.

The Student Outreach and Services Committee is currently organizing teams of M-A students to participate in the annual Relay for Life, which begins at Burgess Park on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. and lasts for 24 hours. The students will be grouped into teams of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

The Culture and Integration committee organized another successful International Festival at lunch on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Students were able to taste a variety of delicious cultural snacks while enjoying performances by the many different cultures represented at M-A.

*By ASB Presidents Leah Worthington and Marisa Schwartz*

### Freshman Services Leadership

Freshman Services Leadership has been working hard on a new Freshman Transition curriculum for next year. Every lesson has been revised to hopefully improve the experience for the incoming class of 2015. In addition, Freshman Services will be recognizing the outstanding senior leaders that have committed to the program for three years with an end of the year party. Freshman Transition Leader Applications for next year will be available in B-21 in the upcoming month.

High School for Hawks, a presentation about M-A and high school in general for Hillview's eighth graders, was a huge success. On March 24, we will set up an information booth at La Entrada with pamphlets about M-A and its freshman programs. In addition, we are trying to coordinate an information session for the Belle Haven eighth graders.

Preparations for our marquee event, "Integrate the Eight" have begun. On May 14th the incoming freshman class of 2015 is invited to a day of fun. There will be a scavenger hunt, tour of the campus, and activities so the students can get to know their new school and classmates.

*Paige Solomon and Spencer Gump*

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## Got Shoes?

This past summer I traveled with my peers from Menlo-Atherton to Guatemala. During one of our first days there, in pouring rain, we all climbed into the back of pick-up trucks and drove for a couple of miles up mud-laden hills. At the top of one of these hills, we came upon a village full of children running barefoot. A few days later, we returned with shoes that we had brought along with us to give to the children. This year, One Club, which aims at ending global poverty, has begun a shoe drive that will supplement that of future participants of the Guatemala trip. Students can drop off new or used closed-toe shoes in a donation bin in Mr. Tillson's classroom, L1, located next to the library. All sizes accepted but smaller and children's shoes preferred. Any help is highly appreciated! Comments, or questions? Please email at [ma.oneclub@gmail.com](mailto:ma.oneclub@gmail.com).

*Jennifer Chan*

*M-A Student Nutrition Advisory Council, part of M-A's Peer Education Team,  
PRESENTS...*

**M-A Food Fair!**

When? April 29, 2011 @ Lunch

Where? PAC Patio, G-WING, & the green

What?

- Food Tasting Booths: 5 A Day, Breakfast Smoothies, Healthy Snacks & Packing a Sustainable Lunch
- Leadership Farmer's Market: Fresh Fruit and Veggies
- Community Based Organizations: Collective Roots, 2nd Harvest Food Bank, Hidden Villa
- SUHSD Food Services Department: Take a survey and tell them what you think about the food offered at M-A!
- Sign Up for Free & Reduced Lunch

AND MORE!

PLUS: Get a stamp from each booth on the "M-A Food Fair Passport" for a chance to win raffle prizes!

For more information Contact Shannon Smoot in B-20 or 650-322-5311 ext. 5258

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**Student of the Second Quarter**

Each quarter, we are privileged to honor students who have been nominated by Menlo-Atherton staff members for going above and beyond what is expected in and outside of the classroom. Although they are nominated for a wide variety of reasons, they all share one characteristic: they are wonderful role models for their fellow classmates. The students were honored at a luncheon where they were able to meet and get to know one another, receive wonderful awards, and learn what makes each one of them worthy of receiving the honor. The Second Quarter recipients are:

**9th Grade**

Devan Dutta  
Christina Godinez  
Meghan Hom  
Diana Lopez Luviano  
Luis Mendoza  
Ronneza (Nene) Smith

Michael Perez  
Sergio Rodriguez  
Payton Smith  
Andrew Uphoff

**11th Grade**

Dustin Fosgett  
Jessica Isais  
Edgardo Molina

**10th Grade**

Lesley Carbajal  
Meredith Geaghan-Breiner  
Kevin Gutierrez  
Katie Holiday  
Jonathan O'Farrell

**12th Grade**

Sofia Gutierrez Dewar  
Jonathan Rivas-Talavera  
Noah Stid

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# Trivocis Calendar – April 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 28	29 Senior Grad Speech sign-ups end; B-21 Student of the Month Luncheon; Guidance Classroom EL Parent meeting; 6:00-8:00 pm; M-A PAC cafeteria	30 Mandatory Grad Speech Information meeting; B-21  April Trivocis mailed	31 M-A Open House; 6:15 – 8:30 pm	<b>April 1 – Minimum Day #4</b> Deadline for seniors to order cap and gown for graduation Jr/Sr Prom; 7:00-11:00 pm; San Francisco Gift Center	2 Hoop for Hope; 9:00-1:00 pm; New Gym
4 STAR Testing through April 29 (see Trivocis article for modified class schedule details) Student Election Campaign Week General PTA meeting & Parent Ed (Teen Sleep); 7:00-8:30 pm; M-A PAC cafeteria	5 <b>Thursday Block Schedule</b> Graduation Speech try-outs; 3:30 pm; Career Center EL Parent meeting; 6:00-8:00 pm; M-A PAC cafeteria	6 <b>Wednesday Block Schedule</b> Graduation Speech try-outs; 3:30 pm; Career Center	7 <b>Thursday Block Schedule</b> Last day to drop a class with penalty SDMSC meeting; 3:30-4:45 pm; Career Center WACAC College Fair; 10:00-noon and 6:00-8:00 pm; Mission College	8 <b>Wednesday Block Schedule</b> May 7 SAT registration deadline	9 ACT Test; 8:00 am
11 Senior meeting (mandatory); 9:30 am; M-A PAC	12 <b>Thursday Block Schedule</b> Student Elections; lunch 11th grade Parent Information Night; 6:30-7:30; Library	13 <b>Wednesday Block Schedule</b> SAT Subject Test Prep Class enrollment; lunch, D-20 Student Elections; lunch SUHSD Board meeting National Honor Society Induction; 5:30-7:00 pm, Library Financial Literacy for Seniors; 7:00-9:00 pm; M-A PAC Cafeteria	14 <b>Thursday Block Schedule</b> Student Elections; lunch	15 <b>Wednesday Block Schedule</b> May Trivocis article deadline Nomination deadline for PTA Adult 2011 Service Awards SUHSD final day of intradistrict transfer grants	16 5th Annual Car Show benefitting M-A Baseball; 8:00-2:00 pm; Student Parking Lot
18	19	20	21	22	23
Spring Break – No School					
25	26 Student of the Month Luncheon; Guidance Classroom	27 May Trivocis mailed	28 SDMSC meeting; 4:30-6:30; Staff Center	29 M-A Food Fair; lunch	30
Foundation For the Future 4th Annual On-line Auction though May 1 (maauction.org)					
M-A Art on display though May 14 at The Great Frame Up	EL Parent meeting; 6:00-8:00 pm; M-A PAC cafeteria Foundation for the Future meeting; 7:00-10:00 pm; Library		14th Annual M-A Art Show opening reception; 6:30 pm; The Great Frame Up	Big Bear Run early check-in for race bibs and t-shirts; 1:30-5:00 pm; M-A Gym Lot	

The most current information about M-A events is available on the **M-A Bears website, [www.mabears.org](http://www.mabears.org)** and the **M-A PTA website, [www.mabearspta.org](http://www.mabearspta.org)**. Submit calendar entries by email to [trivociscalendar@mabearspta.org](mailto:trivociscalendar@mabearspta.org).

Menlo-Atherton High School PTA  
PTA, 17<sup>th</sup> Dist. CA.  
Congress of Parents & Teachers  
555 Middlefield Rd.  
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### TRIVOCIS

Articles Editor: Kim Carlisle  
Production Editor: Amy Reardon  
Calendar Editor: Kathleen Balestra  
Mailing: Kelly Muenzen, Nancy Ryde, Corby Locke  
Proofreaders: Jane King, Becca Garcia

Next submission deadline – April 15, 2011  
Next mailing date – April 27, 2011  
Send article submissions to [trivocis@mabearspta.org](mailto:trivocis@mabearspta.org)  
Send calendar entries to [trivociscalendar@mabearspta.org](mailto:trivociscalendar@mabearspta.org)

One issue to each Menlo-Atherton High School family.  
For divorced parents, one to each household.

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This issue was mailed and a PDF version posted online at  
[www.mabearspta.org](http://www.mabearspta.org) on March 30, 2011

## Future Calendar Events

- May 1 – 6th Annual Big Bear Run, 9:00 am
- May 2 – Teacher Appreciation Week & STAR Test Make-up tests
- May 2 – May 13 - AP Exams
- May 4 – PTA General meeting; 6:45 pm/Parent Ed. “500 Words or Less” documentary; 7:00 pm
- May 7 – SAT Test
- May 12 – Spring Concert (guitar and choir)
- May 13 – June Trivocis article deadline
- May 17 – FFF/PTA Staff Luncheon; PAC Cafeteria
- May 18 – Spring Sports Awards Night; 7:00 pm; M-A PAC
- May 19 – Spring Concert (Band); 7:00 pm; M-A PAC
- May 23 – Dead Week
- May 27 – June 2 – Finals for non-seniors
- May 30 – No School; Memorial Day
- May 31 – Senior Picnic; 8:00-1:00 pm/Senior Awards; 7:00 pm
- June 1 – Senior Breakfast and Graduation practice
- June 2 – Last day of school and Graduation at 4:00 pm; Grad Night
- June 4 – SAT Test
- June 14 – First day of summer school session #1
- July 5 - First day of summer session #2
- August 25 – First day of school for 2011-2012