



Poms Help Make 'Dreams for Kids' a Reality

Right: The LZHS Pom Squads and friends at Dreams for Kids party.

Below Right: Santa Claus doing what he does best!

Last chance to Take the Stakeholder Survey @ www.lz95.org!

While many students were relaxing and enjoying their winter break, the Lake Zurich High School Poms Varsity Dance Team was busy helping children who otherwise would have had no Christmas gifts.

On December 16 and 17, the Poms squad joined with representatives of the U.S. Marine Corps and other agencies in the Dreams for Kids charity event. The dancers spent December 16 unloading donated toys from trucks, and then worked, played and laughed with the participating children on December 17 during the Christmas party at Health World in Barrington.

Members of the dance team include: **Krista Aistars, Lilia Berman, Nina Bianchi, Christine Doczi, Laura Dravins, Angella Falato, Maureen Hagedorn, Audrey Ishikawa, Jamie Kowieski, Danielle Leopardo, Beth Littell, Erin Little, Lauren Napolitano, Caroline Pardikes, Jenna Poulter, Mallory Schmitt, Jennifer Schwantz, Marcy Sklar, Jenna Smith, Sarah Walding, Kara Widtmann, and Lauren Willard.**



The work the dancers did those two days at the Dreams for Kids event is the continuation of a long tradition for area volunteers. Back in 1989, Dreams for Kids and Santa Claus paid a surprise visit Clara's House, an Englewood, IL homeless children's shelter founded by Clara Kirk. There, they

provided gifts, food, song and a day full of smiles to 52 children who otherwise would have had no Christmas.

That visit in 1989 was the beginning of a joy-filled journey that today brings over 1,000 homeless and needy children to Illinois' largest Christmas party at Health World Children's Museum. The annual event features the museum's interactive exhibits, clowns, jugglers, face painters, crafts, games, food and, of course,

Santa Claus, who delivers a shopping bag full of gifts to every child.

To find out how you can help children in need, visit the Dreams for Kids web site:

www.dreamsforkids.org.

Katrina Update: Thanks from the Gulf Coast

Earlier this week, the staff and students at Hurricane Katrina ravaged Bay-Waveland Middle School in Waveland, Mississippi were given a reason to smile. While opening up the mail, they found a \$7,500+ check from Lake Zurich Middle School North (MSN). The money was raised from the Middle School North versus Middle School South faculty basketball game that was played November 3 before a packed crowd of students, faculty and parents from both schools.

"You all have been a tremendous help and are much appreciated around here," said BWMS Guidance Counselor **Amy Coyne**. "We are definitely going to put the money that you all raised to good use and cannot express how grateful we are to you all for your compassion towards our community and school family. If it were not for people like you, we would lose hope sometimes."

In addition to the funds, May Whitney Elementary School and its PTO will be donating VCRs that are in good working condition. The VCRs had been replaced with dual VCR/DVD units in school classrooms. PTO Vice President **Sandy Stephen** has been working with the district and BWMS to make the donation possible.

Now all that is needed is to ship the VCRs down to the Mississippi middle school. Hoping to alleviate the cost of shipping all of the VCRs, the district has been talking with representatives from H.E.L.P (Hancock-Ela Area Long-term Partnership) and other groups trying to find a truck or other transportation that may be soon heading to the area.



Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District Superintendent **Dr. Kim Stasny** picks through the remains of one of her schools.

Concert Choir Selected to Sing at State Convention

The Lake Zurich Concert Choir will serenade the state's music educators at the annual Illinois Music Educators Association All State Convention on January 27 at the Riverside Church in downtown Peoria, IL, beginning at 12:30 p.m.



LZHS Concert Choir

Only seven choirs from throughout the entire state were selected to perform, including the elementary, middle school, high school and collegiate level. Lake Zurich's is one of only two high school choirs selected for the honor.

Nick Juknelis, Director of vocal music for Lake Zurich High School, applied for the opportunity last May. The selection process included a screening tape with specific guidelines, information about the school, the choir, the director and other application questions regarding the way the choir operates, its goals, beliefs, etc. He received word of their selection in July.

"This is a great honor for the Concert Choir, the Fine Arts department and our school," said Juknelis.

The Lake Zurich Concert Choir will be performing a program entitled "Life, Love and Proclamation." It will include music that they sang at their Fall Choir Concert, the school's December Holiday Festival, and new music that has been prepared for the convention performance.

For those interested in attending the performance, it is open to the public at no charge.

"It will be a huge honor to perform for music educators from the across the entire state," said Juknelis. "It would be an even bigger honor to have some of our own fan club present in Peoria!"

The Lake Zurich High School Concert Choir includes:

Soprano I

Stephanie Holappa
Kelsey Holub
Christine Iverhouse
Marie Lemke
Jessica Marks
Jenny Nilsen
Ali Peterschmidt
Kelsey Schroeder
Lindsey Schroeder

Soprano II

Taylor Banach
Lisa Barna

Soprano II cont.

Kristi Bergman
Lindsey Dondanville
Claire Hart
Liz Lach
Sara Lloyd
Sam Russart
Abby Watson

Alto I

Emily Brazee
Alex Guderian
Katie Jardine
Romy Leroux

Alto I cont.

Bethany Ploughe
Sarah Sarkesian
Allison Sill
Megan Stavnes
Kiersten Thoma

Alto II

Melissa Broton
Chelsie Chmela
Megan Johnson
Stephanie Kopplin
Hannah Lestan
Lauren Napolitano
Paige Platenik
Elise Spoerlein
Laura Williams

Tenor I

Sam Kent
Tim Koll
Billy Nixon
Zach Pope
Mike Russart
Trey Smith

Tenor II

Marco Braun
Patrick Kilbride
Jake Lestan
Mario Mazzetti
Adam Robillard
Steve Wright

Bass I

William Angulo
Rob Browy
Andrew Cohen
Robert Lloyd
Adam Rieman
Mark Walker

Bass II

Kurt Bomya
Austen Heuser
Alex Johnson
Phil Rabe
Shawn Scolnick
Brad Walker

Cheers for Cheerleaders



While other students were enjoying their holiday break, the Lake Zurich High School varsity cheerleading squad was putting itself through intensive training. The training paid off with a sixth place division finish in the National Cheerleading Association (NCA) competition in Dallas, TX. The squad was competing in the Super Large Varsity Division.

Not ones to rest on their laurels, on January 8, the squad hosted the sixth annual Bears' Cheerleading Invitational, which featured 46 squads from Lake, Cook, McHenry and Will counties.

Lake Zurich High School will also host the state cheerleading sectional on March 4. The top five qualifiers will compete in the championship competition March 10-11 in Bloomington.

Schools out for M.L. King Day; Institute Day



Community Unit School District 95 schools and offices will be closed on Monday, January 16, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Schools and offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 17.

January 20 will also be a non-attendance day for students due to a district wide Institute Day. However, administrative and support offices will remain open. Classes will resume on Monday, January 23 at their regular times.

Saturday Scholars Canceled

Unfortunately, due to low enrollment, the Saturday Scholars program, which was to run from January 28 through February 25, has been canceled. Registration refunds will be mailed to registrants.

In order to keep the program cost neutral to the school district, the program needed to enroll enough students to pay for instructor time. The enrollment was 30 students short of the number needed to make the Saturday Scholars program break even.

Dribbler on Wheels



On January 10, **Matt Glowacki** presented a special assembly program at May Whitney (MW) School entitled 'Perspectives'. During the assembly he educated the students about the abilities of people with disabilities. His presentation encompassed everything from current disability etiquette, to his involvement with the Paralympics. The students really enjoyed watching MW teacher **Lisa LePage** go up against Glowacki in wheelchair basketball.

P.U. is for YOU!

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, March 4, 2006, District 95 is presenting the 12th annual PARENT UNIVERSITY. Plan on spending an inspirational morning with **Char Wenc**, speaker and award-winning author of, *Parenting-Are We Having Fun Yet?*

PARENT UNIVERSITY is geared to parents and grandparents of children ages preschool through high school. Many great sessions dealing with a variety of parenting topics and issues are planned for this year's event.

Titles for some of the sessions include: *The Challenging Child*, *Internet Dangers*, *From Tee-Ball to Testosterone—What a Son Needs From His Dad*, *From Walking to Weddings—What a Daughter needs From Her Dad*, *Overindulging Your Children*, *Substance Abuse In Our Community*, *The Top Ten Signs It Is Time To Talk To Your Kid About Money*, *How To Build the Muscle of Confidence In Our Children*, and more!

A continental breakfast and lunch as well as child care will be provided. Registration forms will be sent home in January.

Questions? Call **Lori Schwartz** (847) 438-1949.

Free Preschool Screening

Parents of children who are three to five years of age and reside in Community Unit School District 95 are invited to participate in a free screening that will evaluate their child's speech and language, concept development, fine and gross motor skills, and vision and hearing.

The screening for all children will be on Thursday, January 26, from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon. at St. Francis de Sales Church Ministry Center, 135 S. Buesching Rd., Lake Zurich. Children must already be three years old by the screening date.

To make an appointment for your child's screening, please call the District 95 Special Education office at (847) 540-7060 by January 19.

IF Fun Fair Coming 2006

All students and families belonging to Isaac Fox Elementary School in Lake Zurich should mark their 2006 calendars now for the annual fun-filled Funtastic Fun Fair on Saturday, **January 21**, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Isaac Fox Elementary School, 395 Cuba Road, Lake Zurich.

The event, which is hosted by the Parent Teacher Organization, includes games for all ages, food, a bake sale, cake walk, raffle prizes, and more. This is one of the highlights of the year so don't miss out!

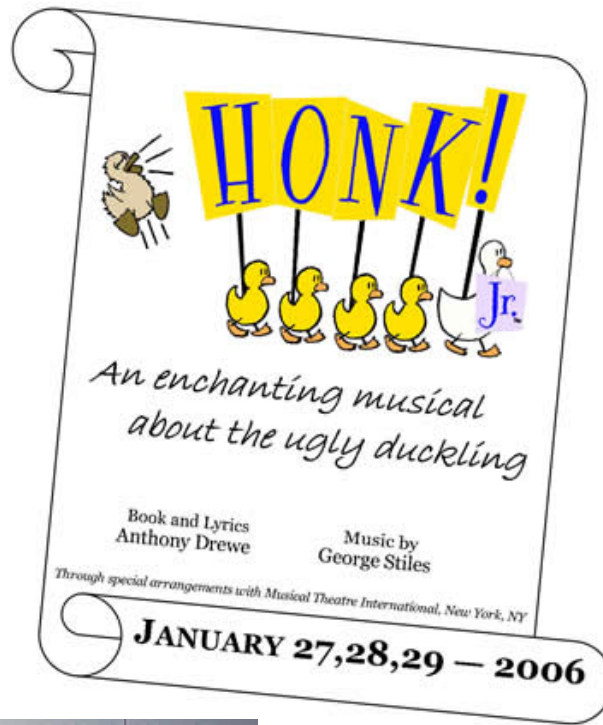
Please sir, can I have some more?



Danny Euker in his orphan costume.

Danny Euker, a fourth grade student at Seth Paine Elementary School, is currently playing the role of an orphan in the Marriott Lincolnshire Theatre production of *Oliver!* It's a great role and venue for a young thespian!

If you want to catch Danny and his fellow actors, the musical runs through February 12. For ticket information visit the theatre's web site: www.marriotttheatre.com.



Do You Like to Know Stuff?

Do you like to know things before others in the community? Do others seek your opinion? If so, then you are a perfect candidate for the Community Unit School District 95 **Key Communicator Network**.

Our Key Communicator (KeyCom) program is a network of community residents, leaders, opinion shapers and watchdogs whose opinions are well respected by friends, colleagues and neighbors. We are not looking for cheerleaders, but people who care about our schools and want to be kept informed and are then willing to share that information with others.

As a Key Com, you will receive timely, factual information via a regular newsletter e-mailed to you about the work we're doing and the issues affecting your school district and your schools.



Because this is designed to be a two-way communications network, we encourage you to give us your input and share your opinions. As a KeyCom member, your responsibility will be to share the information with friends, neighbors and colleagues.

To become a KeyCom member, simply call, email or fax:

**CUSD 95
Office of Communications
400 S. Old Rand Road
Lake Zurich, IL 60047-
2459**

**Phone: (847) 540-5489
Fax: (847) 438-6702
jim.jennings@lz95.org
www.lz95.org**

THRIVE in 95 is produced by the Community Unit School District 95 Office of Communications & Community Relations for staff and interested community members. Story submissions are greatly encouraged.

Annette Jacobsen,
Editor
Jim Jennings,
Publisher
(847) 540-5489
jim.jennings@lz95.org
www.lz95.org