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# SERVICE-LEARNING / COMMUNITY SERVICE CELEBRATION



BEVERLY HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT / PTA  
ADVISORY BOARD  
EDITOR: PATRICIA T. TANENBAUM



SUMMER 2005

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Community involvement is important to our schools and is one of our greatest strengths! Working together, we accomplish wonders and help thousands of children and adults who are less fortunate. Please read and marvel at the scope of the Service-Learning / Community Service concerns: homelessness; literacy; environment; disease; children; elderly; and the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia.

In my first year as the Service-Learning project coordinator I have been privileged to see the BHUSD program grow and change due to the incredible efforts of our S-L Advocates, our Advisory Committee, and, most importantly, our students.

We began the year discussing ways to inspire more students to participate in S-L activities and to support teachers who were open to expanding their Service-Learning projects. Our BHHS advocates began with an excellent S-L power-point presentation to their staff which would later be reflected upon. Advisory Committee members and our faith-based partners shared their insights and concerns about their work ahead and plans were made to implement the program as designed by our renewal application and program evaluation.

Then, on December 26, 2004, the tsunami hit Southeast Asia. The enormity of this natural disaster had all of us asking "What can we do to help?" and that is when the real essence of our S-L program became apparent. Our students became our inspiration and the BHHS advocates began to erect a Wall of Remembrance and started the Tsunami Relief Fund. The wall highlighted the reflections of hundreds of students inspired to service across the curriculum. Poetry, art work, maps, mathematical analysis, essays, and other student work continued to be added to the wall to create a testament to the strength of our Service-Learning program. This inspiration continued to grow when our newest advocate at Horace Mann became inspired by her students' desire to help an orphanage in Sri Lanka, the childhood home of the school's counselor. The culmination of the S-L projects on Open House night showed the strong collaboration of the S-L advocate, teachers, parents and students with the artwork displayed for parents to purchase with proceeds going to the orphanage along with music arranged for the occasion and computer graphics generated by students to reflect on their learning.

Springtime allowed us all to reflect on our students' accomplishments at the National Service-Learning Conference in Long Beach. Administrators, parent leadership, teachers attended the conference along with El Rodeo and BHHS students who presented their own S-L Showcase pieces to conference attendees. The conference also sent attendees on a site visit to Hawthorne School to observe the annual Jump Rope for Heart Service-Learning project when students jump rope for the



BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

American Heart Association and connect their activity to all curricular areas. Conference attendees met with Service-Learning advocates and advisory committee members and teachers to learn more about the successful project that has been a proud tradition of Hawthorne School since 1990. We were also pleased to present the new Service-Learning Literature selected by district librarians for each of our five school libraries, and the year would not be complete without Beverly Vista's annual Talent Show for Camp Heartland.

Our program personnel are hard at work beginning plans for next year's implementation of the Service-Learning program and building on the successes we have experienced. The S-L teamwork is hard to match when it comes to the enthusiasm, knowledge and support for the program. I want to personally thank each and every one of our advocates, advisory committee members and community partners for their extreme effort and their passion for the BHUSD Service-Learning program. I look forward to working with all of you in 2005-06.

Sincerely,  
Diane Mead  
Teacher on Special Assignment  
Service-Learning Project Coordinator

Please visit the Service-Learning website at <http://webs.bhusd.k12.ca.us/calserve>

TELL ME AND I FORGET.  
SHOW ME AND I MAY NOT REMEMBER.  
INVOLVE ME AND I WILL UNDERSTAND.

~ NATIVE AMERICAN PROVERB

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# SERVICE-LEARNING / COMMUNITY SERVICE ADVISORY BOARD

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BY ELIZABETH CHAIT

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## A Note From Elizabeth Chait:

The Advisory Board was a bit nervous at the start of the year. Our BHUSD liaison of 2 years, Rex Comer, left us to be closer to family. How would the District ever find such a hard-working, organized, knowledgeable and diligent replacement? How would the replacement get up to speed with the grant requirements, the needs of the teacher advocates, and learn the inner workings of the advisory board? Would our hard-earned progress be jeopardized? Would we ever reach sustainability?

Fortunately, our concerns were immediately alleviated when Diane Mead was hired. Diane, who is a well-loved, respected teacher in BHUSD, was taken out of the classroom and placed on "special assignment"; Service-Learning to be one of her projects. Being a quick learner and extremely organized, it wasn't long before she was "up to speed"! Because of her passion for children and her "can do" attitude she meshed beautifully. She is respected and loved by all.

BHUSD continues to make a profound commitment to bring direction from the governing bodies but enough freedom for teachers and students to follow their hearts. More and more, the teachers are seeing the connection between curriculum and service. Much credit can be given to the teacher advocates who have offered inspiring leadership. Our BH partners at [Good Shepherd](#) and [Hillel Academy](#) continue to foster Service-Learning at their schools and share projects at the Advisory Board meetings. Their enthusiasm is heartening. Sustainability is here!

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## MANY THANKS TO THESE EXCEPTIONALLY DEDICATED ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS!

[Diane Mead](#)  
[Susan Liberati](#)  
[Maria Bennett](#)  
[Michelle Upchurch](#)  
[Harilyn Fast](#)  
[Franny Rennie](#)  
[Caroline Schkolnick](#)  
[Elizabeth Chait](#)

District  
District  
Co-Chair, Beverly Vista  
Beverly Vista  
El Rodeo  
El Rodeo  
El Rodeo  
Co-Chair, Hawthorne

[Kyle Blumberg](#)  
[Colleen Sternshein](#)  
[Judy Benowitz](#)  
[Danielle Fischhoff](#)  
[Amy Rothner](#)  
[Patti Tanenbaum](#)  
[Kathi Rothner](#)  
[Traci Reuben](#)  
[Suzy Bhakta](#)

Horace Mann  
Horace Mann  
Horace Mann  
Student Coordinator, High School  
Student Commissioner, High School  
Community Consultant  
PTA Council Representative  
Hillel Harkham Hebrew Academy  
Good Shepherd Catholic School

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## Dear Teachers,

Again, it gives me great pleasure to organize our final report "celebration" because I am forever uplifted by our progress. We initiated Community Service 16 years ago, and today we have completed our 5th year partnering with the State Department of Education as a Cal Serve grantee. Thank you to [Mike Brugh](#), our longtime advisor!

Last December, the world was awe-struck as we witnessed the horrific tsunami that attacked 1,000 miles of shoreline in Southeast Asia. Everywhere, people were helping in every way possible. So gratefully, the Beverly Hills schools had established the infrastructure for us to truly maximize our efforts. Each school designed innovative ways to raise funds as well as to help our students begin to comprehend the enormity of the tragic event.

Two schools, Beverly High and Horace Mann, organized whole school participation, and we began to even better appreciate how results are magnified when we are united and working collaboratively. Community/Service-Learning speaks to who we are as a District, our deep concerns and the strong values we hold so dear. As stated in our Mission Statement... we are



THIS JUMP ROPE FOR HEART SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT AT HAWTHORNE WAS SHOWCASED FOR GUESTS VISITING FROM THE LONG BEACH NATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE.

committed to the nurturing of caring, concerned, responsible citizenry through active involvement... These projects have been a tremendous vehicle towards involvement that touches us, while enhancing learning and, so importantly, further empowering our young people.

Thank you to our Team!... [Mike Brugh](#) at the State Department of Education; [Board of Education](#) and [Administrators](#) for their unwavering support; dedicated [Teacher Advocates](#) at

each school for their inspiration and leadership; teachers for their creativity, commitment and encouragement of our students to take more and more initiative at all grade levels. This year little [Arianna Robakowski](#), 2nd grader at Beverly Vista, organized monthly food drives and even garnered a sponsorship from [Ralphs!](#); the steady, hard-working group of parents and students on the [Advisory Board](#) magnificently led by [Elizabeth Chait](#) and supported by [Maria Bennett](#), [Diane Mead](#), wonderful, well-loved coordinator; [Scott](#) and [Patricia](#), insightful outside evaluators; [Sarah Utley](#) (BHHS Advocate) and [Kamron Farrokh](#) (BHHS '04) for growing our fantastic website and, of course, [The Weekly](#) and [The Courier](#) for allowing our schools to shine week after week.

It is my honor to be part of the Team!

*Yours truly,*  
*Patricia T. Tanenbaum*  
*Editor*

P.S. Hearty gratitude to [Kamron](#) for his indispensable computer wizardry. Together, we made this possible.

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# SERVICE-LEARNING ACROSS THE DISTRICT

WITH A DESIGNATED PROJECT (K-8)

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## Kindergarten

### 100<sup>TH</sup> DAY CELEBRATION (RECIPIENT ORGANIZATIONS VARIED)

The students brought 100 coins separated into baggies. Counting, sorting, and learning the value of 100 were some of the skills practiced.

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## Grade 1



**OPERATION SCHOOL BELL®**

*"Imagine two small brothers sharing one pair of pants, each attending school when it's his turn. Thousands of young people in Los Angeles are in such a situation, which affects absenteeism and eventually dropout rates. Just going to school becomes a daily trial."*

Our District's 1st graders are helping! They counted all of the donated socks and put them into pairs. Then they graphed their results. Some schools created Crazy Sock Day to punctuate their efforts.

**WE COLLECTED 2,360 SOCKS THIS YEAR!**



## Grade 2



This wonderful organization was established in 1984 to help the homeless find work, save money, secure housing and empower them as much as possible. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, in conjunction with their studies of the Food Pyramid and the Power of Nutrition, filled bags lovingly decorated for Valentine's Day, with well-balanced lunches and then they visited the PATH facility in West Los Angeles.

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## Grade 3



UNICEF, United Nations Children's Fund, pledges that their funds provide supplies, health kits, clean water and vaccines to needy children. This year's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade project grabbed other grade levels, too, as it expanded upon Social Studies and Math standards. Bar graphs and Math skills were some of the activities.

- **Caroline Schkolnick, El Rodeo PTA Co-Chair:** *"Unlike most years when the acquired funds were used to diminish polio internationally by offering vaccinations, this year most of the funds went to the children affected by the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia."*
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade student (Horace Mann):** *"On Halloween we went trick-or-treating for money for UNICEF. During the next two days we counted all of our money, \$84.85. When I saw the movie about UNICEF, I felt very sad. I am just happy many people gave money for this cause."*

**THIS YEAR \$5,037 WAS RAISED TO BENEFIT UNICEF.**

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## Grade 4



**BookEnds**  
Student-to-Student Solutions for Literacy

BOOKENDS is about kids helping kids. Students recycle their quality children's books to create libraries in needy schools. BOOKENDS is a wonderful solution to address the critical shortage of books in the Los Angeles Unified School District, which is about 8,000,000 books short compared to the national average.

BOOKENDS has proudly distributed over 900,000 books in the 6 years since its inception, to fill empty shelves at schools, juvenile detention facilities, recreational centers, and other centers around Los Angeles County. Wonderfully, all the books have been collected, sorted, and distributed by kids! For every dollar donated, \$5 worth of books are generated.



**WE COLLECTED 11,300 BOOKS!**

"CLEARLY THE CHILDREN UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR BOOKS AND HELPING OTHER CHILDREN THEIR AGE."

*JANNA LIGHTNER, TEACHER, EL RODEO 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE*

*For more information, please see [bookends.org](http://bookends.org).*

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# SERVICE-LEARNING ACROSS THE DISTRICT

WITH A DESIGNATED PROJECT (K-8)

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Grade 5

## Jump Rope for Heart



Coach Mike Lambert has been leading the jumping rope for 12 years at Hawthorne. Now all the schools are enjoying this fantastic program.

Wendy Zito, speaking at the different schools, representing the American Heart Association, reinforced the 5<sup>th</sup> grade heart healthy curriculum: "Exercise; eat healthy foods; stay away from drugs and alcohol." Students jumped rope, took their pulse to practice heart healthy awareness, and solicited donations.

**THIS YEAR WE RAISED \$33,820 TO BENEFIT THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION!**

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Grade 6

Whale Adoption was the district-wide Service-Learning project at this grade level. At all schools, the students adopted whales and learned about endangered species and their habitats. As the students studied oceanography, they wrote whale stories and reflections.



Grade 7

## Jump Rope for Heart

The students organized the recorded data and practiced their graphing skills.

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Grade 8

## Camp Heartland

This is a camp for students affected with HIV/AIDS, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Service-learning for 10 years, thanks to the **always** generous support of PTA Council, and The Neil Konheim Foundation. This year's peer speakers were two twins, Jerome and Tyrone Anderson, 18 years, raised in a foster home; Julie, a freshman in high school who was raised by her grandparents because her mother died when she was 4; Ray, 15, HIV positive and raised in a foster home; and Sareyea, 13, who gave her first speech to our 8<sup>th</sup> graders and has been attending Camp Heartland since she was 6 years old.

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders were in rapt attention as the speakers spoke so honestly, so personally, so courageously to a full audience of strangers.

### Some facts they underscored for our students...

- "Don't be afraid, be a friend;"
- "There are 40,000 new cases diagnosed each year with 15 to 24 olds becoming the fastest growing age group;"
- "Finally, Camp Heartland is an experience the campers can hardly wait for. They feel free, safe and have a ball!"
- "I left with more knowledge and with tears. I was very touched by the assembly," El Rodeo student.
- "I was touched because people that seem so normal on the outside are suffering in the inside," Beverly Vista student.
- "The speakers let us see them for who they are. We had a bit of fun, too, and were smiling, making each other happy," Horace Mann student.

### Some of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade reflections...

- "The speakers gave a face to the HIV/AIDS problem, making it human and not something that is obscure or impossible," El Rodeo student.
- "I learned that life may have several handicaps but it shouldn't be a barrier to the enjoyment of life," El Rodeo teacher.

**THIS YEAR \$3,400 WAS RAISED TO BENEFIT CAMP HEARTLAND!**

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"CONNECTING REAL-LIFE WITH CONTENT MAKES THE CURRICULUM MORE RELEVANT."

*DR. DAN STEPENOSKY, BHHS PRINCIPAL*

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# Beverly Hills High School

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## THE WALL OF REMEMBRANCE... DEDICATED TO THE VICTIMS OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIA TSUNAMI DISASTER



“THE WALL OF REMEMBRANCE WAS COMPRISED OF INDIVIDUAL VISUAL PROJECTS WITH OVER TWENTY TEACHERS PARTICIPATING. THE IMPACT WAS ENORMOUS. THE WALL WAS UP FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. STUDENTS SLOWLY BEGAN TO PROCESS THE ENORMITY OF WHAT OCCURRED.”

*Alli Jason-Fives (U.S. History)*

Beverly Hills High School's efforts were spearheaded by the Biology Department Chair Sarah Utley, and English teacher Jen Wehner. Beverly participated in a tremendously effective school-wide Service-Learning project.

The students of Lynn Shapiro, Susie Messenger, Lucie Hinden, Vanessa Fernandez, Irina Kashper, and Corinne Carlson composed powerful poems to the survivors and victims of the tsunami disaster in their foreign language of study. These poems were beautifully written and added to the Wall of Remembrance.

Alli's U.S. History classes researched U.S. Foreign Policy, NGO's

(non-profit government organization) and the role of the U.S. in the UN.



Krishna Deaver, Jen Wehner, Celeste McDonald, Jennifer Tedford, S. Sedghi, and Jamie Marrs, English teachers, responded to the tsunami disaster by having their students write poems and evaluate powerful photographs emerging from the catastrophic event. This material provided strong information for creative expression and analytical practice.

Roel Hinojosa's AP Government classes provided an excellent service to the Student Body when the students researched non-profits helping in the relief efforts, determining the ones with lowest administrative fees. The students then voted on where the money should go. The winner was Project Hope which received \$10,000 raised by the students and staff!

Rachel Rooney and Lanie Shapiro, both 9<sup>th</sup> grade World History teachers, had their students research the governments of the affected countries and look deeply into the geography of the land. From this information, they created work to be displayed on the Wall.

Zina Goldman's Life Science classes researched the way water-born diseases affected the survivors of the tsunami. Afterwards they created research-based projects about the horrors that occurred after the water receded. Their work was also displayed.

Sarah Utley's Life Science classes did work similar to Zina Goldman's class and they helped with the massive fund-raising project that raised \$10,000 for the victims. They went from class to class educating their fellow students.

Charles Lee's Physical Science (11-12) made posters about the causes of a tsunami, how they travel, and warning devices.

Alice Kuo's Photograph-Art classes (9-12) chose powerful photos of the tragedy and analyzed the photographic techniques. The displayed photos spoke resoundingly.

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### Yes! Beverly made the Los Angeles Times!

The big school-wide Tsunami Relief effort was a part of a Times' featured article!

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# Beverly Hills High School

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## Other Involvement

Jamie Marrs' and Loren Newman's English (10-11) organized an intra-student Letter Exchange entitled "High School Survival". The students exchanged one page letters, passing on information about each other and strengthening relationships within the school. Seniors gave much needed advice to the freshmen.

Chris King's and Mike Federman's Drawing and Painting classes... the students created artistic designs to support and enhance the submitted works in the Foreign Language Literary magazine, Voices Around The World. "How great was it for the students to see their work published," commented Chris King.

Paul Batcheller and Jen Wehner's English classes (grades 9 through 11) launched a letter writing campaign to Iraqi students. They wrote about their own lives and what it meant to be an American. They expect letters back later this year.

Jen Wehner's 10<sup>th</sup> grade English students learned to be 'political advocates'! The students chose an issue of concern, researched it, then wrote to an appropriate organization or elected official advocating their position and taking civic responsibility. They did research, then wrote a well-supported letter to an elected official, advocating on behalf of their issue. A few of the students concerns... oil dependency; energy conservation; gay and bi-sexual legislation promoting adoption; teen drug use and better student education; the Death Penalty.

Jen's 11<sup>th</sup> grade AP English class launched a letter writing campaign regarding Discrimination. After seeing the Laramie Project at the Salter Theater, students wrote letters to officials urging them to pass Hate Crime legislation. Jen's students chose an issue of concern.

Krishna Deaver's English (10<sup>th</sup> grade) addressed the importance of Literacy. Her students spent five hours during Winter Break reading to children and/or the elderly emphasizing the components of the story and helping others to improve their reading skills.

Mira Cohen, World History (9<sup>th</sup> grade) connected to the study of the various genocides occurring worldwide, particularly Darfur, Sudan. Ms. Cohen's students decided to sell bracelets to raise awareness. The funds were directed to



AS CALIFORNIA YOUTH AMBASSADOR, AMY ROTHNER, A COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSIONER, KICKED-OFF THE OPENING CEREMONY AT THE 16<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE IN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, IN MARCH. 3,000 PARTICIPANTS FROM AROUND THE NATION AND 18 FOREIGN COUNTRIES CONVENED.

UNICEF.

Bryan Herbold, Life Science (9-12)... The produce of this year's Garden Project was donated to Plant a Row for the Hungry (gwaa.org). Throughout the year, the students planted various fruits and vegetables while researching many aspects of gardening. At the end of the year, they harvested the crop and celebrated with a barbecue.

Alli Jason-Fives' grade 12 Government class connected with the Red Cross and organized a collection of funds to send to victims of the Haiti hurricane tragedy. Of particular interest was the connection between the governmental organization and its ability to respond effectively in the face of a natural disaster. The students reflected upon their fund-raising success and ability to "market" their cause to the rest of the school.

Lucie Hinden, Honors Spanish class, continuing the long-standing Albion Street partnership, wrote plays and shows for the primarily Spanish-speaking students at Albion Street. Then they visited them and entertained the students in their native language.

Colleen Lynch, Health (9-12)... Students observing the Great American Smokeout learned about how difficult it is to quit smoking and

supported a loved one's effort to quit. She connected with the American Cancer Association ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org))

Her class also had a research paper assignment and were required to create a related Service-Learning project. The projects varied from educating fellow students about nerve drugs, helping in a soup kitchen, working at an animal shelter and volunteering at Teen Line.

Richard Farmer's Performing Arts 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students brought the beauty of their music to the community! The 75 year Beverly Hills High School relationship with Albion Street School was just one of the lucky recipients. In addition, Joel Pressman's choruses performed for the Albion Street School, the Wellness Community and at the American Cancer Society's children's party which provided gifts for disadvantaged children.

Amy Rothner, Community Service Commissioner at Beverly, was named a "Project Catalyst Ambassador" by the State Department of Education for her outstanding contributions to Service-Learning in Beverly Hills and surrounding areas.

The project's mission is to use the powerful student voice to promote more Service-Learning.

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# Beverly Hills High School

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## MORENO SCHOOL... THE BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL CONTINUATION PROGRAM

Joe Wiancki **Social Studies (10-12)**. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year that the students at Moreno High School worked to raise money for the Union Rescue Mission, a fine organization addressing the needs of the homeless (213) 347-6300. This outreach beautifully enhanced the Social Studies curriculum and the study of current social problems such as the causes of homelessness, governmental response and other related issues.

They also worked with the Red Cross Tsunami Relief, collecting and contributing money to help tsunami victims. They studied how this tidal wave impacted lives, families, properties, geography, national economy, as well as the future of the area.

Marian Strauss, **Moreno School Teacher Advocate**, attended the "Jump Rope For Heart" Service-Learning project showcased for guests visiting from the Long

Beach National Service-Learning Conference in March. After attending the Conference, she came back with many new and interesting ideas. Attending another Conference at the Wiesenthal Center, she was most impressed by a workshop entitled "Finding Our Heroes And Ourselves Through Literature", given by Sonia Levitin (310) 271-3767. This is an excellent resource for lessons on values, such as taking responsibility and making good decisions.

### BEVERLY HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Deb Joseph's Advanced Graphic Design students were invited to create a 17 ft. x 12 ft. mural celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beverly Hills Public Library! This amazing invitation provided a fantastic opportunity to integrate newly-acquired design skills. In addition, Deb's regular Graphic students designed two Integrity murals that were displayed around the school, Integrity being the 2004-2005 character education value.

### BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS CONDUCT SERVICE-LEARNING WORKSHOP AT NATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE IN LONG BEACH

Four of Sarah Uteley's Environmental Science students conducted a stimulating 90-minute environmental Service-Learning workshop at the National Service-Learning Conference, entitled "Energize the Environment". They were so well-received!



### BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL AND ALBION STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATE THEIR 77<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

Dr. Dan Stepenosky proudly announced, "This is the longest running community service program in the nation! Beverly Hills High School has partnered with Albion School in South Los Angeles for 77 years, since the high school's beginning."

Last December, the students brought toys, music and holiday celebration to Albion Street. The award-winning Madrigals sang, students shared stories in the classroom, and all who attended wanted to do more to improve the conditions of the impoverished Albion Street Elementary School.

### A GIFT OF THE HEART... COMMUNITY SERVICE by Danielle Fischhoff

#### AIDS PROJECT LOS ANGELES

Beverly students always participate in the **Annual AIDS Walk Los Angeles**. This year, for the first time, the high school collected money in homeroom classes to benefit the AIDS Project LA, currently helping more than 10,000 men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS in Los Angeles, alone! They raised \$2,000.

#### WESTSIDE FOOD BANK

Sandwich-making is weekly community service! The Westside Food Bank picked-up fresh sandwiches and distributed them; Canter's Deli donated the bread; Tropical Fruits graciously supplied the jelly. Proudly, the students made approximately 300 sandwiches weekly!

#### LEUKEMIA AND LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

#### BEVERLY PLACES 6<sup>TH</sup> OUT OF 360 SCHOOLS!

This year, another new and very successful project was Pennies for Patients, benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. For three weeks, money was collected in the homerooms by students as they purchased purple "Live Strong Like" bracelets with the message T.E.A.M. inscribed. With the help of 7/Eleven, which volunteered to sell the bracelets in their local stores, over \$5,000 was raised! The students willingly contributed, understanding that leukemia is the #1 disease that kills children under the age of 20.

#### PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

This year **80 students** were awarded the prestigious award for having completed over 100 hours of service in the past 12 months! There was a special luncheon in their honor.

Finally, the Commissioners collected and calculated all the community service hours of the students. About 700 (almost one-third of the student body) contributed 15 hours or more and received credit on their transcript! The high school looks forward to another year of success in 2005-2006 with even more students volunteering their time to help others.

# Beverly Vista

**KINDERGARTEN CELEBRATES THE 100<sup>TH</sup> DAY!** The young students collected pennies for UNICEF, counting and sorting them.

Mrs. Shaeffler and Mrs. Cunningham's 3<sup>rd</sup> graders collected funds for UNICEF which became a **BIG** part of their lessons on money.

Ms. Molner's 4<sup>th</sup> graders also participated in the district-wide Service-Learning project, Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF, which connected to technology, math, geography/social studies standards. The school collected \$701.

## Tsunami Relief – January

January... Mrs. Shaeffler and Mrs. Cunningham (grade 3) collected money to benefit the tsunami victims which augmented science lessons on the phenomenon. Mr. Wong came and presented science experiments to enhance understanding.

Ms. Rouss's 4<sup>th</sup> grade... The students wrote paragraphs on fundraising ideas which were used by the School Leadership Committee in their decision-making. Following up, they made collection cans and placed them around the school as they sold rubber bracelets (BV CARES). They raised nearly \$1,000 for Tsunami Relief.

Ms. Peterson, with the Student Council, held a Math-A-Thon (grades 3-8) which raised \$9,000 for Tsunami Relief!

Ms. Palazzo's 5<sup>th</sup> grade wrote letters home describing a chore they would do to earn money for the relief effort.



MS. PETERSON AND THE STUDENT COUNCIL CELEBRATE THE \$9000 OF FUNDS RAISED IN THEIR MATH-A-THON

## Other Involvement

November... Ruth Splansky (History – 8<sup>th</sup>) conducted a mock student election for the Presidential Race as part of their curriculum. Grades 3-8 participated!

February... 1<sup>st</sup> grade (Ms. Vance, Ms. Lucky, Ms. Winnick) participated in the Operation School Bell Service-Learning across the district. They collected, counted and graphed over 360 pairs of socks!

Ms. Rouss's 4<sup>th</sup> grade did sandwich-making for P.A.T.H. (People Assisting The Homeless) and wrote "How To" essays.

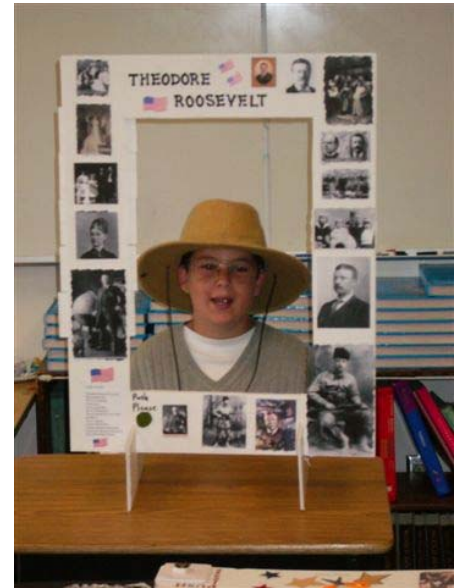
Grades 5 and 7 embraced the Jump Rope For Heart Project benefiting the American Heart Association as they studied the human body and circulation. Coach Radonsky led the jumping rope effort connecting to P.E. standards (grade K-8). They raised \$4,054!

Oliver Bogner, 6<sup>th</sup> grader, **created a first!** Using technology and writing standards he organized a night fundraiser at Cold Stone, and over \$1,000 of business was generated in one night!

March... Ms. Palazzo's 5<sup>th</sup> grade participated in the Law Day Poster Contest sponsored by the Woman's Law Guild. They were to illustrate how the Constitution set the frame work for the jury system and how it works.

The winning entries were displayed outside Judge Stone's Courtroom in the Beverly Hills Courthouse. The students were fascinated as they toured Judge Stone's courtroom on a field trip.

Ms. Asherson's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science adopted animals as part of their curriculum. One group proudly raised over \$400 for their animal.



AFTER DRESSING-UP AS THEIR FAMOUS PERSON, ROUSS, MAGASIN, AND MOLNER'S 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS SHARED THEIR STORIES WITH THE COMMUNITY.

April... Rouss, Magasin, and Molner's 4<sup>th</sup> graders learned more about civic responsibility when they researched American heroes and wrote a research paper. After dressing-up as their famous person, they shared their stories with the community.

This year, Ms. Peterson's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Talent Show raised \$2,200 for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Service-Learning project, Camp Heartland, a summer camp for young people affected by HIV/AIDS. Students K-8 used standards learned in music, art, language arts, physical education, dance, and theater to present a wonderfully entertaining variety show to the school and the community.

## A GIFT OF THE HEART... COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Kathy Bronte

Beverly Vista was proud to support the Food and Toy drives in the Fall. In October, we led an activity at BHEF's Community Service/Walk For Our Schools event. In February, we made Valentine's Day lunches. In June, the students brought in needed supplies to benefit Camp Harmony in August.

Adrianna Robakowski, a 2<sup>nd</sup>

grader, organized her OWN project, a food drive one Sunday a month. She even convinced Ralph's to make food contributions! Yes!

Happily, much of Beverly Vista's fundraising is arising from the Service-Learning curriculum. All members of our school community have embraced this powerful enrichment to curriculum.



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# El Rodeo

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## Tsunami Relief

At El Rodeo, teachers **Rich Waters** and **April Silva** organized the sale of memorial bracelets to families and the community in a school-wide fundraiser. **Angie Moore's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders** organized "Chores For Sale" and then made a list of chores that could be done to earn money for the tsunami survivors.

One of the students, **Jackson**, stated, "I felt like a hero as I helped clean my house, wash dishes, care for the dog and help carry in groceries. It was the first time I helped the community."

The students in **Angie's** class, voted to give the funds to the **Clarendon Foundation**, a charity helping children in the affected area which was started by the counselor **Shelanee Fernando**. **Dorothy Wong's** class donated their money to the **Red Cross** and the **Global Health Access Program**, while **Daryn Herman's** students donated to yet another charity.

**Kerry Mazor**, Service-Learning advocate, reported that El Rodeo's school-wide effort raised over \$1,600 for assorted charities benefiting the Tsunami Relief efforts.

## Other Involvement

**100<sup>th</sup> Day Celebration:** **Blum, Gerdeman, Gershenhorn...** After reading **Uncle Willy** and **The Soup Kitchen** as a class and discussing the needs of homeless people, the students began saving collections of 100 coins to bring to school on the 100<sup>th</sup> day. After sorting the coins to better understand the concept of 100, the money raised was donated to **P.A.T.H.** (People Assisting The Homeless – 310-996-0034).

**Cindy Blum** commented, "This fun, concrete activity strongly supports learning skills. At the same time, the children are learning to contribute to their larger community."

**OPERATION SCHOOL BELL:** **LORI ANDERSON, GRADE 1...** The students read **A Pair Of Socks** and

**Smelly Socks** and completed a following directions activity. They also did lessons counting to 100 and grouping by 2's, 5's, and 10's, to 100, just a few of the standards addressed. The middle school joined in the fun and organized "**Sock It To Me**"... an end of the week **Sock Hop** commemorating the week-long Sock Drive. They wore poodle skirts, leather jackets and all. 2000 new socks were collected!

**UNICEF: Ms. Hutterer, Ms. Nelson, Ms. G. Ziskind, and Ms. Revness** used the Trick or Treat for **UNICEF** Drive as a wonderful opportunity for their students to hone their math skills by counting the 100's of coins collected. El Rodeo collected over \$1,600 for UNICEF this year.

**Laura Revness** stated, "Students were shocked to learn about hunger, wars, water problems, and polio that so affect children of undeveloped nations." Using math activities, health books and counting money assignments, students learned about what can be done to assist the children of poverty-stricken countries. The students received the Ambassador's Award for having raised over \$1,410!

**Laura Revness... 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade.** Reinforcing the important value of Responsibility, **Laura's** class met the Community Need to organize the piles of clothing collecting in the school's Lost and Found, so it would be more functional. Items with names were returned to the students. Organizational, sorting and communication skills were practiced, which connects to Social Studies standards. **The Day Trash Came Out To Play** excellently connects Service-Learning to Literature.

**Ms. Lightner's, Ms. Hoffman's, and Ms. M. Ziskind's 4<sup>th</sup> graders** made flyers to advertise their **BOOKENDS'** service project (language art skills) and sorted the 3,000 gently used and new books, which they delivered to **Synergy School**. El Rodeo students read to the young students and the recipients sang songs for them in the auditorium. **Janna Lightner** stated, "Clearly

the children understand the need for books and helping other children their age."

In addition to **Bookends**, the 4<sup>th</sup> graders went to the **Ballona Wetlands**, where the students removed native and invasive plants and learned about the ecology and the importance of our local wetlands.

**Grade 5** kicked off **Jump Rope for Heart** with an assembly at which **Wendy Zito** of the **American Heart Association** talked about building a happy life with proper exercise and nutrition. *Jumping rope raised \$2,006!*

**MICHELE MENDELSON, K-5 SPECIAL ED: Weekly, students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade** spent **Study Hall** doing cross-grade level tutoring to help Special Ed students with reading, writing, math, printing, cursive, spelling, etc.

**Michele** writes, "This was very beneficial to the Special Ed students, who grew tremendously from the individual attention and guidance. The Middle School students were very dedicated and consistent in their work."

**UNITED IN HARMONY HOLIDAY PARTY:** **Janet Siegel's** 5<sup>th</sup> grade class decided to raise money to purchase new books for the 200 children attending the **United In Harmony** Holiday Party. This organization provides a one week summer camp for under-privileged children. Students wrote persuasive arguments to solicit funding and used number sense to plan a budget. "Entirely of their own volition, the students spent time on weekends having lemonade sales and doing household chores," reported **Janet**, "Not only did they enjoy doing the project, but they have already asked about what we are doing when it is over!"

**Ms. Garratt and Mrs. Nemiroff** had the **Middle School** students research the issues and participate in mock elections, "register to vote" and conduct classroom debates, just a short list of their many civic lessons. This important national election was the perfect opportunity to expand the study of the Constitution. According to **Ms. Garratt**, "The students loved participating and were hungry for more information!"

THERE HAS BEEN A SPIRIT IGNITED IN OUR  
SCHOOLS AND IT JUST KEEPS SPREADING.  
THAT IS SO GOOD FOR EVERYONE!

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# El Rodeo

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KERRY MAZOR PRESENTED HER RAINFOREST AND T-SHIRT PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE IN LONG BEACH THIS SPRING.

*helps conserve the natural beauty of the rainforest."*

## Adopt a Chimpanzee

As an extension of the Orangutan Rainforest T-Shirt Project, students decided to also raise funds to be the "Chimpanzee Guardian" of Gregoire through the same [Goodall Institute](#).

As "[Whale Adoption](#)" is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade Service-learning emphasis, [Kerry's](#) students learned that whales are a barometer of the health of the earth. When whales are beached, this is an indication that something could be wrong, remembering that the earth is mostly comprised of water.

This year, [Kerry's](#) students became official protectors of Lightening and Flash in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The students learned a lot from the quarterly newsletters and updates on the sightings of the whales. This was coordinated through the [Whale Adoption Projection](#) 800-548-8704 and the [International Wild-Life Coalition](#).

## Handle With Care: Our Precious Environment

Some students from [Kerry Mazor's Science classes \(6-8\)](#) stated, *"Do you realize that air fresheners, cell phones, fax machines, and batteries are just some of the toxic waste that we hastily dispose of in our every day garbage?"*

**Culminating a unit on Energy Problems and Solutions**, and after extensive research on Fossil Fuels, and the problems with oil spills, [Kerry Mazor's](#) students wrote to President Bush, discussing solutions and sharing their findings. This type of learning empowers the students' understanding of real life energy issues.

**Beware of Toxic Waste!**... Her students collected used batteries year-round and delivered them to the [Toxic Waste Round Up](#) held in the Fall. (888-CLEANLA or [www.888cleanLA.com](#) for more information.)

**Kerry Mazor's Campus Clean-Up... Science class (grades 7-8)**: First, the students made hypotheses. Then they broke into teams and tallied recyclables in their area. Conclusions were made as well as reflections. Their suggestions were then given to the Principal. *"Students should be less lazy"*, they reflected. *"Students learn best by doing."*

## Heal the Bay Beach Clean-Up

[Kerry Mazor](#) reports that her students are always amazed by the number of cigarette butts and types of unusual debris that they find when they participate in this extra credit Saturday event. The Clean-up beautifully relates to the study of inter-relatedness of human actions and the ocean's ecosystems.

## Bunches of Lunches!

For Annual Recycle Day, [Kerry's](#) 6<sup>th</sup> grade class analyzed their lunches for reusable and recyclable components. Trash that goes into the landfill quickly becomes "landfull." More and more students are choosing to bring reusable lunchboxes and containers!

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

[Kerry Mazor's](#) 7<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade Super Science Elective class decided that there was a "Community Need" at El Rodeo to continue recycling school-wide. They orchestrated the year-long campaign. Students commented: *"Recycling is a way we can easily give back what has been given to us. Every little bit helps a lot."* [Kerry](#) reminded us that, *"Less in the landfill (trash) means helping the environment and remember, every action does have an impact."*

## Used Six-Pack Ring Collection

[Ms. Mazor's](#) 6-8 graders collected uncut used plastic rings and sent them back to ITW Hi-Cone 1-800-965-RING. The plastic is re-used, thus reducing the need for more oil. This project highlights the need for natural resource conservation and addresses Global-Warming and Storm Drain solutions. Two students, [Chelsea](#) and [Rosie](#), remarked, *"We feel that we helped the world because every little bit helps. If we don't recycle, all of the trash will pile up to the moon."*

## Safety...

## Exit Drills In The Home (E.D.I.T.H.)

This lesson provided a valuable service to the students and their families. First they made a diagram of the floor plan of their home, then they identified potential safety problems, possible solutions and escape plans. With the fire and earthquake hazards in Southern California, this constructive tie-in to Earth Science could be a "life saver".

In keeping with the District's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Service-Learning emphasis, [Kerry Mazor's](#) Science classes (6-8), had a great variety of experiences. Her students realized over and over again, that all life on this planet is interrelated and interdependent. So we must take ownership! Our actions make a difference.

**Emerging from the ecology, environment and famous scientist curriculum**, [Kerry's](#) 6<sup>th</sup> grade students "adopted" an orangutan through [Orangutans Foundation International](#). One student went beyond the classroom and volunteered for [ECO Station](#) (in Culver City, 310-678-9375), a facility that cares for rescued endangered species.

**Organizations connected to the study** were the [Earth Foundation](#), [Orangutans Foundation International](#), and [The Jane Goodall Organization](#).

## T-shirt sales to adopt a rainforest

Kudos to the students! They have adopted over thirty-four acres! Every ten shirts sold (\$14 a shirt) helps to adopt one acre of rain forest in Kalimantan, Indonesia.

[Alessandra Walker](#) writes, *"The purpose of the Service-Learning project is to help children become involved in saving the rainforest and its wild animals. This*

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# El Rodeo

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## LIFE'S GREATEST GIFT... HEALTH

In Kerry Mazor's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science class, the students wrote business style letters to their parents pledging to be drug-free. This activity related to the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week. P.A.T.H. (People Assisting The Homeless) provided a speaker, Denise Avchen, who is also a parent in the classroom.

Kerry Mazor's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science students went shopping with their parents to choose new and different foods from the nutritional pyramid. They participated in a 5-A-Day to see how well their PTA canned food drive contributions compared to the ideal.

The Great American Smokeout... Kerry's 6<sup>th</sup> graders, with the help of the American Cancer Society, had the option to help a relative or family friend quit smoking for one day. Throughout the day, they gave little incentives to support

"I FIND IT UNBELIEVABLE THAT IN LOS ANGELES THERE ARE OVER 68,000 HOMELESS ON THE STREET AND THAT THEY, AND CHILDREN, USE DRUGS."

*Stephanie Choi, student*

their loved one (lollipops, pencils, gum, pamphlets). According to Kevin Kim's father, "From this activity I think I'll really try now not to smoke for myself, and my family." What a powerful health lesson for these young sponsors!

Expanding upon the annual Red Ribbon Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week, Wil Ardapple's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Music students prepared a most original musical number with an anti-drug message and presented at three Red Ribbon Week assemblies. They wrote some of the music,

sang, played instruments and designed almost all the choreography themselves.

Danny Pezzotta's Middle School Journalism Elective... Students chose to write about drug and alcohol abuse prevention during Red Ribbon week when they featured an article in the December 6, 2004 issue of the newsletter. Students went beyond health books and researched on the internet for relevant material. They reflected by peer editing and provided service by sharing their work with students in grades 4-8.

PTA Nutritional Canned Food Drive... Suzanne Nemiroff, Grade 6, had her students recreate a nutritional pyramid using fractions and denoting how much of each allowance they consumed. They were most interested in comparing their habits to the daily suggested requirements. This lesson perfectly expanded upon the food drive.

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## A GIFT OF THE HEART... COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thank you to Harilyn Fast, Caroline Schkolnick and Franny Rennie for their tireless commitment to ensuring the great success of Community Service this year.

1. **El Rodeo sponsored the making** of decorative plastic toiletry boxes at the BHEF (Beverly Hills Education Funds) Community Service Celebration, part of their annual "Walk For Our Schools" held each October. 100's of soaps, shampoos, conditioners, toothbrushes and paste, dental floss, razors, and lotions were donated! P.A.T.H. (People Assisting The Homeless) so gratefully received the boxes for the use of their residents. Many, many thank you's went to Dr. Doug Galen for his donation of hundreds of toothpaste samples!!!
2. **Grade 3 Service-Learning to benefit UNICEF** is greatly facilitated by the PTA Chairs. Caroline Schkolnick explained that unlike most years when the funds were used to diminish polio internationally by offering vaccinations, this year, most of the funds went to the children affected by the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia.
3. **Extra Lunch Friday**, once a month, provides well-balanced meals to school children who ordinarily would not have the much-needed nutrition during the day. The Westside Food Bank distributes the lunches.
4. **PTA Annual Toy Drive** for the holidays distributed bags of new toys to needy students at the Compton School District.
5. **Jeepers Creepers, We Want Your Peepers...** El Rodeo collected used eye glasses for "Sight Night" to help the less fortunate, prior to and during Halloween festivities. Lenscrafters and Lion Club International cleaned and hand-delivered the much-needed eye glasses to developing countries during their optical missions.
6. **In June, as part of district-wide community service**, the students brought in bathing suits, towels, and tennis shoes for Camp Harmony, a one week camp for needy children from South Los Angeles.

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# Hawthorne

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## NATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE: SHOWCASING JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

This year, Beverly Hills so proudly hosted a delegation from the National Service-Learning Conference held in Long Beach this Spring and we showcased Mike Lambert's (PE Coach at Hawthorne) "Jump Rope For Heart" Program, our 5<sup>th</sup> grade district-wide Service-Learning project. This exemplary program at Hawthorne involves the whole school in physical activities, Arts, Math, Language Arts, and Science.

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**JUMP ROPE FOR HEART...** Josh Schmidt's 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math class seized the heart-healthy project and closely examined the calorie count per item at McDonald's. Before doing this, the students watched the movie "Super Size Me".

Beverly Mense's Art classes memorialized the theme in art projects and Cherie Kaminsky recorded the activities on her digital camera.

## Other Involvement

Ellen Poltorak, Joy Lindsay, and Patti Thomas joined the El Rodeo kindergartners in The 100<sup>th</sup> Day Celebration. P.A.T.H. sent a lovely letter thanking the students for their \$200 contribution!

**To augment Safety Week, Anita Naiman's 1<sup>st</sup> grade** created fifty school safety rules. The children better internalized the rules when they designed their own safety signs.

Lisa Palmigiano's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders wanted to be "of service". They sold Valentines and candy to grades 1-3 and proudly raised \$162 for UNICEF and tsunami victims.

Kathryn Quiring's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders organized their own Canned Food Drive to benefit Feed The Hungry. Using bar graphs they were better able to visualize the types of food collected. Fish had the highest bar!

**How proud Kathie Quiring and Kathy Schaeffer's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes were after they read 100 books!** Scholastic Books matched the number read and donated 100 books to the needy schools.

The students loved the certificates and bookmarks they received as a thank you from Scholastic Books.

**DISTINGUISHED SENIOR CITIZENS...** Amy Whitney, Laura August, Linda Di Noble... Similarly to the Southern California Chumash, who honored their elders by listening to their legends around the evening fire, Hawthorne's 4<sup>th</sup> graders produced a class album and individual scrapbooks displaying the stories they had gleaned from a significant elder in their lives.

It is hoped that the individual scrapbooks will be "works in progress" for the students. "Distinguished Senior Citizens" beautifully develops the District's character education. Themes for 2003-2005: Respect, Responsibility, and Integrity.

Kim Wick helped her 6<sup>th</sup> graders do a home energy audit in conjunction with their study of energy. Students assessed how they and their families can better conserve energy and utilize alternative energy sources.

## A GIFT OF THE HEART... COMMUNITY SERVICE

Co-Chairs Dana Kiesel and Annette Saleh stated, "*What a busy and fulfilling year of community service at Hawthorne!*" The children worked through grade level community service clubs. Grades 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 participated!

**Grade 3...** They worked very hard putting together bags for the school-wide monthly Extra Lunch Collection.

**Grade 4...**

**A. Children's Hospital...** The children made cards and place mats.

**B. Dunbar Headstart Preschool...** They collected 100 Halloween and Christmas coloring books and created holiday cards. They continued to work on the wish list throughout the year.

**C. Extra Lunch Collection...** The students gave support to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.

**D. BookEnds... THE BIGGEST PROJECT!!!** Children supported the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Service-learning event, **collecting over 5,300 books!** Then the entire 4<sup>th</sup> Grade personally delivered them to the 95<sup>th</sup> Street Children Center and Elementary School. "*Our children were so welcomed*

*by the warm and wonderful reception afforded them. Every child learned what Community Service is truly about,*" expressed Dana and Annette.

**Grade 5...** The class continued the project they did last year in which they adopted a hospital that treats children with cancer and other long-term illnesses. Once a month, all 5<sup>th</sup> graders met to make cards. This way, the hospital was guaranteed about 90 cards monthly, which covered their patients for every major holiday.

**Grade 6... American Soldiers in Iraq...** The 6<sup>th</sup> graders chose this concern. For their two drives, they provided the publicity and collected the items. They collected bubble gum and granola bars, as requested by the soldiers and sent them directly to Iraq.

**Grade 7...** Most 7<sup>th</sup> graders combined their community service with their Bar and Bat-Mitzvahs, since that is a requirement for most synagogues.

**Grade 8...** All projects were organized and

financed by the students.

**A. Election Day Bake Sale...** to buy food and make sandwiches for the homeless which they hand-delivered to a shelter. Later, they baked cookies for them.

**B. Books For Empty Shelves...** The students raised enough money to buy 300 books from the Book Fair which they hand-wrapped in holiday paper.

**C. Operation School Bell...** 8<sup>th</sup> graders supported our 1<sup>st</sup> grade district-wide Service-Learning project.

**D. One Voice...** interfaces with less fortunate schools, organizations and families. The Extra Halloween Candy Drive provided bags of candy to be distributed by One Voice.

**E. BHEF Community Service Celebration...** 8<sup>th</sup> graders invited children to make holiday picture frames to help with One Voice's Christmas Day activity when children get to take pictures on Santa's lap. This project, along with extra efforts from Hawthorne and Brentwood School students, created enough frames for all of the families on Christmas Day!

**F. Camp Harmony...** Towels, bathing suits and sneakers were collected for needy children to be used at camp in August.

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# Horace Mann

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## The Power of Healing... School-wide Service-Learning!

**Christy Fuhrer**, teacher advocate, commented "I was so gratified to see the tremendous participation from students, teachers and parents making the tsunami relief effort such a **big success!**" From December through Open House, teachers, whenever possible, integrated lessons relative to the tsunami.

### From the Students

**Klarissa Hollander**, 1st grader: "I felt bad for the people that got hit by the Tsunami and I felt really lucky when I compared myself to them. The fair thing to do was to help those people by giving them money."

**Vincent Brock**, 5th grader: "I was relieved to find out that Horace Mann was participating in helping raise money for the Tsunami victims. There were a lot of people who participated and that meant more money for the orphanage [Clarendon Foundation]."

**Julia Ayeroff**, 7th grader: "It made me feel proud of Horace Mann that we were trying to make a difference in the world."

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**Ms. Call**, Art (1-8)... To better understand color as an expression of feeling and the concept of art as a healer, she designed projects to respond to the devastating disaster. **Ms. Fuhrer** involved the kindergarten, too! The artwork was magnificently displayed in the cafeteria for Open House.

**Mr. Fuhrer's computer students** created a powerful video that was used as a fundraiser kick-off assembly. In the video, K-8 students described the effects of the Tsunami on the people and how Horace Mann could help.

Under **Mr. Fuhrer's tutelage**, **Ms. Friedman's 4th graders** created postcards with tsunami Haiku poems and his 6th and 8th grade classes used Adobe Photoshop to produce unique artwork reflecting the devastation. Again, the special projects were on display in the cafeteria at Open House.

**Student Council**, with **Mr. Fuhrer** and **Lynn Gifford**, created Horace Mann's first rubber bracelet which was a huge success! As of June 6th, with more

money coming in, Horace Mann had raised \$2,500 which was directed to **Clarendon Foundation**, which provides long-term care to orphans in Sri Lanka.

**P.E. Coach, Ms. White**, had a walk-a-thon for each grade level which was tremendous. She had set up seven pylons around the track. The students stopped and read the attached sheets describing Tsunami facts. **Eric Shim**, 4th grader, "When I saw the facts on the cones, I compared myself to a person in Sri Lanka, and I felt so sorry for them. They lost everything."

**Ms. Lanzetta**, Music (grades 1-8) and **Mr. Bradbury's Advanced Band** taught their classes songs of hope and healing, which they performed at pre-Open House festivities. The musical contributions added a very special touch to the gathering.

During the fundraising period, **Ms. Rogaway**, librarian, gave many lessons on the children of Asia during the fundraising. "Her lessons were a true celebration of diversity," stated Christy Fuhrer.

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## Other Involvement

**Kindergarten (Goldstein, Kuechle, Lamm) MONARCH BUTTERFLY MIGRATION TO MEXICO...** Partnering with the **January North Internet Project**, students raised butterflies and collected cute butterfly art which they sent to Mexico. Their work was displayed in schools and museums. Wonderfully when the migration ended, artwork from across the United States was returned to the participants. The kindergartners practiced letter writing when they wrote responses.

**Mrs. Goldstein** stated, "They loved being a part of something really big and important."

**1st grade (Dagodag, Sadlier, Zinman)**... Using a variety of media, the young students created artwork donated to the **Berkeley Nursing Home** in Santa Monica. Using symmetrical butterflies and flowers the delightful designs brightened the lives of the sick and elderly.

**2nd grade (Cohen, Knowles, Winters/Woodring)**... The students participated in the district-wide project benefiting **People Assisting The Homeless (P.A.T.H.)** when they decorated shoe boxes for Valentine's Day and filled them with

non-perishables from each food group.

**Ms. Cohen's 2nd graders, 4th graders (Friedman, Fuhrer, Paul)** and the **5th grade team (Arth, Kreshek and Maisterra)** were involved in the **Scholastic Book Drive** benefiting Florida's public school libraries that were destroyed the hurricane. For every purchase order during the October Drive, **Scholastic Books** donated 5 books to rebuild libraries. All three grade levels were able to easily integrate science and language arts standards. From the students... "It is not fair if only we can learn, they also (kids in Florida) need books to learn." "It felt really good to donate books. It is good to supply schools with what they need."

**3rd grade... (Fleishman, Kaber, Pearce)** and the **4th grade Team** participated in the district-wide Trick or Treat for **UNICEF** Service-Learning project. The students practiced sorting and counting skills and they realized that even a penny has a significant value for suffering children in other parts of the world. In addition to giving to **UNICEF**, they gave one-half of their candy to the **Frontline Foundation** 818-363-1367 which feeds the homeless. First they sorted and graphed the candy.

**4th graders worked from the Time For Kids packets** which educated children on the mission of **UNICEF**. Students performed chores around the house, for which they earned money.

Again, **Horace Mann was named an Ambassador School**, having raised \$1,300!

**Ms. Pearce's class** compared the results of certain candy's popularity to the popularity of the political parties. Studying this comparison, the students seemed to better understand politics.

**The Holiday Clothing Drive was organized by the 4th graders.** They created the school flyers in tech class with **Christian Fuhrer**. Then they went from class to class with their prepared speeches, created posters and collected the clothing which was donated to **Goodwill**. In addition, they wrote friendly letters to the recipients. Two brave students from **Ms. Fuhrer's class** were invited to present their project to the Board of Education. "A proud moment for Horace Mann!" states **Christy Fuhrer**.

**Ms. Paul's 4th graders** created "How To" packets focusing on solving problems, experienced by students at school. Then the tech class with **Mr. Fuhrer** created professional-looking pamphlets

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# Horace Mann

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complete with color photos and attractive designs. The pamphlets were bound into a book which the students can now check out at the library!

**Ms. Friedman's class** wrote Friendly Letters to the Service People in the USO for Christmas; the children feeling very sympathetic to those who could not be home with family for the holidays.

**Finally, the 4th grade** orchestrated the district-wide **BookEnds Drive**. 3,000 donated books were hand-delivered to **Woodcrest Elementary**. *The teachers remarked how impressed they were with the leadership skills gained from the organization of the clothing and book drive and how much the students cared!*

**5th Grade... Horace Mann... (Arth, Kreshek, Maisterra)...** 5th graders embraced the district-wide Service-Learning project, Jump Rope For Heart, wherein students learned the importance of the circulatory system while beautifully linking life science and physical education standards. Students led the fundraising campaign for the **American Heart Association** as they solicited sponsorships. They proudly raised \$2,760!

**Ms. Maisterra... The Knitting Nation!** Using round looms, her 5th graders enthusiastically dedicated recess and lunch periods to knit colorful and stylish caps, to benefit cancer patients in

**Cedars-Sinai Pediatrics**. **Ms. Fuhrer** was a special speaker and openly discussed her cancer battle so they could easily identify a cancer survivor!

**The 4th Grade DARE Program with Officer Sweet** took a new twist this year! Her school's 4th graders were invited to the DARE Graduation and listened to speeches by the 5th graders. According to 4th grader, **Nicky Komlos**, *"I was amazed by the speeches and all the things I am going to learn next year."*

**The Librarian, Ms. Rogoway... The 1st and 2nd graders** loved the story of Officer Buckle and Gloria about the importance of safety rules around the school to support Safety Week. Throughout the year, she and the kids revisited these characters and their messages.

**For Red Ribbon Week**, listening to excerpts from "Getting High Naturally", the 6th graders wrote several paragraphs about how they get high naturally.

**Toys For Tots... At Christmas, Ms. Rogoway** encouraged her friends, who are alumni of Horace Mann, to add donations to the Horace Mann collection for **Toys For Tots** instead of their usual gift exchange. They were delighted with the idea.

**Ms. Lanzetta, Middle School Music**, had her students present different

performances to the school: one about protecting the environment (**The Lorax**) and the other about the value of tolerance. In addition, her choir performed for the elderly at the **Bridgeport**.

**Mr. Chun's 8th grade Environmental Science class** created steps to encourage Recycling! Honoring Earth Day, the students went into every class during the month of April and performed their original skits. They left bins and made weekly collections.

**Terry Brown's 8th graders** actively studied the Presidential Race! They did extensive research on a wealth of issues, watched three debates, profiled the candidates, created a campaign poster and designed a slogan. Active citizenry at work!

**Kids N Pets Walk-A-Thon... Coach White and Ms. Gifford** wanted to raise awareness of this organization that is dedicated to teaching life skills such as empathy, honesty, respect and accountability to inner city kids. \$500 was raised.

**Ms. Gifford's 6th-8th grade students** regularly visited the elderly home, **Bridgeport**, as they practiced their social skills and brightened the lives of the residents. This gave rise to important discussion on topics such as loneliness, acceptance and the need for better elderly self-care.

## A GIFT OF THE HEART... COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Kyle Blumberg

Thank you to Service-Learning Advocate, **Christy Fuhrer**, for her incredible dedication, commitment, and leadership, and to the teachers for their strong support! It is exciting to see the wonderful Service-Learning projects in which our children are involved.

Here is a summary of Community Service... Grades 1-5 (for 8 years!), monthly "extra" lunches! The **Westside Food Bank** collected them from the classrooms and distributed them to homeless shelters throughout the city. Students were encouraged to enclose a note or picture.

**September... School Supply Collection for School on Wheels** which provides tutoring to homeless children.

**October... BHBF Community Service/Walk For Our Schools...** Our students led the "Certificate of Appreciation" activity for the veterans at **New Directions**, a residential facility on the Westside for rehabilitation and vocational support.

**November... Frozen Turkey Drive for Thanksgiving...** The turkeys were arriving for days! and the district-wide Food Drive.

**December... Christmas Eve Feed The Hungry...** Once again, our school hosted this event (for 7 years) for the families across the district, 2000 lunch/dinners were made, the picked up by the **West Hollywood Food Coalition** and served on Christmas Day. Also, we supported the annual district Toy Drive benefiting children in the **Compton Schools**.

**Spring... Camp Heartland Fundraising...** For young people infected by HIV/AIDS.

**Fundraising for victims of the Tsunami...** All grades participated. The Middle School helped design and sell Horace Mann rubber bracelets. Oh, were they ever popular!

**May-June... Annual Camp Harmony collection...** Towels and tennis shoes were donated to this one-week summer camp for needy children from South Los Angeles.

**Finally, the Middle School After-School Club...** A new and very popular concept created and implemented by PTA Community Service. Once a month the older students participated in different projects to benefit the less fortunate. A sampling: sandwich-making; candy cane reindeer creations; holiday cards for the homeless; Valentine candy bags for the elderly; book marks and library kits for the school-wide book drive.

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# Endnotes

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## HARKHAM HILLEL ACADEMY, A FAITH-BASED PARTNER

### Joy of Giving

The 1st graders made a banner for pediatric patients at Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA, while the 2nd graders raised money doing extra chores at home to buy new books and games for donation to the children in the Critical Care Unit. Traci Reuben, teacher advocate, stated, "*Students enthusiastically embraced the idea of helping children their age who are suffering.*"

### Other Involvement

- Letters to the troops in Iraq
- Tsunami Drive and bake sale benefiting for victims
- BookEnds book drive
- Thanksgiving baskets for families in need

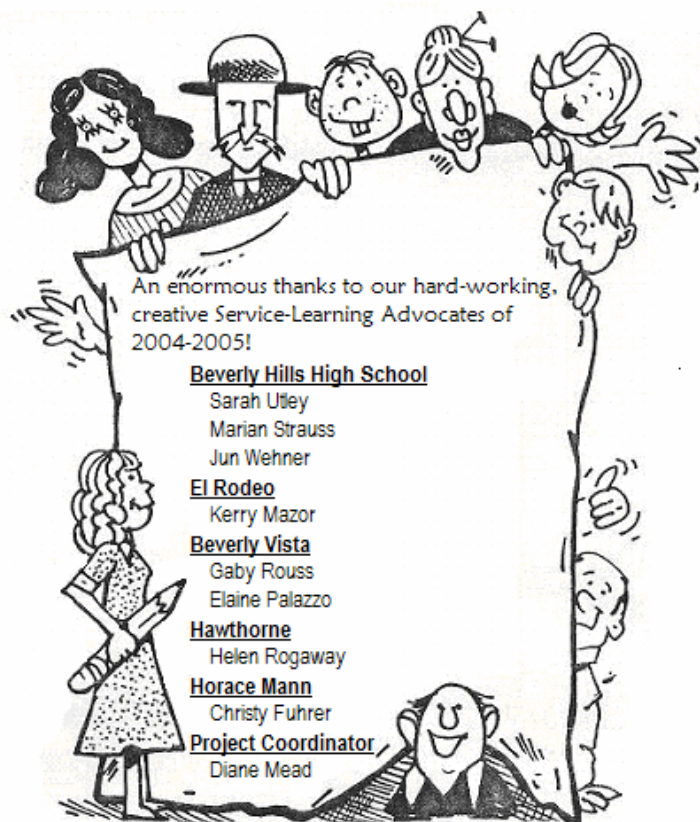
### Letter

It has been an amazing experience working with the Beverly Hills School District. They have been a wonderful mentor in Service-Learning, everyone so enthusiastic and supportive.

We share a common goal: to enrich the students and make a difference in the community.

Thank you, BHUSD, for taking Hillel under your wing!

Traci Reuben  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher  
Hillel Harkham Academy



THIS YEAR WE CONNECTED WITH OVER **50** DIFFERENT AGENCIES! WHAT INCREDIBLE ENRICHMENT FOR OUR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS! EACH YEAR WE ARE LEARNING BETTER AND BETTER HOW FULFILLING IT IS TO ENHANCE LEARNING BY BRINGING **REAL LIFE** INTO THE CLASSROOM.

Please visit the Service-Learning website at <http://webs.bhusd.k12.ca.us/calserve>

*As you take children  
by the hand, they will  
take you by the heart...*

**Wow! Look at this year's 'Numbers'!**

**Some of the largest contributions!**



**Hooray for our Schools!**

This year, the combined efforts of the children, parents, teachers, and administrators raised over \$85,000!