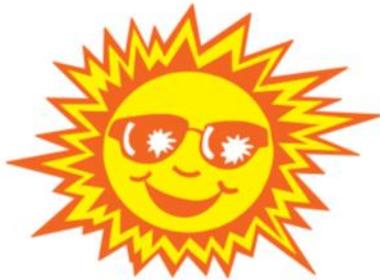


SERRANIA CHARTER FOR ENRICHED STUDIES



*Serrania's motto:
Inspiration,
Imagination,
Innovation*

May 2014



Serrania

**Saturday
May 10,
2014**



Summer is just around the corner, which means it's **Fun Fair** time! This year promises to be bigger and grander than ever before with over 15 inflatable game booths from Camp Keystone, the Extreme Game Truck, the infamous Soak 'n' Wet, Universal Airbrushing, Wax Creations, Tarzana Kid's Art, Ameci's Pizza, and off course the return of all our classic carnival games! This year also includes our ever-popular auction and well-loved quilts by Mrs. Wolff!

Classic Fun! Serrania's Fun Fair is scheduled for May 10th, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. and is sure to be a spectacular site to see! This year, we've already gotten the chance to see Mrs. Wedaa transformed into an ice-cream sundae, now you'll get the chance to soak her too, all thanks to Ms. Arnesen's 3rd grade class's booth, **where you'll have the opportunity to not only soak your principal but also your teachers, Mrs. Tenzer & Mrs. Cole and much more!!!** Be sure to join us for your chance to play and win at all your favorite Fun Fair booths!

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Fun Fair ...Continued



New Attractions! Are you ready for a cool time?! Come try the newest sensation sweeping the nation! *Water Tag* is an interactive, entertaining, competitive and refreshing attraction for all ages, in a giant 35' by 35' inflatable maze! Thanks to Camp Keystone (teamplyevents.com), Serrania's Fun Fair will be adding a number of new, fun inflatable game booths. Want to see if you're better than Lebron? Come challenge yourself at some serious hoop skills at the *Slam Dunk* booth. Can you 'bend it like Beckham'? Come test your soccer skills at the *Soccer Kick*. Better yet, test your golf swing at the *Golf Tee* and see if you can compete in the Masters Tournament! All compliments of Camp Keystone! teamplyevents.com

Returning Favorites! Are you a gamer?! Then, our *Extreme Game Truck* is what you are looking for! With over a thousand game to choose from, the game truck promises to take you to the edge while cooling you off from the sun in air climate controlled atmosphere! With six big screen TV's, and up to 24 gamers at once, you'll play comfortably in limo style interior seats. Featuring Xbox 360, Play Station 3, and Nintendo Wii games systems offering an incredible number of age and content appropriate games, this is the place for gamers of all ages. Visit ExtremeGameTruck.com to learn more.



For those of you who love to win prizes, we've got Dr. To, DDS. (smilingseadentist.com) to thank for sponsoring an amazing selection of toys and goodies for you to win while playing great games! You can play the classic game of *Tic-Tac-Toe* or try your luck at the *Lucky Key*. Or maybe you'd prefer a game of *Ring Toss* or the ever popular *Toilet Paper Toss*? Then be sure to join us on May 10th for your chance to play and WIN! We'd also like to thank the Mape Family for the return of the infamous Nickelodeon Slime - back again this year, with a vengeance! Think you can pick the right side on the Nose Pick? Come and give it your best shot!

Feeling artistic? Then stop by Tarzana Kid's Art booth (kidsartclasses.com/Tarzana) and put your skills to the test with their professional guidance, or show mom how much she means to you by making her an origami painted flower at our Arts and Crafts booth.

Want to look like your favorite Disney princess or a scary monster? What about a superhero? If so, allow Eder Bean Face Art to turn your face into a masterpiece. You'll have a wide variety of face art and glitter tattoos to choose from (ederbeanfaceart.com). Ever make a replica of your hand? If not, here's your chance! Hand Wax Creations will help you create infinite shapes and forms of art pieces. Dip your hand into the liquid wax and create your own hands impressions. It's as easy as 1 2 3! waxcreation.com



Satisfy your Hunger! For all you foodies out there, this year's Fun Fair will have something special for you as well! Our popular BBQ pit is back again this year, featuring a variety of choices that everyone is sure to enjoy. And thanks to Ameci Pizza in Woodland Hills, (ameciwoodlandhills.com), we'll have pizza and salad as well. Cool down with Menchie's frozen yogurt, everyone's favorite choice. Want to munch on something sweet? Find Mrs. Ellis's snack shack and get a treat for yourself! For all you popcorn lovers, Enolas Kettle Corn has provided us with their delicious and one of a kind kettle corn! You haven't lived until you try Enolas! Enolaskettlecorn.com

And, back due to popular demand, is our annual *Fun Fair Auction!* Come place your bids on an amazing array of gift baskets! Want to pamper yourself, or even better, pamper mom this Mother's Day? Come bid on our luxurious "Spa-Day" basket filled with spa gift cards and beauty supplies. Looking for something for dad? Then check out our "Out-door Grilling" basket that's sure to turn any dad's head. Don't feel like cooking? Bid on our "What's for Dinner" basket, featuring gift cards from local restaurants. Are you sport's fanatic? Get the "Sports Fanatic" basket before anyone else! Don't forget to stop by the Auction and check out these incredible offers and much, much more! Highest bidder wins and ALL proceeds go directly to support 'Serrania Charter for Enriched Studies.'

Continuing a Serrania tradition, our wonderful 2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Wolff has been working hard creating beautiful quilts with our children that will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

School outfit- \$50, a family night out \$100, a week of summer camp- \$300, bidding and winning the only handmade art piece from child's class - PRICELESS!!!

A big thank you to Mrs. Wolff for her continuous support and generosity as well as all the teachers, staff and volunteers whose efforts are certain to make this important annual event such an remarkable success.

Be there! With all these fun and amazing activities, Serrania's 2014 Fun Fair promises to be a one of a kind event! A big thank you to our sponsors, Camp Keystone/Team play events, Woodland Hills Ameci Pizza, Dr. Michelle To, DDS, and everyone else participating on May 10, 2014; 11-4! We look forward to seeing all your smiling faces!

*If you have any questions or would like to sponsor a booth or volunteer, please contact Debi Shaolian-
Serraniafunfair@gmail.com.*





**SERRANIA'S ANNUAL
BIG SUNDAY CAMPUS
BEAUTIFICATION EVENT**

**8am-2pm,
Sunday, May 18**

Join Us to help make *Serrania Charter* an even better and more beautiful place. Working together we will plant new trees and shrubs, weed, rake and sweep the campus.

This is a fulfilling and music-filled day for everyone that includes a fun lunch break.

Those interested in participating with the other approximate 100 who help out, need to register for our specific campus event at

www.my.bigsunday.org/167



Staff Appreciation Week: May 12th—May 16th

We all know that Serrania Charter for Enriched Studies is a special school... and I'm sure you'd agree that the most important reason it continues to be such an amazing place is because of our wonderful SCES staff!

In recognition of their skill, passion and hard work, May 12th – 16th has been designated *Serrania Staff Appreciation Week!* So join us as we get ready to shower our school staff with some well deserved thanks and appreciation. We hope you'll take a moment to thank your teachers and Serrania staff members for all the wonderful things they do all year. The smallest gesture can go a long way. Simply writing a kind note or poem, or bringing a flower from your garden will put a smile on your teacher's face. It's the perfect time to remember and recognize those who work so hard to make Serrania Shine.



Throughout the week, our parent volunteers will be busy getting ready to surprise our staff with a variety of treats and surprises! Please help us make this week possible by donating to the *Staff Appreciation Luncheon* by sending in \$5 (or whatever you care to contribute) in an envelope marked 'Staff Appreciation' and drop it off in the office or give it to your teacher. If you would like to volunteer for this event, or have any questions, please email Amy Lichtenstein @ Fos@serraniaavenue.org

May – An important month for Friends of Serrania! By Shannon Hall, FOS President

Allocation and Elections! May is when FOS board members vote on the allocation of funds for next year. In other words, we vote where to spend the money that we've raised this year. Last year we raised a combined \$77,000 and allocated money to fund the PE program, the MUSIC Program, Accelerated Reader Program, the Phillips Institute Psychological services contract, new Mac laptops for the teachers (which arrived in April), gardening services and funds for the green team and administrative funds. We usually vote based on recommendations from parents, teachers and Principal Wedaa. Have a great idea or believe something should be modified or added? Make sure you contact FOS immediately or speak with Principal Wedaa for your chance to be heard.

May is also the month we elect the new Board for Friends of Serrania. We want to thank board members Karen Solari, Lisa Hassas, Lauri Aud, Lesa Glucroft and Rob Glucroft for their undying dedication to the success of our parent groups and our school over the last 6+ years. They are 5th grade parents whose kids are culminating and leaving our school. We will miss their love for the school and their experience greatly. Interested in becoming a board member? It doesn't take experience, just a willingness to help the school and volunteer at events. We have monthly meetings usually on the third Thursday of the month. Child care is available. These meetings are always open to all parents.

There are lots of opportunities to help – and serve our school. We have committee chair positions open, we are electing a new board, or just volunteer to help a committee. Come and try your hand at leading! Have an idea for a new fundraiser and want to try it at Serrania? Come share! Elections of all board members will take place May 22nd. Don't want to hold a board position? Be a committee chair or co-chair! Here are just some of the opportunities available: Newsletter co-chair, Bookfair co-chair, Gift Shop co-chair, Shine on Serrania campaign co-chair, Box Tops chair, Walkathon chair, Spell-A-Thon chair, Halloween Arts and Craft Night Chair and more! One of the most rewarding things you can do as a parent is volunteer at your child's school – your kids will love seeing you involved.

Please contact FOS@SerraniaAvenue.org asap if you are interested or have any questions.

When Do I Need to Seek Help for My Child's Speech, Language, or Hearing?

by Lauri Aud, Time for Speech Therapy, Inc. lauriaud@sbcglobal.net. Lauri volunteered at our recent Parent Seminar Series event on this topic

Knowing when to seek help for your child is often challenging. Thankfully, the teachers and staff at Serrania are passionate and skilled enough to help you make that decision. Below is a brief description of the speech challenges so many children face and some tools to identify issues that might benefit from additional help and attention.

The basics of speech development:

There are three main areas of speech development: articulation, language, and hearing/auditory processing.

1. Articulation is the pronunciation of sounds and words.

General age of mastery:

3 years: [p, b, m, h, w] 4 years: [t, d, n,]

5 years: [k, g, f, v, y] 6 years: [l, blends (st, pl, gl, etc.)

7 years: [sh, ch, j, th] 9 years: [s, z, r]

If a child omits sounds in the beginning of words or is understandable less than 75% by age 3, seek a professional evaluation. To find a licensed speech-language pathologist, contact your pediatrician, The American Speech - Language Hearing Association at ASHA.org, or your local school.

2. Language refers to understanding others and expressing yourself. Encourage your child to share information by giving them open-ended questions. For example: "Tell me 3 things that happened at school today," rather than "Did you have fun with your friends?" or "What happened today?". Keep in mind that right after school your child may need some time to decompress. Try conversing at dinner with each person's "Highs and Lows" for the day, or while snuggling at bedtime.

3. Hearing/Auditory processing includes hearing, processing and understanding what is said. If your child has difficulty following 2-step directions, give him one direction, pause, and when he is almost finished, say the second direction. This gives him time to process what is said and helps build memory.

Interaction with your child is key. Listening attentively and providing appropriate speech models goes a long way toward your child's speech, language and hearing development.

UPCOMING PAENTTING SEMINAR

8 a.m., Tues, May 6: Raising Confident, Respectful, Happy Children

Any Questions? Ask Andy
aweisser@earthlink.net

MAY MOVIE NIGHT!

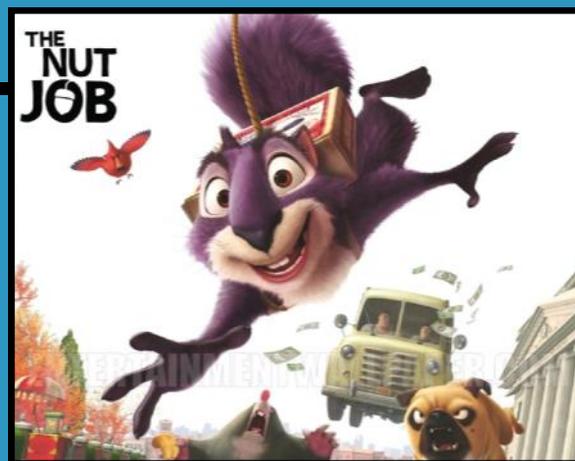
The Nut Job! Last movie night of the year!!!

Serrania Movie Nights are hosted by our Friends of Serrania as part of their ongoing fundraising efforts, so we hope you'll join us for this special night!

So be sure to wear your PJ's, bring a blanket and enjoy this Fun Family Event!

Tickets are just \$5, Pizza and snack items are just \$1

Remember, every child must be accompanied by an adult.



Friday, May 30th at 6:00p.m



Relay For Life! *By Yevette Peterson*



Serrania was IN THE HOUSE at Relay For Life on April 5-6th!! We had well over 125 Serrania students, teachers, and family members represented across four teams: Serrania Suns, Serrania Teachers Teaming to Cure, Y's Relay Rockstars, and the Relay Runt Strikers (a kids-only team led by Bryce and Pierce Peterson!). Serrania can proudly boast that we achieved the GOLD fundraising level by raising over \$5,300 with the Serrania Suns team and the Serrania Teacher team!

More importantly, Serrania was there to cheer on the remarkable cancer survivors at the Opening Ceremony, honor and remember those who've fought cancer by writing luminaria bags and participating in the moving Luminaria Ceremony and in the spirit of the event, enjoy the music, food, gamFes, and festivities even as we gave back to our community!



A special congratulation goes out to Serrania alum Daniel Klosterman, for truly embracing the spirit of Relay by walking for over 206 laps and 24.6 MILES! Daniel together with 5th grader Piper Mape also played a special role by welcoming and registering cancer survivors.

Though there is not enough space to appropriately recognize all of the 'Serrania Suns' who did so much to make the event a success and help Serrania truly shine, it's important to highlight a select few: Ms. Arnesen, Ms. Vassallo, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Riley, Ms. Sanchez, Ms. Tenzer, Mrs. Sperber, and of course Mrs. Wedaa; Amy Klosterman and Amy Lichtenstein; Jennifer Termini; Marc Blaiwes; Sadye Davenport; Shannon Hall, Monique Torres, Christi Sibul, Gina Butler-Galleria; Lisa Hassas; Orit Bonver; Ilisa Pasternak; The Throop Family; Ben and Ali Lichtenstein; Bryce, Pierce, and Mike Peterson.

Thankfully, we have a lot of cancer survivors in our Serrania family... but it's also true that too many of us have lost people we love. Being a part of the Woodland Hills 'Relay for Life' was a wonderful way to demonstrate that Serrania truly cares about giving. Together we were able to celebrate, remember, and fight back against cancer with our community! Serrania did well! We should be proud.



UNSUNG HEROES

By Shannon Hall, FOS President



An 'Unsung Hero' is defined as "One who does great deeds but receives little or no recognition for them." As I'm sure many of you know, Serrania is lucky enough to count many "unsung heroes" among our volunteers, and we'd like to change that, and start recognizing and thanking them for all they do!

Have you seen Jeff Sturges around campus? I'll bet you have! He is a kinder parent who is in charge of updating our school marquee. He puts up birthdays and school announcements. He and Christine Guerra are from Mrs. Cole's class and you can catch them volunteering at the snack shack for Pizza Tuesday each week, helping collate the Tuesday packets in the copy shed on Mondays and helping manage the crowd on Thursdays for Jamba Juice or Shave It Hawaiian Ice.

Love art? Well, Sigal Eliav does as well, and she has volunteered to help our Serrania students expand their love of art too! She comes to campus every Thursday to volunteer - offering art lessons at lunch near the library. Any student can join the fun and learn to create their own masterpiece!

A HUGE 'Thank You' also goes out to our fabulous Kinder Gate Valet volunteers: Amy Klosterman, Adrienne Doty, Yvette Peterson, Shannon Hall, Monica Rincon, Robin Walter, Monica Reyes, Carolanne Valvo, Lana Zukovski, Jake Smith, Lisa Gilbane and Andy Weisser. They show up weekly to help our kids get on campus quickly and safely. This program is led by Debby Dustin.

Have you seen our gorgeous planters lately? Spring has really made our plants pop! Thank you to our wonderful plant watering team: Ernie Baysinger, Jennifer Termini, Jill Williamson, Tonya Rasmussen, Sarah Houghton, Ilisa Pasternak, Victoria Jourdan, Jenifer and Tyler Adams and Lisa Gilbane.

You too can get involved – just ask the office where your help is needed, or contact FOS at the email address below. There is a spot for everyone.

If you know of an "unsung hero" at Serrania, please email FOS@SerraniaAvenue.org with the information so we can feature this parent in our next article!



Accelerated Reader quizzing will be available this summer at the Woodland Hills branch library.

Good work to the following students who took 27 quizzes over Spring break:

Shruthi Rm. 15, Nikhil Rm. 16, Saishriya Rm 17, Alissa Rm. 22, Sai Rm. 33, and Serena Rm. 35.

Please visit the Accelerated Reader page on

serraniaavenue.org for updates.