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School News

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Covering the Long Beach Unified School District
Serving the communities of Long Beach, Lakewood & Signal Hill

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Eagle Scout Troop 212 to the Rescue

By Joan Parker, Bixby Elementary Garden Club Teacher and Rese Jacobs, Principal

Many thanks to our local Boy Scout Troops who enrich our communities near and far.

Bixby School's garden needed some finishing touches around the borders and a little sprucing up. Richard Brisson, the Eagle Scout lead, and his fellow 212 Eagle Troop members came to the rescue. Richard chose the Bixby Garden as his Eagle Scout community project. We were honored and pleased to be considered.

There were several steps involved to get the project off the ground. First, Richard Brisson met with the district personnel and his Eagle Scout leaders to review his written proposal. Richard organized a work schedule with his fellow Troop 212 members, selected contractors, and other involved parties.



Parents Ali Ghandchi and Ron Brisson, Scout Leader Richard Brisson, Scouts Babak Ghandchi and Nick Bass, Parent Dan Bass

The real work began when Troop 212 prepared the grounds by digging out trenches, transplanting plants, and pulling out the weeds. Next, they poured concrete into foundations they constructed to form the beautiful borders around the garden areas. The borders provided an attractive, designated walking path around the garden. Troop 212 also poured the foundation for two arched trellises which will look amazing when the ivy and grape leaves begin to grow and intertwine around them. The scout troop also cleared a



Bixby Elementary completed garden

bigger area for us to put in benches and a table for our garden club which will make a great place to enjoy wonderful books or quiet reflection time!

Our garden is healthier and more vibrant than ever. Many classrooms have planted and harvested their crops in the class plots. Even the local butterflies are enjoying the colorful flowers and plants.

SEE BIXBY ELEMENTARY • PAGE 7

International Peace Choir



Does your child enjoy singing and dancing? Please see page 6.

Electives Inside:

- Mayor of Signal Hill ..Page 2
- LA Maritime Institute3
- The LB Branch NAACP.....3
- Boys & Girls Club of LB4
- The Junior League of LB.....5
- International Peace Choir ..6
- The American Red Cross6
- LINC Housing.....6
- LBUSD Schools7-11
- Girlfriends 12
- University Art Museum.....12
- Pacific Hospital of LB 13
- Kellie Kawaguchi13
- CA Aquatic Therapy 14
- The Jazz Angels.....14
- El Dorado Nature Center ..14

Barton *Elementary*

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Luana Wesley
Principal

Student Service Learning

By *Kelley Roberts, Teacher – Kindergarten*

Barton School is fortunate to have two student service learners, Darienga Smalley and Marcus Saem, volunteering and dedicating their time in the office and the classrooms.

Smalley is currently a junior who is home-schooled at Opportunities for Learning and expects to transfer to Lakewood High School for his senior year. His goal is to complete more than

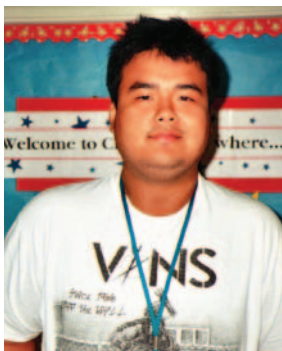
200 hours of service learning, as he prides himself as being an overachiever. "Not too many people in my family have graduated, so I want to give my mom the privilege of seeing me graduate with as many honors as possible," said Smalley. He sees his time at Barton as his first job experience, organizing classroom materials and helping students with their writing. He plans to attend California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) to become a lawyer or a teacher in the future.

Saem, a senior at Jordan High School, came to Barton because his nephew is in attendance here and his high school counselor advised him of the opportunity. He enjoys helping in the office doing clerical work and sees his time at Barton as an invaluable learning experience. In the future, he plans to attend Long Beach Community College (LBCC) and is interested in business and technology. "I would like to manage an office or possibly become a principal," said Saem.

Thank you so much, Darienga and Marcus, for your hard work! You are the best!



Darienga Smalley, Junior.



Marcus Saem, Senior.

Bixby *Elementary*

5251 E. Stearns St., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/498-3794 • www.lbusd.k12.ca.us:81/bixby/



Rese Jacobs
Principal

Eagle Scout Troop 212 Continued from page 1

We are so fortunate to have such supportive stakeholders in the Bixby School community. The Bixby PTA Garden Club and other sponsors graciously gave donations to help support the project. A special thanks goes to John Douglas, the Troop 212 Scout Master, for teaching Richard Brisson, a Life Scout, the values of working in his community with his fellow scouts. We also appreciated the support from John Nimmons, the Long Beach Unified School District Maintenance Manager, who assisted Richard with the logistics of the project on his own time. What a great team.

Many thanks to our local Boy Scout Troops who enrich our communities near and far. Richard & Troop 212 - You Rock- THANK YOU for all of your hard work.

Bryant *Elementary*

4101 E. Fountain St., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/498-3802 • www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/bryant/index.htm



Doris Robinson
Principal

Assisting Others

By *Murlyn E. Burkes, Speech and Language Specialist*

The second grade classes at Bryant School have spent the last several years providing visits to the assisted living facility across from the school. The children make gifts and learn songs to shower on the elderly people who reside there. When the facility knows the children are arriving, most of the people are ready to greet them with smiles. The children understand that these people are injured, ill or unable to care for themselves. All that the children and teachers want to do for the people living there is bring some joy into their lives. We are sure that they do that at least once a year or more.

Bear Hugs

At Bryant, the mascot is the bear. That is why the bear hug award is such an enormous part of daily activity here. Every day the children are working hard to pick up trash, help teachers in the classroom, assist other students or just do something good for the school. That is why teachers select students daily for a bear hug award. The student's name then goes into a bear hug jar in the classroom. At the end of the week, the teacher selects two names from the jar who are the winners of the week. Then their names are announced over the intercom and the principal, Mrs. Robinson, has them come to her office to select a small prize. Students have really kept the school clean and they are learning ways to improve service learning. Keep up the great work kids!

CAMS

1000 E. Victoria St., Carson, CA 90747 • (310) 243-2025 • www.californiaacademy.org



Janice Filer, Ed.D.
Principal

The Entire School Involved

For the past three years, CAMS has been involved in various service learning activities. CAMS received a California Service Learning Leader Award for its dedication to service learning. Our robotics team continues to mentor middle school students in robotics to help close the achievement gap in math and science. Our social studies department holds an annual service learning day for the entire school. This year's topic is world culture and is scheduled for May. The social studies department has attended extensive summer training in service learning.

The entire school will be involved in workshops facilitated by students, community members, and parents. The workshop sessions will be held for three hours and will conclude at lunch. During lunch the students will hold a multicultural fair which will include cultural dance, food, music and other activities. In previous years, CAMS has held workshops on discrimination, social justice, and other economic issues.

CAMS is proud of its efforts to provide students with service learning opportunities.

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