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NEWS BRIEFS

Early childhood screening scheduled

Early childhood screening for children ages birth to 5 with suspected delays in speech, language or development, who live within the boundaries of Comal ISD, will be on Thursday, Sept. 22. The screening will be at Rahe Bulverde Elementary School, Startzville Elementary School and Freiheit Elementary School from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The screening is provided at no charge.

Please call Pat Hermes at 830.221.2042 or Erika Guidino (espanol) at 830.221.2019 to schedule an appointment.

MVMS receives \$3,000 literacy grant

Mountain Valley Middle School (MVMS) has received a \$3,000 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation for its proposed "Listening to Learn Literature Project."

“We are proud to support your efforts to promote literacy, and we wish you every success in the coming year,” according to Rick Dreiling, chairman and CEO of Dollar General. “Dollar General believes literacy is the foundation upon which all other success is built.

The MVMS grant is one of 222 awarded throughout the country. The youth literacy grants provide funding to schools to help students who are below grade level or who experience difficulty reading.

Open houses scheduled throughout CISD

As the 2011-12 school year gets under way, open houses are scheduled throughout September at Comal ISD campuses. Please check the district website, www.comalisd.org, for more information. Progress reports will be mailed home on Friday, Sept. 16 and Friday, Sept. 23 is a student holiday for the Comal County Fair.

- Today, Sept. 6: Morningside Elementary, 5:30 p.m.; Church Hill Middle School, 6 p.m.; Hoffmann Lane Elementary, 4th Grade parent meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 7, Hoffmann Lane Elementary, 2nd Grade parent meeting, 6 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 8, Goodwin Frazier Elementary, 5:30 p.m.; Specht Elementary, 6 p.m.; Hoffmann Lane Elementary kindergarten parent meeting, 6 p.m.

- Tuesday, Sept. 13, Freiheit Elementary, 6 p.m.; Canyon Middle School, 6:15 p.m.; Arlon Seay Elementary, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 15, Oak Creek Elementary for kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade, 6 p.m.; Rahe Bulverde Elementary, 6 p.m.; Rebecca Creek Elementary for kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade, 6 p.m.; AC-MECHS, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Sept. 19, Canyon Lake High, 5:30 p.m.; Smithson Valley High, 6 p.m.; Rebecca Creek Elementary for kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades, 6 p.m.; Canyon High, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 20, Mountain Valley Middle, 6:30 p.m.; Smithson Valley Middle, 6th grade, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 22, Oak Creek Elementary for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Sept. 26, Rebecca Creek for grades 3rd, 4th and 5th, 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 27, Smithson Valley Middle School for grades 7th and 8th, 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 28, Johnson Ranch Elementary for grades kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade, 6 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 29, Johnson Ranch Elementary for grades 3rd, 4th and 5th, 6 p.m.

Community invited to Rachel's Challenge event

With the goal of "starting a chain reaction of kindness and compassion," the Canyon Lake Community Coalition (CLCC) will be participating in Rachel's Challenge on Sept. 12 and 13 at various schools, culminating with a community wide event on the evening of Sept. 13.

Rachel Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Her acts of kindness and compassion coupled with the contents of her six diaries have become the foundation for one of the most life-changing school programs in America.

Students who participate view video footage of her life and the Columbine tragedy designed to motivate them to making positive change in the way they treat others.

"Students and community members have the power to make permanent, positive, cultural change in their schools and community by starting a chain reaction of kindness and compassion," according to the CLCC goal.

Presentations will be at Startzville and Rebecca Creek elementary schools and Mountain Valley Middle School on Monday, Sept. 12. On Tuesday, Sept. 13, the presentations will be at Canyon Lake High School. Approximately 100 students from both Mountain Valley and Canyon Lake will go through leadership training to keep the "challenge" moving forward at their schools.

A community event is planned for Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the CRRC Recreation Center. Parents, students and community members are invited to attend. For more

information, please contact Kate O'Reilly, counselor at Mountain Valley Middle School, 830.885.1314.

It's cookin' at Johnson Ranch Elementary

Johnson Ranch Elementary students will be encouraged to read this year with a cooking theme. They will discuss how they can develop a recipe for success by reading. The children in Nicole Liebau's kindergarten class discussed how to take care of books by placing them in a special spot at home. They will visit the library, or Book Café, each Monday and develop a flavor for reading with librarian Stephanie Hockman.