



## “PATHFINDER “THURSDAY THOUGHTS”

Good, Better Best! Never Let It Rest, Until Good Is Better And Better Is Best!” April 2009

### LET'S MAKE A DATE:

#### APRIL 20

Arbor Day trees for all 2nd graders

6:30 p.m. TransParenting Class at Pathfinder

#### MAY 1

Wills, Wilk and Christoffersen to Camp Pandalouan

#### MAY 5

Mobile Dentist returns

#### MAY 6

Mobile Dentist @ Pathfinder

#### MAY 7

Miller & Whittle to Pine & Dunes

Tuuk & Campbell to Country Dairy

#### MAY 8

Brainstormer Assembly

#### MAY 12

Abendroth & Berens to Pine & Dunes

1:30 p.m. Release Time Bible Class

#### MAY 14

Delia and Ferris to Meijer Gardens

#### MAY 15

Kallenbach & Kempf to Pine & Dunes

#### MAY 19

3rd graders visit Daisy Brook

#### MAY 22

Field Day at Pathfinder

### Mr. Cassidy's Comments

#### Service to Humanity is the Best Work of Life!

As an educator I work in a field that's centered upon helping people. Working with people, to improve their quality of life, is to me the most fulfilling endeavor one can undertake. So you can imagine, as a parent, how my heart swelled with pride during a recent discussion with my son when he stated: "Dad, business is about pleasing people and I'd really rather help them."

For most of the past year, as he prepares for graduation, our career conversations have generally include his desire to earn a (rich) living by owning a business. So I was kind of surprised recently when my son described how he had developed a passion for helping people and wanted to pursue a career in health care-which is a very service oriented field filled with caring people dedicated to improving the lives of others.

While I am very proud of the person my son is growing into I am sharing our discussion only because at the end of every school year there are award ceremonies. While teachers and administrators wrap-up year end academics and prepare to send off children to the next level they also choose the most outstanding from a spectrum of categories such as writer, artist, and athlete, and other parents are justifiably proud of their children as well.

Every year adults are also recognized for their exceptional contributions to their professions. This year three Pathfinder educators were nominated for Teacher of the Year: Steve Christoffersen (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) Ryan Ransom (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and Dave Wojcicki (counselor). Mr. Wojcicki represented our building at the county wide awards night.

Schools cannot function well without their volunteers and whether they are mentors, foster grandparents, or parents who head committees or make popcorn, good volunteers are the lifeblood of good schools. This year there were many wonderful people nominated for district wide Volunteer of the Year. Everyone of these unselfish people contributed generously of their time and energy to improving the quality of life for our educators and students. This year, our own PTO president, SaQuana Mott, earned the distinction

## **Service to Humanity is the Best Work of Life! (continued)**

of Volunteer of the Year. SaQuana represented Fremont Public Schools and received the "I Care About Children" award at a Dogwood Center ceremony, during which other volunteers were honored as well.

As the administrator for Pathfinder you can imagine how my heart swelled with pride as I heard Mr. Wojcicki's name read-off with all the other Teacher of the Year nominees from throughout the county, and watched from the audience as SaQuana received her award for Volunteer of the Year. Along with all the other administrators in Newaygo County I feel a deep sense of gratitude to be able to work with such tremendously dedicated and capable people.

The title of this article is taken from the last line of the Jaycee Creed. The Jaycees are a superb service organization I was proud to have been a member of for a long time. Below is the creed in full:

### **We Believe:**

That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life; That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations; That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise; That government should be of laws rather than of men; That earth's great treasure lies in human personality; **And that service to humanity is the best work of life.**

## **SPRING PROGRAMS**

Your children have been working very hard in their music class and are eager to show you what they have been learning. Please plan to attend our spring programs next Friday, April 24th. The times scheduled are:

8:45 a.m.— Red Pod

9:45 a.m.— Purple Pod & Mrs. Whittle's students

1:00 p.m.— Blue Pod

2:30 p.m.— Green Pod



We hope you can join us!

**ATTENTION RED POD PARENTS.** . . Ms. Cosens would like to have your child wear red, white or blue for your program if possible. Thanks!

## **LOVE & LOGIC CLASSES**

If you are interested in attending a Love & Logic class, please take note of the following information:

This 4 week course is offered at:  
**Pathfinder Elementary School**  
**May 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th**  
**from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

**There will be a one time charge of \$10.00 for this class. There will be parent handbooks, door prizes and FREE childcare!**

This course has been funded through  
**The Fremont Area Community foundation.**

To register, please contact Deb Miller at 834-7382, ext. 104

## **UPCOMING TRANSPARENTING CLASSES . . .**

### **TransParenting: Parenting Successfully through the Transition of Divorce and/or Separation**

TransParenting is a five-hour, interactive experience that focuses on how effective parenting during this time of transition can lessen the negative impact of divorce and parental separation on children.

Presented By:

**Deb Miller LMSW, LCSW, School Social Worker**  
**Dave Raquet MA, LMFT, Bethany Christian Services**

This 2 evening course is offered:

**April 20th and April 27th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**  
**At Pathfinder Elementary School in Fremont**  
**One time \$10 enrollment Charge Per Person**

**To Register: Contact Deb Miller at 834-7382, ext. 104**

This course has been partially funded through the **Fremont Area Community Foundation.**

## **OUR CAFETERIA NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

Are you current on your child's lunch account? Not sure? Please take a moment to stop by or call the school cafeteria at 924-7262. The end of the year is fast approaching and they need to have all accounts paid up. Please help them out by taking care of this matter as soon as possible. Remember that any balance left on your child's lunch account will carry over to next year. Thanks for your help with this!



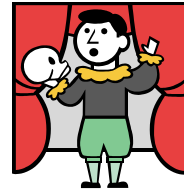
## ADVANCE NOTICE FOR 3RD GRADERS . . .

Swimming dates for this year are May 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and June 1st, 2nd and 3rd.



## BRAINSTORMERS ARE RETURNING!

The Brainstormers will be returning to Pathfinder on Friday, May 8th for two more assemblies. They will be performing some of our students very own stories! The Brainstormers continue to be a big favorite for the students and staff alike at Pathfinder, and we look forward to their return!



## 3RD GRADERS VISIT DAISY BROOK

On May 19th, our 3rd graders will have the opportunity to visit Daisy Brook Elementary to get a glimpse of what their new school will be like next year. During their visit, they will have time to tour the building and meet some of the staff and students. This visitation helps our students with any questions or concerns they may have about moving to a different school.



## PATHFINDER ART NEWS

For the month of April students will create art work using signs and symbols used by the Aboriginal people of Australia. We will also be learning how Georges Sturat pointillism and Australian dot painting are similar.



Please watch for a flyer coming home with your student regarding tie dying T-shirts for field day. Thank you!

Mrs. Muma

## BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Watch your child's backpack for a pizza collection sheet. We will be having a pizza party for the classroom that brings in the most box tops. You can also turn in 10 box tops for a free bag of popcorn on popcorn Fridays, and still have it count toward that pizza party. Please make sure you have them labeled with your name and your teacher's name, and make sure to check the expiration dates . . . expired labels do not count! If you have any questions, please contact SaQuana Mott at 821-0362 or email her at [smott@fremont.net](mailto:smott@fremont.net)



## SPRING CLEAN UP

Students and staff will be working on Spring Clean Up projects at all three buildings, in celebration of Earth Day. Each school will schedule clean-up for a day that works best for them. Weather will also determine when this takes place. We could use your help! If you like to garden or do general spring clean up, please contact one of the contact teachers at each school.

Pine Street contact Mrs. Alford at [kalford@fremont.net](mailto:kalford@fremont.net) (924-3530)

Pathfinder (ONLY 2ND GRADERS WILL BE DOING THIS AT PATHFINDER to help meet some of their curriculum outcomes.)  
2nd grade parents please contact Mr. Christoffersen at [schristoffersen@fremont.net](mailto:schristoffersen@fremont.net) (924-7230)

Daisy Brook contact Mrs. Blake at [lblake@fremont.net](mailto:lblake@fremont.net) (924-4380)

Thanks for any help you are able to give us!

\*\* Monday's PTO meeting will determine the budget for Spring Clean-up II. Please attend Monday, April 20th at 3:45 p.m. to help us plan and vote on these important issues!

