

What's "News" in Alvord?

A Newsletter for the parents and employees of the Alvord Unified School District

October 2010

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Prepared by the Superintendent's Office



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Art Teachers Organize Inaugural Group Show Celebrating Local Educators' Talents

For the first time ever, Alvord Unified School District Secondary Art Teachers have organized a group show of their artwork made possible because of a unique new venue, The Phillip M. Stokoe Art Museum located on the campus of Phillip M. Stokoe Elementary School. Art Teachers Jeffrey Ribaldo and Froukje Schaafsma-Smith have organized the Alvord Unified School District *Art Faculty Group Show*. The Group Show features the works of secondary art teachers Angel Gomez, Jean Leuenberger, Carole Lopez, Bill Miller, Tina Naif, Jeffrey Ribaldo, Froukje Schaafsma-Smith, Dirk Shultz, Michael Sheline, Ellen Soler, and Roger Tapiceria. The teachers submitted art in a variety of media and are also involved in all aspects of the show from organizing, announcing, curating, hanging, and providing the reception for the opening. "Art is alive and well in the Alvord Unified School District. The Group Show is a collaborative effort to promote and celebrate arts in Riverside. The Group Show runs through November 2010 at The Phillip M. Stokoe Art Museum, 4501 Ambs Drive, Riverside, California. The public is invited to the opening reception November 5 from 4-6 PM. The museum art gallery is open Monday through Friday by appointment.

Ten Loma Vista Middle School Students are showing their drawings at Kaiser Permanente Riverside Medical Center, Medical Office Building One in the first floor lobby. Under the direction of art teacher, Froukje Schaafsma-Smith, students created oil pastel drawings based on the pointillism technique of French artist George Seurat. The artworks are on display November 2010-January 2011. Loma Vista principal, Chip George, adds, "I am proud to support Ms. Schaafsma-Smith and our students. Riverside is the city of arts and innovation, what better way to celebrate that than to share our student work with the community."



Mr. George
with students and
their drawings:

(from top left)

Alondra Huizar,
Laura Lopez,
Christian Jacobo,
Josi Bahena,

(bottom left)

Kimberly
Almendarez, Anahi
Carrasco, and
Melissa Parga.

Student of the Month:

Villegas Middle School is delighted to honor **Ciera Sullivan** as the Alvord Unified School District Student of the Month for October 2010.

Ciera is an 8th grade student who has attended Alvord schools since Kindergarten. She has served the Associated Student Body Vice President and she always exhibits a lot of school spirit and pride. Many days, Ciera is the ASB spokesperson for Villegas' morning announcements. Her energy during lunch time activities is impressive! She is polite, positive and friendly with everyone. Ciera is a diligent student, earning a 3.8 GPA. In her spare time she likes to skate and her passion is soccer, at which she is an excellent player!



It is a great pleasure to honor **Ciera Sullivan** as the Alvord Unified School District Student of the Month for October 2010.

Certificated Employee of the Month:

Villegas Middle School is proud to recognize **Nancy Belcher** as the Alvord Unified School District Certificated Employee of the Month for October 2010.



Nancy began her career in 1994 as a Special Education Instructional Assistant in the area of adaptive physical education. She worked at Promenade, McAuliffe and Orrenmaa before coming to Villegas as an instructional assistant. Continuing with her education, in 2005, Nancy became a teacher. As luck would have it, she was placed at Villegas Middle School. Nancy works countless hours keeping everything in the Special Education Department in order. She is kind, caring and generous with her time and resources, to everyone, all of the time. Her organizational skills are truly impressive. Nancy is married and has four children and three grandsons. In her spare time, she enjoys hunting for antiques.

It is a great pleasure to honor **Nancy Belcher** as the Alvord Unified School District Certificated Employee of the Month for October 2010.

Classified Employee of the Month:

Villegas Middle School is proud to recognize **Daniel Moreno** as the Alvord Unified School District Classified Employee of the Month for October 2010.

An aspiring Spanish teacher, Daniel Moreno serves as a bilingual instructional assistant, helping students who are in the beginning stages of learning the English language. Bridging the language barrier, Daniel assists students with access to the core curriculum while helping them learn English. Under his tutelage, students flourish and make fast progress. He is a friendly face on campus and he is known as a go-to person. Daniel's favorite part about his job is seeing the students' progress. He is married and has three children at different levels in school. His sister-in-law who passed away due to cancer, was his inspiration to become a teacher.

It is a great pleasure to honor **Daniel Moreno** as the Alvord Unified School District Classified Employee of the Month for October 2010.

Volunteer of the Month:

Villegas Middle School is proud to recognize **Claudia Carlos** as the Alvord Unified School District Volunteer of the Month for October 2010.



Claudia Carlos, mother of two Alvord students, has been volunteering at Promenade, Villegas and La Sierra for a number of years. She has served at both the District and site levels as President of the District GATE Advisory, Villegas PTSA Vice President of Ways and Means, and she has devoted countless hours to collecting and submitting Box Tops for Education, Kick-off Riverside, the health and Wellness Committee and California Reads. At La Sierra High School, she was a member of the WASC Advisory. She always displays a calm, professional, friendly, helpful attitude. She is an excellent role model for wellness. Claudia is married and in her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband and children, hiking and cooking.

It is a great pleasure to honor **Claudia Carlos** as the Alvord Unified School District Volunteer of the Month for October 2010.