

# A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL: Betty Williams

May 2010



## WASN'T FIESTA FUN?

Sincerest thanks to all who helped set up, sell, take down, “man” booths and activities, and support the students. Extra Special thanks to the PTO who sold salsa, and especially Queen Chalupa, Rosie Casillas, who provided the great chalupas for all to enjoy.

A Large Thank You goes to Ms. Betty Siegel, Kindergarten Teacher and Assistant Head of School, who donated the quilt for raffle to help provide a scholarship for a Kindergarten student next year. Peyton Burlington, age 7, was the winner of the raffle. Congratulations Peyton!

## MS. BETTY SIEGEL IS RETIRING!

After 20 years as Kindergarten teacher and Assistant Head of School, Ms. Betty Siegel will vacate her classroom and walk from the children’s world into the adult world! Please join us

**Sunday, May 16, 2010,  
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

to celebrate her outstanding career at Country Day Montessori. If you have photos of Ms. Betty to share, we would like to borrow them for the event.

## IOWA TEST SCORES FOR 2009-2010

I am pleased to announce that 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders performed exceptionally well on the annually given IOWA Test of Basic Skills. The below data reflects how our school did as compared to all schools who took the test in the respective level, and the grade equivalency for the score.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 96%; GE: 3.6  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: 89%; GE: 4.7  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 98%; GE: 6.7  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 99%; GE: 9.5  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 96%; GE: 9.6

The above scores make the case that the longer a student attends Country Day Montessori School, the better prepared the student will be to go on to other learning environments. Congratulations to the above students and teachers!

### Enrollment for 2010-2011:

Country Day Montessori School continues to fill available student positions for the coming year. Many new and fine families have registered and are eager to join our community. In an effort to continue to enroll additional fine families, we are offering \$50 for every student who enrolls from your referral. Pick up referral cards in the office, put your name on the card, give it to someone you think would be a good fit for this school, and tell them to bring it with them when they tour. Upon signing the contract for next year and after the July 1 deadline for withdrawal, you will receive a check in the amount of \$50/per student enrolled

### Montessori Model United Nations:

In March, Upper Elementary students traveled to New York City to participate in the 2010 MMUN and found eager student delegates advocating for their assigned countries. Country Day Montessori Students represented the country of Peru in the Council for Rights of Women and Children, ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council), and the General Assembly. This year 5 countries sent student representatives to the conference. A Chinese television producer filmed the event for a documentary to show to Montessori schools in China in an effort to encourage their participation next year. Ms. Betty Williams, Head of School, was interviewed for that documentary to be distributed later this year.



## WILDLIFE HABITAT

We have appreciated the support the PTO has provided our students and teachers throughout the year. The library has taken on an updated and fresh new look. New shelving, additional books, a rearrangement of design, and tender loving care all contributed to an environment that is inviting and conducive to student learning.

In addition, PTO members provided bird house kits to each classroom to assemble and decorate. PTO members erected the bird houses along the pathway that winds throughout the forest and were left to beckon a variety of birds to make one their home. In addition, a mother dove made a nest in one of the trees on the primary playground and hatched two babies last week. (The students have eagerly given the Head of School a steady update of the growth and development of these new babies!)

### PTO RUMMAGE SALE:

Our thanks to all who contributed sellable items to the school's annual Rummage Sale. Your generosity and the liberal time volunteered by so many parents netted the PTO \$827.00 for student support. Any item not sold at the Rummage Sale was donated to Haven for Hope a non-profit agency that assists homeless families, men, women, and children.

### BUTTERFLY PAVILLION:

Special Thanks to Ms. Betty Siegel, Kindergarten teacher and Asst. Head of School, who spearheaded the installation, development, and success of the newest improvement on our campus: the butterfly pavilion. Ms. Lori and Ms. Betty's classes hatched monarch butterflies in their classrooms and let them loose in the pavilion soon after hatching. All have found a way to the greater outdoors; more will be hatched and available in the pavilion before school ends.



Mother Dove and 1 of 2 babies hatched on the playground.



Praying Mantis baby on a tomato leaf found by the students.



## **END OF YEAR PARTIES AND EVENTS:**

Please stay apprised of your child's classroom calendar in preparation for the many events planned during the month of May. It's not too late to enroll for Summer in the Country! See Carol Ann for available classes.

It has been our pleasure to work with your student and family in the shared goal of educating your child. We wish you a summer filled with cool weather and enriched activities! If you are registered for the next school year, you will receive email communication from us with details of Opening Day Rehearsal schedules, teacher designations, and supply lists.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, we are available through email or phone:

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HAPPY SUMMER TO ALL,

Betty Williams and staff  
Country Day Montessori School