

BALBOA HIGH SCHOOL **PARENT NEWSLETTER**

May/June 2006

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

It's May and the school year is almost over. Once again we have made strides towards moving your children towards college and the next phase of their lives. Hopefully, with another year [of maturity] behind them, your children are better able to deal with adversity, changes, and the challenges of being life-long learners. The primary concern for 10th graders is for them to pass the California High School Exit Exam; the primary concern for seniors is for them to graduate. Everyone should have those same goals in mind. Therefore, please ensure that your child spends time during the summer focusing on one or both of those goals. It's better to spend time now and not have to worry later.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to working with you and our students again next year.

Sincerely,

Principal Patricia James Gray

PARTNERING WITH THE **COMMUNITY**

We are very thankful for our neighborhood businesses for making donations to the PTSA Family Cultural Day BBQ Fundraiser. They were generous with their donations. The donations enabled us to have a successful and exciting raffle. We extend our special thanks to Valente Marini Perata & Co. Funeral Directors, Sorrento Delicatessen, Safeway and Mila's Place Boutique. The other businesses that contributed were Circuit City Stores, Inc., Trader Joe's and Switch Beverage Co. Thank you to parent Ms. Dana Woldow for donating the great gift baskets and to her friend Ms. Caroline Grannan who made and donated the beautiful scarves as raffle prizes.

BIG THANKS TO OUR **WONDERFUL PARENTS**

April 22nd was our first Family Cultural BBQ Day. It was a pleasant social event. We had a lot of food, fun and music. The entertainment was provided by our school band. Our parents brought a variety of delicious food. We had several different homemade salads, screamin' spaghetti, cookies that would melt in your mouth, banana nut bread and peach cobbler that was finger lickin' good! We want to thank the three guys who grilled the hamburgers and hot dogs.

It is almost the end of our school year, we want to extend our special thanks to our "Leader" Alan Geist for suggesting the BBQ.; Dana Woldow better known as "Ms. Balboa", you are our rock; Bob Pizzi for unrelenting commitment; Carlos and Sharon Webster for their loyalty; Emma Soon, Nancy Carter, Magda Rinaldi and Emily Li for always being there or for their continuous support; Claire Burke for her tireless energy in getting the neighborhood businesses to donate wonderful gifts. To the parents that we didn't mention, please forgive us – chalk it up to mental overload (smile)!?!@!

**ALL OUR BALBOA PARENTS
DESERVE A BIG APPLAUSE!!!**

GRADUATION DAY SCHEDULE **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2006**

8:45 A.M.	Senior Breakfast, Cratian Hall, 60 Onandaga Ave
10:30 A.M.	75th Annual Move-Up Assembly Balboa Auditorium
12:15 P.M.	Senior Luncheon, Balboa Library
2:30 P.M.	Graduation, Balboa Auditorium Reception immediately following

CLEAN-UP PROGRAM

Approximately 30 JROTC students and some parents participated in the City sponsored Clean Up Program on Saturday, April 22, 2006. They cleaned the area around the buildings and football field. They diligently swept all secret places, hidden corners, underneath the bushes for a total of three hours. They demonstrated their love for our school with a hardworking mature attitude. We are proud of them. Many thanks to Mr. Conley and Mr. Paratore, who organized and sent a wonderful group of JROTC students. Thanks to Zachary Lee and his wife, Stephanie and her niece, Justine Ray Madarang, his mother and sister, and parent Emily Li – an SSC member.

BALBOA SPORTS NEWS

Washington High School was the venue on the afternoon of April 27 for the showdown between Balboa and G.W. in Varsity Badminton. The first match was tight, with Bal's Katie Chang getting behind 3-9 before coming back and serving for the win at 10-9 but G.W. fought back and won the game 13-10 and the match in two games. At the same time, Bal's Vianca and Tammy Tang had lost the first game in doubles but staged a miraculous comeback to take the match in 0-3 close games and it was 1-1. The shocker came when Bal's undefeated Xinni Huang was defeated by a much improved G.W. 2 Balboa 1. Next came our newcomer, Kim Chan, from Burma, who dazzled the crowd with drop shots and won in 3rd singles 11-2, 11-2. It was down to the last match and, as usual when Bal. plays at Wash., where we lost last year, Coach Costanza was sweating and totally stressed out. It was up to our new and improved doubles team of Olivia Tam and Alysa Feng, Alysa supplying the power and Olivia the touch shots, G.W. was no match and Balboa defeated Wash. 3 matches to 2.

BRING THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOU, GET "FREE TICKETS"

Balboa Alumni Association presents "BALLADS OF BROADWAY FABULOUS 50's". Just like a Broadway Show!! Parents/guardians, students, family and friends are invited, May 13 at 2:00 P.M. in the auditorium (doors open at 1:00 P.M.). Two themes "A Tribute to San Francisco" will be shown.

There will be a marvelous magic act and student entertainment. Refreshments and Balboa shirts, etc. will be on sale in the auditorium lobby.

20th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Balboa Clinic will celebrate its 20th Anniversary on Thursday, May 18th, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. at our school campus. Assembly member Leland Yee Speaker Pro Tempore, is our keynote speaker. There will be a silent auction, food and beverages, and youth entertainment. The event is open to the entire Balboa community as well as youth serving agencies. Additionally, we're accepting cash donations and items for the silent auction, restaurant gift certificates, 2-3 day getaway to Lake Tahoe, iPod, etc.

RSVP to bthc20@yahoo.com or any questions please call Balboa Teen Health Center, 469-4512.

CONGRATUATIONS TO OUR BAND

On our Clean-Up and BBQ day, our band performed very well. They played three songs: *Night Train*, *Tijuana Taxi* and *Work Song*. There were six talented students demonstrating their skills: Matthew Musselman on bass, Nathan Retzlaff on trumpet along with Jorge Mendoza, Timothy Young on flute, Justine Madarang and Shomari Webster on clarinet and last but certainly not least their teacher Michael Arnold on trombone. Thank you again for entertaining us. We were delighted.

CALENDAR REMINDER

Thursday, May 18, 2006 - 6:00 P.M.

Balboa Teen Health Clinic 20th Anniversary

Friday, May 19, 2006 - 9:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Coffee and Tea with the Principal in Room 103

Monday, May 29, 2006

Memorial Day Observed – No School

Fri., June 9; Mon., 12; Tues., 13; Wed., 14

Final Exam.

Wednesday, June 14, 2006 2:30 P.M.

Graduation

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Last Day of School

Is Your Child Using Drugs or Alcohol?

Is your child irritable or experiencing mood swings? Sometimes, have you noticed your child's eyes slightly reddish? Have you seen objects that look like small pipes or sticks? Do you know what your child is buying with their money? Does your child stay in his/her bedroom for long periods of time with the door closed? These could be signs of drug or alcohol use. Please come to learn more about this problem. We will have a very good informative guest speaker, Ms. Maureen McCarthy, from our clinic at Balboa to speak to us at our next PTSA meeting, February 8, 2006, 6:15 –7:15 P.M. in the library.

Developing Minds – Video Series **....Learning to Relate to Others**

This video explores social cognition or children's ability to relate to others – including problems that many children face with this issue. The video shows strategies that parents and teachers can use to help children become more socially successful.

Upcoming 2005-2006 series:

February 8 – Mastering the Challenge of Reading

March 8 – Getting Thoughts on Paper

April 12 – Producing and Communicating Ideas

May 3 – Thinking with Numbers

All programs at the San Francisco Public Library are free. Main library, 100 Larkin St. (at Grove).

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