

# Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

224 Hartnell Avenue  
Redding, CA 96002

Phone: (530) 222-9APL (9275)  
Fax: (530) 222-9281  
[www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org)

Director: Dr. Patricia Dougherty

## Apple News



Please do not park in front of The Happy Tails Barkery under any circumstances. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you, but we thank you for your cooperation.

The biggest news item for April is **STAR testing**. Last month we shared the importance of participating in and doing well with STAR to ensure the viability and life of our school. To help motivate students to do their best, prizes will be raffled for STAR attendance as well as for good and/or improved performance on the tests. Hopefully everyone knows which week/days their students will be testing. (The general STAR schedule for students testing at APL as well as the slightly different Burney schedule are on page 2.) If you have questions about your child's testing schedule, please contact Sherina for assistance. On test days, all necessary materials, water, and snacks will be provided. However, please feel free to bring a favorite book for your student to read silently when finished with testing and remember to have students get plenty of rest the night before.

The California Department of Education confers a special diploma, **The Golden State Seal Merit Diploma** (GSSMD), to graduates who have demonstrated mastery of high school curriculum as demonstrated by their STAR results. An APL student will be receiving this honor at graduation.

**Physical Fitness Testing** (PFT) for students in **grades 5, 7 and 9** will take place during breaks while students are on-site for their STAR testing. The "run" portion of the test will be at **Enterprise Park on May 16 at 9 am**. PFT make-ups will also take place on 5/16 at Enterprise Park.

In May, Diana Bordeaux's Musical Theater classes will regale us with their **spring production**, *The Wild, Wild, Wildest West* and *Little Bit of Showbiz*. The performances will be held on Friday, **May 13**, and Saturday, **May 14 at 7 pm** at The Center for Spiritual Living at 1905 Hartnell Avenue in Redding. Tickets will be on sale with Lynn at APL starting April 1 for \$5 per seat.

### Students in the Spotlight

**Morgan Fator** is a fifth grade student who is a second generation home schooler. He has been schooled at home for his whole life so far, and is an outstanding student. If you were fortunate enough to attend APL's fall musical, you will remember Morgan as the singer/dancer in "Steppin' Out With My Baby." He clearly enjoyed himself, and so did the audience. Morgan is musical, creative, and observant, and each year, he becomes more skilled both in academics and in his creative endeavors. He is big brother to Charlie, who will start kindergarten next year, and son of Robin and Jason. We're looking forward to seeing the spring play, where Morgan and his classmates will once again have a chance to shine.

**Hannah Hazel** can be seen most everyday at APL, since her mom works here fulltime. Hannah is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, but is not afraid to mix it up with the older kids. She participates fully in a 5-7<sup>th</sup> grade language arts class, as well as a high school reading class to further develop her already above grade level reading skills. Hannah also works as a teaching assistant in her art class, due to her excellent performance last semester. Hannah is very mature for her age, and gets along well with peers and adults. She has worked harder than most other students to improve her skills. Hannah is and will be a success, because she understands that hard work and commitment are essential in life.

**Emily Handy**, a new student to APL this year, has shone throughout the year in all of her on-site classes. Emily, a 7th grader, has a kind heart and a helpful relationship with her peers. She excelled last semester in Art, and is a teaching assistant this semester. Additionally, Emily has one of the lead parts (Polly Wanda Cracker) in the upcoming drama production, *The Wild, Wild, Wildest West*, and consistently turns in detailed, suspenseful, high-quality writing in her writing class. In her spare time, she enjoys reading from the Fable Haven series, and playing the piano and violin. Emily comes from a large family and loves being a big sister. We hope to watch Emily grow for many years to come!

April 1, 2011

Volume 3, Issue 6

#### April/May events

- ✓ French Chamber Orchestra
- ✓ Sounds of Bronze
- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ The Sound of Music
- ✓ Clear Creek Wildflowers
- ✓ Whole Earth and Watershed Festival
- ✓ Early Bird Watchers
- ✓ APL Spring Musical
- ✓ Native Plant Identification and Uses
- ✓ Planetarium

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## APL Orientation

APL is accepting new students for the **2011/12 school year**. Orientation for interested families will be held **Thursday** evenings at **5 PM** at APL, 224 Hartnell Ave. If you have friends or family looking at school options, please consider suggesting us!

Here's what we have to offer:

- K-12 program
- WASC accredited
- Curriculum choice
- Independent study
- Home school



- Classes, vendor courses & tutoring
- Flexible scheduling
- Credentialed teachers
- California standards based instruction



## School Business



APL's **STAR** testing weeks will be **4/4-4/8** and **4/11-4/15**. **Elementary** students will test in the morning, **9 am until noon**, and **high school** students will test in the afternoon, **1-4 pm**. Testing will be **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** of the week selected, with Monday and Friday available for make-up days.

Students testing in **Burney** have a slightly different schedule. They will test on **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 4/11, 4/12 and 4/14**, from **9 am until noon** at the **Solid Rock Four Square Church** at 20343 Tamarack Road in Burney.

**On-site classes are canceled during the two weeks of STAR testing.** These two weeks are **independent study days**.

The **Oral Health Assessment Form for 1st grade students in the 2011-12 school year is due by September 15, 2011**. The state recommends that you make a dental appointment for your student by May 31, 2011. The dentist will fill out a form, which you can get from the APL office. If you have questions or can't meet the deadline, contact Sherina at 222-9275.

The students whose names were drawn for **Good Apple Awards** this month were **Alicia Whitney** and **Eric Everson**. These students were cited with "good citizenship" and given tickets which were then selected in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to our "Good Apples!"

**Student IDs:** For an APL student identification card, stop by the school and see Sherina to get your photo taken. For more information, contact Sherina at 222-9275.

**Work Permit** applications are available at the office. Parents can fill out the request and drop it off at APL or fax it to Sherina, 222-9281.

**Attention senior families:** Each year at graduation, APL puts together a slideshow of the graduates. Please select some baby and recent photos (at least one of each). Email them to [jeanna.parks@ourapl.org](mailto:jeanna.parks@ourapl.org) (specify "graduation pictures" in your title for the email), or drop them off for her at APL. If you bring in the actual photos, be sure to label them with your graduate's name and their teacher of record so the photos can be returned to you.

**Attention all 5th, 7th, and 9th graders: PE testing** will take place during the STAR testing weeks. It is important for all 9th graders to take the test. Not taking the test means that you fail the test. In the event that you fail the test, you will be obligated to take PE class for all four of your high school years.

**There are videos available online to explain the test and how it will be administered.** There is a video available for each test: one-mile run visit [http://pft-info.org/pft\\_videos/one-mile%20run.html](http://pft-info.org/pft_videos/one-mile%20run.html), curl up visit [http://pft-info.org/pft\\_videos/curlup.html](http://pft-info.org/pft_videos/curlup.html), trunk lift visit [http://pft-info.org/pft\\_videos/trunklift.html](http://pft-info.org/pft_videos/trunklift.html), pushup visit [http://pft-info.org/pft\\_videos/pushup.html](http://pft-info.org/pft_videos/pushup.html), shoulder stretch/flexibility visit [http://pft-info.org/pft\\_videos/shoulder%20str.html](http://pft-info.org/pft_videos/shoulder%20str.html), body composition bmi visit [http://pft-info.org/pft\\_videos/bmi.html](http://pft-info.org/pft_videos/bmi.html). Please note that pushups are boy pushups to be counted as correct. To find your Body Mass Index or BMI, please visit the following website: <http://www.nhlbisupport.com/bmi/>.

The **Lost and Found** at APL is full of coats and other personal items.



## Library News



Due to STAR testing and spring break, there will be no book clubs for the month of April.

The book club selection for **Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>** will be *Everlost* by Neal Shusterman. That book club will be at **2 pm**. The high school book club will be canceled for the remainder of the school year due to lack of participation.

As we are now in the 4th and last quarter of the school year, there is some important information from the library, so please read on. If you have finished with some of your school materials, please return them to the library. This will help us to make the end of the year returns a little less crazy. **The APL library will close on June 1st except for returns. All curriculum is due back to the library by June 17th.**

"It is not so important to know everything as to appreciate what we learn."  
Hannah More

Your Box Tops have helped raise \$183 dollars for the school library. When you come into the APL office, take a look at the new book displays. They were purchased with our first round of Box Top money. Keep clipping and saving those Box Tops...they do make a difference.



## April/May Events



A reminder for the folks who registered for the **Shasta Community Concert** featuring a **French Chamber Orchestra**: The show is Friday, **April 1st at 10:30 am**.

**Home School Skate** is the 2nd Wednesday of each month from **3-5 pm** at Viking Skate Country. The dates will be **April 13** and **May 11**. Gateway's Shasta Lake Alternative School, subsidizes the program, open to all home schooling families. Cost is \$3 per person with one free admission for supervising adult. All participants must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact Heidi Hillesheim, 90alana@shasta.com.

This is a reminder for those who purchased tickets to the school showing of **The Sound of Music**: The show is Friday, **April 15th at 10:00 am**.

On Wednesday, **May 18th**, the show **The Future is Wild** will be featured at the Schreder Planetarium at **1:15 pm**. Based on a wildly successful international television series that has been broadcast in over 60 countries around the world, *The Future is Wild* gives audiences a glimpse at what might be the future of the animal kingdom on planet Earth. Reserve your seat at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) by **May 12th**.

On Sunday, **April 10th at 3:00 pm** the Carillons Handbell Choir and Simpson University Handbell Choir in concert will present **Sounds of Bronze**. Sacred, secular, spirituals and African songs will be performed using handbells, handchimes, organ, piano, percussion, flute, violin, cello, harp and trumpets. The concert is at St. James Lutheran Church, 2500 Shasta View Drive in Redding. The event is open to the public with free admission, although a free will offering will be received. Children will have the opportunity to play the bells.

**The 2011 Whole Earth and Watershed Festival** will be Saturday, **April 23rd from 10 am to 3 pm** at Redding City Hall and Sculpture Park. Attend this year's festival to learn how to live a healthier lifestyle, save money and energy, protect natural resources and discover how the work of many local groups help make our region's communities better places to live. There will be many activities for children and youth including the Watershed Passport Program (grades K-12) and Shasta College's Sustainability Safari. There will be more than 90 exhibitors, a sustainable living demonstration tent, great food, and live music. For more information, please visit [www.wholeearthandwatershedfestival.org](http://www.wholeearthandwatershedfestival.org).

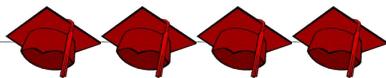
**Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve Free Spring Events for the Family:**

**Clear Creek Wildflowers and Wild Plants:** Sunday, **April 17th at 10:00 am**. Come walk with David Ledger from the Shasta Chapter of California Native Plant Society. Enjoy the beauty of blooming wildflowers, the stimulation of a walk in the country, and learn about plants and nature.

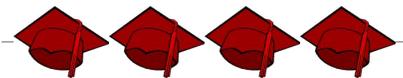
**Early Bird Watchers:** Sunday, **May 1st at 8:00 am**. Enjoy early morning bird watching with local expert Barbara Peck. Barbara has a Masters in Wildlife Biology and Ecology. She will point out birds and fascinate you with information about them. Bring your curiosity and (if possible) binoculars.

**Native Plant Identification and Uses:** Sunday, **May 15th at 1 pm**. Join native Wintu Ted Dawson on a spring walk while he locates, identifies, and explains medicinal and general uses of native plants. Mr. Dawson's presentation will include making a natural poison oak remedy. Bring a jar/container to take some home in. No cost.

Directions for all three events: Meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Road, about 7 miles west of Hwy 273, just west of the Clear Creek Bridge. Call 241-2026 for information.



## College Corner



There's a very important event coming up for Shasta College, its students, and its future students. **"Hands Across California"** is a statewide campaign sponsored by the Foundation for California Community Colleges to promote public awareness of community colleges and to raise money for a perpetual scholarship fund for students. On Sunday, **April 17**, Californians across the state will be joining hands to show support for community colleges and their students. In Redding, people will gather at the downtown mall (Health Sciences and University Center) at **2 pm**.

**Contribute to the scholarship fund.** Economically, it's a difficult time for everyone but students are

struggling most of all. Please consider making a donation. Every dollar counts and will be matched 50% by the Bernard Osher Foundation. All monies raised will go toward scholarships for present and future Shasta College students. There's a secure and easy-to-use donation link on the Shasta College Hands Across California website, [www.shastacollege.edu/handsacrossca](http://www.shastacollege.edu/handsacrossca).

The local event is being supported by the Shasta College Academic Senate, the Student Senate, the Faculty Association, CSEA, the administration, and College Options. This is a unique, one-time opportunity for all of us to come together and publicly support our students.

**Attention Juniors:** There are two more administrations of the **SAT** this spring, and one more for the **ACT**, that you can sign up for. For the SAT, go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) to register. For the ACT, go to [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) to register. You can take these exams more than once, and if you have college aspirations, now is the time to get started.

**Cal Grant** operations has indicated that 2011/2012 Cal Grant notification (CAR—California Aid Report) will not be issued until late March or early April. In past years, students were notified shortly after FAFSA submission. Students are encouraged to sign on to the My Grant website <https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/logon.asp> for their latest status.

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**Tutoring**



**Meetings**



**End Notes**



There will be **Open Tutoring** for APL students on-site as follows:

**High school** students: Tuesdays, 10:20-12:55 and 1:30-4:05; and Thursdays, 9:00-12:55 and 1:30-4:05.

**Elementary/Middle school** students: Wednesdays, 10:10-11:15; and Fridays, 10:10-12:25.

APL will provide tutoring at the **Burney Library** on an as-needed basis. Students can contact APL teacher Vanessa Burger at 276-7936 for tutoring assistance.

**Math Tutoring** with Mr. Nason will be offered as follows:

**Tuesdays:** 3:00-4:00 pm at APL

**Wednesdays:** 9:00-11:45 am at the Local Indians for Education (LIFE) Center in Shasta Lake City. (Call 275-1513 for directions.)

**Thursdays:** 3:00-4:00 pm at APL

**Fridays:** 9:00-11:45 am at the Anderson Library.

The **APL Board Meetings** are the **2nd Wednesday** of each month, with the next meeting on **April 13th**. **The time of the meeting has been changed to 7:00 pm**. The public is invited to attend.

The **APL Advisory Council** is a group of APL staff members, parents and students whose common goal is to enhance our school by sharing ideas. The Advisory Council welcomes two new faces to its group: parent member Jennifer Ferreira and student member Dylan Ferreira. Advisory Council meetings are the **1st Wednesday** of each month at **2:00 pm**, with the next meeting on **April 6th**.

To assure we receive the maximum number of completed 2010/11 surveys, we have extended the date. **Please return your surveys by Monday, April 4th.**

The APL **high school graduation** ceremony will be **Wednesday, June 1 at 5:30 pm** at the McLaughlin Auditorium, 1805 Sequoia St (Sequoia School). The **8th grade promotion** ceremony will be at APL on Thursday, **June 2 at noon**.

**College OPTIONS** offers a **Transfer Scholarship** of \$10,000 over four years with personalized support throughout college for seniors intending to start at Shasta College or College of the Siskiyous in Fall 2011 as full-time students, intending to transfer to a 4-year college after 2 years at the community college. Must be a first-generation college student with an EFC of \$5,200 or less. Minimum GPA of 2.0. Deadline is **May 5, 2011**.

APL parent Mattie Miller is collecting shoes for **Soles4Souls**, a charity that distributes shoes free of charge to people in need. Over 1.5 billion pairs of shoes lay idle in American closets! Over 300 million children around the world are without shoes. It is so easy for anyone to help give hope, simply by giving a pair of shoes. Soles4Souls will take any shoe, any size, any condition. The shoes that are not wearable are recycled. The box for shoe donations will be at APL until Wednesday, **April 20th**. Please help this group help others. Shipping must be paid on the shoes that are collected, so monetary donations to help defray shipping costs are also appreciated.