

RATON ~ NEW MEXICO NEWS

COLFAX COUNTY CALENDAR

July

■ July 9 - 6 p.m. -Science Café, Minerals in New Mexico - Arthur Johnson Memorial Library

■ July 9 - 6 p.m. -Forever Plaid simulcast, El Raton Theater. Tickets available at Shuler Theater, El Raton, and Enchanted Grounds Cafe. Adults \$10 & students \$5.

■ July 9 - 6 p.m. -Forever Plaid simulcast, El Raton Theater.

■ July 12 - 4 p.m. -Music on Main Street with Sid Masters - Ripley Park

■ July 18 - 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. -"A Day in Paris" Art Festival - Enchanted Grounds Espresso Bar and Cafe. (575)445-2219

■ July 18 - 11 a.m. -The Corazon de Los Caminos Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association will meet at the Point of Rocks. A picnic lunch will be followed by a tour of the site. The ranch is located 7 miles north, on the Dorsey Road, C-52, of mile marker 24 at the rest area on US-56 between Springer and Clayton. The public is invited. For more information, please call Faye Gaines at 575-485-2473.

■ July 19 - 11 a.m. -Poor

Man's Yacht Race - check in for yachters. Noon - bribing of judges. 1:00 p.m. race begins. Deadline for entries was July 10. Call (575) 445-3194 or (575) 447-3194 for more information. Sugarite Canyon State Park

■ July 21 - 9:30 a.m. -Cooking and Nutrition. "I Can" classes begin in the Raton Income Support Office, 1233 Whittier St. Register at the Colfax County Extension Service (575) 445-8071.

■ July 23 - 6 p.m. - Regular Scheduled Board meeting of the Miners' Colfax Medical Center Board of Trustees. The meeting will take place at the MCMC Long Term Care Facility, 900 South Sixth St., Raton, NM 87740 in the Long Term Conference Room. The agenda for the meeting will be available to the public at the MCMC Administration Office 24 hours before the scheduled meeting. Individuals with disabilities, who need any form of auxiliary aid to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact the MCMC Administration Office.

■ July 26 - 4 p.m. -Music on Main Street with Drey Solano - Ripley Park



Photo by Tim Keller

Caught in the act, Des Moines students enjoy their final lesson of Kids Academy – healthy snacks.

Kids Academy animates Des Moines School

By TIM KELLER
The Chronicle-News

Des Moines School presented its first Kids Academy Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at the school. A free enrichment program for the area's elementary-school age children, Kids Academy was sponsored by the school's Rural Revitalization Initiative (RRI), with additional funding provided by a Healthy Schools Grant from the ASCD – Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Attended by about two-dozen children, each morning began with a basketball clinic in the gym, conducted by Coach Jim Doherty with assistance from Jimmy Atwater and Ben, Jake, and Cassidy Doherty. One of the special perks of the basketball clinic was that each participant

received his or her own basketball. Even on the third afternoon, many of the kids were still holding onto their new basketballs, keeping them close.

Free lunch was provided daily by the SOY program.

Each afternoon had a special program. Monday, Kathy Kennedy taught arts and crafts, with the students producing a number of projects.

Tuesday was a highlight when entomologist Dr. Judy Jolly presented an afternoon program on bugs. Each student received his or her own bug kit, including a net for catching bugs, a viewing case, and a bug identification guide. The students took their kits – and their bugs – home. Wednesday morning, one mother reported that her son had spent half the night catching bugs at home.

Wednesday, Debbie McDonald taught the students how to make their own healthy snacks. They made three courses – sandwich on a kebab, fruit and yogurt parfait, and apple dips.

Teacher Kodi Sumpter planned and ran the Kids Academy, assisted by several parents and other adult community volunteers, including Rosabelle Sneed, Deanna Walker, and Bernie Fernandez. Former superintendent Janie Burchard was on hand daily to lend a hand. A member of the sponsoring Education Workgroup of the RRI, Burchard praised the high level of volunteer turnout. "That's an RRI goal, to encourage community volunteers for educational programs," she pointed out.

Burchard said the RRI is hoping this year's successful Kids Academy will lead to a 2nd Annual Kids Academy next summer.

CORRECTION

The Knights of Columbus Coronado Council #1332 traveling trophy mentioned in the bike-a-thon article in the July 8 edition of *The Chronicle-*

News is not presented for the annual oratorical competition to be held in a few months.

RATON POLICE BLOTTER

July 13, 2009

ARRESTED:

■ Lisa Padilla – arrest order State of NM Corrections Department for residential burglary/larceny

■ Crystal Phillips – bench warrant out of Magistrate for failure to appear on criminal summons for battery

■ Victor Najara – trafficking a controlled substance, assault

with intent to commit a violent felony, conspiracy, tampering with evidence, shooting from a motor vehicle

■ Thomas Garcia – trafficking a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia

INCIDENTS:

■ Benedict Garcia – victim of criminal damage to property

■ Julio Marchiando – victim of breaking and entering

Visiting students make art to wear home

By TIM KELLER
The Chronicle-News

Last week's T-shirt Art class at Studio C in Des Moines was unique not only for the wild variety of shirts produced, but for the fact that all four students were visiting from other states. Tammy Logan escaped the heat of Amarillo to return to Des Moines for the summer, while Samuel, Solomon, and Quila Welch escaped the summer rains of coastal northwest Washington State.

All four students are former residents of the area. Logan attended Des Moines School from kindergarten through fifth grade, moving to Texas last year. When she returns for the seventh grade at Highland Park Middle School, she'll be a cheerleader and member of the volleyball team, which travels throughout North Texas as far as Dallas. With 300 in her class, she remarked, "I have more kids in my grade than in the whole school here."

Samuel Welch will have 400 students in his seventh grade class, and he claims to know almost every one of them. He and sister Quila home-schooled while their family lived on Sonny Hill's Rainbow Ranch west of Folsom, but brother Solomon attended first grade at Des Moines School before their parents, Jim and Prudence Welch, moved the family to Washington. Solomon is entering fifth grade in the fall.

All four returning youngsters said they like being in New Mexico during the summer. Logan likes escaping Amarillo's heat, while the Welchs are glad to escape the persistent rains of Blaine, Washington, home of the Peace Arch, near the westernmost border crossing between the U.S. and Canada. They're staying at Rainbow Ranch for several weeks. "We're helping

out at the ranch," said Solomon. "It's fun. My favorite part is riding the 4-wheeler." Quila, who's entering fourth-grade in Blaine, said, "My favorite part is watching movies."

In the two-day t-shirt class, part of Studio C's annual "Summer Art!" series, each student designed and painted a pair of t-shirts as wearable art. Quila said she liked the art class. "I like coming here. It's a lot of fun hanging out with everyone. We talk a lot and paint a lot. Mixing colors is my favorite." Samuel added, "Making a mess is fun." Solomon, who had just painted his own face, eliciting a frown from teacher Christina Boyce, said he would wear one of his shirts to school, but not the other one.

Why not? "I put words on it." Close inspection revealed four words: suckers, cow, moo, and chili. Not chile. The group then discussed whether he could, or should, wear the shirt to school. And whether the word "suckers" could appear in an article. Quila made her second shirt for her dad, Jim, while Tammy Logan made her second shirt as a gift for her sister, Christi, who was back home in Amarillo.

While being painted, each shirt was stretched over a large Masonite form. Asked, "Why does your shirt look like it's made for a very big man?" Solomon didn't miss a beat. "Because I'm a very big man." He weighs 72 pounds.

All the kids had talked about taking a third day of t-shirt class, but in the end Des Moines's Saturday rodeo won out. They all had friends riding, friends they hadn't seen in years. Kidding about maybe riding a bull, someone pointed out that, at the Des Moines youth rodeo, there is no bull. But the kids could wear their new t-shirts



Photos by Tim Keller

Making art t-shirts is hard work. From left, Tammy Logan, Quila Welch, teacher Christina Boyce, Samuel Welch, and Solomon Welch.



A work-in-progress sit in the sun outside to let the paint dry.

New campground at Eagle Nest Lake State Park

Special to the Chronicle-News

EAGLE NEST, N.M. – The new campground at Eagle Nest Lake State Park is now complete and open to the public. Each of the campground's 19 sites has a shelter, picnic table, grill and a view of the lake.

"The new campground gives the park a major new dimension," said Park Superintendent Marshall Garcia. "People have been asking for campsites ever since the park opened, and now the public can enjoy the lake all day and stay with us overnight."

The campground offers both pull-through and back-in level sites and is easily accessed from U.S. 64 via the main park entrance road (Marina Way). It is situated just south of the boat ramp. The sites do not have electric or water hook-ups and no dump station or showers are available in the campground, but there is community water for filling tanks. Other camper services may be available on a limited basis at some private campgrounds in the area or in the Village of Eagle Nest. Campsites currently operate on a first-come, first-serve basis, but six sites will be added to the State Park reservation system by mid-July. The campground cost about \$250,000 to build. State Parks was able to save on labor costs by using its own in-house construction crew for the project, including Construction Supervisor Mike McFadden and crew Kelly Richerson, Chuck Pruitt, Carlos Montoya and Lucio Paz.

"We leveled the area and built the roads, poured concrete, put up shelters and ran a

water line from the shop so people can refill their tanks with fresh water," said McFadden.

The campground is part of \$3.03 million in facility developments that State Parks has implemented since the park first opened in July 2004. The \$1.4 million visitor center complex will have a grand opening and dedication on Sept. 19. That project includes a new straw-bale visitor center that incorporates both passive and active solar energy and a wind-powered generator, as well as high performance windows, doors and insulation systems. The park's new facilities were funded through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, appropriations by the Legislature, and New Mexico Government gross receipts taxes.

At 8,300 feet in elevation, Eagle Nest Lake State Park offers a cool retreat from the summer heat for fisherman, boaters and wildlife enthusiasts. An abundance of animals—elk, bear, mule deer, eagles, turkeys and other birds—inhabit the area, making Eagle Nest Lake an ideal location for wildlife viewing. In the winter, ice fishing and snowmobiling are popular sports when ice thickness permits. Eagle Nest Lake State Park is located 32 miles east of Taos and surrounding communities include Eagle Nest, Angel Fire, Red River and Cimarron. For more information, call 575-377-1594 or visit www.nmparks.com.