



# *The* California News



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## Elementary students explain the spirit of giving

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## Dr. Klopping presents a check for \$1,200 to the Foundation for the Deaf, Thailand

On December 11, the elementary department held a special assembly. During the assembly, Dr. Klopping presented a check for \$1,200 to the Foundation for the Deaf, Thailand. The money will be used to help the Phuket Deaf School recover from the effects of the tsunami that devastated the region on December 26, 2004.

As part of the school-wide **Students for Tsunami Asian Relief** effort in the spring of 2005, the elementary students participated in three fund-raising events. They sold pencils imprinted with *We care*; set out collection cans around the school; and with the help of their parents, canvassed their hometown neighborhoods asking for donations.

After collecting the money, the students had to be patient while the S.T.A.R. Committee tried to find a Thai Deaf school in need.

Meanwhile, Hurricane Katrina hit, and the elementary department contributed hundreds of dollars toward the over \$5,000 that CSD sent to Deaf schools in the South. However, the elementary department had earmarked its original funds to help the relief

efforts in Thailand, and kept its pledge to help a Thai Deaf school. (CSD wished to establish a relationship with a Deaf organization in Asia, since so many of the Deaf citizens there are isolated, without communication access.)

During her summer travels to Bangkok, Thailand, our own Juddie Lamberton met Don Bangs, a Deaf professor from Santa Rosa. Don volunteered to be CSD's representative to the Foundation for the Deaf, Thailand.

At the elementary assembly on December 11, Don came to CSD to show the elementary students a PowerPoint presentation about Thai Deaf students. Throughout the day, Don explained various facets of Thai culture and how the elementary department's donations would be used to restore the cooking and art programs set back by the tsunami's destruction.

Don videotaped our CSD students' questions to the Thai Deaf students; he will be bringing emotional support, along with their financial support, from our CSD students to Thailand.

In February 2006, Don will return to the elementary classrooms of CSD for a full Thai Day--a day of sharing

the Deaf people in Thailand's responses to our students' generosity. This is becoming a great cultural learning experience for all of us!

Following Don's presentation, Juddie Lamberton emphasized our theme of "caring" as part of our elementary character education program. She related the theme of caring to the elementary department's donation efforts.

Dr. Klopping then presented a ceremonial check to Don Bangs and congratulated the students on their hard work.

To wrap up the assembly, the first graders did a cute skit demonstrating various ways we show caring in everyday life. Examples included giving a 'get well' card and flowers to a sick classmate, helping someone who tripped, and giving food to a hungry family.

The elementary students and staff are still at it! We already filled the DCARA holiday food and toy bin twice! Truly, this is the season of giving, and our elementary students show why Eugene LaCosse aptly described us as the "Elementary Deep-Heartment." --David Keim

Fourth grader Matthew Jones helps Don Bangs show the class some of the beautiful batik artwork made by Deaf people in Thailand.



Don writes the Thai alphabet script. It has over 70 different letters.



As second grade teacher Stephanie Craig holds up a picture, Omar Cisernos signs it in American Sign Language while Arielle McCarthy signs it in Thai Sign Language. The second graders are making a sign language videotape for the children of Thailand.



The 5<sup>th</sup> graders Leeza Williams, Nicole Valente, Priscilla Castaneda, Ashante Walters, Daniel Cease, Brandie Duran, Moonlight Jones, Joshua Mora, Richard Crespin, and Alexandero Morales learn how Thai students show respect by bowing to their teachers.



# Student

Thank you, Don, for teaching us some Thai Sign Language.

—*Dakota Daniels, 4<sup>th</sup> grade*

It is good Don came here to accept the money to help fix things.

—*Marilee Williams, 4<sup>th</sup> grade*

It was neat to see a large fan made by a Deaf person.

—*Zoe Visser, 4<sup>th</sup> grade*

The Thai students are very polite and respectful. They bow when they arrive at school and when their school day ends.

—*Liann and Dakota, 4<sup>th</sup> grade*

It was interesting to learn that the students wore no shoes in class and sat at very low tables, without chairs.

—*Gideon Firl, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

It is good to help the poor school get what it needs.

—*Zane Pedersen, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*



# Comments

The United States is different than Thailand, with their spoken language, sign language, food, and religion.

—CSD Elementary Student

Thai villages are small compared to Fremont. The villages there have markets outside on the street.

—Brittany Mahoney-Beaver, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

Don showed us how to write our names using the Thai alphabet.

—Alejandra Cisneros, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

We showed the Thai Deaf students some Thai signs we had learned.

—Adele Daniels, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

We all contributed lots of money to help the Thai school.

—Halle Lopez, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

It was neat to learn some Thai signs.

—Tristan Boren, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade





Third grader Irisa MacAulay is the elementary tour guide for a videotape tour of CSD, along with her classmates Zane Pedersen , Alejandra Cisneros. This video tour will go to the Deaf children of Thailand.

### **Congratulations Ken and Audree Norton**

The Board of Directors of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association has selected Ken and Audree Norton as the recipients of the 2006 Pauline 'Polly' Peikoff, E-'36, "Service to Others" Award.

The Pauline 'Polly' Peikoff, E-'36, "Service to Others" Award is presented annually to a hearing or deaf individual, from within the Deaf community, who has gone beyond expectations, especially as a volunteer, to serve other people or organizations.

The GUAA will present several awards, including the "Service to Others" Award, during the Charter Day Luncheon and Awards Program on April 8, 2006, at Gallaudet University.

This year's recipient Ken Norton has been involved with the California School for the Deaf as a student, teacher, coach, curriculum coordinator, dean of students, and retired volunteer; and his wife, Audree, is a well-known actress and educator.

### **Attention: Parents and Guardians of High School Students!**

Thursday, **February 9, 2006** will be the high school's annual **Job Shadow Day**. On that day, all high school students will visit businesses around the Bay Area to learn about different careers. Most students will be off campus from **8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.**

Please contact:

**Amy Toth**  
**Job Shadow Day Coordinator**  
[atoth@cddf-cde.ca.gov](mailto:atoth@cddf-cde.ca.gov)  
with any questions.



Tim Gough helps the students discuss their food choices.

## Fourth graders plan their own lunch menu



A nutritional advisory council has been established, on campus, with a program that empowers the students of CSD to take an active role in what they eat.

Shortly before winter break, some members of the nutritional advisory council came to the elementary department to ask the fourth grade students to help with planning the lunch menu for two weeks in January.

At first, the students could not believe they were actually making a real menu, but then they started suggesting many different food choices.

Gayalene Buck and LeeAnn Dreffs helped organize their choices into a nutritionally balanced menu by

explaining some nutritional guidelines. For example, when the students realized they had planned cheese dishes three days in a row, they changed one of the days to ravioli.

The students' big choices for their favorite foods were: cheese quesadillas; *not* serving cheese *on* the Western bacon burger, but serving the cheese *on the side*; and, of course, substituting pizza for meatloaf. Assistant girls basketball coach Tim Gough emphasized eating fruits and vegetables to help build strong bodies.

High school and middle school students will have their turn to create menus in February and March. This is a unified effort by the different

departments on campus to develop life-long healthy food decision-making in all students.

Len Gonzales is the lead faculty advisor of the nutritional advisory council. One way that Len is encouraging this new food nutrition program is by organizing a survey of the students' present eating habits.

Ken Pedersen, as head of the physical education department, has a new health curriculum to be used in physical education classes. During their summer training, teachers were excited about the clarity of these new materials, with December and January being the nutrition units. Next time you are in the gym, ask Ken and the PE staff "What's cooking?" --David Keim





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