

# SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

DECEMBER 9, 2009

## SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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## CALENDAR

Farmers Market at Ragle Park  
**Postponed until next Thursday**

Tuesday, December 15, 6:00-9:00pm:  
**Charter Council Meeting**

Tuesday, December 15, 6:45pm:  
**7<sup>th</sup> grade play, Aladdin, at Subud Hall**

Friday, December 18  
**Early Release - Winter Break**

**Winter Break - Dec 18 - Jan 1**

Tuesday, January 5, 6:30 - 8:00pm:  
**Class 1 Parent Evening**

Tuesday, January 5, 6:30pm:  
**Parent Council Meeting**

Wednesday, January 13, 6:30 - 8:30pm:  
**Class 5 Parent Evening**

Friday, January 15  
**Early Release for Teacher Conference**

Monday, January 18  
**School Closed ~ Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

### **SunRidge Shirts, Order by this Thursday, December 10**

This year we have organic cotton in a women's cut as well as men's, authentic pigment dyed, in river blue (t-shirts), and periwinkle (sweatshirts). Sizes run large so you may want to come in to the office to check sizes before ordering.

We are expecting our delivery of SunRidge shirts around December 18. If they don't come before school is out that day, Kenna will schedule a couple of times during the following week that you can come by the school and pick your order up. We will let you know the times in next week's bulletin.

### **What a beautiful Winter Spiral and Festival of Lights...**

The Festival Committee would like to thank parents, faculty and staff here at SunRidge for welcoming in the cold winter season in such a reverent and meaningful way. The warmth and light shines through each of us and especially touches the children in our school community. Sage Otterson, Alexander Laszlo, Taylor Lampson, and John Whisman provided exquisite music throughout the evenings. Special thanks to all who came early Saturday bearing gifts of greenery, crystals and flowers which transformed the indoor and outdoor spaces into beautiful garden spirals. We thank the Diversity Committee and those who set up lovely displays representing many cultural celebrations of light. Thank you to Ms. Rebecca for making the After Care room available for our use. On Monday morning several parents put forth energy to clean up along with the 2nd graders. It is a delight to know and work with our community at SunRidge. Here's to the New Year ahead!  
~The Festival Committee

**Get On Board the Online Auction Train!** See article on page 4.

### **Farmers' Market Postponed**

Due to severe cold and possible rain, this week's Farmers' Market has been moved to next week. Come join the 8th grade for its winter celebration farmer's market on December 17. We will be making graham cracker gingerbread houses, face painting, playing games, holding an outrageous rummage sale and selling gifts and crafts.

### **Folk Art For Schools Calendars Needs YOU**

Folk Art for Schools Calendars are on sale as a fundraiser for our school. They are only \$12, and last year we raised over \$6000 with this project—not so hard **if everyone buys at least one**, as many are also sold in local stores. They are available in the office, and also look for our calendar volunteers out this week in the parking lot to remind us to participate. Contact Heather with questions: heathert@sonic.net or 537-0839.

### **Door Prizes Needed**

The Twin Hills District is hosting an employee Holiday Party at the French Garden restaurant on December 17. We are looking for good door prizes to brighten up the party. If you have anything you might like to donate to the cause (bottles of wine, gift baskets, etc.) we encourage you to feel the joy of giving by bringing it to the office by December 16. Thank you!

### **Winter Food Drive ~ from Class Two**

Hunger occurs year round, but the winter months are especially challenging for

those facing food insecurity. Please join Class Two and the SunRidge community in providing a basic necessity to Sonoma County residents. Remember every donation brings light into the giver and receiver's life. The star-covered barrel is located next to the office for your convenience.

The non-perishable foods that families and children need most are:

Canned tuna and chicken, beans and rice, canned soups, canned fruits, boxed and canned juices, peanut butter, pasta, canned stews, canned vegetables, breakfast cereal. Please – no homemade foods, no glass.

With gratitude, Class Two

**AfterCare Program Needs Participants**

Our small afterschool program has always struggled to remain financially viable, but the economy's effect on many family's budgets has exacerbated the problem. Our numbers are just barely meeting what is needed for the program to operate, even after we cut cost this year by reducing staff hours. If you have been considering using AfterCare, now would be a good time to do so—we need to bring the numbers up a bit. Many thanks to those who have helped keep this important service operating over the years.

**SunRidge Storage Needed**

Do you have a water-tight barn or storage building that could be made available for storing SunRidge things such as extra desks, chairs, and other furniture, and costumes and props for plays? Our current storage barn needs to be vacated as a cost-cutting measure, but we have no space on campus to store more things. Help!

**Crosswalk Duty Needed for Fridays**

We are looking for a new crosswalk helper for Friday mornings. This is an important but enjoyable role—help ensure the children's safety as they cross the parking lot, and you get to greet their happy faces everyday and socialize a bit with others. If interested, talk to Mark: 824-2844.

**Easy Money**

Holiday Shoppers don't forget your COMMUNITY SMART and ESCRIP earn money for SunRidge while you shop. Any questions? Go online at [www.communitysmart.com](http://www.communitysmart.com) and [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)

Or contact Kathleen Stroh at 829-2436 or [kk\\_ward@hotmail.com](mailto:kk_ward@hotmail.com).

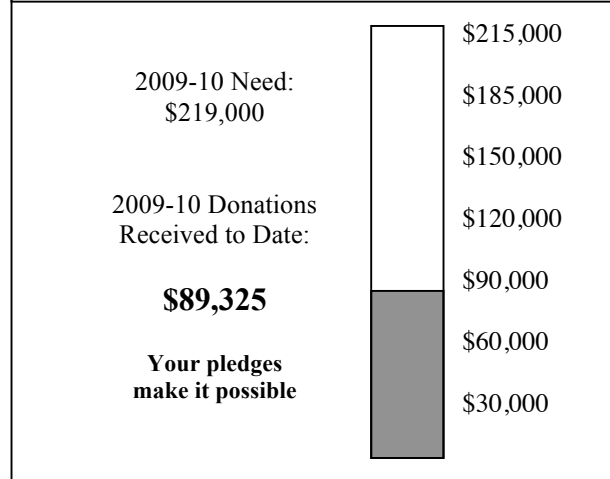
Community smart cards are available in the office for \$3.50

**Calling All Gnome Lovers...**

The SunRidge gnomes have all gathered in the office and are ready to find their new homes (to be more specific, they are for sale). Stop in and meet them—they are really precious! Many thanks to our SunRidge friends that have knitted beautiful works of art using all natural materials...

~ Laurie McKenzie

**2009-10 Pledge Program Report**



**Boys' Basketball Games**

Today, December 9, 3:45 vs Summerfield at the Sebastopol Community Church.

Monday, December 14, 3:45 vs Rincon Valley, at the Sebastopol Community Church. Go SunRidge Vikings!

**Waldorf Methods High School?**

Yes, one is in the planning stages. Go to: <http://www.sonomacountyhighschool.org/welcome> if you are interested in seeing what they are doing. There is an impressive list of people involved in this project. Please pass this information on to anyone that may be interested in supporting a charter high school inspired by Waldorf Education.

**Reminders!**

**No Cell Phones Please**

We do our best to make SunRidge an electronic media-free environment. We ask parents to help by not using your cell phone around the children (i.e., not in the pedestrian crossing, outside of classrooms, in front pick-up area, etc.). Our rule for student use of cell phones is that if they must make a call, it should be made in the office only.

**Flu Reminder**

Help us minimize the spread of flu by keeping your sick child at home. Staff and students with flu-like illness should stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever, or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medicines. Students with flu-like symptoms will be sent home. You can also help by reinforcing with your child the importance of frequent hand washing. Students are encouraged to wash their hands at school, and we now have hand sanitizing supplies in each classroom. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Community Involvement

### Contribute to downtown Sebastopol

I am hoping to find community members willing to share their skills and talents in various areas, including web design interior design, construction, artisan playspace building, legal, accounting, fundraising, and marketing & PR. Please contact Loretta at [loretta\\_momof2@yahoo.com](mailto:loretta_momof2@yahoo.com)

## Community Events

### West County Dance and Jam this Friday

SunRidge Parents, Amy Schiff, Misty Cloud, and Karen Poe, together with their music-loving, community-building volunteers, proudly present and invite you and your family to: **WEST COUNTY DANCE AND JAM** (A Non-Profit Community Building Event, featuring local musicians)

**Friday, December 11th, 6:30 - 11:30+**

Sebastopol Community Center  
390 Morris Street, Sebastopol

By donation

Come early for the potluck and dance, stay for the late night community jam. Child activity room available after 7pm, or call the sitter and make it a parent's night out. We hope to see you there! It's gonna be fun! Celebrate Our Community!

### Classified

*(We can list rentals, parents selling used items, free items, lost and found, or trades. We cannot list for-profit business ads)*

### Home for Cat Needed

SunRidge has been "blessed" with a stray cat recently that is getting used to free food on weekdays, but will be shocked when Winter Break arrives. This is a full-grown cat, very friendly, of uncertain sexual orientation. If you would like to take him/her home, please call to arrange for a pick-up.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grader Looking for Horseback Riding Mentor

Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders each do a major 8<sup>th</sup> grade project in which they choose a topic or activity, learn all about it, and present it in the Spring. Morgynne Rees has chosen horseback riding, but needs to find a mentor to help her. Does this fit you, and does it spark a desire to share your knowledge with a motivated (and delightful) student? If yes, you can contact the office with a message to Morgynne.

## Classified continued

### Need a babysitter, yard help, or other helper need?

The Parent Council is sponsoring a student work referral system for students in grades 6-8. Students can fill out a form listing jobs they can do, and parents sign it to approve the referral form going into our Student Work Referral Binder. When you need a job done, stop by the office and look through the binder. Many of our students are excellent workers and are trying to earn money for various reasons. It's a win-win!

**Operations & Business Manager** Seeking an Operations & Business Manager for an exciting new nonprofit, The Sebastopol Women and Families Center, which will open its doors in May, 2010. This will begin as a part-time VOLUNTEER position until the Center opens, after which it could potentially evolve into a paid part- or full-time position with benefits.

How to Apply: Please submit a cover letter and resume to: [SebastopolWomensCenter@gmail.com](mailto:SebastopolWomensCenter@gmail.com)

**Piano needed!** SunRidge fourth grader needs upright piano. Please call Alissa at 236-0747

### Morning Helper Needed

I need help getting my kindergartener, Elijah Trainor, to school in the morning on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. I need to drop him off at your home at 7:15am on those days. I will pay someone for this help. Please call Nate Trainor at 318-0799.

**Mommy's helper needed** for SunRidge family. Pickup from school and take to Sebastopol home. Prepare snack, supervise constructive play, help children clean-up. 15 - 20 hours per week. Please call Dustin @ 707-480-5883.

### Share Rental Available

Vegetarian Waldorf Family seeks similar to share west Santa Rosa home. 2 bdrms and a bath in a private downstairs wing available November 1<sup>st</sup>. \$1,200.00, includes utilities. Call 542-7372.

### Room for Rent

Spacious master bedroom with private bath, walk-in closet, deck and private entrance if wanted. Nice NW Santa Rosa neighborhood, near Hwy's and shopping, easy to downtown. \$700 per month, utilities included. Call Rebecca: 525-8750.

### SunRidge Auction: Let's Rock and Roll !!!

OK SunRidge community, the 2010 auction site is up and running. [www.sunridge.cmarket.com](http://www.sunridge.cmarket.com) <<http://www.sunridge.cmarket.com>> . The dates are March 11-25. And EVERYONE in the community can and should (yes, I said it!) be a part this. Budget cuts continue and the auction money raised last year was instrumental in keeping positions and programs, and will be again this year, as the cuts are continuing. So let's join together and make this year even more successful! And we can all start now! No longer can we say "This is our first time" or "what is this auction thing about anyway?" Most of us have experienced the auction process last year, so we know what is involved and the fun and rewards that result. So let's "hit the ground running." There is something to do for everyone, whether it is asking your favorite store or restaurant for a donation, data entry, helping your child's class with a class project - you can be involved. And don't forget, if you have a business, you can offer your service or product as well (great marketing opportunity!). So every single parent (and even the kids) can participate in bringing in items (and even sponsors) for the auction. And we are asking that (minimum) one parent from each class take on one of the jobs listed below.

We have had several offers of help in the past week (Thank you all who have stepped up so far!!!).

#### Here is what is still needed:

##### Immediate help:

- Organizing and managing an interactive online spreadsheet with a list of business that people can check off (or add to) once they have approached the business. This is to track solicitation so we don't keep asking the same businesses.
- Starting an online auction "google group."
- *We have sent out close to 900 letters to wineries, B & B's and golf courses in Sonoma, Mendocino and Napa Counties. We will need to make follow-up calls to them in the next two weeks to make sure they got them and ask them personally to donate. **We need people to take part of the list from home and you can call on your own time.** To do this, contact Amy Schiff at [amyschiff1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:amyschiff1@sbcglobal.net).*
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##### Ongoing help:

- **Soliciting items (EVERYONE is hired!) - Donor letter to give to businesses is attached. Your Parent Council Reps will also have copies and the letter will soon be on the website. [Please use professional-style paper when printing it out to give to a business.](#) Asking for donations is always a nice thing to do in pairs, so maybe you can find a buddy if you are interested in taking a more active role in doing this.**
- Picking up items and bring them to a specified storage place.
- Soliciting sponsors (Do you have good connections in the business community? If so, this job might be for you)
- Overseeing the entries on the site to make sure they are well presented and edit material (editing skills necessary)
- Please e-mail to [pamkoppel@comcast.net](mailto:pamkoppel@comcast.net) if you see a job you can commit to here. Your Parent Council reps will also be connecting with your classes around the class projects and identifying at least one person in your class to actively participate in the process (meaning taking on one of the jobs listed above).

Remember - We can make this fun, but it is serious business! Budget cuts are continuing and we can help minimize the further cuts of our staff and programs (and save the Charter Council and Mark a few gray hairs if they don't have to figure out how to do that). Let's all do whatever we can to make this a huge success!!!

Many thanks!