



## Seth Paine School Goes to the Dogs

Right: Seth Paine second grader **Landon Circo** reads to his floppy-eared friend at the Ela Area Public Library.

Seth Paine students recently participated in the “**Pawsitive**” reading experience at the Ela Library.

The Ela Area Public Library partnered with Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy, Inc. to pair trained, certified therapy dogs with children. The children received supervised reading practice necessary to build vocabulary, increase understanding of the material, gain reading fluency and to strengthen self-confidence.

These “canine reading specialists” have passed tests focusing on their temperament, response to distraction, and their interaction with people. These special dogs have the ability and character to perform reliably in many different situations. It was a wonderful experience for all those who participated and the children gained confidence from this fun, non-



judgmental reading practice.

Seeing the benefits of the program, Seth Paine Elementary School has also gone to the dogs...and Principal **Laura Gammons** couldn't be happier.

With the help of a volunteer from the Therapy Dogs International (TDI) Reading Program, Gammons and **Jan Boden**, Reading

Specialist at Seth Paine School, have established a program that pairs a certified therapy dog with children to help improve their students' reading abilities.

As part of this new program, **Judith Gawthorpe** and her dog, **Sky**, will work with individual students once a week during the school year. The dog, as well as Gawthorpe, have

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## Three From Lake Zurich High Named National Merit Semifinalists

Right: **Wesley Gibbert**

Far Right: **Jack Zhou**



Right: **Jia Meng**

Zurich High School seniors **Wesley Gibbert**, **Jia Meng** and **Jack Zhou** have been named semifinalists in the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program. These three students now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,200 Merit Scholarship awards that will be offered next spring.

To become a finalist, a semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout the high school years, be endorsed and recommended by the school principal and earn SAT scores that



confirm the student's earlier qualifying test performance.

The semifinalist and a school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, which includes the student's essay and information about the semifinalist's participation and leadership in school and community activities.

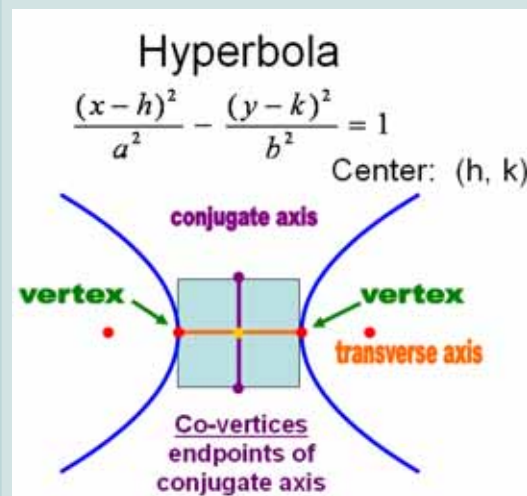
Approximately 15,000 semifinalists will advance to the finalist level and it is from this group that all Merit Scholarship winners will be selected. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their accomplishments, skills and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

## Bivins to Talk Tech



**Jeff Bivin**, Lake Zurich High School (LZHS) Mathematics Department Chair, will be one of the presenters at the 57th annual Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) conference on October 14 & 15, 2005 in Springfield. In keeping with the theme of the conference, "The Possibilities are Endless," Bivin will present on the topic, "Put Power in Your Math Class." His presentation will examine numerous applications of Microsoft's PowerPoint software in a mathematics classroom.

The presentation stems from a collection of PowerPoint presentations that Bivin has created and utilizes in his classroom teaching and as a resource for students. This collection of PowerPoint instructional applications for students and teachers can be found on the Lake Zurich High School website at [www.lz95.org/lzhs/Math/faculty/Bivin/PowerMath.htm](http://www.lz95.org/lzhs/Math/faculty/Bivin/PowerMath.htm).



Bivin's presentation demonstrates how technology, when used effectively, can enhance the educational opportunities for students and staff.

"District 95's commitment to innovative teaching and technology integration has provided the LZHS staff with the resources and the professional development opportunities to creatively integrate technology into day-to-day teaching," said Bivin. "The teacher laptop (computer) program at LZHS has enabled teachers to transform traditional teaching approaches into innovative and technology rich lessons."

Bivin, an expert in his field, has also been selected to present on this same topic at the 2006 National Council of Teacher's of Mathematics (NCTM) Regional Conference in Chicago in September 2006.

## Flu Shots for Dist. 95 Staff

District 95 will be offering flu shots, at no charge, to employees (district Aramark and Sodexho employees included) on Tuesday, Nov. 1 at Middle School South and on Thursday, Nov. 3 at May Whitney Elementary School. Times on both days will be 2:00-4:30 pm. Spouses and family members 18 and over are also welcome to obtain a flu shot at a cost of \$20 per injection.



No sign up is necessary but as a general guideline, employees from Charles Quentin, Isaac Fox, Sarah Adams, Middle School South, central administration and Transportation should try to attend on Nov. 1. at the Middle School South location.

Employees from May Whitney, Seth Paine, Spencer Loomis, Middle School North, Lake Zurich High School, Maintenance and PDC should try to attend on Nov. 3 at the May Whitney location.

Please refer any specific health questions regarding the flu vaccine to your personal physician. For more information on influenza and the flu vaccine, visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

## Rock 'N Rebuild Concert



The award-winning Lake Zurich High School Jazz Ensemble will open for the Rock 'N Rebuild Benefit Concert Saturday, October 22, beginning at 6 p.m., at the Lake Zurich Performing Arts Center at Lake Zurich High School, 300 Church St.

The headliner for the concert will be Universal Slim and the Blues Kangaroos, featuring Lake Zurich High School's own **Hannah Ford** on drums. The band plays a strong southern rock style with a blues twist. Tickets are only \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. There will also be raffles, snacks, soft drinks and more. All proceeds will go to the American Red Cross efforts for hurricane relief.

Right: **Jeff Bivin**,  
Mathematics Chair.

Right: PowerPoint slides,  
like the one below, help  
students better understand  
mathematical principles and concepts.

Far Right: The award-winning  
Lake Zurich High School Jazz  
Ensemble.

## Horsing Around Nets Gold Medals for Megan Theis



**Megan Theis** likes to horse around, and her mom, **Julie**, loves to watch. Megan is a third grader at May Whitney Elementary School and competed in the Equestrian Special Olympics over the summer and again this September, bringing home two gold medals and one silver medal.

While most children enjoy their childhood with smiles and laughter, Megan has had less reason to laugh, but laugh she does. You see, Megan was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor at the age of six. In the three years since her diagnosis, she has had to fight for her life three times. This champion has won those battles and has gone from not being able to walk to being an active, fun loving third grader who loves horses and competing.

Megan got involved in horseback riding when it was prescribed for her in an attempt to gain back some of her balance. Illinois' Cowboy Dreams, living up to its name, made Megan's dream possible. Now Megan can compete at an athletic level and experience the joy that other kids feel who do not have Megan's challenges. Ride on, Megan!



Left: **Megan Theis** (left) and her sister, **Abbie**, a second grader at May Whitney School, stand in front of the olympic flame.

Near Left: Megan takes Taffy for a ride.

## Choral Fest Saturday, Oct. 15



The seventh annual District 95 Choral Festival is this Saturday, October 15, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., with the concert beginning at 3 p.m. in the Field House. The cost is only \$3 per person or \$10 per family. All proceeds are used to support this event.

This musical event brings together approximately 500 choir students from Middle School North, Middle School South and Lake Zurich High School (LZHS).

**Kristy Grell** (MSN), **Kelly Harper** (MSS) and **Kirstin Snelten** (LZHS) and **Nick Juknelis** will direct the music.

## "PACK the PAC" October 24

On Monday, October 24, beginning at 7:30 p.m., the Lake Zurich High Schools music groups will present the Fall Choral Concert. This year, they hope to "PACK the PAC!" Many groups from outside the area rent the PAC and perform to full houses so it is hoped the community will do the same for this top quality musical performance.

As if the music is not enough of an enticement, there will also be a raffle. Lake Zurich High School families, community members and local businesses have donated nearly \$10,000 worth of prizes for the raffle. So, you can enjoy the music and have a chance on winning an iPod Nano, a private performance of Bare Voices, a five-course dinner and much more! Proceeds from the raffle will be used to reduce the cost of sending Bare Voices to Florida to meet and work with Disney composer/arranger **Derric Johnson**, as well as defraying the cost to send the Concert Choir to the Illinois All State event and help pay for transportation to send the Women's Chorale to a Choral Festival at the University of Illinois.

Raffle tickets are only \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20. A preview of the items to be raffled will be available at the annual District 95 Choral Festival concert October 15 in the Field House at Lake Zurich High School.

## Can You Translate?

District 95 is in need of translators for our English Language Learner (ELL) Program. We are looking for people who are fluent in languages other than English who have some spare time to assist at parent teacher conferences, translating an occasional letter, making phone calls, and possibly helping out in the classroom.

Although Spanish is the second most dominant language in the Lake Zurich area, there are many other low incidence languages for which the district needs translators. The list of languages that require translators includes:

- Gujarati
- Hungarian
- Indonesian or Chinese
- Korean
- Lithuanian
- Polish
- Russian
- Serbian
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Ukranian
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

Those interested should contact **Claudia Mall**, Curriculum Coordinator for Teaching and Learning, at (847) 540-4961, or email her at [claudia.mall@lz95.org](mailto:claudia.mall@lz95.org).

## Seth Paine Dogs *cont.*

undergone reading education training in addition to their extensive training and registration to do animal-assisted therapy.

As part of the program, the children will practice their reading strategies, build fluency and increase confidence in their reading ability. The dog patiently listens to the children and is taught to look at the children's faces or at the books they are reading so it appears they are listening.

As evidenced by individual and group tests, children that participate in these programs improve their skills and their self-confidence. The dog loves the attention and the Seth Paine children gain confidence from this fun, non-judgmental reading practice.

## Skip's Weather Forecast

The weather over the weekend will be seasonably perfect: Sunny with temps in the mid 60 range. For the work week, we expect to see slowly falling daytime highs starting in the upper 60 range on Monday, to the lower 50s on Friday. The first hint winter--with a mix of cold rain and snow--may happen overnight next Saturday, Oct. 22. Enjoy the weather - it's the only weather we've got. -- **Skip Lubenow**, Director of Facilities

--[www.elahelp.org](http://www.elahelp.org)--

## Are You in the Know?

A new school year brings new opportunities and fresh beginnings. So start of this school year by being in the know when it comes to news about your schools by joining the Community Unit School District 95 **Key Communicator Network**.

Our Key Communicator (KeyCom) program is a network of community residents, leaders, opinion shapers and watchdogs whose opinions are well respected by friends, colleagues and neighbors.

We are not looking for cheerleaders, but people who care about our schools and want to be kept informed and are then willing to share that information with others.

As a Key Communicator, you will receive timely, factual information via a regular newsletter e-mailed to you about the work we're doing and

the issues affecting your school district and your schools.



Because this is designed to be a two-way communications network, we encourage you to give us your input and share your opinions. As a KeyCom member, your responsibility will be to share the information with friends, neighbors and colleagues.

To become a Key Communicator, simply call, email or fax:

**Community Unit School District 95  
Communications & Community Relations  
400 S. Old Rand Road  
Lake Zurich, IL 60047-2459  
Phone: (847) 540-5489  
Fax: (847) 438-6702  
[jim.jennings@lz95.org](mailto:jim.jennings@lz95.org)**

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# H.E.L.P.

**Hancock County—Ela Area  
Long Term Partnership**

[www.elahelp.org](http://www.elahelp.org)



What if **you** lived here



Would **you** need H.E.L.P.

## **\$ Monetary Donations \$**

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Lake Zurich, IL 0047

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- Kitchen Utensils
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- Dental Floss
- Tooth Paste
- Hangers
- Laundry Baskets
- Pillows and cases
- Sheets (Queen and Twin)
- Blankets
- Kitchen and bath towels

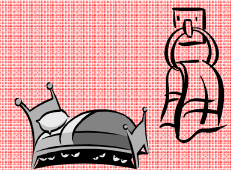


Can **you** H.E.L.P.



## **Donate Kitchen & Bedroom Supplies**

*This is the first of many H.E.L.P. donation drives.  
Drop off your donations at these sites by **October 21.***



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|----------------------|--|
| District 95 Schools: | May Whitney, Seth Paine, Spencer Loomis, Isaac Fox, Sarah Adams, Charles Quentin, Middle School South, Middle School North, LZHS |
| Schools/Churches:    | St. Francis de Sales, St. Matthews, Alpine Chapel, Harvest Bible Chapel, Quentin Road Bible Baptist Church                       |
| Businesses/Villages: | Foglia YMCA, Kits, Lake Zurich Police Department, Kildeer Village Hall, Hawthorn Woods Police Department                         |