Woods’ Kudos

Kuentz teacher receives special award

Michael Vasquez, music teacher at Kuentz ES, is the recipient of the American Center for Elemental Music and Movement Spotlight Award. He was selected for teaching young students the love for music integrated with the joy of movement and dance.

Students take time-out with NBA referees

Fifth graders at Linton ES took a reading time out with three NBA referees.

The referees, Joe Crawford, Bennie Adams and Tre Maddox, visited the school as part of the “Time Out for Reading” program sponsored by Scholastic, Inc. and the National Basketball Referees Association (NBRA). Linton is the only school in NISD to participate in this program.

Together the group read chapter one of the book “Heat” but it was the students who turned up the heat by asking the referees questions about their jobs.

All three referees told the students that they always strive to do their best when they work a basketball game and that they feel fortunate to be among the 63 referees that work in the NBA. Crawford said he couldn’t imagine any other job that he would love as much as being a referee.

Adams also told the students that the referees have their own homework to prepare for games and that they have several books they must read and study on rules and procedures.

Once a month until February, NBA referees will visit the school to work with the same group of students and continue reading the same book.

Pictured are fifth grade students from various classes with NBA referees (from l-r) Bennie Adams, Joe Crawford, and Tre Maddox.

Carlos Coon students win poster contest

Two Carlos Coon ES students were winners in the San Antonio Fire Department Health and Safety Fair poster contest. Placing third were Faith Dancy, second grade, and Noah Salas, fourth grade. The students each received a trophy and $75 gift card.

Pictured are (from l-r) Art Specialist Mary Ann Lansford, Principal Mary Lou Mendoza, Noah Salas, Faith Dancy, and Vice Principal Romelia Lopez.
**AROUND THE DISTRICT**

**Lose weight and earn $10,000!**

NISD partnered with HealthyWage to bring Northside employees a $10,000 team weight loss challenge. Join the NISD Weight Loss Challenge and compete to lose weight and win huge cash prizes. The challenge starts Jan. 20 and registration can be done online today.

The challenge is simple – create a team of five coworkers, family members, and/or friends, sign up, and then compete over 12 weeks to lose weight. There is more than $40,000 in cash prizes. Registration costs $23.33 a month for three months. Get a full refund of your entry fee if you lose 10 percent of your weight nine months after the start of the challenge.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

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**School honors officers for 33 years**

For the past 33 years, Glass ES has held its annual Officers in Blue event as a way to say “thank you” to local law enforcement.

This year, the event honored SAPD Chief of Police William McManus who will be retiring at the end of this year.

Participants included McManus, McGruff the Crime Dog, and representatives from SWAT, Bomb Squad, Park Rangers, Bexar County Sheriff’s Office, Hostage Negotiation, SAPD K-9, Bike Patrol, Motorcycle Patrol, and the NISD Police Department.

Every 15 minutes, students in grades K-5 rotated to different classrooms to visit with the different officers to learn about their duties and responsibilities and how they keep our community safe. The event was started by now retired teacher Judy Bales.

Pictured with SAPD Chief of Police William McManus is (from l-r) Principal Patricia Lambert, third grade teacher Maria Garza, and Vice Principal Amber Gonzales.

**Lieck students “sock it” to cold feet**

Even the littlest Lieck ES students can make a difference in the lives of others.

Students and families participated in a two-week SOCKtober initiative to get students and adults to help the homeless population by donating the number one item needed in homeless shelters – socks.

The campus donated almost 300 pairs of socks to Haven for Hope.

Pictured are (from l-r) Keragan Zdeb, Tessa Gembler, Bella Chatys, Vice Principal Ryan Boyle, Trevor Gembler, Leland Crews, and Travis Gembler.

**Perk of the Week**

Discount San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Tickets

Need a stocking stuffer? Consider rodeo tickets – at a discount. Purchase tickets now and you will be charged a $5 per order charge in lieu of a per ticket service fee. For more information and additional details, click here.