

VIKE Newsletter of the Montgomery Education Foundation



Fall 2010

MEF: Building a Foundation for the Future

JOIN US!

The Montgomery Education Foundation (MEF) was founded to provide financial support for Montgomery High School and its programs, and to promote community involvement. Our mission is to enrich the learning environment for all students at Montgomery High School. Members include faculty, parents, alumni and community members.

We welcome you to attend our monthly meetings and to get involved as much or as little as you are able.



The MEF meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the MHS Student Services Center (which is located next to the teachers' parking lot). If the first Monday is a holiday, the meeting moves to the first Tuesday.

INAUGURAL TASTE OF BENNETT VALLEY IS A SUCCESS!!!

The Montgomery Education Foundation held its first Annual Taste of Bennett Valley fundraiser on Saturday, November 20 at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center. Despite the cold weather, the rain did not dampen anyone's spirits at this event. Initial estimates indicate that we raised over \$4,000 for the Endowment, bringing our balance to approximately \$123,000. A good time was had sampling wines from the various Bennett Valley wineries

represented including Flanagan, Frostwatch, Greystack, Jemrose, Mackie and Silver Pines. Artists

were on hand to sell their unique offerings. Montgomery student art was also on display. A silent auction and a raffle rounded out the evening. A big thank you to everyone who attended and/or as-

sisted with this event. We look forward to seeing everyone next year at our Second Annual Taste of Bennett Valley.



Mark your calendars for the Third Annual Crab Feed which will be held on Saturday, January 29, 2011 at St. Eugene's Becker Center. Purchase your tickets using the enclosed order form or visit our website at www.MontgomeryHighEducationFoundation.org.



Wine, food and art, what more could you ask for!

3rd Annual Blood Feud

Montgomery High School will once again be competing with Santa Rosa High School, the week of February 7th through 12th, to see which school can donate the most pints of blood. Partici-

pants must be at 17 years of age or 16 with parental consent, in good health and weigh at least 110 pounds.

The Blood Bank of the Redwoods is located at 2324 Bethards Drive in Santa Rosa. Their hours are noon to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday

and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

For more information, contact the blood bank at info@bbr.org or 545-1222.

Hope to see you all bleed Viking Red!



Campus Beautification Project is Underway

The Montgomery cafeteria has been given some colorful, appealing artwork to bring it to life, courtesy of Melissa Kelley, the Montgomery Education Foundation and the nonprofit organization, Artstart.

The Montgomery Education Foundation has also provided funding for new cafeteria tables to replace the worn broken tables, in the hopes of making the cafeteria a more inviting place for the students to congregate.

In addition, The Montgomery Education Foundation has purchased new outdoor tables for the quad and other areas on campus for students to use

during brunch and lunch.

Questions: Contact Montgomery Education Foundation Member, Melissa Kelley, 537-8783 or mkelley@sonic.net.



Join the Viking Vamp Committee

A newly formed Viking Vamp Committee has been created to help "re-VAMP" the student union/cafeteria at Montgomery High School in order to revitalize the space into a collegiate, student

friendly room that is warm and inviting for in-school and after-school activities, clubs, performances and rehearsals. The initial project is to paint the interior walls of the building during the 2010 school year. This is a 4 year project that will have annual goals (examples Year 1 – Paint/Plants, Year 2- Fine Arts Display & Cork Wall Sections, Year 3 – Durable Furniture with Storage for lounge, Year 4 – Multi-Media Wall).

Meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month in the Student Union/Cafeteria at 7pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Cailyn McCauley at 495-1797 or cailyn@creativefurnace.com.



**MONTGOMERY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
PRESENTS**



**3RD ANNUAL CRAB FEED
& SILENT AUCTION**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29TH, 2011

**ST. EUGENE'S BECKER CENTER
2323 MONTGOMERY DRIVE**

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 P.M.
DINNER SERVED 6:30 P.M. TO 9:30 P.M.**



**DINNER TICKETS \$45 PER ADULT
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**DINNER MENU INCLUDES: HOMEMADE CLAM CHOWDER, FRESH
CRACKED CRAB, SALAD, BREAD AND DESSERT
BEER, WINE AND SODA AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

LIVE AUCTION, SILENT AUCTION & BALLOON POP!

**PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE AT
WWW.MONTGOMERYHIGHEducationFOUNDATION.ORG.**

**OR FILL OUT THE ORDER FORM BELOW AND MAIL IT TO: MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL,
ATTN: CRAB FEED, 1250 HAHMAN DR., SANTA ROSA, CA 95405**

Name: _____ Phone#: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Number of people attending: _____ @ \$45.00 = Total: _____ Check # _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____ (3 digit number on back of card)

Check in at the door the night of the event. Please call 707-206-8723 with any questions.

Montgomery High School Activities

Teacher Appreciation Lunches

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Teacher Appreciation Lunches. The first Lunch, which was held in August, was a great way to jump start the new school year. The second Lunch is scheduled for December 15, 2010 right before the holidays. The final Teacher Appreciation Lunch will be

held in May. If you would like to help with the Lunches and/or bring a main dish or a salad to show your appreciation for the teachers and staff at Montgomery High School, please contact Nora Iroz at jniroz@sonic.net or 529-3743 or Robin Smandra at rtreasured@aol.com or 975-3901.

Project Grad

Calling all Montgomery High

School parents! Project Grad needs your help! Project Grad is a wonderful event put on by parents every year for the graduating senior class. If you can help, please contact Shannon Hoffmann at shannonhoffmann@gmail.com or 527-7850. Project Grad Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in Room 20.

The Montgomery Education Foundation Needs You!

We have seen a lot of new faces join the board this year, but we would love to see more. We still have several important positions that need to be filled and more upcoming as older members begin to step down

at the end of this year. Currently we need a **Vice President, Fundraising Chair, Human Race Chair and Crab Feed committee members.**

Come join us at one of our meetings to see what we are all about. Our next meeting will be held on January 3. If you have any questions

please contact Priscilla Vivio at pvivio@neteze.com.

The **Crab Feed Committee** will be holding meetings on December 14, January 4, January 19 and January 25 at 7 p.m. in the MHS Student Services Center. Questions, contact Sally Connell at sallyconnell@comcast.net.

Santa Rosa School Board Budget Cuts

The Santa Rosa City School Board will be allowing public input at upcoming meetings regarding the proposed budget cuts for the 2011/2012 school year. The budget cuts, which were es-

timated to be only \$2.7 million, may now be as high as \$10.7 million, though the actual amount will not be known until the state budget is presented in January.

A town hall meeting was held on December 6 and a board meeting was held on

December 8 regarding the proposed budget cuts. The next board meeting, scheduled for January 12, will also allow for public input regarding the proposed budget cuts. Additional town hall meetings may be held later in January. For more information, visit the school district website at srcs.k12.ca.us.com.

Fundraising News

Do Your Holiday Shopping at Amazon.com

When you make your purchases at **Amazon.com** via the MHS website at www.montgomeryhighschool.com or MEF website at www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the MEF.



Dine out at Legends

Dine out at **Legends at Bennett Valley Golf Course**. We will receive 10% of your total check whenever you dine at Legends and 20% of your total check on “Montgomery High Day”, which is on the first Friday of the month. Just tell your server that you are there to support Montgomery High School.

Everyday Shopping

Do your “Everyday Shopping” at **Foot Locker, Lady Foot Locker, Kids Foot Locker, footlocker.com, Verizon Wireless, Travelocity** and **1-800-Flowers.com**, using our school code: 6ZXJ, which will result in a percentage of each purchase being donated to the MEF! For more information visit www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org, www.schoolPAX.org or call 1-877-724-5729.

Drivers' Education

Have your student take their online drivers education course at www.highschooldriversed.com and use the discount code: hsde105 which will save your student \$15 off of the normal \$69.95 fee, and will contribute \$20 to the MEF. This drivers education class provides students with the knowledge needed to earn a learners permit and drivers license, and offers students the opportunity to take online practice tests.



Support the Montgomery Education Foundation with eScrip!

Sign up or Renew Today!

Your participation can mean thousands of dollars for the Montgomery Education Foundation.

Have your Safeway Club Card number available (call 1-877-723-3929)

Visit www.escrip.com

Click on "Sign Up" or "Yes Renew"

Designate the Montgomery Education Foundation (157754440) as your recipient (you can designate up to three recipients)

You can also add your Macy's card and your Visa and Mastercard credit cards.

Present your Club Card or enter your phone number every time you shop at Safeway.

Use your registered Visa or Mastercard when you shop or eat at participating merchants

Local merchants that give back with eScrip when you use your credit card include:

Safeway, Olivers, Macy'sRound Table Pizza, DriversEd.com, Food 4 Less, Village Market, Pak 'n Save, Sonoma Market, Olivers, Mugshots Photography, DriversEd.com, & more!



Shop and earn money for the Montgomery Education Foundation. The Montgomery Education Foundation then uses the money raised to enhance the curriculum and the environment at Montgomery High School by funding things like: technology upgrades for the entire school, field trips for students, conference registration fees for faculty and staff, reward programs for improving grades, additional books and supplies for all classrooms, tables and benches for the cafeteria and outdoor areas, and more!



Adopt a Project

Montgomery High School Needs YOU! Because of the dramatic decline in local property taxes, Santa Rosa City Schools had to cut \$6 million from its budget last year.

You can help ensure your child has critical classroom equipment, materials and programs to make this a successful school year. Please write a check to the Montgomery Education Foundation or donate any item listed below today! Gifts of any size are welcome. If you want to sponsor a particular item, please write the item name on the notation line of your check. Thank you!

Montgomery Education Foundation

- Donations of any size welcome for crab feed supplies - so we can raise more money to fund the rest of the items on this list!

Science

- Donations of any size welcome for lab supplies

Math

- Texas Instruments TI-84 calculators for Math Club, new or gently used, or \$120 donation. Drop off at office, attn: Ted Seche.

English

- If your child purchased novels for an English class at Montgomery last year, the English Department would be grateful to have you donate those books. Drop off at office, attn: English Department.
- Gently used teen novels: Twilight series, Harry Potter, anything by Stephen King, J.R.R. Tolkien, Nicholas Sparks. Drop off at Montgomery office, attn: Nina Petersen.
- Tour of SRJC for Montgomery seniors: \$100 to offset transportation costs
- Electric pencil sharpeners, new or gently used. Drop off at office, attn: Amy Stevens
- Butcher paper. Drop off at office, attn: Amy Stevens

Spanish

- Donation of \$50 or gift cards to local grocery stores to purchase food for "Recuerdos del Nido" ("Memories of the Nest") days. Students love to learn Spanish by enjoying a Spanish children's book and a snack - just like kindergarten! Attn: Carol Moore.

Dance (drop off at Montgomery office, attn: Gina Melvin)

- Portable iPod speakers for dance practice, new or gently used
- iPod for dance class and productions, new or gently used
- Cases of bottled water
- Dance/exercise DVDs or videos for students to borrow

Art (drop off at office, attn: Ginny Tremblay, except IB Art)

- New or used magazines for collage projects
- Used paperback books of any subject or quality for book art projects
- Sets of Ticonderoga #2 pencils



- Sketchbooks for students who can't afford them - 9"x12", recycled, spiral or case-bound
- Village Art Supply gift cards or donations of any size for IB Art students. Attn: Dorothy Battenfeld.



Drama

- Send one drama student to an international drama festival for one day: \$100. Make check out to MEF-Fringe Festival

Physical Education (drop off at office, attn: Shannon Sweeney)

- Yoga props - blocks and straps
- Antibacterial wipes or liquid hand sanitizer
- Jump ropes - 10

Ink Cartridges and Kleenex are always welcome!

- HP laser jet printer cartridges (model 1005) -- \$65
- HP 92A black laser toner cartridges (model C4092A): \$69.99
- HP Deskjet 6840
- Tricolor HP96



To donate:

- **Drop off items at the Montgomery office**
- **Write a check to Montgomery Education Foundation, 1250 Hahman Dr., Santa Rpsa, California 95405**
- **Email mef@montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org**

**A Huge Thank You To Everyone Who Has Already Contributed to Adopt-A-Project!
The Following has been donated thus far for the 2010/2011 School Year:**

\$500 English subs - English Department
 \$200 iPod and speakers for dance - Dance Department
 \$210 Math Competition fees - Math Department/Club
 \$360 3 TI-84 Calculators - Math Department/Club
 \$230 Weather station, concave/convex lenses, telescope-Science
 \$240 Sub and transportation for SRJC tour
 \$200 P.E. Department for yoga blocks and props - P.E. Department
 \$560 Furniture for Library (late grant request)

Plus, donations were made directly to teachers of the following items:

10 Jump Ropes - P.E. Department
 Novels/paperback books - English Department
 2 Electric Pencil Sharpeners - English Department
 Grocery Store gift cards - Spanish Department
 Cash donations - Art Department, IB Program
 Hand sanitizer, paper towels, ink cartridges, white board markers

Dear Montgomery High School Parents:

I had the pleasure of speaking with Laurie Fong, principal of Montgomery High School, this week. Laurie and I are concerned about the impact that continued budget cuts will have on our school. Despite the discouraging budget news, Laurie spoke passionately about the high school that is serving your child. She said:

What I am most proud of is that Montgomery High School is a comprehensive high school. We are truly serving the needs of all of our students, every day of the week. If your child needs help applying to Stanford University, we have a high caliber curriculum, exceptional teachers and support from guidance counselors to try to make that dream a reality. If your child needs support to get safely through the school day, we're right there to meet that need, as well. We are serving everyone, from the students improving their English, to the students working towards entry at Santa Rosa Junior College, to students learning AP Physics.

This latest round of budget cuts, however, presents severe challenges to how we provide for all students' needs. Ms. Fong noted, though, that "we are a powerful community," with dedicated teachers, students, parents and administrators. **I am writing you today to ask you to demonstrate the power of our families' support with a critical, year-end donation.**

Let me tell you more about why your donation is so important to the success of our students. For the current school year, Santa Rosa City Schools – the system that funds Montgomery and four other Santa Rosa public high schools, as well as local middle and elementary schools – had to cut approximately \$6 million from its budget. In the coming school year, Santa Rosa City Schools is facing potential cuts of another \$13.9 million.

In practical terms, for Montgomery High School students, these cuts translate into situations such as the following:

- Our children must make do with outdated technology, because we have no dedicated funds for new technology. Our students are coming of age in a time of rapidly changing technology, yet our school lacks both the hardware and teacher training to give students access to these tools.
- Our children receive no career counseling, because the administration had to close the career office due to lack of funds.
- The state and district direct no designated funding to Montgomery for art or music programs.

Yet we have hope for Montgomery High School ... hope because parents like you have proven that you care deeply about your child's education. You might already have sent a check to MEF to support strong academics, and if so, we thank you very much. If you haven't yet supported our high school, **I'm asking you to make a donation today to the Montgomery Education Foundation, to help fund technology and programs that will benefit your child immediately.**

Here is another example of why your support is so critical: The International Baccalaureate program at Montgomery is one of our flagship programs. The IB program serves more students every year; in some grades, nearly a third of the students benefit from these challenging classes. Montgomery students who take IB tests regularly score above the world average – despite the fact that many other IB programs are offered at well-funded private schools. Montgomery introduced its IB program 16 years ago. In nearly two decades, we have never received an increase in funding, and this year we lost 15% of our IB budget. Our IB coordinator works only two days a week. Yet we have created a world-class IB program on a shoestring budget.

The Montgomery Education Foundation is committed to raising funds to support academic and enrichment programs at Montgomery High School. We are determined to compensate for the Santa Rosa City Schools budget cuts, ensuring that our children continue to receive an exemplary education at our local public high school. We know that Montgomery parents are invested in their children's future. Please join us to help keep this critical support organization – and our high school – strong and vital. Learn more at www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org.

In the meantime, **I urge you to send your donation to the Montgomery Education Foundation.** If you prefer, you can donate online at www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org, or mail your check in the convenient enclosed envelope.

Thanks to your generous support, we can address some of the gaps created by budget reductions – through possibilities such as special workshops for high school families preparing for college; additional hours for counselors to offer career advising to our students; or updated technology for our classrooms.

This economy is challenging for all of us, but few things are more important than preparing your child for his or her future. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Vivio, Chair
Montgomery Education Foundation

Gratitude for the Grants

AVID College Campus Tours

These field trips provide the students with a glimpse of what college life is like and allows them to stay focused on the ultimate goal of attending a four year university. For many of the AVID students, going on college visits is not financially feasible, yet through AVID and MEF, they have a chance to see several different campuses.

Tina Angel, Math Teacher

Technology Committee Funding

Organizations such as your help to make the American dream possible by providing the opportunity for each child to reach their maximum

potential. Once again, thank you for all that you do on behalf of our students.

Doug Benenson, Science Teacher

Freedom Writers Project

I would like to thank you--especially on behalf of our students--for making it possible to motivate and inspire a new group of students. Your generosity will inspire our students to aim higher and try harder. As well, your generosity will inspire my colleague, Heather Garcia-Rossi, and me to aim even higher and try harder than ever to encourage our students to achieve.

Ann Butler, English Teacher

Grants Funded by the MEF During the 2010/2011 School Year

Administration — Outdoor Tables	\$8,220.00
Administration — Cafeteria Tables	\$6,500.00
Administration — Rewards Program	\$500.00
AVID — College Campus Tours	\$1,600.00
Counseling — Attend UC/CSU Conference	\$365.00
Drama — Technical Director	\$3,000.00
English — Freedom Writers Program	\$3,300.00
Green Construction — Outdoor Chess Board	\$328.31
Life Skills — CPR/First Aid Training	\$1,700.00
Special Education — Cooking Supplies	\$250.00
Special Education/Physical Education — Disc Golf Course	\$1,000.00
Tech Committee — Various Technology Items	\$18,770.00

TOTAL GRANTS:

\$39,033.31

Alumni Corner

Upcoming Reunions:

The Montgomery High School *class of 1961* will be having its 50th Reunion on Saturday, September 17, 2011. For more information, please contact Bonnie Hamlin at royandbon@att.net.

The Montgomery High School *Class of 1981* is scheduled to hold its 30th Reunion on July 29, 2011. Please contact Wayne Phillips at WP@WaynePhillipsLaw.com

Alumni Coordinator

Robert Parker is assisting with organizing Montgomery High School alumni. He can be contacted at robparker@att.net.

Calling All Alumni!

Contribute your MHS memories, alumni updates and reunion notices to this newsletter. We would like this publication to become a

Please send your submissions to Karen Rondon at Krondon@sbcglobal.net. Thanks!



2010-2011 Pledge Drive/Donation Thank-Yous!!!

Karin and Scott Anderson
Catherine Armstrong
Kamran Asmoudeh
Robert Bailey
Laura and David Beal
Margaret Bock
Joanne Bohm
John Bloom
Mary Brandt
Brandt Insurance
Bobette Carney
Class of 1970
Bernadette Compton
Lynn and Brian Connelly
Donald and Janice Cowens
Cheryl Davey
Alicia DeCoite
Mahadev Desai
Robert and Joan Dickerson
Janice Dorn
Stephen Garrison
Nam Giang
Gerard and Susan Gloisten
Daniel Goldfield and Loie Sauer

Matthew Gollub/Kalane Wong
Ross and Virginia Gowens
Timothy and Catherine Hayes
Carol Hintze
Susan Horton
Bradley and Elizabeth Illing
Penny Jue-Woelbing
Martha Keegan
Marty and Kim Kinahan
Nancy Latimer
Chung and Ching Liang
Larry and Joanne Macchia
Jacki Malin
Dale and Suzette Manwiller
RD Martin
Eran and Annie Matalon
Marie Meredith
John and Kirsten Olney
James and Jeannine Park
Donald and Daphne Peterson
Marc and Kathy Peterson
Cecelia Radeski
Patty and Bob Reynolds
Ruth Richmond

Margaret Schirle
Bill and Catherine Schoeffler
Florence and Craig Sheffer
Richard and Dianne Starr
Lori Stein
Warren and Jane Stimpson
Dale and Cindy Stockly
Clarence Taauser
Mary Testorelli
Priscilla and Joe Vivio
Li and Biao Gao Wang
Richard and Annette Wilber
Jeanette and Anthony Wilson
Daryl Wright
Russell Wyatt
Esther Alice Yang
Robert and Dolores Zeni

