



# THE NAVIGATOR

LAKE MICHIGAN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Nourishing the Human Spirit ~ Mind, Body, and Soul ~  
through Jesus Christ*

LAKER FAMILY UNITY NETWORK: LAKER F.U.N.

MARCH - APRIL 2011 VOLUME 20, ISSUE 4

Laker F.U.N. Directory of Officers, 2010-11

Laker F.U.N. News & Events

President: Kathy Quatrochi 429-0861  
Vice Pres.: VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
Secretary: Jann Sullivan 428-0685  
Treasurer: Cindy Adent 428-5276

## Current Events & Contacts

Laker F.U.N. Meeting: 5/18, 8:15, ES  
Knights of Columbus Dinners: now-4/15, 5-7pm  
Friday Lenten Pasta Dinners  
S.C.E.N.E. Auction: 4/29 & 4/30, ES  
Volunteers & Donations: 429-0227, Ext. 16  
S.C.E.N.E. On-Site Babysitting: 4/29, 6:30-11pm  
Watch for Pre-Registration Information  
Laker Field Days: May, date T/B/A  
Gretchen Busch & Mimi Stockton: PS-Gr. 2  
Tricia Salvano: Gr. 3-5  
Market Day: monthly orders  
Chair: Tracy Glotzbach 428-8256  
SCRIP: year-round  
LMCES Office 429-0227  
Sunshine Committee:  
Heather Chapman 556-9395  
Welcoming Committee:  
Dot McNerney 556-9667  
LMC Fund-Raising & Alumni Coordinator:  
Chris Glendening 429-0227, Ext. 16

## LMC Administrative Contacts:

Mr. Berlin, *Executive Director & MS/HS Principal:*  
jberlin@lmclakers.org 983-2511  
Mr. Heath, *Assistant Principal & Athletic Director:*  
gheath@lmclakers.org 983-3154  
Mrs. Maher, *Elementary School Principal:*  
catholicprincipal@yahoo.com 429-0227  
Mrs. Payovich, *Director of Business Services:*  
cpayovich@lmclakers.org 983-5529  
Mr. Russell Cutter, *President, CCEC:*  
ndfan1964@yahoo.com

*Amazing!* is only one of many words that describe how Susan Latham and her team once again transformed the LMCES multi-purpose room to a princess's wonderland for the Daddy-Daughter Dance that was held on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Not only were the decorations out of this world but Susan arranged to have a horse and carriage take the princesses for a ride, truly making the girls feel like Cinderella!

With the Daddy-Daughter Dance over, Laker F.U.N. is beginning to wind down for the year. We would like to thank ALL parents and students who selflessly volunteered their time and effort in putting together the Halloween Party, Fall Festival, Pie Sale, Cookie Walk, Catholic Schools Week, Trivia Night and the Daddy/Daughter Dance. These events took a lot of work to put together but you made it look effortless and easy.

If you did attend one of these events and had a good time but did not volunteer to help, I encourage you to help next year. It's a bit of work putting these together but we do have fun. Volunteering is a great way to discover and share talents, and get acquainted with parents and children in grades other than your own children's.

The Laker F.U.N. officers are always on the watch for new ideas for events, activities, and speakers. I have received a few e-mails on this over the course of the year but we are always looking for more input! For example, the visit from the Michigan Opera Theatre was a new venture which was tremendously well received.

The next Laker F.U.N. meeting is Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am in the multi-purpose room at LMCES. Please consider attending our last meeting of the year as we set the schedule and agenda for the 2011/2012 school year. **Be a part of the "N" for network in Laker F.U.N.**

## Elementary Essentials from Mrs. Maher

Spring has arrived even if the temperature is not quite convinced, yet. Spring is a time when we all need reminders to stay on track as we enter the final quarter of the school year, and what is possibly the busiest time for many of our families.

Punctuality is so important. I've noticed an up-tick in tardy arrivals in the third quarter. **School begins promptly at 8:00am.** This means students need to have their backpacks and coats put away, and be in their seats ready to learn. I know the time change can make this difficult but teachers are in the home stretch and need every minute to complete instruction at each grade level. Students who arrive late miss critical material, and don't have an optimal learning experience playing catch-up rather than learning along with their peers.

I've recently spent a day on the sidewalk for morning drop-off and noticed parents parking on the circle drive to bring students into school. **All students with the exception of preschoolers should be walking themselves into school and doing the morning routines by themselves.** If you **MUST** carry a project in, you are asked to park in the lot and use the crosswalk to enter school. Even our kindergartners are proudly showing their independence as they come into school without mom or dad; *kudos to you!* Raising healthy, independent young men and women requires us to encourage them to become responsible for the morning routine without us.

April, May and June are chock-full of activities so read your calendars carefully! There is a lot of excitement ahead—you *don't want to miss it!*

### LMCES Gardens: Improve the View

Evidence of spring is appearing in the gardens at LMCES. Already beautifully planted, the flower beds need some TLC after the winter months. Several dedicated volunteers have taken stewardship over different sections, pulling weeds, keeping the edges sharp, adding mulch, and tucking in more plants. Among those volunteers was **Betsy Langbo**, whose family moved to Illinois recently, leaving some garden clogs to fill. No gardening experience is necessary, and just a few hours make a huge difference. **BONUS:** On average, gardening burns 275 calories per hour. It's a fitness plan that improves the view in more than one way! **Contact Jeanine Lewis at 556-9468** to volunteer.

## LMC Auction: *Stars of the Silver S.C.E.N.E.* April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> at LMCES

The S.C.E.N.E. Auction is just a month away. All the details are coming together. Invitations for Saturday's event have been sent, and donations are arriving daily. Still, there are plenty of ways to pitch in. **Do you:**

- **Want to volunteer?** Whether short or long, at home or school, we need your help now and through the nights of the auction. Silent Auction table captains & set-up, item assembly, data entry, wait staff, and clean-up crew are just a few ways to help. No experience is necessary.
- **Have a business or service to promote?** Consider donating to the S.C.E.N.E. Auction to display your product and access a receptive client base.
- **Want to contribute to a theme basket?** Come up with an idea, assemble new items, and send them in. We'll take care of packaging everything else. It's a fun way to work with a friend or classroom parents to make a donation.
- **Have friends who'd like a couple nights out?** Share Friday's "open to the public" details, or round up a group to fill a table at Saturday's semi-formal dinner and auction.

Stay up-to-date with all the S.C.E.N.E. Auction news on the school website at [www.lmclakers.org](http://www.lmclakers.org). You'll find everything from the dinner menu to a preview of auction items. **Forward the link to friends and family—we love to see new faces at the registration desk!**

Contact **Chris Glendening** at 429-0227, 757-4391 or [cglendening@lmclakers.org](mailto:cglendening@lmclakers.org) for all things S.C.E.N.E. Auction.

### \$10,000 S.C.E.N.E. Raffle Tickets Available

Be among the ones who have the chance to walk away with a significant bit of "silver" in your pocket after Saturday night's S.C.E.N.E. Auction, when the winners are drawn for the \$10,000, \$1,000, or \$500 raffle prizes.

Each ticket costs \$100 but only 250 will be sold. **Tickets may be purchased by calling 757-4391.** Pools are also permitted, and winners need NOT be present. All proceeds benefit tuition assistance at LMC Schools.

### **3-Year-Old Preschool with Mrs. Cutter & Mrs. Glotzbach**

Our 3-year-old preschoolers have continued to stay busy the past couple of months. They learned many things during our Community Helpers Week. Mrs. Cutter's class wants to thank one of our favorite community helpers, **Senator John Proos**, for coming to read to them during Catholic Schools Week. After exploring our community close-at-hand, we blasted off into space and created astronaut helmets and handprint suns. Then we studied more conventional means of travel by learning many forms of transportation on land and water. Our activities included making our very own phone number trucks. The preschoolers have also been working hard at home to learn their phone numbers. Making styrofoam bowl boats with colorful sails was so much fun, especially seeing if they would float.

Our curiosity turned to what is under the water and we learned about what creatures live under the sea. We all were so happy to talk about our feelings after that. It was fun to clap to show we were happy, stomp to show we were mad, and to wipe our tears to show we were sad. The change in weather certainly made us happy as the snow melted, and we were able to play on the preschool playground again. Our weather unit was a timely way to learn about all those day-to-day changes that brought snow, rain, wind, and sunshine over the last few months. Joining Mrs. Glotzbach's class for all of this March madness was a new student, **Ava Door**, who has fit in perfectly like the last piece in a jigsaw puzzle.

### **4-Year-Old Preschool with Mrs. Grundy**

In late February our 4-year-olds were trying to decide what they wanted to do when they grew up. The choices are legion but all realized that the *Berenstain Bears* are right. You can choose whatever you want whether you are he or she. Sammy snake took us on an adventure in space. Lots of science activities helped us figure out how gravity keeps us in one place and where the sun goes at night. Later timothy tiger helped us learn about trains and transportation. We painted with wheels, and had fun flying paper airplanes.

We're still not sure if March came in like a lion but we decided to make lions anyway, optimistically looking forward to better weather at month's end. Our undersea adventures, initiated by the story *Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister, allowed us to make beautiful sparkly fish that we painted using balloons. We've received many favorable compliments on our hallway display. We are more than ready for spring. Our unit on feelings helped us get in touch with how we feel about everything. Door knob hangers reveal if we're blue or in the pink. With all the unpredictable changes of Michigan weather, willie weasel has taught us that whether it's making a cloud in a punchbowl or watching a tornado in a bottle, our little scientists are ready for whatever comes their way.

# **Lenten Pasta Dinners**

**Fridays in Lent, except Good Friday ~ 5-7pm at LMC Elementary**

**\$5/person ~ \$20/family**

**Rotini or Linguini with Marinara or Alfredo Sauce**

**Steamed Vegetables ~ Garlic Bread ~ Salad ~ Assortment of Desserts**

**Hosted by the Knights of Columbus**

**St. Joseph the Provider Council 13942**

## Junior Kindergarten with Mrs. Fields

How fortunate we are to have such a wonderful resource in our community. The Sarett Nature Center has provided us with many wonderful field trips. Our latest was no exception. We learned all about maple sugaring. The staff showed us how the early pioneers learned from the Native Americans how to get the sweet goodness out of the maple tree. The Native Americans boiled the sap long before they had metal implements. How, you might ask? We were shown how rocks were heated in the fire and then placed in a trough of sap. The Native American children were responsible for gathering the rocks for the fire. We also learned how the tree was tapped. They call it tapping from the sound the hammer makes when driving in a nail. A large drill is used to make a hole in the tree. Ask your children how far the drill must go; they'll know its "pinky deep." A wooden spile is then tapped into the hole so the sap can be collected into buckets. The buckets are gathered, and the sap is added to a large cauldron. The stream shows us that the water is getting cooked out of the sap leaving yummy maple syrup in its place. Along with understanding the process, the children learned that maple syrup can only be made in a certain climate, and lucky us, *Michigan's is just right.*

## Kindergarten with Mrs. Kuehn

The Kindergarten team is in a final four, of sorts, as we enter the last quarter of the year. We've got to keep our legs under us, shooting for a strong finish that puts all of us in prime shape for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade. We started working on addition and subtraction equations in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, and we've made fantastic progress understanding our fact families, number patterns, and reverse operations. The kindergarteners are committing facts to memory and using number lines when needed. Our Science studies of motion and force will give way to investigating new life. As much as the weather tries to convince us that we are still in winter's grip, our trip to Sarett for maple sugaring is an inarguable sign that spring is here because we know the sap doesn't run unless conditions are right with warmer days and cold nights.

*continued...*

**Mrs. Maria Kibler**, who is Chloe Kibler's aunt, is our Junior Achievement mentor. Mrs. Kibler has been showing us how we fit into the larger economy of our community. When work is rewarded by earning money, what each of us does with our money involves some careful choices. We must save *and* spend, think about our needs now and in the future, and never forget to give to those in need. Our J.A. studies included a field trip to **Fifth Third Bank**, where Mrs. Kibler works. It was fun learning how the tellers communicate with customers using remote cameras and pneumatic tubes so people can stay in their warm cars. Our trip ended at the Discovery Zone at Silver Beach. It's such a great place but it wouldn't be there without people from the community who worked to build it. What a great way to bring our J.A. lessons full circle!

The Kindergarteners have been living the lessons of Lent. Along with our classroom studies that lead us to the most holy Easter season, the children have shown a wonderful sense of welcome to our new student, **Niklaas D.**, and patience and compassion to their classmate, Bobby, who has a broken leg. Whether showing Nik the ropes, or giving up recess to play indoors with Bobby, they've all demonstrated kindness, which makes our room, and the world, a happier place.

### **AID FOR JAPAN EARTHQUAKE & TSUMANI RELIEF**

**Your heartfelt support of our  
non-uniform & hat day fund-raiser  
generated \$2,031.50 to assist the  
Red Cross efforts in Japan.**

**Anyone who would like to assist further  
is encouraged to make donations to:**

**AMERICAN RED CROSS**  
<http://www.redcross.org/>

or

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**  
<http://crs.org/japan/index.cfm>

**Each of these trusted agencies has  
qualified staff on the ground, and the  
experience to use funds effectively.  
Keep the citizens of Japan, as well as  
the emergency workers, in your prayers.**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade with Mrs. Petsovich & Mrs. Faris

March was a month of growth both spiritually and academically for the 1<sup>st</sup> Graders. We have been continually reminded of our Lenten promises by making individual Stations of the Cross booklets and attending Stations each Friday. On St. Patrick's Day, we learned how St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach the pagans in Ireland about the Holy Trinity.

We sincerely thank our Junior Achievement leaders, **Kathleen Belonga** and **Tami Brandt**, who are also moms of our classmates, Samuel and Carson. The 1<sup>st</sup> Graders appreciate their gifts of expertise and time! We enjoyed learning about our wants and needs and how a community works together in J.A. Another person whose talents we enjoy is Dr. Seuss, whose birthday we celebrated by reading his wonderfully imaginative stories and illustrations. Reading his biography we learned that Dr. Seuss had to be very determined to achieve success. We are glad he didn't give up! March concludes with another memorable author, Jeff Brown, who created the *Flat Stanley* series. Our own Flat Stanley's will accompany the 1<sup>st</sup> Graders on Spring Break.

April promises to be an exciting month. A trip to the Mendel Center with our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade amigos on April 1<sup>st</sup> to see and hear *The Song of Mulan* starts the month on a high note. When we return from break, our Religion and Science unit *New Life* will help us with our growing understanding of the goodness of God's promises, and the wonder of their fulfillment through Jesus.

**This edition of *The Navigator*  
was co-sponsored by  
the Tan Family, who say:**

**Congratulations to  
Little Laker Drama  
for a job well done  
in their recent production,**

**A TWIST OF THE TONGUE**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade with Mr. Deja, Mrs. Fish & Mrs. Mills

I would like to take a minute to show just what we do. Second Grade is so exciting, I will share a bit with you... This Lenten season gives us reason to reflect on what we have been given, thinking of what we can do for others to show that we are Christians. With First Communion approaching so fast we continue to study the Mass. Mrs. Hanley helps us to understand in depth each part during Religion class. Spending time in prayer during Stations of the Cross this time of year reminds us of greater sacrifices made for us as Easter Day draws near. Math this month has proved to be a bit of a challenge, subtracting double digit numbers and regrouping but we managed. Mrs. Smart comes in every other week to take us on a journey, following the map until we arrive at the land of better learning. We practice our listening skills and pay attention to what others say. Taking our time and reading carefully are just more skills along the way. Moving next to weekly J.A. there is so much to say. We learn about our community and the role the government plays. We practiced our J.A. lessons, making doughnuts on an assembly line, and found out that all our products did not turn out just fine. Even though we worked so hard to finish what we started, some of the goods that we produced had to be discounted. Spring Break is here so enjoy your week and celebrate your family. Make it restful and make it fun because time goes by rapidly! REMINDER: The S.C.E.N.E. Auction is a wonderful time for all who can attend. Friday night is the free night so have your folks bring along their friends!

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade with Mrs. Bodley & Mrs. Kurina

This quarter found the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders involved in many writing projects. They wrote several research papers, a personal narrative, a how to paper, and other genres. Let's see how the process went!

I was astonished when I was assigned a biography on Richard M. Nixon. I learned about President Nixon's early life. I was excited to do a report on our 37<sup>th</sup> president. *Luke R.*

Our Social Studies assignment was very interesting. We each had a city in Michigan to research products that were made there. My city was Traverse City. I learned that they freeze cherries. *Elena P.*

I liked the Ocean animal reports. I learned about animals from the sea from my classmates. My favorite report was on dolphins. I didn't know they had blowholes like whales. It was a great way of learning for me! *Beatriz S.*

I was excited to find out that we would be writing a report on my favorite age! I chose to be my own age, 9 years old, because I love my age. Who wants to grow up so fast? I really enjoyed this paper, and I realized life is GREAT as a 9-year-old! *Sky S.*

I loved all the Ocean animal reports. They were all really good. The animal I wrote about was the clown fish. I told my classmates what it looked like, what it ate, and about its habitat. This report was fun because I was able to share this information with my classmates. *Emily S.*

**Mother's Day Mass:** Join us to celebrate a very special Mother's Day Mass! Mark your calendar to join your 3<sup>rd</sup> Grader on **Thursday, May 5th at 9:15am**, for this memorable day. Remember, this is a celebration for mothers and their 3rd Graders only; no siblings, please. We hope to see you there.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade with Mrs. Binger & Mrs. Zetts and News Team 4 Journalists Gavin B., Max J. & Mary Ellen N.

Famous faces graced the halls of LMCES in March. *Harpo (Nathan J.)* visited Mrs. Zetts' class to interview many historical figures who have contributed positively to our American life. Guest host *Albert Einstein (Matthew T.)* interviewed many important guests in Mrs. Binger's class. Students prepared for the interview by reading about, researching and studying one of the historic characters. From these interviews, 4<sup>th</sup> Graders learned that *Sacajawea (Catie H.)* explored our country with Lewis and Clark, *Einstein (Jared H.)* did not do very well in school, and *Neil Armstrong (Max J. & Cole T.)* was not only a great astronaut but also led 78 combat missions for the Navy. But perhaps the character we are most thankful for is *Milton Hershey (Luke R.)* of chocolate fame and the candies that still bear his name.

Grade 4 was honored to be invited back to participate in The Science Olympiad held on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Lake Michigan College. Twenty-one of our 4<sup>th</sup> Graders competed this year. We met students from thirty other area schools for a day of science challenges. **Jared H.** will always remember being the winner of the Bottle Rocket event. The Colorful Chemistry event definitely impressed participant **Caroline M.** because, as she remarked, "Everything exploded." Once again, our team used their extraordinary brains and good manners to wow the crowds.

Our science team would like to thank all the chaperones **Jay Latham, Marilyn Reckline, Stacey & Kent Ristow, Stephanie Tan, and Ginny & Gina Tomasi** who took us from event to event. A big salute goes to Lake Michigan Catholic 8<sup>th</sup> Graders, **Andrew Berendsen, Joel Copi, Sarah Corbe, Lauren Goodell, Nathan Glotzbach, A.J. Janson, Mason Pletz and Sarah Stolte**, for running our school event. We appreciate the efforts of **Mrs. Mathews**, who procured our hard working middle school volunteers.

**"A blessed Lenten journey to all LMC families"**

**From the Reuter Family, Ron, Lynne, Max, Alex & Luke**

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade with Mrs. LaSata & Mrs. Miller

The 5<sup>th</sup> Graders have been busy with many exciting and challenging projects, one being a PowerPoint presentation in Social Studies. These presentations required the students to work in teams to explore many sources to locate reliable supporting information on key events of the American Revolutionary period. They included graphics to make their presentations visually interesting. Not only did the content matter but the 5<sup>th</sup> Graders were also assessed on their delivery—eye contact, use of voice, and the ability to answer audience questions knowledgeably. With limited research time, the project was also a lesson in time management and task delegation. Also exercising oral presentation skills was the Memory Box project made in for Reading class. The boxes were decorated, and contained many items that have special meaning to each student. The items were quite interesting, and revealed new aspects of their personalities.

Our focus of study in Junior Achievement is what it takes to be an entrepreneur. Many of the attributes that make successful students are shared by the men and women who run successful businesses. Being imaginative, productive, trustworthy and determined will serve us well. One thing we should NOT be is a technophobe. We need to continually adopt new technologies and apply them to make our work more efficient.

April is a busy month for field trips. The 5<sup>th</sup> Graders will be taking a field trip to the South Bend Tribune and WSBT news station. They will also be going to the Berrien County Fair Grounds for Natural Resources Day. When it's all said and done, we should be able to use our communications skills to spread the word about conservation.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade appreciates the support for our returnable bottle and can collection that benefits the Catholic Community Center. Our Lenten project is ongoing so **please keep dropping your returnables into the boxes by Rooms 17 and 18.** We are tracking our progress toward our goal, and all the proceeds will help the CCC purchase items to fill basic needs of their clients.

## Physical Education with Dr. Learman

For grades K-5 we have been working on overhand throwing, and skipping. We will continue to work on aerobic and muscular fitness throughout the year. The 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders should know different activities to work on that will improve both type of fitness.

Next up we will be working on batting (striking) and the standing long jump. We will also be working on the different parts of the President's Challenge. Details about this fitness program can be found at:

<http://www.presidentschallenge.org/challenge/physical/activities/index.shtml>

The President's Challenge isn't just for kids. Take a look at the website for the adult counterpart, and plenty of practical information to incorporate fitness into your daily life, and stay motivated. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

*Jerome Learman Ph.D.*

### **World Book On-Line Redux: Use It at Home! It's Free to You!**

A World Book subscription has been activated for school and home use. Favorite this URL on your home computers: **www.worldbookonline.com**. To access the site, enter **User Name: lakerwb** and **Password: lmcwb**. Make a note at home to help your students use the site easily. If the user name and password gets lost or mislaid, e-mail **jmathews@lmclakers.org**, and it will be sent to you. The link to the site is also housed on the school website under the "Media Bay" section.

This on-line subscription is updated daily, and offers features too numerous to list. Navigation is easy, with icons for the various modules and links to on-line tutorials and training guides appearing at the bottom of each page on the site.

The available World Book modules, including multimedia resources for preschool through high school and a Spanish language reference tool, are:

*Early World of Learning*

*World Book Kids*

*World Book Student*

*World Book Discover*

*Enciclopedia Estudiantil Hallazgos*

## Scouting Around at LMCES

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Brownie Troop #30522:** Hip-hip-hurray! Our cookie days are over! The cookie season officially closed this past week. Mrs. Latham and I are very proud of our LMC 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Brownie girls. They did a fantastic job in selling and supporting not only their troop but the Girl Scouts organization. Our troop achieved their goal! Watch out, CHICAGO—here we come! The Brownies are ready to experience the hustle and bustle of city life. We hope to visit the Field Museum, see various sea creatures at the Shedd Aquarium, and enjoy the flower gardens and art displays in Millennium Park. We had better pack our walking shoes!

As the school year progresses, so have our troop meetings and our eagerness to earn our Try-It badges. Our Brownie had a blast this past February 26<sup>th</sup> at the International Bazaar. They had a good time visiting other troops' booths while learning more about other countries. Our Lithuanian booth was a huge success. Part of our success was due to the help of others, which included **Milda from Milda's Corner in Union Pier**, and **Mr. and Mrs. Gaska**, who gave us various Lithuanian items to make our display complete.

The key word for our March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting is completion. **Mrs. Jannings** saved the day by helping our troop complete our Pet Responsibility Try-It badge. She arranged to have **Dr. Hadaway**, our local veterinarian, visit our troop to discuss the dos and don'ts of pet care. Dr. Hadaway's knowledge of animals was intriguing, and his stories of his experiences with various animals were fascinating to hear.

A penny saved is a penny earned. That was our message for our March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. To help with that message, we had a visitor from Flagstar Bank, **Mr. Ugalde**. Yes, Isabel's dad came to our monetary rescue. We learned how important it is to save and be cautious on what we spend. We also learned about counterfeit money and how to recognize what is fake and real. *continued...*

April brings exciting things to our to-do list. Starting on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 8pm, it's going to be an "Outdoor Adventure." Our Service Unit 635 will host an Earth Day Celebration at Sarett Nature Center. It's our time to be "one with nature!" On April 18<sup>th</sup>, we will explore the history of our families. Where did our relatives come from? Do we have unique family history to share? It's the All in the Family Try-It badge. *Ah, Archie!*

We decree that the month of May shall bring outdoor fun. May 2<sup>nd</sup> will give our troop the chance to earn the Outdoor Adventure Try-It badge. We plan to hike and explore our wooded surroundings at school, and see what we can identify in plant, flower and bird life. May 16<sup>th</sup> will be our final troop meeting for the school year. We will celebrate by earning our last Try-It badge, Friends are Fun. How appropriate for our last meeting. We plan on making friendship bracelets, and generate plenty of flower power using paper. Pizza, chips, drinks and cupcakes will be our feast for the day. Until then, enjoy spring and cherish the upcoming summer season. *Mrs. Cordes & Mrs. Latham*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Wolf Den:** Two new Wolves were welcomed into the Pack. **Cooper Rellis** and **Michael Golden** have both joined our group, which is now 13 strong. In February our newest Scouts completed their Bobcat badges while the other boys wrapped up the work on their Wolf badges. We took a well-deserved break from our pursuit of badges and pursued each other, playing laser tag at one meeting. The evening finished with a final round of parents vs. Scouts. Who won? Find a Wolf Scout and ask. When we turned our attention back to badges, among our activities was a visit to **Nickerson Animal Health Center** to learn all about what it is like to be a vet. **Dr. Patrick Almus** answered all of our questions, and shared some great stories. From *the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field*, and everything in between, Dr. Almus has seen it all and then some in his 28 years of experience.