

## News & Notes

### Speech Tournament 2018

Stephanie Facchini

Tournament Coordinator



Sixty-four of the top oration students, grades four to eight, from thirteen local public and private schools, competed in the countywide Speech Tournament. The tournament was coordinated by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools (NCSOS) office and sponsored by Tri Counties Bank, the Rotary Club of Grass Valley and the Nevada Theatre Commission. This year's speech topic was "Technology's Impact: Past, Present, or Future".

The preliminary and semi-finals competition for students in grades four to eight was held on March 8<sup>th</sup> at Calvary Bible Church. The tournament was conducted in a "round-robin" fashion, with students reciting speeches three times, each time to a different judge. Semi-finalists were determined, and speeches were recited one last time in front of three judges. Three finalists from each grade were selected to proceed to the Speech Finals. The initial judging team consisted of 15 volunteers from local businesses and organizations as well as retired professionals. The

speeches were evaluated on content and delivery with a time limit of no less than two minutes and no more than three and a half minutes.

The student finalists presented their speeches at an evening program on March 13<sup>th</sup>, held at the Nevada Theatre. The esteemed panel of judges consisted of representatives from local Toastmasters groups. Each finalist received a first, second, or third place trophy and a \$25 Book Seller gift certificate. These awards were presented by Kathleen Kiefer, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability for NCSOS; Judy Wirkner, Vice President, Branch Manager of Tri Counties Bank; and Robert Long, Past President of the Rotary Club of Grass Valley. The 2018 Speech Tournament winners are as follows:

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Greyson George - Bell Hill Academy

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Carson Horn - Bell Hill Academy

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kara Kirkpatrick - Union Hill Elementary

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Morgan Parnow - Seven Hills School

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Jamie MacDonald - Mt. St. Mary Academy

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Spencer Gillespie - Seven Hills School

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kaeli Horn - Lyman Gilmore

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Aria Conte - Nevada City School of the Arts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ashlynnne Browning - Lyman Gilmore

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jocelyn McKinley - Magnolia Intermediate

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Drake Woodford - Magnolia Intermediate

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Megan Hundemer - Mt. St. Mary Academy

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jack O'Neill - Mt. St. Mary Academy

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Corina Shaw - Magnolia Intermediate

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jordan Vogt - Magnolia Intermediate



**Chris Espedal**  
*Safety and School Climate Coordinator*

Research shows that exposure to violence and trauma can seriously undermine a child's ability to learn, form relationships and focus appropriately in the classroom. To support students in Nevada County, a united effort among local agencies has led to the adoption and implementation of the Handle with Care program. Nevada County Handle with Care is modeled after the West Virginia Handle with Care and the Stanislaus County FOCUS program. The program launched February 6, 2018.

This new initiative enhances communication and collaboration between first responders (law enforcement, fire fighters, emergency medical responders, etc.), and schools. A "Handle with Care Notification" alerts the school that a child may have been exposed to a traumatic incident (i.e. domestic violence, child abuse, death in the family, witness to a crime, loss of home due to a house fire, etc.). *No specific details about the incident are given, just one simple request: To focus on the child and handle them with care. Confidentiality is maintained at all levels.*

How it works: When a child is exposed to violence or trauma, a first responder will send the designated official for the child's school a "Handle with Care" notification; no details of the incident are provided.

School staff members, while observing the student throughout the day, will aim to be especially sensitive to student needs. Provisions for a quiet place to rest, assistance with meeting basic needs, homework/test forgiveness or delay, a visit to the school nurse or counselor, or referral to an outside agency will be provided as needed.

The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office is grateful for the collaborative efforts of many local agencies to provide a safe and productive learning environment for our students as we seek to "handle every child with care".

**McKinney-Vento: Meeting the Needs of the Homeless**

**Melissa Parrett**  
*McKinney-Vento County Liaison*

In 2016-17, 341 Nevada County children and youth were identified as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act, a 22% increase from the year prior. Students may be considered "homeless" if they lack a regular, fixed, and adequate nighttime residence (including families doubled-up due to economic hardship, children who are unaccompanied/not living with a biological parent or legal guardian). Children and youth who qualify under McKinney-Vento are immediately eligible for free & reduced lunch as well as additional supports and

connections to services (e.g., needed school supplies, school fees, weather appropriate clothing, tutoring). Each school district has a designated McKinney-Vento liaison whose function is to assist with connection to needed services. If you know of a child who may qualify, contact your district liaison.

**Step Up to Kindergarten! and Step Up to Pre-School!!**

**Lindsay Dunckel, Ph.D.**  
*Executive Director First 5 Nevada County*

As the Step Up to Kindergarten summer school-readiness program enters its seventh year, it is becoming a joint venture of NCSOS and First 5.

For three weeks in July, entering kindergarten students will get comfortable in a kindergarten classroom, learn routines, and focus on social-emotional and executive function school readiness skills in a small class setting at 5 schools around the county (Bell Hill, Union Hill, Scotten, Alta Sierra, and Cottage Hill). Children entering kindergarten at any school in the county are welcome to apply for a slot.

And launching this year is the Step Up to Preschool program, for children turning three by September 1 up through those entering Transitional Kindergarten in the Fall. Preschoolers will enjoy half days in small classrooms at Our Kids' Place and the Sierra College Child Development Center in Grass Valley, at Alta Sierra School, and at Cottage Hill from Wednesday, July 11 through Tuesday, July 31. The three-week school readiness program runs from 9:00 a.m. to noon each day.

This program joins the long-term success of Step Up to Kindergarten. If you know of a child going into preschool or kindergarten anywhere in the county, you can refer them to this terrific, free program. Staffed by high-quality, experienced teachers, these programs are a great way to help children be ready for school.

Applications are available on the First 5 website, [www.first5nevco.org](http://www.first5nevco.org), or by calling Sandi at 530-274-5361. The applications are due by May 1.

**Young at Art Exhibition**

**Judy Nielsen**  
*NCSOS Office Arts Lead*

A big thank you goes out to all of the wonderful student artists across Nevada County, who participated in this year's Young at Art exhibition. If you have not yet had the opportunity to see this exhibit at the Rood Center, the exhibit will be up thru May 22.

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# ***Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All***

## **Trainings**

### **Trauma-Informed Care**

This training is intended for family strengthening professionals that work with children and families who may have experienced trauma. By the end of the full-day training, participants will be able to define the types of trauma, describe the impact of trauma on the development and well-being of children, adults, and family support staff, and more. This training is free and takes place on Thursday, May 31 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the NCSOS training room. Registration is free, brown bag lunch, limited to 45 participants. If there is substantial interest, a second training will be added in the fall. To register and for further information link to: [Strategies 2.0-Here is how you can sign up](#) and [Strategies 2.0-TIC Training-GV-flyer](#)

### **Brief Intervention**

Thursday, May 10 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. the NCSOS office is hosting a free training on Brief Intervention (BI) Training. Registration is required and space is limited. Go to [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) to register. The Target audience is Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) site coordinators, school administrators, educators, staff, counselors and nurses. BI is a short-term counseling intervention that consists of 2 to 4 sessions aimed at adolescents who use alcohol and/or other drugs. This approach uses motivational interviewing, cognitive behavior therapy and the stages of change model to meet the needs of adolescents. Space is limited. Lunch included. Six hours of continuing education credits are available for BRN and AOD counselors for a \$25 fee. Contact Marlene Mahurin, TUPE Project Coordinator at 478.6400 x2013 or

[mmahurin@nevco.org](mailto:mmahurin@nevco.org) for more information.

### **Exploring Careers in Health Summer Institute**

For students enrolling in grades 9-12 for the 2018-2019 school year, 25 applicants will be chosen to attend at no cost. The institute takes place June 18-21 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Students explore various health career opportunities in the clinical and community health setting. Envision your future as a health care provider and learn the prescription for a health care pathway and academic requirements needed to succeed. For more information or to request an application online: <http://nevco.org/exploring-health-careers/>. You can also call Sharyn Turner RN, MA, Coordinator for School Health at 478.6400 x2045 or [sturner@nevco.org](mailto:sturner@nevco.org).

### **Mental Health First Aid**

This is an 8-hour training course designed to give members of the public key skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The evidence behind Mental Health First Aid demonstrates that it makes people feel more comfortable managing a crisis situation and builds mental health literacy — helping the public identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness. Training takes place Monday, April 30 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Victor Community Support Services in Grass Valley. The same training is offered in Truckee on Tuesday, May 29. Registration confirmation is required. To register contact Tina West at [tina.west@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:tina.west@co.nevada.ca.us).

## **Opportunities for All**

### **Art Docent**

#### **Appreciation Luncheon**

The Art Docent Appreciation Luncheon, taking place on Tuesday, May 8 at the Ellu Gallery, is meant for anyone that promotes art in your classrooms. In the past, it was connected to the Art Docent Program, as every school in the County engaged in the same program. Over the years, art docents have taken on numerous forms, from Meet the Masters to the Art Docent Program, from having one person go into all of the classrooms at a school, to having teachers take on additional programs of their choice. Please know that this luncheon is to honor all that promote the variety of art education programs now taking place in Nevada County Schools.

Principals and Directors are encouraged to attend the luncheon, in support of the wonderful people that make these programs take shape and instill life into the arts, for the students in your school.

Art project is from 10:30 a.m. – noon and lunch from noon-1:15 p.m. with a keynote speaker and raffle. Please assist by informing any appropriate people of this invitation. RSVPs are due April 30<sup>th</sup> to Judy Nielsen at [jnielsen@nevco.org](mailto:jnielsen@nevco.org) or 478.6400 x2008.

### **South County**

#### **School Safety Forum**

A panel discussion on resources, current practices, and site specific plans for school safety will take place on Monday, May 7 in the Bear River High School theater from 6:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m. The targeted audience is South County parents and guardians. The panel includes representatives from the NCSOS office, Office of Emergency Services, Sheriff's Office, CHP, and Higgins Fire Services. South County schools include Alta Sierra, Arête Charter,

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Bear River HS, Cottage Hill, Forest Lake Christian, Magnolia Intermediate, and Sierra Montessori Academy. Details for a similar forum for Nevada City/Grass Valley will be forthcoming.

### **Nevada County Arts 2018 Sierra Poetry Festival**

The month of April brings free pop-up poetry events in celebration of National Poetry Month. There will be a KVMR live broadcast at Briar Patch Co-op from noon – 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 22. All student poets are invited to come and participate. The remainder of the month brings an array of local, national and international poets, performers, presenters and youth voices, culminating with the second annual Sierra Poetry Festival on Saturday, April 28 at Sierra College Grass Valley campus. Students are free. This year's theme, *Ordinary Light*, addresses what it means to be a literary citizen. Go to [www.NevadaCountyArts.org](http://www.NevadaCountyArts.org) for full program details.

### **CPR & First Aid Training**

CPR/First Aid/AED courses are taken on-line, followed by a Skills Demo Check 'class', coordinated by the NCSOS office. Certification is received once you have met the demonstration requirement. The initial on-line training course is estimated to take up to 3 hours; renewing, takes less

time. \$45 class fee must be paid prior to on-line course access. *Make payment at 380 Crown Point Circle* (NCSOS). *Skills Demo Check takes place at 112 Nevada City Hwy.* (Earle Jamieson School). See the *Quick Reference Calendar* below for Demo Check classes scheduled thru July 5. [www.nevco.org/register](http://www.nevco.org/register) to register or contact Faith Yamamoto at [fyamamoto@nevco.org](mailto:fyamamoto@nevco.org).

### **SMART: Meeting the Needs of Students & Families in Crisis**

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child, have had limited success with family engagement and/or provision of services and are unsure about the involvement of other agencies, SMART (Special Multi-Agency Resource Team) convenes to address the needs of families in crisis within Nevada County. By working collaboratively with parents and schools to identify strengths and concerns, the Team is able to effectively link families to appropriate, local services and remove any barriers to such services. The goal of SMART is to keep children safe, healthy, in-home, at-school, and out-of-trouble. The team consists of representatives from Child Protective Services, CALWorks, Public Health, Juvenile Probation, Behavioral Health, Victor Community Support Services, EMQ Families First, Sierra Forever Families and the schools

(additional agencies included for case specific issues- Alta Regional Services, Foothill Healthy Babies, etc.). For more information, contact Melissa Parrett at 478-6400 ext. 2021 or [mparrett@nevco.org](mailto:mparrett@nevco.org).



### **Music in the Mountains**

These MIM educational programs are free to Nevada County schools:

- Peers Performing for PEERS
- Music Live
- Take 5 for Music – All should be on year ONE of the five-year cycle.

Other MIM educational programs:

- Carnegie Link-Up
- Young Composers Project
- MIMYO (Youth Orchestra)

For further information contact Education Director Mark Vance at [mark@musicinthemountains.org](mailto:mark@musicinthemountains.org) or 265-6173.

### **2018 State of the Schools**

The NCSOS office has published and distributed the 2018 State of the Schools report. For additional copies contact Judy Nielsen at [jnielsen@nevco.org](mailto:jnielsen@nevco.org). State how many copies you would like to receive and which school district or school site to send them to, thru the PONY.

## ***Quick Reference Calendar...***

Calendar events have been highlighted in previous editions of *The Nugget* and are listed in chronological order. Back issues of *The Nugget*, with additional information, can be found at [www.nevco.org/news-events](http://www.nevco.org/news-events).



### ***Sudoku***

4/19/18

2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades Team Tournament, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at Nevada Union

*Quick Reference Calendar*  
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## **Community Read ~ One remaining community event**

### **'EVERYTHING I NEVER TOLD YOU' by Celeste Ng**

5/30/18

Mind Your Mental Health with representatives from Mental Health and family support resources, 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Madelyn Helling Library



## **CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo Check Class Schedule**

DATE	CLASS DESCRIPTION	TIME
Thursday, April 25 <b>FULL</b>	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Wednesday, May 2	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Tuesday, May 15	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Wednesday, June 6	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Tuesday, June 19	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Thursday, July 5	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.



## **Poetry Out Loud**

DATE	DESCRIPTION
April 23-25, 2018	Poetry Out Loud National finals
April 28, 2018	Sierra Poetry Festival performances of Poetry Out Loud Nevada County finalists

## **Young at Art**

DATE	DESCRIPTION
March 5 – May 22	Student art exhibit at the Rood Center
May 23-24-25	Removal of art work from the Rood Center



## **PG&E STEM High School Program**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month      Webinar      3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
 Various      Workshops      TBD  
 Various      Seminars      TBD

Registration <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=hyzzrodab&oeidk=a07eejkrjesab69f5ca>

