

News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office

December 2019

Scott W. Lay, Superintendent

2019 Nevada Co. Geography Tournament

Nevada County's first academic tournament of the school year was a huge success. Eight local schools gathered on Monday, November 4th for the annual 7th grade Geography Tournament. School teams of three students each gathered to collaborate on a fill-in-the blank 100-point test covering local, state, U.S. and world geography. The written team test was then followed by an individual geography bee, where one student from each school team participated in a triple elimination format.



Congratulations to the winning teams:

- Chicago Park School 1st place
- Union Hill Middle School 2nd place
- Seven Hills Middle School 3rd place

Continued on page 3

2019 Nevada Co. Spelling Tournaments

On November 13 and 14, 2019, top spellers from local public, private and charter schools competed in the annual Nevada County Spelling Tournament, held at Miners Foundry Cultural Center. Forty (40) 5th/6th grade and forty-six (46) 7th/8th grade students competed over the two days. The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office coordinated the annual event which was graciously sponsored by the KNN Group at Stifel and by the Miners Foundry. "Spellmaster" Linda Phelps, a local retired educator, again volunteered her time and finesse, dictating spelling words for the team contest and the individual oral spelling bees.

The day commenced with school teams consisting of up to five students competing for the overall best team award. The individual students from each team with the highest individual cumulative correct score then participated in the subsequent individual spelling bee. The top scorers from each day's individual bee are eligible to go on to the California State competitions in May of 2020.

In the 5th and 6th grade team competition, Seven Hills School earned the first-place award. Placing second was the Lyman Gilmore School team. The third-place award was won by the Mt. St. Mary Academy team.

In the 7th and 8th grade team competition, Lyman Gilmore School earned the first-place award. Placing second was the Magnolia School team. The third-place award was won by the Nevada City School of the Arts team.

Continued on page 2

Spelling - Continued from page 1

The following students participated in the Individual Spelling Bees:

5th & 6th grade Individual Spelling Bee:

- Elsa Burt Grass Valley Charter School
- Isabell Colbert Lyman Gilmore School
- Samantha Dalbeck Mt. St. Mary Academy
- Payton Garten Alta Sierra School
- Rex Levinson- Lyman Gilmore School
- Danielle Manifor Seven Hills School
- Oliver Massam Lyman Gilmore School
- Sarah McBride Seven Hills School
- Kiara Najera Mt. St. Mary Academy
- Alana Sauvageau Magnolia
- Evan Smith Seven Hills School
- Ethan Thauberger Mt. St. Mary Academy
- Iliana Thompson Alta Sierra School

7th & 8th grade Individual Spelling Bee:

- Grayson Allen-Shivley NC School of the Arts
- Baraka Anderson- Yuba River Charter School
- Aria Conte Nevada City School of the Arts
- Noah Cotter Lyman Gilmore School
- Gina Genovese Magnolia School
- Melina Handan Seven Hills School
- Molly Hope Lyman Gilmore School
- Isaac Massam- Lyman Gilmore School
- Amanda McBride Seven Hills School
- Jude Slater Clear Creek School





In the grade 5/6 Individual Spelling Bee, Elsa Burt (5th grade) emerged as the first-place champ, with Oliver Massam (5th grade) scoring as the second-place winner. Elsa and Oliver now qualify to attend the 2020 California State Elementary Spelling Championship to be held May 9th in Stockton, CA. Samantha Dalbeck (6th grade) was the third-place winner. Fourth-place went to Isabell Colbert (6th grade). A fifth-place tie went to Danielle Manifor (5th grade), Sarah McBride (5th grade), and Iliana Thompson (5th grade).

In the grade 7/8 Individual Spelling Bee, Baraka Anderson (7th grade) emerged as the first-place champ, with Aria Conte (8th grade) scoring as the second-place winner. Baraka and Aria now qualify to attend the 2020 California State Junior High Spelling Championship to be held May 2nd in San Rafael, CA. The third-place tie went to Noah Cotter (8th grade), Gina Genovese (8th grade), Isaac Massam (8th grade), and Jude Slater (7th grade).

> Congratulations to all student participants, teachers, and families. Many heartfelt thanks to our generous sponsors.

For questions about Nevada County Academic Tournaments: sshafran@nevco.org

Two classes—Grass Valley & Penn Valley.



Grass Valley Flyer

Penn Valley Flyer

Geography—continued from page 1 Individual geography bee awards were awarded to:

- Quinn Kodet from Magnolia Intermediate School - 7th grade Geography Tournament 1st Place Champion
- Kaelin Day from Chicago Park School -2nd place
- Tie between Luke Jeffers from Magnolia Intermediate School and Spencer Gillespie from Seven Hills Middle School - 3rd place

Special thanks to Chicago Park School for hosting the annual event, and to Nevada County Superintendent of Schools for this year's sponsorship.



For questions about Nevada County Academic Tournaments: sshafran@nevco.org

PARENTING TIPS

By Annie Keeling NCSOS Parenting Specialist

Can't We All Just Share?

The holidays bring children together in what you hope is joyful play time but can often be a giant struggle. Toddlers are trying to figure out how to get their own needs met and play by themselves.

One of their first words, "Mine," is actually an intellectual milestone that leads to feelings of ownership.

While frustrating at times, it demonstrates a readiness to learn to share.

It's not helpful to tell the child, "That's not yours," since this is a development phase they need to experience. Identifying ownership isn't a sign of selfishness -- it is a sign of knowledge. "It demonstrates a desire to understand the world" says Alice Sterling Honig, Professor Emerita of Child Development at Syracuse University.

Teaching a Child to Share

When children reach the age of 3 or 4, they understand that certain things don't belong to them. More independence may bring more possessiveness of their favorite items, even seeing them as extensions of themselves. The child is developmentally ready, though, to learn more about sharing.

- Share with You. One of the first places to teach sharing is with you, minimizing frustration and tantrums that might be present with peers. Ask to play with one of your child's favorite toys and let her know she can ask for it back.
- Safe Space. Find a shelf or cabinet where your child can place some designated special items that she doesn't want played with by others. Teach her that if she leaves those toys in another space, anyone is free to play with them. If the child is going through a phase where every toy is special and any sharing creates an issue, then you may suggest going outside to play or even go to a more neutral location like a park, if possible.

Continued on page 4

Parent Tips—Continued from page 3

- Turn Limit. Practice taking turns, using a timer for a short amount of time for each person. Help engage the child who is waiting with another toy or activity. A turn limit is best to practice with someone you know well, perhaps a family member or good friend.
- Keep the Toy. If a child is playing with a toy, he gets to keep it as long as he wants. This provides a feeling of relief and security to that child and allows for deeper creative play with the toy or object. A caring adult can help the waiting child to express her emotions or find something else to play with.
- Pulling Cards. When there is more than one child, whether it's a sibling or play date friends, make an index card for each child with their name on it. Then when a situation presents itself for one child to go first, put the cards behind your back and pick one. The cards decide!

Knowing that play is how children learn and where they thrive is an excellent reminder for adults and gives permission (and necessity) for joining the kids. Some of the best memories are made when the adult relatives get in on the fun and model how to share.

Annie Keeling, MFA, is the Parenting Specialist for Nevada County Superintendent of Schools. She teaches parenting classes throughout the year. Contact Annie to find the next class near you: akeeling@nevco.org or 530-268-5086.



Nevada County Foster Youth Podcast

"SHelter Dogs 2020"

We are happy to release our first podcast created, produced and led by our very own foster youth community.

This group of motivated young individuals decided to take action into their own hands and educate our community on the realities of foster care.

These are stories of hardships and successes that they share with us, as well as suggestions so we can open the door for change and growth.

The group is called "Shelter Dogs"
Check out our Facebook page:
Foster Advocates - Shelter Dogs 2020

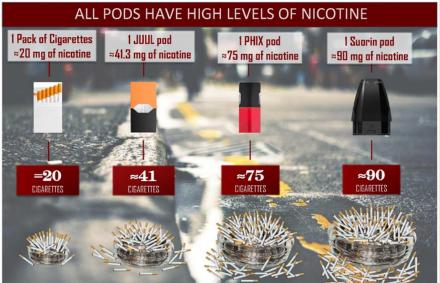
Listen to: PODCAST #1
Listen to: PODCAST #2



Please email your comments, topic suggestions and success stories to the group at: shelterdogs2020@gmail.com.

0	Save The Date!	0
	3rd Annual Nevada Co. Schools	
0	Job Fair Sat. March 21, 2020 10am-2pm	0
0	Nevada County Superintendent of Schools	0

HOW MANY CIGS IN THAT POD?



TUPE NEWS

Marlene Mahurin, Coordinator
Tobacco Use Prevention Education

When we educate students about the health risks of vaping, they often argue that it's safer than smoking cigarettes. Although it's true that e-juice, the fluid vaped by users, doesn't contain tar, the liquid is filled with dangerous chemicals and ever increasing amounts of nicotine. In fact, the nicotine levels

have increased so drastically that we are now seeing products with unprecedented amounts. This means we simply don't know the health risks of using these products. The Stanford Tobacco Toolkit created the graphic image above to demonstrate how much nicotine is in some of the most popular devices used by our youth.

We know that our brains develop up until about the age of 25 and until that time are more susceptible to addiction. According to the <u>Truth Initiative</u>, "Nicotine is harmful to developing brains: younger users are more likely to become addicted, have more difficulty quitting and may be at higher risk for addiction to other substances in the future." This is a great concern due to the growing number of youth vaping.

If you are a parent or work with youth, it is important to talk to them about the health risks of vaping or using any nicotine product. The California Department of Public Health has a great resource for parents you can <u>access here</u>. Their top takeaways are:

- 1. Listen: Let your child tell you about their world and what they know about vaping.
- 2. Many Talks vs. One Big One: Talk often. The temptation to vape is not a one-time occurrence, so have many conversations.
- 3. Talk Science: Share that not only is nicotine an addiction but it can also re-wire their brain to make it harder to focus and pay attention.
- 4. Blame Flavors: Big Tobacco is targeting them and flavors reduce the perception of harm. Make sure they know the facts.

To reach Marlene: 530-478-6400 ext. 2031 or mmahurin@nevco.org

The Arts

The Arts in Our Schools

Learn More Here













Reading and Writing Programs

STEAM Expo 2020

<u>Music</u>

Visual Arts & Media Arts

<u>Drama</u>

<u>Dance</u>

arts

HOME ARTS CALENDAR CULTURAL DISTRICTS CALL TO ARTISTS ARTIST DIRECTORY PROGRAMS ARTS ORGANIZATIONS ABOUT US

ARTS IN EDUCATION ARTS AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY CULTURAL ASSET MAP GET INVOLVED.

Registration begins in November

Email for more info





JUMP TO THE NEW SIERRA POETRY FESTIVAL PAGE

NCSOS

Summary of Arts
Education

Programs:

2019-2020

Here

Offering local, state, and national arts programs countywide, grades K-12.



Poetry Out Loud encourages students to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. See timeline and calendar of events on page 9.

For more information contact:

Lead Teacher Liaison, Steve Hansen at shansen@njuhsd.com or Coordinator and Coach, Julie Valin at juleree 99@yahoo.com, or go to www.poetryoutloud.org

Mental Health America - Talking to Kids about School Safety

School violence and the resulting intense media coverage bring school safety issues to the forefront for all of us. However, children, in particular, may experience anxiety, fear, and a sense of personal risk. Knowing how to talk with your child about school safety issues could be critical in recognizing and preventing acts of violence, and will play an important role in easing fear and anxieties about their personal safety.

To guide parents through discussions about school violence, **Mental Health America** offers in-depth suggestions. **To view the full article for the bulleted list below go to: SCHOOL SAFETY**

- 1. Encourage children to talk about their concerns and to express their feelings
- 2. Talk honestly about your own feelings regarding school violence
- 3. Validate the child's feelings
- 4. Empower children to take action regarding school safety
- 5. Discuss the safety procedures that are in place at your child's school
- 6. Create safety plans with your child
- 7. Recognize behavior that may indicate your child is concerned about returning to school
- 8. Keep the dialogue going
- 9. Seek help when necessary
- 10. Behavioral signs that child may need help

In a Crisis—Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255)



Mark your Calendar ~ Nevada Union High School

NU Preview Night February 19, 2020 Nevada Union Theatre @ 6PM Multi-Purpose Room 6:30 – 7:30PM

This event is for incoming 8th grade students and their parents. Parents will start with a presentation in the Theatre and meet up with their students in the cafeteria to preview all of the great choices available at NU. We will have club booths, sports team booths, academic booths, parent club and many more! You won't want to miss this event.

Future Miner Invitational February 20, 2020 Nevada Union High School 11:30AM – 2:30PM

This event is coordinated by Nevada Union with the local Junior High Schools.

We will be coordinating with the Junior High Schools before Winter Break. Schools can be on the lookout for information to distribute in early January.

Questions: Contact Debie Ogden, Principal's Secretary @ Nevada Union High School. Phone calls are preferred 530-273-4431x2004. Email: dsogden@njuhsd.com.

United Way of Nevada County - Project Warmth Collection Drive

United Way is holding a collection drive for new warm hats, gloves and socks for those in our community who are in need. Donate these much-needed items and help everyone in our community stay warm this winter.



If you are interested in finding out more about our collection drive, please call **274-8111** or email admin@uwnc.org. Live "United" this holiday season and help us keep the community warm.





More information here





More Information

We • Nevada County

NAMI Nevada County Family Support

National Alliance on Mental Illness

Find Help. Find Hope.

The Holidays Can Be Stressful:

NEVADA COUNTY group. Gain insight from the challenges and successes of others facing similar circumstances.

NAMI's Support Groups are unique because they follow a structured model, ensuring everyone has

an opportunity to be heard and to get what they need.

Meetings are held at the Madelyn Helling Library, Gene Albaugh Community Room.

- Free of charge to participants
- Led by family members and caretakers of individuals living with mental illness
- Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month
- Confidential
- Led by family members of individuals living with mental illness
- Meets monthly the 2nd Tuesday of every month—5:30-7:00pm
- No specific medical therapy or medication is endorsed or recommended

CRISIS HELP INFO

Basic Needs Guide for Western Nevada County:

Visit 211 Nevada County or dial 2-1-1 for additional resources.







SUDOKU TOURNAMENT

Coming in April 2020

Starting in January: free weekly training of students, teaching beginners the basics of Sudoku solving, and teaching more advanced skills.

More info: 477-6282 or email

jerrymartin1942@sbcglobal.net

NEO Youth Center

More Info

New Events & Opportunities

NEO Youth Drop-In Hours:

Mon: 3:30-6:30 Grades 6-8

Tues: 3:30-6:30 Grades 9-12

Wed: 2:45-6:30 Grades 6-12

Thu: 3:30-6:30 Grades 9-12

Fri: 3:30-8:30 Ages 14-25

We • Nevada County

Victorian Christmas – Nevada City

Sundays: December 8, 15, 22

1:30-6:00pm

Wednesdays: December 11 & 18

5:00-9:00pm

All ages – crafts, live entertainment, activities,

food and merriment



Cornish Christmas – Grass Valley

Fridays: December 7, 14, 21

6:00-9:00pm

All ages – crafts, carolers, jugglers, live music, food and good cheer

Know and Go:

Go Nevada County Monthly Calendar







Nevada Union High School presents :

Be More Chill

Opening: Jan 23, 2020 Closing: Feb 01, 2020 Number of performances: 6

Organization: Country: Website:

Nevada Union High School United States Nudrama.com

MORE INFO HERE





Quick Reference Calendars

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 The Nugget Back Issues.

CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo Check Class



DATE	CLASS DESCRIPTION	TIME
Tue, January 14, 2020	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Wed, January 22, 2020	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Thurs, February 6, 2020	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Wed, February 19, 2020	CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check	3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

The cost of the class is \$45.00 and must be paid PRIOR to us sending you a link to the on-line course – we accept exact cash or check only. NOTE: the fee is non-refundable.

You can either stop by our office to pay or mail the check - payable to NCSOS.

Please do not mail cash.

Mail checks to: NCSOS 380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley, CA 95945 ATTN: CPR.

Register online. For more information contact Faith Yamamoto at fyamamoto@nevco.org





All seminars are 4:30-6:30PM, held in the Training Room at the NCSOS office: 380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley

To learn more, visit North Coast School of Ed.



DATE	GROUP
Tue, January 7, 2020	BTSA Induction Seminar
Wed, January 8, 2020	BTSA Induction Seminar
Tue, February 4, 2020	BTSA Induction Seminar
Wed, February 5, 2020	BTSA Induction Seminar
Tue, March 3, 2020	BTSA Induction Seminar
Wed, March 4, 2020	BTSA Induction Seminar
Tue, April 14, 2020	BTSA Induction Sharecase
Wed, April 15, 2020	BTSA Induction Sharecase

Quick Reference Guide



DATE	POETRY OUT LOUD 2019—2020 Schedule of Events
Available now	Online Anthology of poems — <u>HERE</u>
Dec 16-20, 2019	Participating Schools Finalized
Jan 10–24, 2020	Nevada Co. School Competitions—January 24th school competitions completed
February 4, 2020	Nevada County Countywide Competitions—Rood Center
February 14, 2020	Deadline to register students for State Finals
March 15-16, 2020	State Finals competition
April - all month	National Poetry Month
Throughout April	Sierra Poetry (Fringe) Festival – Pop-Up Poetry Events
March 28, 2020	Nevada County STEAM Expo—for Poetry Out Loud Nevada County finalists whose poetry choices associate to STEM subject matter
April 18, 2020	Sierra Poetry Festival—for Poetry Out Loud Nevada County finalists
April 27-29, 2020	Poetry Out Loud National Finals



CA Alliance for Arts Education Student Voices Campaign:

2-minute video program for 7th-12th Grade Students

TBD - Deadline to submit to NC Arts for viewing at STEAM Expo 2020 March 1, 2020 Deadline to submit to CA Alliance for Arts Education March 28, 2020 T STEAM Expo 2020 viewing of selected videos

More Information Here



A PLACE WHERE NEVADA COUNTY FAMILIES GATHER FOR SUPPORT, INFORMATION, & FUN!

FREE SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES



Grass Valley 235 S. Auburn St. 530-279-4059 Penn Valley 10862 Spenceville Rd. 530-432-1118 x249 San Juan Ridge 18847 Oak Tree Rd. 530-292-3174



MORE INFO HERE

Submissions for future Nugget issues:

Have you something to share in future issues of The Nugget?

Please submit your request by the 15th of the preceding month for inclusion in the following issue.

Email: sshafran@nevco.org

Previous editions of *The Nugget* and are listed in chronological order.

Back issues of *The Nugget* be found at <u>The Nugget Back Issues</u>.