



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Glitter fairies work on decorating artwork made by first-grade students at Lyle Elementary School.

'Fairies' leave glitter wherever they go

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — They are known around Lyle Elementary School as “the glitter fairies” — or more recently, “the bedazzlers.”

Each year, after Lyle's first-grade students complete their Christmas-themed paintings, the glitter fairies sweep in and embellish the artwork.

For a first-grader, the result — the students don't see the glitter fairies' work until later — may seem like a minor Christmas miracle.

“Many hands make the work light,” said longtime “glitter fairy” Patty Newton during Monday's glitter party.

“It's kind of fun because they are surprised,” she added.

Newton and the rest of the glitter fairies are really retired teachers and school district employees.

“Most have had some connection with the schools,” she said.



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Glitter makes all things sparkle at Lyle Elementary.

Newton said the first-grade paintings have been a Lyle tradition for decades — she was a teacher there for 24 years. She can't recall exactly when, but several years ago the group began doing the time-consuming, and messy — no matter how careful you are — job of gluing glitter on the paintings.

“We know how busy the teachers are,” said Georgie Naughton, a retired teacher. “And you've got to smile at the pictures.”

Indeed, looking at the paintings, you can see the young imaginations at work in the depictions of snowmen, elves, Christmas trees, stars and Christmas-tree decorations.

Naughton said the fun part of the once-a-year project is seeing old colleagues. And the chance to be a little creative on behalf of Lyle's students, added Charlotte Lough, also a former teacher.

As they worked through

the pile of art projects, a few of the faithful bedazzlers noticed a painting of Christmas lights, pausing to look at it.

Naughton finally snagged it and just tracing glue along the outside of the lights, covered the glue with multi-colored glitter.

“You took the Christmas light one, didn't you?” asked one of Naughton's fellow fairies.

“I did. Sorry. You wanted it didn't you,” Naughton said, smiling.

Their light-hearted toil fills Lyle's gym with laughter — and glitter, as no surface is safe from the sparkle. Completed paintings, glistening, line the walls and await the young artists who made them.

The job of the glitter fairies is short — a little more than an hour and they fly away, leaving a trailing of sparkling color in their wake.

“We just make them sparkle,” Newton said.

SCHOOL NOTES

Perrydale Senior Tea slated for Tuesday

PERRYDALE — Perrydale FFA will host its annual Senior Tea at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday in the old gym, 7445 Perrydale Road, Amity.

The meal will consist of soup, roll, fruit salad, veggies and dessert. Bingo will include prizes.

The event is free, but donations are welcome.

For more information: 503-623-2040.

Donate to help KVCS garden grow

KINGS VALLEY — Students at Kings Valley Charter School would like to see their garden project grow and you can help.

The project is raising money to expand its garden from a small box to a one that is fully fenced, has an irrigation system, garden beds for every class, room for fruit trees, and can contribute to the school's food service program.

To help the program, make a donation at www.seedmoney.org/en/projects/25439-Kings-Valley-School-Garden.

KVCS is seeking teacher's aide

KINGS VALLEY — King's Valley Charter School will hire a part-time teacher's aide for elementary grades.

Job duties will include providing remediation instruction, preparing materials, supervising students and guiding students in activities. Desirable specialties include license for elementary school classes, experience in schools subject to parental choice and experience with project-based learning.

Position will be for two and a half hours a day, two days per week for the remainder of the school year. Start date is Dec. 7.

To apply, send resume and letter of interest to pskcontact@gmail.com.

MVCA seeks donations for auction

MONMOUTH — Mid-Valley Christian Academy will host its ninth annual dinner auction on Feb. 20, 2016. This year, local community leaders will be honored during the fundraiser.

Donations and sponsors are needed to help make the event successful.

The money raised benefits the academy, its students, teachers and employees.

For more information or to donate: Miranda Long, admin@midvalca.org, or 503-838-2818.

KVCS' Kings Crossing opening Saturday

KING VALLEY — Coffee and baked goods sound good on a chilly Saturday?

Kings Valley Charter School students have just the place for you: Kings Crossing.

The student-operated coffee shop will be located at the church across the street from the school and will be open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Coffee, baked goods made in KVCS' kitchen, and local antique vendors, artisans, and farmers are also going to have their wares on display for purchase.

The project is headed by the school's seniors and juniors interested in learning more about business as an elective class or through their internship requirement.

If you are interested in sharing your art, products, or to have an antique booth, contact the school at 541-929-2134

Indy student earns scholarship

CORVALLIS — Courtney Chase, of Independence, received the \$1,000 Naumes Family Agricultural Honors Scholarship and the \$1,000 John W. DeMuth Jr. Agricultural Sciences Scholarship.

The money is from Oregon State University's College of Agricultural Sciences, part of \$68,000 awarded to 34 undergraduate students for the 2015-16 year.



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