

Good schools serve as models for the country

WASHINGTON (AP) — In San Antonio, teachers at Jackson-Keller Elementary host "Doughnuts for Dads" and "Muffins for Moms" parties on Saturdays in nearby apartment buildings, luring busy parents to talk about school.

At Dann C. Byck Elementary in Louisville, Ky., a parents' group mails child-care pamphlets to the families of new neighborhood babies, then lends out books, toys and games as the babies grow.

And at Jackson Elementary School in Everett, Wash., students monitor the water quality of a nearby polluted creek, learning biology and chemistry while also prompting the city to install a new storm drain.

These are among the thousands of American schools that do things right each day, a new study from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching says. And it's time for other schools to learn from them.

"We don't need another model project," foundation President Ernest L. Boyer said last week. "The examples are out there. We just need to replicate them."

The study from the Princeton, N.J., group echoes the thinking of a government-sponsored education reform summit last week in Washington, during which educators proposed moving from "a decade of research and development" to action on reform.

The Carnegie study says elementary schools should be the

focus of that action because they are "less rigid" and more open to creative ideas.

It says good schools must do four things:

— Agree on and teach children a core of math, science and language, and then test to measure results.

— Create a sense of community, stressing discipline and caring to children while reaching out to parents and local business. "An effective school absolutely has to have parents as full partners," Boyer said.

— Provide health, counseling and other services to children, and find a way to provide resources such as books, maps,

plants, computers and phone lines.

— Teach children ethics along with academics. Schools are often hesitant to do this because of ideological controversies and the nation's constitutional separation of church and state, Boyer noted.

"But the result is we're leaving students confused about what behavior and conduct is expected," Boyer said.

Although public schools can't teach religion, they can teach about religion's powerful influence throughout history, he notes.

As an example, he pointed to a coalition of 275 schools in the St. Louis, Mo., area that worked with parents to come up with a

set of ethics to teach students. It included "honesty, responsibility, cooperation and commitment."

Although it found many good things, the Carnegie study also pinpointed severe school problems — lack of money, heavy teacher workloads and societal problems like drug addiction, poverty and abuse.

But the most crucial problem is "the loss of confidence in this country, not just in school reform, but in the very idea of public education," Boyer said.

Teachers overwhelmingly believe schools would improve if parents were more involved, according to the study's polling, Boyer noted.

Astronaut reflects on Apollo 13

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Every time Jim Lovell looks at the moon, he feels cheated.

Twenty-five years ago this week, the Apollo 13 commander was supposed to land there. Instead, he wound up zooming around it in a race for his life after an oxygen tank in the spaceship exploded 200,000 miles from Earth.

Lovell and his crew, Fred Haise and Jack Swigert, did return safely to Earth. Lovell is grateful for that. But it was the second time he flew to the moon and didn't land.

"That is my one regret," said Lovell, 67.

Lovell first circled the moon in 1968 on Apollo 8, a dress rehearsal for the first manned lunar landing the following year. During Apollo 13, he should have become the fifth man to walk on the moon and Haise the sixth; Swigert was going to wait for them as they explored the Fra Mauro highlands.

It never happened.

"On the other hand, the mission itself and the fact that we triumphed over an almost certain catastrophe does give me a deep sense of satisfaction. Although I didn't land on the moon, the achievement that was accomplished, I thought, was well

worthwhile to participate in," Lovell said recently.

Many consider Apollo 13's safe return one of NASA's finest moments, right up there with Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's stroll on the moon nine months earlier on Apollo 11.

"Looking at it in retrospect, I think it's probably one of the most amazing and incredible rescues of all history," said Gene Kranz, its lead flight director.

The high drama didn't escape Hollywood: unlucky, yet ultimately lucky, Apollo 13.

Director Ron Howard's film "Apollo 13," based on Lovell's 1994 book "Lost Moon: The Perilous Voyage of Apollo 13," will be released in June. Two-time Academy Award winner Tom Hanks stars as Lovell.

The date of the tank explosion: April 13, 1970, two days after the colossal Saturn 5 rocket blasted off from Kennedy Space Center.

The time of the launch: 2:13 p.m. at Kennedy and 1:13 p.m. at Mission Control in Houston, or 13:13 in military time.

Cursed or not, it remains NASA's only in-space disaster in 99 human space flights.

The Apollo 1 spacecraft fire, which killed three astronauts in 1967, occurred at the launch pad during a countdown test. The

Challenger explosion, which killed all seven aboard in 1986, occurred 73 seconds after liftoff.

NASA later concluded both those tragedies could have been avoided.

Apollo 13 also could have been prevented: a review board criticized NASA afterward for "serious oversight" in the design and testing of the oxygen tank.

For four days in April 1970, hundreds of flight controllers and engineers worked feverishly on a daring rescue plan.

Not only was oxygen spilling into space from the service module, but two of Apollo 13's three fuel cells were out and one of two main power distribution panels was dead.

With Kranz calling the shots, Lovell, Haise and Swigert moved into the cramped, dark and frigid lunar lander while rationing their dwindling oxygen, water and electricity. They swung around the moon and aimed for Earth as people around the world waited and prayed.

No one panicked.

The drama ended on April 17, 1970, when the command module, minus the jettisoned service module and lunar lander, parachuted down into the Pacific Ocean.

Gingrich commends President Clinton

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Newt Gingrich sent a conciliatory message to the White House on Sunday, saying President Clinton is a man he can work with who is "without question" more in touch with the American people than congressional Democrats.

But Gingrich, R-Ga., and Democratic leaders who appeared on the Sunday TV news programs, also were in agreement that the next phase of the 104th Congress will be just as contentious as the first 100 days.

Gingrich suggested Republicans might attach *Contract With America* measures onto budgetary bills that would make presidential vetoes unpalatable.

"We are not just going to get rolled over by the president," he said on CBS' *Face the Nation*.

"We're not going to let them roll that back," Vice President Al Gore said minutes earlier on NBC's *Meet the Press* on Republican attempts to reverse what Clinton accomplished during his first two years.

Gingrich expressed sympathy for Clinton, saying he was being put in a "difficult position" by congressional Democrats pressing him to veto bills coming out of the GOP-led Congress.

"He doesn't want to automatically be forced into a veto. I respect that," Gingrich said. "I think you will see Sen. [Bob] Dole and I work with the president when we can find common ground. We'll oppose him when we think

he's wrong, and we expect him to do the same. We don't think he's going to be a patsy and automatically sign things we send to him."

Asked if Clinton was more in touch with the American people than Democratic lawmakers, Gingrich responded, "without question." He said he had been "truly surprised and frankly saddened" by the bitter opposition of some Democrats to the Republican agenda.

In a speech in Dallas on Friday, Clinton said he hoped to work amicably with Republicans in Congress, but also listed GOP bills, including those on crime and regulatory reform, he would veto if the House-passed versions were approved by the Senate as well.

"These first 100 days have been for Newt Gingrich and for the Republicans," White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta said on ABC's *This Week With David Brinkley*. "The second 100 days ought to be for the rest of America."

Gingrich left open the possibility that Republicans would overcome presidential vetoes by attaching welfare reform and other bills to measures to raise the national-debt ceiling and other budgetary items that Clinton couldn't veto without causing havoc to the government.

"We may well do it that way," Gingrich said, adding that such tactics were still five or six months down the road and he hadn't discussed the idea yet with Dole, R-Kan., the Senate majority leader.

Orangutan needs surrogate mother

CHICAGO (AP) — Wanted: orangutan with strong mothering instincts. Experience not necessary, but probably helpful.

That was the call Friday from Lincoln Park Zoo.

Zoo keepers are searching for a surrogate orangutan mom for Mukah, a 4-pound baby ape who was rejected by his mother. He's making do with a human nanny while the staff searches nationwide for a surrogate mom.

Mukah was born March 30 and found abandoned a short time later in his mother Batu's cage. Both she and the father, Herbie, are first-time par-

ents.

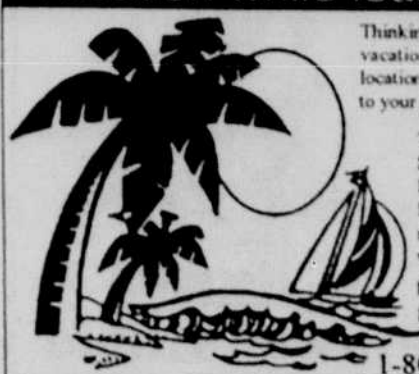
It isn't uncommon for first-time orangutan parents to abandon their young in the wild, officials said.

After he was dumped, the baby Borneo orangutan was fed and warmed in the zoo's great ape house, then zoo keepers tried to reintroduce him to his mother. No luck.

"Mom had no interest in him whatsoever," said veterinarian Robyn Barbieri. "Then we tried putting him with his grandma, Tanga, a 45-year-old female. She paid no attention to Mukah either."

Eugene to Reno
The only NON STOP flight!
Flights starting at only
\$79.00
•ROUNDTRIP•
Hotel packages also available.
All Ways Travel
346-1491
In the E.M.U.!!!

Costa Rica
Vacation while learning Spanish



Thinking about what to do with your summer vacation? Why not spend it in a tropical location, doing something that you can justify to your parents? **Learn Spanish!**

The Institute for Spanish Language Studies has 5 different Total Immersion Schools to choose from. Live with a Costa Rican family and study with students from all around the world. With different locations and price packages your satisfaction is guaranteed! **Call Now!!!**

1-800-765-0025

Don't let the opportunity of a lifetime pass you by!

ISLS
Institute for Spanish Language Studies

great scores...
Kaplan helps you focus your test prep study where you need it most. We'll show you the proven skills and test-taking techniques that help you get a higher score.

great skills...
Kaplan has the most complete arsenal of test prep tools available. From videos to software to virtual reality practice tests with computerized analysis to great teachers who really care, nobody offers you more ways to practice.

LSAT
June 12

GMAT
June 17

GMAT Prep begins May 6 **LSAT Prep begins April 15**
To reserve a space for a free diagnostic exam call

345-4420

get a higher score
KAPLAN
720 East 13th, suite 303, Eugene

PLEASE RECYCLE!