

GOOD NEWS

May 9, 2016

MAKING GOLD OUT OF MUSIC

The Kiwanis Music Festival is dedicated to the encouragement and celebration of young musicians in an enriching environment. At this year's festival Burnaby Mountain's Senior Concert Band, directed by **Paul Dudley**, won a GOLD award PLUS the Dal Richards "Best Concert Band in BC" scholarship. Burnaby North's Concert Band and Orchestra, directed by **Ingrid Balchan** and **Jessica Lee** also received a GOLD award. Congratulations!

PROVINCIAL WORKSAFE INITIATIVE GETS CARIBOO SEAL OF APPROVAL

WorkSafeBC states that those age 25 and under are most at risk of being injured at work. To create awareness, Cariboo Hill did more than lower the flag on April 28, the International Day of Mourning that honours workers killed on the job. Last year, Social studies teacher **John DeCaire**, helped initiate and pilot a school project to teach students about safety risks on the job and their work rights. Students in the program vowed to share the message of worker safety with siblings and future co-workers.

This year, the project expanded to 120 BC schools -- a joint partnership of the BC Federation of Labour, BC Labour Heritage Centre, BCTF and WorkSafeBC. Endorsed by provincial school partners, the International Day of Mourning School Project aims to expand to every high school in the province.

NASA HONES IN ON TALENT OF BURNABY ELEMENTARY STUDENT

There were 996 entries received from 23 countries competing in the NASA Ames Space Settlement Contest but the work submitted by **Thidas Loku Bogahawattage**, a grade 6 student at Taylor Park Elementary rose quickly to the top. He shared second place with a student from Romania for his project called "*Prarthana*." His impressive finish means he'll be giving a presentation at the 35th Annual International Space Development Conference to be held later this month in Puerto Rico.

MENTAL HEALTH HAS NO BOUNDARIES

Last Friday, Burnaby North students and staff joined forces with Vancouver's Windermere Secondary to take a stand for mental health. Together they hosted a '*Ride Don't Hide*' cycling event to raise awareness during Mental Health Week. The 75 participating cyclists began in Vancouver and finished up in Burnaby where they were acknowledged for their awareness efforts by **Burnaby North's Marching Band**.

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MOSCROP SECONDARY SCORES A MARK ON THE WORLD

Waterloo's Fermat Contest is an opportunity for grade 11 students to have fun and to develop their mathematical problem solving ability. Interested students wrote the test in February - and the results are in! Moscrop ranked 1st in Canada – and an outstanding 5th in the World. Credit goes out to Moscrop Math Department Head, **Danny Young**. But that's not all... Burnaby North was ranked 5th in Canada. Two Burnaby schools in the top 10! What's in our drinking water – math theory?

LOCHDALE KEEPING BURNABY GREEN

Since 1996, the City of Burnaby's Environmental Awards Program has celebrated individuals, organizations and businesses who advance sustainability, protect and enhance the natural environment. Such projects are always ongoing in Burnaby Schools and most years a shining example from the District is recognized. For 2016 it is **Lochdale Community School's Green Team**. They earned an **Environmental Star** for educating their classmates about waste reduction and recycling.

Burnaby Schools also congratulates **Barb McMahon, founder of Sprouting Chefs**, for her award. Barb educates elementary students in many District schools about growing food, environmental sustainability, and creating community.

Awards will be given out at a City Council meeting on May 16.

BUCKINGHAM'S ODYSSEY...TO BE CONTINUED

Buckingham Elementary made their mark at the Odyssey of the Mind Provincial Tournament. Buckingham sent five teams to the event. Three teams earned gold and are heading to Iowa State University later this month to represent BC in the World Finals. Special thanks to the dedicated parents who run this program at the school.

BCSD STUDENTS VICTORIOUS AT PACIFIC NORTHWEST EVENT

At the end of April the Optimist Pacific Northwest Competition took place at Washington State School for the Deaf. Competitors in both the oral and signing categories included students from Oregon, Washington and BC. Levi Deng, from the BCSD, who was a last minute replacement, was the first place finisher and received a \$2500 scholarship. Nina Ward who shared her speech at the last Board meeting placed second. The BCSD looks forward to hosting this event next year.

FRIENDSHIP AND FUN AT HEART OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRACK MEET

Two sunshiny days. Up to 500 elementary students each day. Happy faces. Oh yes – and the competitions – 100, 200, 400, 800 and the 100 metre relay.

The annual District track meet held last week at Swangard Stadium was a huge success - well attended by families and fans and supported by staff and secondary school student volunteers. But it wasn't about the winning – but the participation.

Cameron Principal Pauline Meugens joyously shared her special participation memory, "Scarlett, who is learning how to walk with a walker, "ran" the 100 metre event. Amidst a stadium filled with cheers, she kept pace and crossed the finish line just ahead of her classmates - with a smile on her face as wide as theirs."