

FORT VANNOY TRIBE-UNE

We are a responsible and caring community of learners.

Kathie Hill, Principal

June 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS JUNE 2011

June 1st- PRIDE- End of the Year Celebration

June 2nd-5th grade to visit Fleming- 11:30 am

June 5th- NVHS Soccer Joust 4:00 to 8:00 pm

June 6th- Retirement Party—2:00 pm

June 7th- PTA Meeting-2:15 -Library

June 8th- 5th Grade Movin' On -12:00- Gym

June 9th-Awards Assembly-

1st-2nd gr -10:00 am

3rd-4th gr- 12:30 pm

Last Day for Students

NVHS Graduation



June 11th & 12th-Fort Vannoy Farms presents—

“Strawberry Days” at Fort Vannoy Farms



June 15th- Summer Library-Down at the Beach

(See article for more information)

June 19th- Father's Day



June 21st Summer Solstice begins



Sept 6th- 20011/12 School Year begins



Fort Vannoy Retirees

Susan Angeli



Susan Angeli is retiring from Fort Vannoy Elementary School, where she has taught for 30 years. Ms. Angeli has taught first grade, second grade, a 2/3 Blend and third grade at Fort Vannoy. Third grade is her favorite.

Susan moved to Sunny Valley from California and attended Fleming and later Grants Pass High School. She graduated from GPHS in 1975.

Susan enjoyed living in Sunny Valley. She had a horse and would spend her summers working at a horse ranch in Sunny Valley in exchange for free riding lessons. Her summers were spent riding, riding and riding.

Susan attended Southern Oregon University. She majored in Elementary Education and minored in Reading. Susan began as a substitute teacher right out of college working a lot at Fort Vannoy and Wolf Creek.

Ms. Angeli was hired by John Simpson to teach first grade with Debbie Cooke and Jeanette Campbell. In her 30 years at Fort Vannoy, Susan has worked with eight principals; John Simpson, Midge Renton, Ruth Steele, Christie Gestvang, Sandy Weber, Vince Matt, Paul Schoenborn and Kathie Hill.

She remembers the huge musical productions that the classroom teachers put on with costumes and scenery. She also remembers the frog jumping contest. The thought of parents mucking through the streams and ponds to find a bull frog for their children to have for the contest makes Susan laugh. Students would arrive at school with a frog in a big bucket. Students would name their frogs and race them in the gym.

Future plans include travel. She is planning a family trip to Italy and would like to go to Austria where her grandfather was born. Susan has a lot of projects planned around the house; working in her flower bed, organizing closets and spending more time with her mother and family.



Laura Humphrey

Fort Vannoy Food Service Manager Laura Humphrey is retiring after 25 years of service to the Three Rivers School District.

Laura is a local girl who graduated from Grants Pass High School in 1958. She attended Washington Elementary School and Lincoln School, back when it was next door to GPHS (later North Middle School and “The English Building” of GPHS).

Laura began her career in Food Service at North Valley High School in the dish room. She quickly moved on to Hidden Valley High School where she became the Baker. She shifted gears in the 1999-2000 school year to work at Fort Vannoy Elementary School. She has been our Food Service Manager for three years.

Laura says that she really enjoyed working with the older students at the high school, but she loves the young students, too. She is often heard to say that she gets “tickled” about something a young child has said or done.

Before coming to work for the school district, Laura worked at the Josephine County Library, Larry’s Drive-In and was one of the first 13 employees hired at Champion Knitwear when it came to Grants Pass. If you are a longtime resident of the area, you may remember seeing Laura in one of her many jobs throughout the county.

Her future plans are long and varied. While she hopes to spend more time on her farm doing crafts, she also likes to travel. A return trip to Norway is a wonderful dream. She took her father back to Norway when he was 91 years old. She would also like to go back to Alaska and South Dakota.

Locally Laura wants to volunteer at Wild Life Images and to get “the folk’s lake fishing boat” out of the shed and back in the water and do some lake fishing. She also enjoys doing woodworking with the tools left to her by her father and husband. She has taken a woodworking class at RCC to learn to use the tools. More time at home will give her the opportunity to get to use those tools.

Knowing Laura, she is not ever going to sit still! I’m sure we will see her doing volunteer work and displaying her arts and crafts and woodworking locally very soon.



Lois Lamb

Does this sound familiar: Class sizes of 30 plus in first grade, assistant jobs cut due to budget cuts? How about the mid-1980’s!

Lois Lamb moved to Oregon from Wisconsin with her husband Steve and two young children in 1978. When the farm in Wisconsin sold, they bought a house on Barbara Drive, very close to Fort Vannoy School. Their third child was born in Grants Pass.

When Andrew, her oldest, started first grade at Fort Vannoy in 1982, Lois became a volunteer in Debbie Cooke’s classroom.

In 1986 she was hired first to do auditory training with at-risk first and second graders. She worked in the laundry room off of the gym. She then was assigned to help the two first grade teachers, Debbie Cooke and Cecile Witcher, because they each had 30+ students in their classrooms. She worked for one hour in each classroom.

Budget cuts eliminated her job in 1988. Lois didn’t want to be transferred to another school, so just worked as a substitute for a couple of years. She was rehired in 1989 and has worked at Fort Vannoy ever since.

Lois has a lot of plans for her post retirement years. First is to spend more time with her grandchildren. She has four with the fifth one on its way this fall.

Lois wants to have more time to do things around the house. She loves to bake and would like to try new recipes. She has 30 years of pictures that need to be organized. She wants to exercise and have time to read A book.

She wants to do what folks in education can never do; take a vacation in September.

Of course she will continue to raise Javier and do volunteer work. Her heart is in helping young people by mentoring and helping them learn to read and get a GED.

Most of all she would like to have the energy to stop and smell the roses.

From the Desk of ...

... Kari O'Brien, Fifth Grade
Teacher

School is Out, Now What?

School is out for the summer and it is the perfect opportunity to do simple, enjoyable activities with your kids. Kids love time spent with family and it doesn't have to be with all of the bells and whistles of a trip to Disneyland or a water theme park. Make plans for activities at home or close to home. After all, we do live in a great little tourist town! Here are some ideas:

- Take a hike to Limpy Creek and discover a beautiful trail, a peaceful creek, Jeffery Pine Serpentine, and many wildflowers.
- Plan a fishing trip and it doesn't have to be anything fancy! Kids love to throw a line in the water even if it is attached to a long stick with a piece of cheese on the end. If the fish aren't biting, you will be sure to find crawdads and baby fish along the riverbank.
- Pack a picnic lunch or dinner and eat at Riverside Park. You can watch the ducks and geese, see the jet boats come and go, play on the play structures, and wade in the water.
- Plant a little or big garden. Teaching kids to be self-sufficient is a life skill. Gardens can be planted in pots with one or two plants or they can take up acres! Learn together if you have never grown a garden and be prepared to expect wonder.
- Pick berries. We are fortunate to live in an area that grows an abundance of wild blackberries. Going together makes time for talking and sharing. Then you can enjoy homemade blackberry shortcake, blackberry popsicles, pie, cobbler, and smoothies. You might even want to make some blackberry jam for gifts.
- Try a reading party, family style. Gather together a quilt or blanket, a stack of books, and dinner to go from home and find a favorite spot to eat and read and share in the summer evening.
- Other activities include touring a local farm, travel up to Crater Lake, adventure into the Oregon Caves, visit the "Three Rivers" in our county: The Applegate River, The Illinois River, and The Rogue River.
- Go camping at a local park like Indian Mary, Griffin Park, Alameda Campground, or Valley of the Rogue State Park.
- Make a summer scrapbook of your adventures together.
- Have fun!



LCD MONITORS ... YES!!!!

A big "THANK YOU" to the PTA for their generous purchase of 29 LCD monitors for the Computer Lab. The new monitors will be replacing the original monitors dating back to 1999, when the lab was first started. What a great way to start the up-and-coming 2011/12 school year!

S.M.A.R.T. Update

Volunteers throughout the Rogue Valley competed to donate money for purchasing S.M.A.R.T. take-home books. The money raised at each site will be used for that school. The winning school was Fort Vannoy donating \$665.00 of the total amount of all schools collected which was \$4,700. Our volunteers are incredibly dedicated to the S.M.A.R.T. Reading Program.

As winners of the competition, S.M.A.R.T. students won an ice cream party held on the 12th of May—the last day of S.M.A.R.T. at our site.

Thank you Carol Strode for all of your kindness and enthusiasm you have for the students of Fort Vannoy.

Lost and Found

If you have lost it . . . please come find it!

Our Lost and Found cupboard runneth over. At this time of year the mornings are chilly but then sunny in the afternoon—therefore coats and sweaters get left behind. Please come to the gym and look through the items and find what's yours. At the end of the year all unclaimed items will be bagged up and given to a needy organization.

DOWN AT THE BEACH

Fort Vannoy Summer Library hours:

June—15th, 22nd, & 29th
July—6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th
August—3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

PTA Meeting

6/7/11

2:15 pm, Library

New Displays for the Computer Lab

Thanks to the efforts of everyone in our annual Computers For Education campaign, we have earned \$2,200 over the last four years. The PTA has approved the purchase of new flat screen LCD displays for the computer lab. The existing monitors are from 1999. Only a handful of children at the school were even born when the school received those displays!! Thank you to everyone who participates in the Computers For Education program as it is your participation that allowed us to make this donation to the Fort Vannoy Elementary Computer Lab.

KidZone

The Kid Zone will be up and running for Fort Vannoy families this summer. The dates are:

5/27, 6/24, 7/22 & 8/26
5:30pm to 7:30pm

There is a five dollar charge for lots of fun and games. Don't forget to bring your friends and your socks!!

Retirement Event

Please join us after school on Monday, June 6, 2011, at 2:00 pm, to say "Thank You" to the retiring faculty and staff.

Ms. Angeli, Mrs. Lamb & Mrs. Humphrey are retiring after many years of service. The PTA will be providing cake.

Yearbooks

This year we will have yearbooks available.

\$12.00 each

A LIMITED SUPPLY WAS ORDERED

Be sure to submit your payment as soon as possible to the office to ensure you get a copy.

BOXTOPS

The final numbers are in for the count of the Boxtops. A total of \$1,359.70 was collected for the year. Ms. Angeli's class was the BIG winner and was treated to an Ice Cream Sundae party on May 26th. Congratulations to them and a big thank you to everyone who collected and turned in the boxtops.

Thank you from the outgoing PTA President

I want to thank everyone who has stepped up and volunteered during the last two years for the various PTA events. It is because of your efforts and the support of all the parents of Fort Vannoy that we have been able to accomplish so much during these past two years. As I leave the PTA Board, I look forward to continuing to be active and involved in PTA activities. For those of you who have not volunteered, please take the time to look at your schedule and see where you can help out. If not the PTA, check with the teachers and help out in the classroom. Every hour we can help out at the school is worth far more to the kids than we can truly understand. I believe we have an outstanding PTA Board for next year and I look forward to working with them to continue the good work of the Fort Vannoy PTA. Thanks again for having me as PTA President.

Paul Kelly
2010-2011 Ft Vannoy PTA President
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