



IN THE Know

April 2010

*Making a
difference in
Burlington
Public Schools ...
one grant
at a time.*

New Format for Annual Meeting, May 3 @ BHS

Change is good! The Burlington Education Foundation has changed its format for this year's annual meeting - the meeting will now include a showcase of grants. The 2010 Annual Meeting and Grant Showcase will take place on Monday, May 3, 2010 in the Burlington High School's lower library. The showcase of grants will run from 3:30 to 4:30. Superintendent Conti will give a brief address at 3:40, followed by a few words from the BEF President, Paula Boermeester.

All Burlington teachers and staff, BEF sponsors and other community members are welcome to attend. It is a chance for the BEF to highlight and display some of the programs that were funded by the grants over the years. Light refreshments will be served. Watch for more information. ★

Inca Sun Entertains Students March 3

On March 3rd, three members of the Peruvian group "Inca Sun" took over the Burlington High School auditorium. They performed beautiful traditional Peruvian melodies for over an hour for the students. Their music and singing was energetic, vibrant and interactive. Dressed in brightly colored wool ponchos, which represent the clothing still worn in their homeland, the Andes, the group played distinctive songs on their pan-pipes, drums and charango (Andean ten-stringed guitar). Their instruments and music represent their home.

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Road Race Update **6th Annual 5K Road Race Sunday May 23**

And this year's Road Race logo winner is ...still pending. The design created by a student in BHS teacher George Ratkevich's Graphics Design Course will be selected from the 23 creative entries submitted for our Road Race T-shirts. Each student was given simple guidelines, and the rest was up to them. There is still time to vote for your favorite design by either visiting our website or voting during our upcoming Trivia Night on April 9th! Pre-register for the race and receive one of these great T-shirts as our gift.

Our 6th Annual Exercise for Education 5K Road Race is set for Sunday, May 23, 2010.

It's time to begin your spring training so you can run, walk and have fun with us in May. Always an entertaining and successful event, the road race offers opportunities for cardio fitness, camaraderie, competition, and contribution. If you've participated before, you know just what a special event it is. If you are a first-timer, expect to put it on your calendar every year! On the back is a list of some of our dedicated sponsors who will be providing nutritious food, upbeat music and great giveaways.

Volunteers are needed before, during and after race day. Contact us now to help with stuffing race bags, checking in participants, distributing T-shirts, hanging banners, and much, much more. A little help from lots of hands makes a big impact! It's easier than ever to register or volunteer. Simply visit our newly renovated web site at www.burlingtonedfoundation.org and click on the appropriate link. Ready, Set, **Go!** ★

Dates to Remember

- ★ Annual Meeting
May 3, 2010
- ★ 6th Annual Road Race
May 23, 2010
- ★ Fall Grant Submission
Deadline
November 2010
- ★ Fall Grant Notification
December 2010

Inca Sun continued

Inca Sun's mission is "to preserve and instill appreciation for their cultural legacy through the international language of music and dance."

Inca Sun played traditional songs, as well as original compositions. Each song has an important meaning to them. Group members explained to the students the background of each song and shared some of their history and the history of their homeland. To complement their performance, native dancers joined the musicians on stage during a few of their unique songs. The students enjoyment was evident through their clapping and chanting.

By the end of the performance the whole auditorium was on its feet dancing. Inca Sun is recognized as one of the world's best traditional music groups and will be returning in May to do a Spanish workshop for the High School students. Inca Sun appeared through funding by a grant from the Burlington Education Foundation. ★

Where in the Universe is StarLab?

By the fall of 2005, a year after its inception, the BEF fully funded STARLAB to John Papadonis and the Science Center. As a Burlington parent, you must have heard stories from your children about experiencing this celestial globe! Here's what Starlab has been up to for the past 5 years.

Students are introduced to the Starlab experience in Grade 1. The lesson focuses on an introduction to the universe, solar system, day and night, sunrise/sunset and constellations. Some first graders come dressed in pajamas to celebrate Star Night! Teachers, like Irene Tortolini at Francis Wyman, do a follow-up writing assignment. Take a look at the samples to the right.

Grade 5 students experience Starlab as part of their astronomy MCAS review. Mr. Papadonis reviews rotation, revolution, star definition, basic constellations, North

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- ★ NW Pest Control
- ★ Palomar Medical Inc
- ★ Personal Edge Consulting
- ★ Riemer & Braunstein
- ★ Spinali, Dr. Joseph DMD
- ★ Stoneham Savings Bank
- ★ The Real School of Music
- ★ Varallo, Daniel DMD
- ★ Zen Muscular Therapy

Star, Milky Way and phases of the moon. Students at this age ask many questions and are still as curious as the younger children.

Mr. Alan McRae takes his Burlington High astronomy students on a journey in the lab, too. They focus on higher astronomy content skills by identifying specific constellations, galaxies, nebulae, specific stars and planets.

For students of all ages, Starlab has proven to be an exciting visual aid about our galaxy and has been a helpful tool to the Science Center. It has aided in keeping science alive and students interested. Ask your children about their experiences. ★



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