



KNIGHTS' ROUND TABLE

NEWS FROM SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL

Winter 2011

Vol. 43, Issue 2

SMHS PTO Presents:

An evening of fun entertainment featuring the "Amazing Hypnotist," Mr. James Kellogg, Jr. This will be our last family event in the gymnasium before campus demolition begins, so it's guaranteed to be extra special evening. Get ready to be utterly amazed at the things you'll see your friends and family do – and laugh until your sides ache! Please note: This show is rated PG-13. Some material may not be appropriate for young children.



JAMES KELLOGG, JR.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

SHOWTIME - 8:45 PM

(DOORS OPEN AT 8:30)

TICKETS \$10 AT THE DOOR

(TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE DURING LUNCH
ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH)

COURTESY OF JEWELL ENTERTAINMENT

2012 Senior Yearbook Ads

The 2012 Talisman yearbook staff at San Marcos High School is now accepting orders for **FULL COLOR** personal ads in the 2012 Talisman yearbook.

Ad order forms may be picked up in the front office during regular school hours, or may be obtained by printing a form directly from our school website, www.sanmarcoshigh.org under the News and Headlines section.

There are two (2) deadline dates, December 2nd and a late deadline date, January 13th. Ads submitted by December 2nd are guaranteed ad space. Any ads submitted after December 2nd will incur a \$25.00 late fee and will be accepted dependent upon space availability and on a first-come, first-served basis. These ads are a wonderful tribute to your senior that will be treasured for a lifetime, and are very popular. Don't miss your chance! Please your ad early! Please make checks payable to SMHS.

Winter Break

As 2011 comes to a close, we'd like to thank *everyone* – students, parents, staff and the surrounding community – for their patience and understanding as our school began its amazing transformation from being a great school into the excellent state-of the art school it will soon become. **KNIGHT PRIDE** can't be beat!

2011 Homecoming King and Queen

Breeana Alvarez and Eduardo Patino are all smiles as they leave the football field right after being crowned San Marcos High School's 2011 Homecoming King and Queen during the football game halftime show on September 30th. In addition to the crowning ceremony, the audience enjoyed amazing performances by the Male and Female Dance teams. The Homecoming Dance took place the next evening in the high school gym and all reported having a fabulous time!

Discovery Bowl Challenge

A big SHOUT OUT to *Chick-fil-A* San Marcos for hosting the Third Annual Discovery Bowl Challenge between SMHS and Mission Hills High school from November 7-10th. Customers informed their cashier at the time of purchase which school they were rooting for. *Chick-fil-A* proprietor Jordan Ciervo presented our school with a check for 10% of these sales and challenge winners Mission Hills High School received a check for 20% during the halftime show of the Discovery Bowl game. Thanks *Chick-fil-A*!



- Photo Courtesy of Chris Bertram – SMHS Class of 2012

San Marcos High School ✦ 1615 San Marcos Blvd. ✦ San Marcos, CA 92078 ✦ (760) 290-2200

KNIGHT PRIDE "Leading... Now Tomorrow Forever"

HOME CONNECTIONS FUND

By now everyone is aware of state funding cuts to education. As a result, many schools are seeking outside sources to cover expenses—donations, sponsors, even advertising. In the past, your PTO has been able to provide funding for **vital communication services** between school and home.

Via Mail: **Knights Round Table**, our quarterly parent newsletter, is produced by PTO volunteers and mailed to every SMHS family.

Via Telephone: **Connect-ED**, our phone contact system, alerts families to school schedule changes, announcements, attendance notices, and emergency school closures, as during brush fires and swine flu.

Via Internet: **Edline**, our online learning management system, is well-known for sending grade reports, but also enables teachers to post homework, handouts, lecture notes, and links to on-line resources. This saves printing costs and keeps students current.

These 3 services alone cost the PTO \$16,000 a year and are used by all families. We are only able to continue this with the financial support of parents.

The Home Connections Fund was set up to help defray costs. We ask for a **\$15 donation per student** which can be paid at registration. By covering communication services through this fund, the PTO will be able to use money raised at our sole fundraiser, the annual Gala, on other much-needed areas in the school such as technology upgrades, teacher support and campus beautification.

Any family donating \$100 or more to this fund will be thanked in the 2011 – 12 Yearbook.

Please return your payment (cash or check payable to SMHS PTO) and this form to the SMHS front office or mail to:

San Marcos High School, 1615 San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos, CA 92078

Please remember the PTO is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.

Your donations are tax-deductible. Ask your employer if your company is able to match your donation.

Student's name: _____ Student ID# _____ Grade: _____

Parent's name: _____ Phone #: _____ Email: _____

_____ I enclose my \$15 contribution to the Home Connections fund

_____ I enclose my \$_____ contribution

_____ I would like my contribution to be recognized in the yearbook (*applies to donations \$100 and over*).

On behalf of the entire PTO, thank you for your support.



Order Your Finals Survival Kit Now!

The Grad Nite Booster Committee processes and prepares the orders and delivers kits to students in their classrooms on the first day of exams. While students enjoy the snacks, drinks and school supplies, most important is a personal note from home with words of encouragement. Receiving a treat and moral support at this stressful time helps students do their best—don't let your son or daughter be left out!

To order a Finals Survival Kit for your student, cut out the order form below and fill in the requested information. Include \$10 payment and your personal note for each kit purchased. Return the form to the front office at school. Send any questions to FSK@smhspto.com

Please make checks payable to "SMHS-PTO" with your student's ID# and "FSK" in the memo line

-----ORDER BY DECEMBER 6th, 2011 -----

Student's name: _____ Student ID# _____ Grade: _____

Parent name: _____ Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Known food allergies _____

Separate personal note attached

Use personal note below:

PARENT CLUB NEWS

PTO President's Note

Big changes will soon be happening here at SMHS with our relocation to our temporary campus. Hopefully, this will be a smooth transition for students, staff and parents alike.

Do you want a keepsake of your education at SMHS? The PTO is selling a limited number of red bricks that will be kept from the demolished front office building. See the order form in this newsletter.

On Friday, December 9th, the SMHS PTO will be hosting its final Family Night in the gymnasium, "A Hypnotist Show." Tickets are \$10 and will be on sale during lunch Thursday, December 8th and also at the door on the night of the event. Please note that while this is a family show, the content is rated PG-13 (suitable for children 13 of years and older).

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to our Home Connection Fund. We are still accepting donations. Please see the form in this newsletter.

SOME OTHER REMINDERS: Don't forget to order a Finals Survival Kit for your student – deadline is December 6th, 2011. And mark your calendars for Saturday, March 17th, 2012. The annual PTO Parent Fundraiser "O'Lucky Knight" will be held at the Crossings Golf Course in Carlsbad this year.

As always, we thank you for your involvement and support. Together we can make a difference!

Maxine Sarjeant - SMHS PTO Co-President

PTO Announcements

The next PTO meeting is Wednesday, December 14th at 4:00 pm in Room 110. Stay in touch San Marcos High School activities by getting involved with your PTO!

Did your son or daughter graduate in 2010 or 2011? We have a limited number of Class Mugs for sale at the discounted rate of \$5. If you are interested in purchasing one, please email maxine@smhspto.com

Thank you to Alliance Defensive Driving School for donating 5% of their fee to the PTO if you mention SMHS PTO when signing up for driver's education training. You can contact them at (760) 298-2277 or online at www.thedriverguy.com.

On behalf of the San Marcos High School PTO, we wish you and your family a very joyous holiday season and a happy new year in 2012! Enjoy your winter break!



O'Lucky Knight - March 17, 2012

Planning is underway for the annual parent event sponsored by the PTO. "O'Lucky Knight" will be held on Saturday, March 17th, 2012 at the Crossings Golf Club in Carlsbad. SMHS parents, teachers, staff and friends will enjoy a buffet style dinner, silent and live auctions, casino, dancing, and our famous dessert rush! Ticket price is \$45.00 per person. Please make checks payable to SMHS PTO.



Donations are needed! This event is our annual fundraiser and we are asking for your support to help us reach our goal of \$20,000.

Do you have a connection with a local business that would be willing to offer a gift certificate or service? Perhaps you own a vacation home or sports season passes? We are in need of these types of donations for our live and silent auctions.

Donations of any size or value are welcome and a receipt will be provided for tax purposes. Your much-appreciated generosity will be acknowledged during and after the event. Corporate sponsorships are available. Monetary donations can be mailed to:

San Marcos High School PTO
Attn: O'Lucky Knight
1615 San Marcos Blvd.
San Marcos, CA 92078

Please contact Betty Winniman for further information or questions at (760) 519-5361 or winniman@cox.net. If you're interested in volunteering for this event, please email Tracy Olson @volunteer@smhspto.com. We will need help with set up, check-in and check-out on the day of the event.

DATES ✦ REMINDERS ✦ SPECIALS

DECEMBER	12/1 - 3	Fall Dance Show
	12/3	Saturday School 8:00 AM - Noon
	12/5	Music Dept. Winter Concert - 7:00 PM
	12/6	TEAM DAY-school begins @8:48 AM
	12/13 - 15	Finals - Minimum Day, Release @12:28 PM
	12/14	PTO Meeting 4:00 PM
	12/15	Report Cards
	12/16 - 1/4	Winter Recess
JANUARY	1/5 - 6	Non-Student Day
	1/9	School Resumes in Interim Campus
	1/9 - 19	Winter Formal Tickets on Sale
	1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31	TEAM DAY-school begins @8:48 AM
	1/11	PSAT Results 3:00 – 4:00 PM
	1/13	Winter Sports Assembly
	1/14	Saturday School 8:00 AM - Noon
	1/16	Holiday - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
	1/23 - 26	11th Grade Course Selection
	1/21	Winter Formal
	1/25	PTO Meeting 4:00 PM
	1/26	ELAC Meeting 6:00 PM
	1/28	Saturday School 8:00 AM - Noon
FEBRUARY	2/6 - 2/10	10th Grade Course Selection/Pace Presentation
	2/6 - 2/10	Valentine Rose Sale
	2/7, 2/14, 2/28	TEAM DAY-school begins @8:48 AM
	2/8	CAHSEE Grade 12 - Math
	2/11	Saturday School 8:00 AM - Noon
	2/14	Valentine Rose Deliveries (4 th Period)
	2/15	8th Grade Honors/Parent Night
	2/17	Holiday - Lincoln's Birthday (Observed)
	2/18	Spring Sports Practice Begins
	2/20	Holiday - Presidents Day
	2/21	Day with a Knight (Release @12:28 PM)
	2/21	9th-11th Grade College Seminar 1:00 - 2:00 PM
	2/21	8 th Grade Family Night Festival 6:00 PM
	2/22	Girls Day Conference
	2/24	Second Semester Progress Report
	2/25	Saturday School 8:00 AM - Noon
	2/29	PTO Meeting 4:00 PM

Visit Our Website

Parents and Students can visit our website for up-to-date information on sports, activities, and events.

www.sanmarcoshigh.org

Career Center News

The Career Center webpage features the following:

- Scholarships
- Jobs/Employment Resources
- Community Service/Internships
- Scheduled College Visits
- And More!

Note our NEW HOURS Monday through Friday are 7:00 AM – 3:15 PM.*

*Mr. Vega will be in the SMHS Library every day from 3:15-4:30pm. Students needing a place to study, complete homework, and/or need assistance with college/scholarship/job applications are encouraged to visit the library. There will be FREE snacks every day at 4:15pm in room 328 (courtesy of Knight Zone).

PLAN (Practice ACT)

Scheduled in March for 10th graders - date TBD and will be announced on the website.

College Workshop for Students and Parents

During the months of January and February, counselors will be busy with course selection for next school year. Counselors will be visiting all 9th, 10th and 11th grade English classrooms to present information about course selection and distribute materials to take home to parents. Counselors will return the following week to meet individually with each student, answer questions, and collect the course selection sheets. Schedule is as follows:

- **11th grade** - week of January 17th
individual student meeting week of January 23rd
- **10th grade** - week of January 30th
individual student meeting week of February 6th
- **9th grade** - week of March 13th
individual student meeting week of March 20th

To assist families with course selection and college preparation, counselors will be conducting a Course Selection/College Information Workshop for parents to go over graduation and college entrance requirements. The workshop will be held on February 21st directly after Day With a Knight. Snacks/refreshments will be served from 12:30-1:00 PM and the workshop will be from 1:00-2:00 PM. Location TBA.

Winter News

Looking for a keepsake of your education at SMHS? Purchase a commemorative brick!

The current campus will soon be demolished in preparation for the new San Marcos High School. The SMHS PTO is selling a **limited number** of red bricks that will be saved from the Administration building. Each brick will have a commemorative plate on it.

Bricks are \$25 each (shipping is extra) and will be available for pickup in February. You will notified by email of collection details.

Orders must be received by January 16th, 2012. Limited quantities are available. Please submit order form with payment to:

San Marcos High School
SMHS PTO - Commemorative Brick
1615 San Marcos Blvd
San Marcos, CA 92078

Please make checks payable to SMHS PTO



SMHS Commemorative Brick Order Form

Name			
Address (if shipping required)			
	City	State	Zip
Phone:			
Email:			
Number of Bricks @ \$25 per Brick		Total	\$
Shipping \$15 per brick (if needed)		Total	\$
		Total Due	\$

FFA Holiday Plant Sale

Looking for the perfect gift? Give a gift that lasts long past the holidays. Help support the San Marcos High School FFA (Future Farmers of America) by pre-ordering your holiday plants, baskets and more beginning November 10th through December 10th.

You can request delivery beginning November 28th or you can pick up your plants at the Ag Farm located at 99 East Cassou Rd. (behind Twin Oaks Elementary) between November 28th and December 10th.

To order, please contact your favorite FFA member or the FFA Advisor, Mr. Rob Gaebe at rob.gaebe@smusd.org or call 760-290-2238.



Science Olympiad Needs Your Help!

The SMHS Science Olympiad Team is seeking parent volunteers to help coach individual events. This involves working with 2 to 4 students from now until the end of February to help them prepare for the regional competition.

If you are a scientist, engineer, doctor, nurse, or architect, or if you are simply passionate about science, nature, or building, please consider volunteering. If you have a friend or relative who fits this description or is recently retired from a science-related career, please encourage them to participate. Anyone who is interested should contact **Amy Rosen** at amy.rosen@smusd.org.

More Winter News

Did You Know...

Scholarships are available on San Marcos High School's College and Career webpage?

Visit www.smusd.org/domain/1393 to access the scholarship list, applications, and other resources. **The SMHS Class of 2011 received more than \$1.3 MILLION in scholarships!** Check the websites of the colleges you are interested in to see what scholarships they offer.

Follow us on Facebook



San Marcos High School Parents
Find out the latest!
Regular construction updates will be posted.
Check it out!

PACE Promise

College season is upon us and our Seniors are hard at work completing and submitting their college applications. We had record numbers this year in our CSU, UC, and Common Application Workshops. Parents, please remind your Senior that CSU/UC applications were due on November 30th. We asked our seniors to have their applications submitted before Thanksgiving break if possible.

In October and early November, all 9th-11th graders attended a presentation by counselors to go over graduation and college requirements, as well as to learn about the PACE Promise and how they can benefit from this wonderful program our district is offering students (for more info please visit <http://pace.smusd.org/>). The PACE chart below displays the requirements to "stay on PACE." As we look ahead to the next few months we have many exciting things happening. We have highlighted a few of the programs below, as well as included information about upcoming college admission testing.

ARE YOU ON PACE?

FOR GRADUATION, COLLEGE, AND LIFE

	1 YEAR	2 YEARS	3 YEARS	4 YEARS	
ENGLISH	☺	☺	☺	☺	PACE Promise ☺ ATTEND A SMUSD High SCHOOL FOR FOUR YEARS ☺ COMPLETE THIS PATTERN WITH C'S OR BETTER ☺ TAKE THE SAT OR ACT ☺ TAKE THE EAP (Additional STAR QUESTIONS) JUNIOR YEAR ☺ STUDENTS MUST SUCCESSFULLY DEMONSTRATE READINESS FOR COLLEGE-LEVEL WORK IN ENGLISH AND MATH TO RECEIVE PACE SCHOLARSHIP
HISTORY	☺	☺	☺	☺	
MATH	☺	☺	☺	☺	
SCIENCE	☺	☺			
WORLD LANGUAGE	☺	☺			
P.E.	☺	☺			
VISUAL PERFORMING ART (VPA)	☺				
	LIFE		PHYSICAL		
	SAME LANGUAGE				
	☺	☺			

PACE Website: <http://pace.smusd.org>

A-G SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS				H.S. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS			
English	4 YEARS	SCIENCE	2 YEARS	English	40 CREDITS	Phys. Sci.	10 CREDITS
HISTORY	2 YEARS	WORLD LANG	2 YEARS	HISTORY	40 CREDITS	P.E.	20 CREDITS
MATH*	3 YEARS	VPA	1 YEAR	MATH*	20 CREDITS	WORLD LANG/VPA	10 CREDITS
<small>*MINIMUM COMPLETION OF ALGEBRA 2</small>		ELECTIVE	1 YEAR	Life Sci.	10 CREDITS	ELECTIVES	80 CREDITS
				<small>230 CREDITS + PASS ENG/MATH CAHSEE = HS GRAD</small>			

PRINT Student's Last Name

First Name

Student ID#



SMHS KNIGHTS

Class of 2012 Grad Nite

10:15 PM June 7th - 5:00 AM June 8th



San Marcos High School Grad Nite 2012 is an exclusive opportunity to enjoy a safe and sober all-knight party with classmates at the Wave House in Mission Beach. Grads arrive at SMHS on June 7th at 10:15 pm, and board luxury motor coaches for a safe ride to and from the party! Students will enjoy food and drinks, beach atmosphere, unlimited rides of the Wave (better known as Bruticus Maximus), then indoor dancing, entertainment and games. Students will return to school at 5:00 am June 8th. Reserve your spot early, limited space available.

The following optional items are popular with many families at graduation:

- Graduation leis • Ceramic *Class of 2012* mugs with school logo, date, and every senior's name.

ORDER FORM - PLEASE INDICATE QUANTITY OF EACH:

___ Grad Nite @ \$85 (before 1/15/12) ___ Grad Nite @ \$100 (before 5/31/12)

Note: Tickets will be \$125 day of event. No refunds after May 25, 2012.

___ Leis @ \$25

___ Mugs @ \$12

\$_____ **Total amount due**

- Please make checks payable to SMHS PTO and include your student's name, student ID#, and "Grad Nite" in the memo section.
 - Or bring your order (must be exact change if paying by cash) in person to the SMHS Front Office.
 - Or mail to: SMHS (Attn: PTO—Grad Nite), 1615 W. San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos, CA 92078.

PERMISSION SLIP/RELEASE

PARENTS AND STUDENTS MUST BOTH SIGN THE PERMISSION SLIP

Your signature below gives your permission for your student to attend the all-night Grad Nite event sponsored by SMHS PTO. You accept and agree to the following:

- ✓ I understand that my student is to follow all rules and regulations of San Marcos High School, including all state, federal and local laws.
- ✓ I understand that no student will be permitted to leave Grad Nite prior to 5:00 a.m. on June 8, 2012. Grad Nite is not responsible for students before or after the event.
- ✓ In case of emergency, I authorize a representative of the SMHS Grad Nite Committee to provide appropriate medical attention for my student.
- ✓ By signing this release, I release the following parties from any and all liability. This released group includes, but is not limited to: SMHS Grad Nite Committee, SMHS PTO, San Marcos High School, San Marcos Unified School District, parents, volunteers, officers, consultants, and other agents of each and every organization. I will not initiate legal action nor seek damages from any of these parties. I promise not to sue any party connected to Grad Nite.
- ✓ Nothing in this world is completely safe. I recognize that physical events may be dangerous. I accept those risks.
- ✓ I have read, I understand and I accept this waiver and release.
- ✓ **No refunds after May 31, 2012.**

PRINT STUDENT'S NAME AT THE TOP OF THE FORM AND SIGN BELOW

Date: _____ X _____
 Student Signature REQUIRED Student's Cell Phone # Student ID #

Date: _____ X _____
 Parent Signature REQUIRED Parent's Cell Phone # Email Address

A Note from Principal Mottershaw

Dear San Marcos Parents:

In October, San Marcos High School was recognized for its academic accomplishments at the San Diego County Superintendents' Achievement Gap Task Force. We provided a two hour interactive presentation at the San Diego Convention Center to county superintendents, district office management, and school site administrators. Our presentation outlined the steps we have taken at SMHS to provide high academic rigor and personal growth for ALL students. The audience of 250 educators was extremely impressed with our accomplishments as a school community.

As winter break quickly approaches, the colder weather is not the only change that will be upon us. When students exit the halls of San Marcos High School on December 16th, they will return on January 9th to an entirely new, "temporary" SMHS. Nostalgic, scary, and exciting all at the same time, it will certainly be a change. The one thing we have learned over the last several years is that buildings do not make a school; rather, it is the people in the buildings that truly make a school. **KNIGHTS PRIDE** has never been stronger than it currently is, and I have no doubt that we will continue to flourish in our temporary site.

Beginning January 9th, the new pedestrian entrance to SMHS will be in the San Marcos parking lot. The Knights Realm entrance will be completely closed to pedestrians. Consequently, dropping off students at Vons, Albertsons, or in the Lake is actually a longer walk for students than dropping them off in the Pacific parking lot. The Pacific parking lot has been designated as the student drop-off, pick-up, and parking lot. Please assist us in working with the community by using the designated lots.

Lastly, I ask you to remind your student that the bike lanes are to be used for those going with the flow of traffic and not against it. Students on skateboards, scooters, and bikes should ride with the flow of traffic; additionally, any student under the age of 18 should also be wearing a helmet. Please help us keep our students safe.

Thank you very much for your assistance and support with the current changes we have already endured and those yet to come.

Our temporary campus will be different, but it will still be San Marcos High School,

Leading.....

Now Tomorrow Forever.

Respectfully,

Julie Mottershaw



San Marcos Unified School District

Jay Petrek
President

Randy Walton
Vice-President

Sharon Jenkins
Clerk

Janet McClean
Member

Beckie Garrett
Member

Dr. Kevin Holt, Superintendent

Mrs. Gina Bishop, Assistant Superintendent/Instructional Services

Mr. Gary Hamels, Assistant Superintendent/Business Services

Mr. Brad Lichtman, Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources

San Marcos High School

Ms. Julie Mottershaw, Principal; Ms. Tiffany Campbell, Ms. Nicole DiRanna, Mr. Al Love, and Mr. Chad McGough, Assistant Principals