

## Mi Santa es su Santa

By Masha Goncharova  
Editor-in-Chief/Manager

Holiday cheer has once again come to visit these parts in downtown Laguna Beach.

Locals of Laguna agree that there is something about Hospitality Night that captures the warm merriment of the season in one night.

Children wrapped in scarves and grandma's holiday sweaters lined Forest Avenue seeking entrance to the hut that contains the glorious Santa Claus.

Members of the LBHS all-girls club Assisteens helped keep the children in line (pun intended!).

"It was great to help kids while they waited for Santa. We made ornaments and it was lots of fun," president of Assisteens Tami Albers said.

One hallmark of a child's Hospitality Night is finally getting the liberty to run around.

"I like the free food and how the streets are crossed

off, and I like running around and hanging out with my best friends," elementary school student Marykate Quellmalz said.

Fairies could be seen trotting about sprinkling dust on eager children and lighting up the crowd with their dazzling outfits. They enjoyed the night as well.

"Each person young and old alike approached us with twinkling eyes, eager to display their belief in the Faeries and magic. We all have that child-like innocence that we express from our hearts during

"We all have that child-like innocence that we express from our hearts during occasions like this"

occasions like this and I was grateful to be part of the delightful joy that



Senior Monique Thomas poses with Santa Claus at Hospitality Night. (Devin Kent)

ensued," fairy Jennifer Mattox said.

As for the older members of the community, Hospitality Night provides opportunities to share the holiday spirit as well as to find out about new city involvements, such as the new sister city in Menton, France.

Every store on Forest Avenue was open later than usual. Some, such as Scandia and the new restaurant The Lumberyard, gave out hot chocolate and popcorn to passerbys.

Surprisingly, despite the

food, the greatest attraction of the night was the music; reggae and jazzy tunes accompanied the holiday cheer throughout the night.

With every year, one aspect of this jolly night has remained the most astounding: as the community gathers and a feeling of joy spreads through the air, it becomes clear that Laguna Beach is a different kind of city.

A strong sense of community is hard to find; Hospitality Night is certainly a tradition to be cherished.

## Show some love

By Masha Goncharova  
Editor-In-Chief/Manager

In the spirit of giving, Laguna Beach High School has once again surpassed expectations by donating 156 "Boxes of Love" to the Orange County Food Bank.

The Boxes of Love program provides meals to families of four in compact boxes. Although the opportunity to donate Boxes of Love is open for volunteers all over Orange County.

Students were inspired to adopt the program as a school-wide community service project.

"This way, we were more focused because we could actually provide meals rather than just going in the pantry and finding odd items," ASB director Pam MacKay said.

To encourage student participation, a contest was drawn involving every grade to see which could raise the most boxes.

The efforts of seniors prevailed with 42 boxes, the juniors following with 30, sophomores and staff, each with 21, and finally the freshman with 14.

Motivation likely

sprang from care for unfortunate families, but some may argue that it was also school spirit.

"Ever since the seniors tied at Homecoming, they've been determined to win everything," said MacKay.

The "Boxes of Love" program succeeds at LBHS because students have the opportunity to help the community while showing their school spirit.

Many have seen a growing sense of school community through the Boxes of Love campaign.

"I hope that it becomes a tradition; it's a more focused way to give help," MacKay said.

Some students opted to donate \$35 dollars. MacKay spent this money wisely.

"We went to Stater Brothers and Costco to squeeze more boxes for our money. That way we ended up with a larger box count than the totals of all the classes," MacKay said.

The essence of the holidays is the spirit of giving.

Certainly, LBHS students showed their generosity through the Boxes of Love.

## Summer S-KOOL

By Zoë Epstein  
Editor-In-Chief/Product Manger

This year, a summer school committee led by Laguna Beach High School principal Dr. Don Austin seeks to allow students to get class credit over the summer.

Normally, summer school is only for students who need make-up classes.

If the summer school proposal passes, it will allow students to take additional classes that would otherwise limit their elective opportunities.

"The superintendent asked if anything was creating barriers for students," Austin said. "Right away, I thought of summer school."

Freshmen and sophomores who need PE credit and take a foreign language usually don't have room in their schedules for other electives such as ASB or computer classes.

The committee wants to offer human ecology or world geography during the summer so students can make room for those elec-

tives.

The summer school committee – Austin, Thurston Middle School principal Dr. Joanne Culverhouse, LBHS department chairs and many other staff members – met with teachers to determine who would teach summer classes.

Math teacher Mr. Gary Shapiro is willing to teach a pre-calculus BC class.

"Some students that are taking honors pre-calculus can go into BC-level calculus if they want and are capable," Shapiro said.

Though they will not learn everything covered in Calculus AB, students can learn the basic concepts they need in order to be ready for Calculus BC.

In addition, Mr. Mark Alvarez may teach an economics class for incoming seniors, though he is not certain yet.

"I don't want to water anything down. Kids get a unique experience in here; they see the world differently. I want to make sure I can give that to the kids [in summer school]. If all of

the plans proceed smoothly, I will do it," Alvarez said.

Special education teacher Ms. Michelle Foster plans to help incoming freshmen by offering a 3-week class in which students will organize their binders, finish their summer reading books and get schedules and books early.

Though the committee is considering many new courses for summer school, it is not ignoring students who need to make up classes, either.

If the proposal passes, any student who receives a D or F in one semester of Spanish will be able to take a make-up class with Spanish teacher Señor Jose Luis Gonzales.

ROP and silkscreening teacher Scott Wittkop will teach an expanded NovaNET course, allowing students to make up a variety of classes.

NovaNET is a system in which students can study various topics.

All in all, it seems that great change is coming to LBHS.

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