

**Briefly**

**Celebrate county's farming heritage**

Old Time Harvest Days take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday at the northeast corner of I-5 and West Street in Woodland.

This celebration of California's farming heritage will showcase tractors, engines and power driven machinery dating from the late 1890s through the early 1950s.

The centerpiece of the show will be a working display of antique harvesting equipment, including a power-driven grain binder and two case threshing machines dating to the 1920s. Information booths from the Heidrick Ag History Center and the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association will also be part of the show.

While admission is free, donations to offset expenses are encouraged. Exhibitors who wish to participate may obtain further information by calling (530) 666-9700.

**Youths can learn jewelry-making**

The City of Davis Community Services Department will offer a jewelry-making class for kids ages eight to 17 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays beginning June 24.

The class will meet at the Chestnut Park Roundhouse, 1020 Chestnut Lane. Instructor Antoinette O'Neill will cover techniques such as stringing, crimping, wire wrapping and knotting. The cost is \$28.

For more information, call (530) 757-5626.

**Develop online marketing skills**

The City of Davis Community Services Department will present a class on "Internet Marketing in the 21st Century" from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 25.

Instructor David Chan will cover methods of online marketing, including writing e-articles, blogging, optimizing search engine results and using pay-per-click advertising.

The class will take place in the Veterans Memorial Game Room, 203 E. 14th St. A \$28 class fee and a \$20 materials fee are due on the first day of class.

For more information, call (530) 757-5626.

# Board must plan budget

## Schools face potential cuts in 2009-10

By Jeff Hudson  
ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

In most years, the meeting of the Davis school board that follows the June graduation ceremonies is a quiet affair, as the school district prepares for a summer slowdown.

But 2009 is not a typical year. California school districts don't have a clear idea how much money they'll be receiving (or how many additional budget cuts they'll have to absorb), because the Governor and the Legislature are still hashing out the state budget in Sacramento.

So Thursday's school board meeting will include a budget workshop, since state law requires local school districts to adopt a budget by July 1 — even if they don't really know how much money they'll have to work with.

On Thursday, district staff will present a preliminary budget based on state funding assumptions and federal stimulus funding. The state has proposed to reduce funding to the Davis district by over \$600 per student per year. This is a \$5 million reduction in ongoing funding. The federal stimulus funds — which are "one-time" money — can be used to back fill some of this loss, but only for a limited time.

The school board will also hold a public hearing and take a vote on a resolution giving the district greater flexibility in allocation of categorical funds (meaning funds ordinarily reserved for a specific purpose), which will give the district a greater ability to adapting to the budget reductions that will be coming from Sacramento.

The school board will also hear an update on the districts' facilities master plan. The school board has already established three capital projects as priorities: modernization of the Davis High School stadium, which hasn't seen an upgrade since the 1960s (a project that got underway in June); modernization of Emerson Junior High School (which hasn't had a major upgrade since construction in the late 1970s); and modernization of the

Davis High School multipurpose room (which likewise hasn't been updated in roughly 40 years).

Funding sources for these projects include the sale of surplus property — the school board has already prepared the district's eight-acre Grande property for development as residential homes. Other possible funding sources include future bond funds, non-voter-approved bonds and state funding (currently in short supply).

The school board also needs to make some administrative decisions pertaining to the set-up of the new Da Vinci Charter Academy, both at the high school level (where the current Da Vinci High School program is switching to charter school status) and the junior high school level (with a new Da Vinci program opening at Emerson Junior High in August).

Thursday's meeting will also include a presentation of "sunshine proposals" by the school district and the Davis Teachers Association, relating to the contract for the 2009-2010 school year.

The school board will also hold routine public hearings on the tax rate for Measures Q and W, which are parcel taxes benefiting the Davis school district that were approved by voters during the past two years. There will also be a public hearing on the tax rate for Community Facilities Districts 1 and 2. State law permits school districts to annually review these tax rates and make a small increase.

Elsewhere on the agenda, the trustees will hear a presentation on a new district cell phone policy, and hear a report from the Davis School Arts Foundation.

All told, Thursday's agenda will make for a substantial meeting, to begin at 7 p.m. in the Community Chambers at Davis City Hall, 23 Russell Blvd. The meeting will be carried live on Davis cable television channel 17, and the meeting can also be viewed online through the district's Web site, <http://www.djusd.tv>.

— Reach Jeff Hudson at [jhudson@davisenterprise.net](mailto:jhudson@davisenterprise.net) or (530) 747-8055. Comment on this story at [www.davisenterprise.com](http://www.davisenterprise.com)



COURTESY PHOTO

Myanmar Children's Foundation President Max Harrington (third from left) of Davis and British Council (Rangoon) Director Alan Smart (fifth from left) participate in the opening ceremony for a new MCF-funded building at Mitta Moe Nunnery School in Myanmar, which had been devastated by Cyclone Nargis. Local donors helped raise money for the building.

# I-House will focus on Myanmar post-cyclone

## NGO founder from Davis raised funds for school

SPECIAL TO THE ENTERPRISE

The Myanmar Children's Foundation (MCF), a local non-profit organization, will present an overview of the situation in Myanmar (Burma) one year after Cyclone Nargis killed over 140,000 people in May 2008, followed by a screening of a National Geographic documentary about a group of seafaring nomads known as the Moken who live in the Mergui archipelago off the southern coast of Myanmar.

MCF co-founder Max Harrington will give an educational PowerPoint presentation on Saturday, June 20, from 7 to 7:45 p.m. at the International House in Davis, followed by the documentary from 8 to 9 p.m.

In his presentation,

Harrington will discuss the MCF's cyclone relief efforts over the last year, which have included the provision of emergency relief supplies immediately after the storm, construction of a new two-story school building, sponsorship of 136 Nargis-affected school children, and the funding of a year's salaries for seven teachers.

He will also discuss other continuing projects, which together with the cyclone relief efforts have largely been made possible by Davis and Sacramento-area donors, including a generous donation of over \$1,200 by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis. Harrington, a 2002 Davis High School graduate, will discuss how local residents can sponsor an individual child or help out in other ways.

The documentary film, called "Burma's Forbidden Islands," was filmed in 2004, with a former UC Davis student from Myanmar serving as the filmmakers' Myanmar production coordinator. The film chronicles the life of the

Moken, who are among the last true free roaming sea gypsies in the world. Only a few hundred are still left in the Archipelago, a pristine and untouched series of eight hundred islands.

To date, MCF, a 501(c)3 tax-exempt non-profit organization founded by Harrington, Susan Steinbach and Rita Montes-Martin in January 2007, has constructed four classroom buildings for Buddhist monastery schools, sponsored more than 300 at-risk children to stay in school, and trained and placed more than 10 teachers in poor rural areas in Myanmar.

The educational presentation is free, and there is a \$5 suggested donation for the film. Families with children are welcome, and snacks and drinks will be provided.

Visit <http://www.myanmarchildrensfoundation.org> or e-mail [max@myanmarchildrensfoundation.org](mailto:max@myanmarchildrensfoundation.org) for more information or to make a donation.

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