



# PV Kids News

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## Spotlight on Debra Attridge

By Aimee C., Alexis D., Diana K., Elisa L., Hana M., and Sydney C.

Is it possible to put together a great play and still have fun? If you've been in one of South Bay Conservatory's plays, you know that everyone is always having fun.

One reason why South Bay Conservatory's Youth Theater program is so popular is because of its director, Debra Attridge.

PV Kids News inter-

viewed her to find out more about being a director.



Debra Attridge, center, with PV Kids News reporters.

**PV Kids News:** What was your favorite play of the plays that you directed?

**Attridge:** They're all fun, but I think my favorite show is *West Side Story*, because I just love the story and the music. My second favorite would probably be *Music Man*.

*Continued on page 20*

## Book Smart, People Smart, Michael Barb

By Chris J., Cyrus K., Michaela L., and Minji J.

If you like reading books, then Young Readers Librarian Michael Barb has a job that you'd like. He gets to find all sorts of interesting books in the library every day, but we found out that his job is more than that.

**PV Kids News:** Do you like being a librarian?

**Barb:** Yes, I like it a lot. I had another job for many

years, doing a lot of writing. I did it for so long that I was just eager to change what I was doing and work more closely with people who wanted information, books, movies, and things like that.



Michael Barb with PV Kids News reporters

**PV Kids News:** How long have you been a librarian?

**Barb:** I've been a librarian for three years. I worked  
*Continued on page 21*

## PV Kids News Summer 2011 Reporters



Aimee C.



Alexis D.



Andrew B.



Anna Ma.



Anna My.



Anthony K.



Chris J.



Courtney H.



Cyrus K.



Diana K.



Elisa L.



Faith K.



Gabrielle S.



Genevieve B.



Hana M.



Holden O.



Jason L.



J.J. A.



Joshua R.



Julia O.



Julia S.



Kaylin L.



Lara S.



Lauren B.



Lindsay O.



Lindsey M.



Marcus E.



Michael T.



Michaela L.



Minji J.



Natalie R.



Phillip H.



Rachel M.



Sophia E.



Sydney C.

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PVLD Advisor  
Michael Barb

## A Doctor's View

By Andrew B., Anna Ma., Anna My., Holden O., Jason L., J.J. A.,  
Joshua R., Lauren B., Marcus E., Michael T., and Phillip H.

**D**id you ever wonder what it takes to be a doctor? We wanted to find out, so we talked to Dr. Raj Dugel, who is a local ophthalmologist.

**PV Kids News:** How many years did you spend in college?

**Dugel:** First I finished high school, then four years of college, then four years of medical school, then one year of internship where you work in a hospital as a medical doctor, then three years of only eye surgery, and I did one extra year of only transplants of the front of the eye, so that's 13 years.

**PV Kids News:** What is the level of your degree?

**Dugel:** My degree is an M.D., doctor of medicine.

**PV Kids News:** Where is your office?

**Dugel:** My office is in Torrance.

**PV Kids News:** What kind of doctor are you?

**Dugel:** I am an eye doctor, an ophthalmologist. Ophthalmologists treat the eye.

**PV Kids News:** How many people do you assist a day?

**Dugel:** I see about 30 patients a day.

**PV Kids News:** What do you like about being a doctor?

**Dugel:** I like helping people—that's what I like about being a doctor. People come and need help to see better, or they may have eye pain and I'm able to help a lot of them.

**PV Kids News:** What kinds of tools do you use?

**Dugel:** That's one of the reasons I like eye surgery. It is one of the fields where you can use surgical tools, meaning small microscopic knives, and scissors, forceps and tweezers. The instruments are so small that they can only be seen under a microscope.

When you go through years of training, you learn not only about how the eye works, you learn about optics and physics because the eye has a lens inside. Later on when you come to practice, you have a lot of instruments that have electronics with lenses in them, so it's like working with a very fancy camera. I like the fact that you're not only working in medicine, you're working in physics and electronics too.

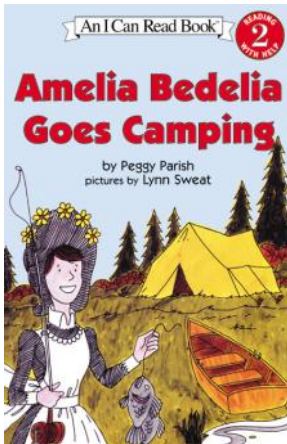
**PV Kids News:** What's the hardest part about being a doctor?

**Dugel:** The hardest part about being a doctor is being what people expect of you. When patients come to see you, they expect to get better, but you cannot cure many conditions of the eye. Also, there's always an element of unpredictabil-



Dr. Raj Dugel, center, with PV Kids News reporters.

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## Camping with Amelia

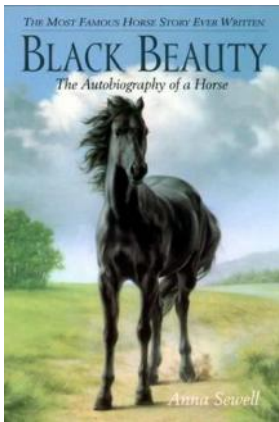
By Natalie R.

One day, Amelia Bedelia and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roger all went camping. Mr. Roger said, “Let’s hit the road,” then Amelia started to hit the road with a stick. This is what happens when Amelia Bedelia goes camping.

I like Amelia Bedelia, because she is funny. I like the characters, because they are serious and funny. I like the story, because it makes you want to go camping. All the Amelia Bedelia books by Peggy Parish are fun to read.

I think that the story is good, because some of the situations in the book are funny and some are serious.

Both girls and boys, ages 5-10, will enjoy reading this book and all of the other Amelia Bedelia books. ❖



## A Very Beautiful Horse

By Julia S.

Everyone loves the old classic tale of *Black Beauty* written by Anna Sewell.

This exciting book is about a beautiful black horse named Black Beauty and takes place on a farm in England.

My favorite character is chestnut horse Ginger. I like this great story is because the story is told by Black Beauty and the horses talk to each other. I also like this book, because it is set in England and I’ve always wanted

to go there, and because I like horses. The characters are very interesting, and it’s a story that keeps your attention.

This book is good for everyone, whether you are eight years old or thirty-five years old. ❖



## Dr. Raj Dugel

Continued from page 3

ity. That’s the most frustrating part of being a doctor—not being able to help all the people all the time.

**PV Kids News:** How many years have you been a doctor?

**Dugel:** Twenty-four years.

**PV Kids News:** What college did you go to?

**Dugel:** I went to the University of London in England and then came here to go to medical school at Columbia University in New York.

**PV Kids News:** What made you want to be a doctor?

**Dugel:** I really don’t know why, but since I was 8 years old, the only

thing I ever wanted to be was a doctor. If you know what you want to be, stick to your goals, and you’ll get there.

**PV Kids News:** How people have you cured?

**Dugel:** I do about 250 major eye surgeries a year, and I’ve been doing it for 24 years, so that’s 6,000 people. ❖

## Camp Confidential Over and Out

By Alexis D.

**D**o you like camp? If you do, *Camp Confidential: Over and Out*, is a book I highly recommend.

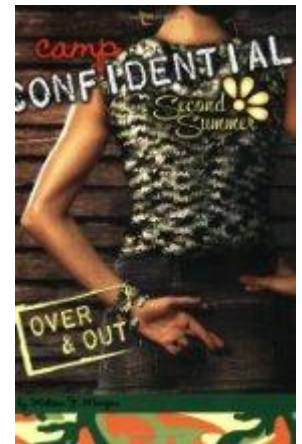
The story is about a girl named Jenna Bloom who breaks her leg before the big event of the summer at Camp Lakeview—Color War. In the Color War, campers of

Lakeview pair up into the Red and Blue Team. They compete in different categories like: sports, scrabble, and ceramic making.

Jenna has to coach her friends in sports and is convinced they won't win. One day, Jenna's bunkmates surprise her with a new category she

can compete in. It's a pie-eating contest. Will her team win?

Melissa J. Morgan is the author of this book, and I think her writing is suitable for girls ages 9-12. It's easy to relate to and funny and exciting. *Over and out* is the perfect book to read anytime! ❖



## The Lucky Ticket

By Lauren B.

**T**here once was a boy named Charlie, and his family was very poor. Everyday for breakfast was boiled potatoes, for lunch was cabbage, and for dinner was cabbage soup.

The only one who earned money in the family of seven (Charlie, Mrs. Bucket, Mr. Bucket, Grandpa George, Grandma Georgina, Grandma Josefine, and Grandpa Joe) was Charlie's father, Mr. Bucket. Mr. Bucket was a toothpaste cap screw and that wasn't even half enough money for half the family. Everyday Charlie had to walk past the most famous chocolate store in the world on his way to school.

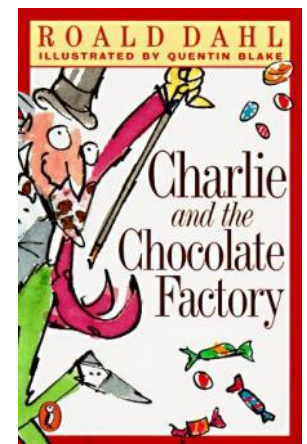
One day Mr. Bucket came home with the newspaper, and the headline was, "Wonka's Factory to Open Again." Now Charlie was really excited. Every night his grandparents told him about the factory and that no one had gone in or out of the chocolate factory for 10 years. In the newspaper it said 5 gold tickets could be found in Wonka chocolate bars. Winners (or finders) would visit the factory on a determined date.

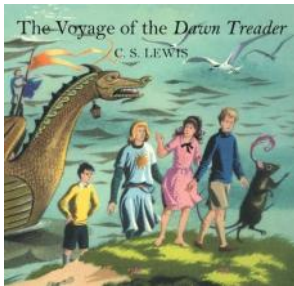
The next night, two tickets had been found, one was by Augustus Gloop (a boy who never stopped eating) and Veruca Salt (a girl whose parents got her whatever

she wanted). The following night two more tickets were found by Violet Beauregarde (a girl who never stopped chewing gum) and Mike Teavee (he always watched TV).

The next day when Charlie was walking home from school, he found a dollar on the street. He ran to the candy shop and bought two chocolates. Then, there in his hands, was the golden ticket. On the day of his tour of the chocolate factory, there were lots of people.

There's lots more adventure for Charlie ahead, but to know the rest you are going to have to read *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl. ❖





## The Adventure of Narnia

By Chris J.

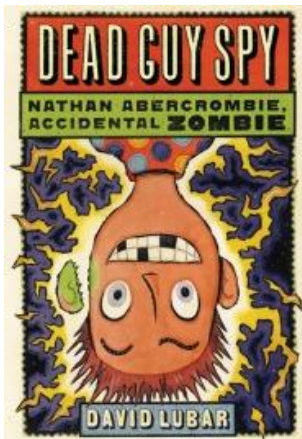
One day a painting of the ocean became real. Then Lucy and her brother Edmond and cousin Eustace end up in the ocean and are rescued by the boat, the Dawn Treader. This is one of the tales in the *Chronicles of Narnia* series, The

*Voyage of the Dawn Treader*.

Lucy, Edmund and Eustace meet their friend King Caspian in Narnia, and he is looking for the seven lost Lords of Narnia. They have a lot of adventures looking for the Lost Lords.

There is a lot of mystery and action. I think boys and girls in fourth or fifth grade would enjoy reading this book.

The *Chronicles of Narnia* series was written by C.S. Lewis and have been made into movies. ❖



## Calling All Zombies!

By Holden O.

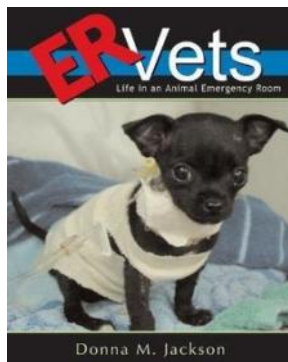
When you think of zombies, you think of rotting corpses. But what if you're only half dead? That's what happened to Nathan, who was doused with chemicals, and is half dead. He doesn't have to breathe or sleep, and he can't feel pain. He also can't heal.

Nathan and his friends are trying to find a cure so he can be alive again.

Unfortunately, a spy organization, named BUM (Bureau of Useful Misadventures) need Nathan for one more mission, which goes horribly wrong.

I like Nathan because I am a spy like he is. This book is packed with action. I highly recommend it because it is also packed with adventure and humor.

This is the 5th book in the series. I recommend this book for boys and girls ages 7-11.❖



## Snakey Time

By Anna My.

If you like animals, a good book to read is *ER Vets: Life in an Animal Emergency Room* by Donna M. Jackson.

The story that I liked best in the book is called "Lucy Slips Away." This chapter is about a ball

python snake named Lucy. The story takes place at the owner's house. Lucy is my favorite character because she's cute.

I like the story because the owner is nice and really cares about

snakes. The whole book shows how much people care about animals. It also is interesting to find out what types of cases veterinarians handle.

This is a good book for boys or girls, ages 7 to 16.❖

## Stop By For the Thrill of Your Life!

By Anthony K.

Mysterious men in bowler hats. Evil health teachers. Jumping off cliffs. Are you ready for the thrill of your life? The *Genius Files* covers miles of fresh, witty, not to mention humorous, fun from two nearly thirteen year old, "average" twins. In this fun-filled adventure, you will not only be

able to travel all across America, but will also be able to make quite a few interesting stops on the way.

I recommend you be cautious, along these stops, for I guarantee that you will be followed on this trip and these stops are just an easier vantage point for others

to kill you. And when I say others, I really mean others.

Before I let you go, though, let me give you a few words of advice: Do Not Trust Everyone, or . . . Anyone! ! ! ! Keep your suspicions! ! ! Beware the man who lies at the center of this perplexing puzzle. ❖



## Harry and the Wizard

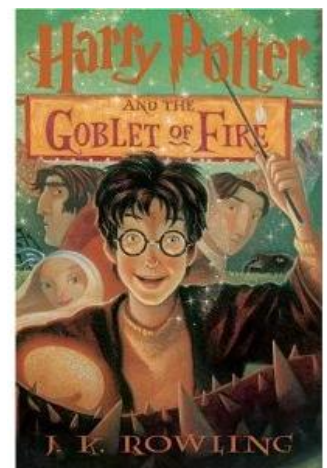
By J.J. A.

J.K. Rowling wrote this wonderful book, called *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. This book is mostly about Harry's name coming out of the Goblet for the triwizard tournament. Harry and his friends Hermione, and Ron are the main characters.

This is one of my favorite books because it's so adventurous and exciting! You never know what is going to happen next!

Harry plays seeker for his house Quidditch Team. The Seeker has to catch the snitch. Quidditch is a wizard sport.

This book would be great for boys and girls ages 8 and older. It's really fun to see them do spells. They get to go to school in a castle! If you like fantasy, you should definitely read this book! I highly recommend this book to nine and ten-year old boys.❖



## The Adventure of the Sorcerer's Stone

By Genevieve B.

*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* is one of my favorite books. The book is about a boy named Harry Potter who is a wizard.

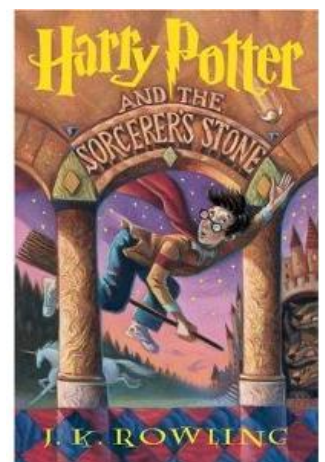
Harry has an arch enemy named Voldemort who killed his parents.

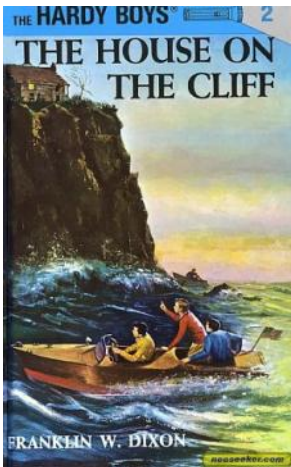
Harry keeps trying to avoid Voldemort. My favorite character is Harry's friend Hermione Granger because she is smart, pretty, and funny.

I like the book because it is funny, scary, and interesting. I think

it is a good book because it is easy to visualize the characters and because the story has good characters.

*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* is good for boys and girls ages 8 and up. ❖





## Two Detectives and their Father

By Cyrus K.

**T**he *House on the Cliff* by Franklin W. Dixon is the second book in the *Hardy Boys* series.

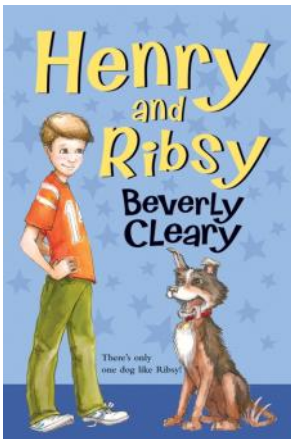
It's about two brothers, Frank and Joe Hardy, who help father solve mysteries.

This book is very exciting. It is a good book to read, because you can't guess what happens next.

In *The House on the Cliff*, Frank and Joe investigate a house that is supposed to be haunted

when they look for their father, Fenton Hardy, who is a famous detective. This book has smugglers and a lot of adventure.

To know what happens next, you'll have to read the book. ❖



## A Naughty Dog

By Sophia E.

**T**he name of the book, which is scary and funny, is *Henry and Ribsy*. It is written by Beverly Cleary.

The story is about Henry and his dog Ribsy.

Risby gets in a lot of trouble around the neighborhood, so Henry makes a deal with his dad to go fishing on a trip if he keeps Ribsy out of trouble for a month.

With Beezus's little sister Ramona around, will Henry succeed?

This book is good for all types of people, but boys and girls ages 8-11 will really like it. ❖



## The Running Boy

By Faith K.

Roy Eberhardt has just moved to Florida and is in middle school. It's hard to fit in and he would never have noticed the "Running Boy" if it weren't for the bully Dana Matherson who smashes his face against the school bus window.

This Newberry Award-winning book, *Hoot*, by Carl Hiaassen, is

a great book to read for both genders, boys and girls. It is full of gusto and if you like books about problems, this book is just for you!

The main characters in *Hoot* are Beatrice, the Running Boy, Roy, and Dana Matherson, the bully and total jerk.

Roy learns about the burrowing owls living

where there is a planned development, and he and his friends set out to save them.

This book is good because it could happen in your life. The best ages to read this is seven through nine. This is a good book to read, because it has realistic fiction, drama, and much more! ❖

## Try to Get in the Club

By Gabrielle S.

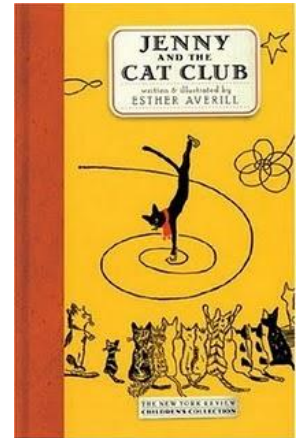
The book, *Jenny and the Cat Club*, is a great book. The story is about cats who live in Greenwich Village in New York City, and each of the cats has a special talent.

Jenny is a black cat and wants to join the cat

club but needs to show that she has a special talent so that she can be part of the club.

*Jenny and the Cat Club* was written by Esther Averill. Both boys and girls, ages 6-8, would enjoy reading this book.

I think this book is great, because it teaches you a lesson, and Jenny and her friends have a lot of adventures in the city. It turns out that Jenny's special talent is ice-skating, and she is very good at ice-skating. ❖



## My First Chapter Book

By Courtney H.

One day, my mom bought me a book called *Junie B. Jones and a Little Money Business*.

After I finished eating dinner, I picked up my new book and then sat down to read it.

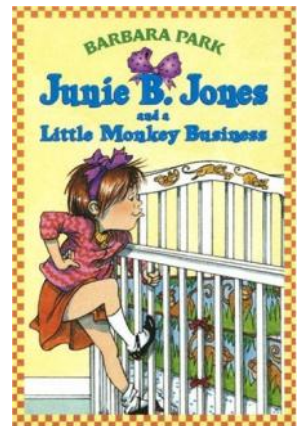
*Junie B. Jones and a Little Money Business* is

about a girl named Junie B. Jones. One night at dinner, her dad said, "I have a surprise for you." Her dad said, "Would you like a baby brother or sister?"

The author of the *Junie B. Jones* series is Barbara Park. It takes

place at Junie B. Jones' home and school. My favorite character is Lucilee, because she is pretty.

This book is a fun and good read for girls ages 5-10 years old. This was my first chapter book. ❖



## Rat Tails

By Anna Ma.

I think you're missing out on something great if you haven't read *How to Save Your Tail* by Mary Hanson.

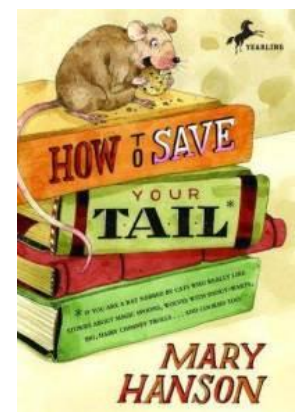
This book is about a rat named Bob who likes to cook and read. He gets caught by two cats, Muffin and Brutus, who are

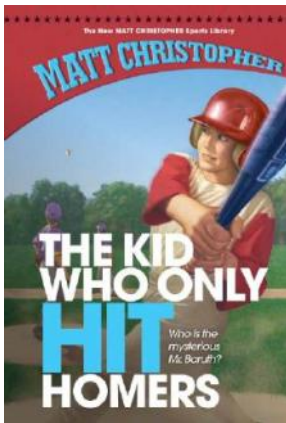
the Queen's cats. One of the cats likes Bob's stories, but the other wants to eat Bob. Bob and the cats live in a castle.

I think you'd like Bob the rat, the best, he tells stories, he's funny, and likes to cook. I like the story, and you probably

will, too, because the stories are funny. I think you'll like the first one best. It's really good because it's funny, interesting, and something always happens.

Both boys and girls will probably like this book. ❖





## The Kid Who Hit the Most Home Runs Ever

By Marcus E.

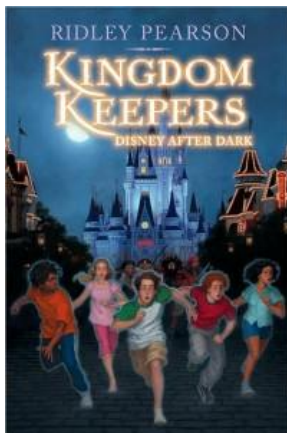
One day there was a 12-year old named Sylvester Coddmeyer III. He loved baseball but wasn't a very good hitter. He was about to join the Hooper Redbirds Little League team when he met George Baruth.

"I will help you become one of the best players ever," the mysterious George Baruch promised.

So that was just what he did. Now, Sylvester's home run streak was unbroken!

As for being a celebrity, troublesome questions were coming his way.

I recommend *The Kid Who Hit Only Homers*, written by Matt Christopher, to boys who like baseball. ❖



## Save Disney World

By Joshua R.

*Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark* is a book about kids who get chosen to save Disney World. They are called DHI's, because they volunteer for Daylight Hologram Imaging.

An old man named Wayne brought all of the DHI's to Walt Disney World. Finn Whitman is their leader. They all have to try to save Walt Disney World. They are defending the park from

Disney bad guys like the Pirates from the *Pirates of the Caribbean*, Maleficant the evil witch, Epsula from the *Little Mermaid*, and the dolls from *It's a Small World*.

There are some clues in every ride that involves Mountains store, wind, sky clouds, and the sunshine. They all lead to Walt Disney's pens. The pens made the secret to destroying that bad guys from closing

down Walt Disney World.

My favorite person might have to be Finn Whitman, because he is the leader. He has a lot of courage, and he has a lot of leadership and never stops believing that they can stop the evil Disney characters.

This is a fun book to read especially if you've been to Disneyland or Disney World, but even if you haven't. ❖

## LEARN HOW TO PLAY CHESS



This program is open to kids ages 8-16. Instruction (with time for free play) is provided by library volunteer Frank Duane. For more information call 310-377-9584 x551. The program is held on Saturdays from 2-5 p.m. at the Malaga Cove Library, 2400 Via Campesina, Palos Verdes Estates.



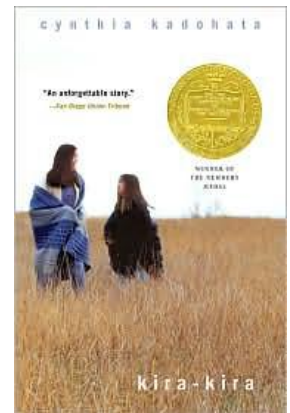
## The Unforgettable Book *Kira-Kira*

By Hana M.

In the book *Kira-Kira* there are two-hundred forty pages of enjoyment. The author, Cynthia Kadohata, found a way to combine sadness and thought into a great book for all ages.

This story is about Takeshima sisters moving from Iowa to Georgia. When one sister gets sick, it's all up to Katie to find hope. "Kira-kira" means "glittering" and represents hope.

I think it's a good story because it's thoughtful and deep. This is a great book to read with your family and enjoy. I hope you enjoy *Kira-Kira* as much as I did. ❖



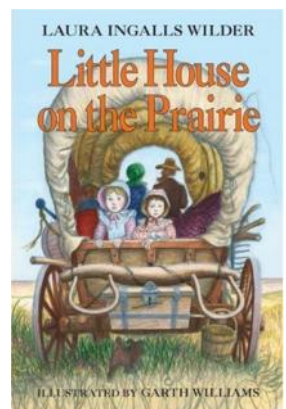
## The Pioneer Family

By Julia O.

The *Little House on the Prairie* books are about the author, Laura Ingalls Wilder when she was growing up. The books have characters like Laura, Mary, Ma, and Pa.

Laura's older sister Mary helps Laura and plays with her, and Laura is a great sister to Mary. Pa hunts for food and goes to town to get supplies. Ma cooks and cleans the house.

This is a really great story to read, especially for girls ages 5 and up. It tells you about pioneers. If you like pioneering, you will like this book as much as I do. ❖



## The Life of Four Sisters

By Rachel M.

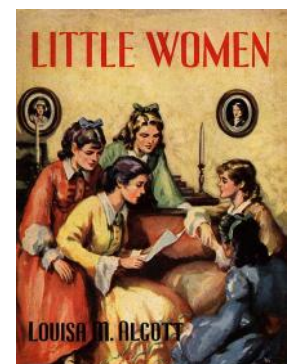
*Little Women* is about four sisters that are very poor after their father dies. The book was written by Louisa May Alcott in the 1860's.

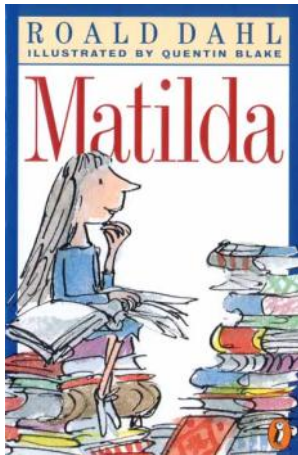
This book was great, because the writing is

good, the book is interesting, and it was fun to read too! Some parts of *Little Women* are sad and some are happy. Beth is my favorite character, because she is pretty and a pianist.

The book has good descriptions of all the characters and gives a lot of details, so you can picture the story.

Boys and girls of all ages will like reading this book. ❖





## The Lucky Girl

By Lara S.

There was once a girl named Matilda. She was a very smart five-year old. Her parents and her older brother didn't care about her.

On the first day of school, Matilda went to her classroom and took her seat. Her new teacher was Ms. Honey. Ms. Honey asked the class if anybody knew the 2X multiplication tables. Matilda raised her hand

and was the only one that knew them.

Ms. Honey asked her all the two times tables—even 2 x 368!

Matilda was so smart she knew it all.

The next day, Ms. Trunchbull (the principal) came into the classroom. She said that tomorrow she'd be teaching them math.

Matilda was prepared. Ms. Honey told

Matilda's best friend to get a glass of water for the "Trunchbull" because she gets mad when she doesn't have water on the desk.

One day Ms. Honey asked Matilda if she wanted to go out with her to get tea. That's just part of the story, if you want to read more, get the book!

*Matilda* was written by Roald Dahl. ❖



## The Snake's Eye Curse

By Diana K.

Have you ever had a curse? The Snake's Eye curse? Well... Zoe had the curse in the book *Miss Fortune* by Brandi Dougherty.

One day when Zoe and her friend Mia went to the carnival, an old lady asked if they would like to know their fortune. They didn't believe in any of this stuff, but they listened to their fortune anyway.

Mia got a good fortune, but Zoe did not get the fortune she thought she'd get. Instead she got the Snake's Eye Curse.

The lady said slowly and mechanically, "You must seal your curse, so you must wear this necklace."

Ever since Zoe got the necklace, bad things happened. She's trying to take it off, but there's some kind of force field that keeps her hands from touching her necklace.

I like this book because it's interesting. It's fiction, and I like fiction because it's not real. This book is also very emotional and very descriptive. I could picture

all the words in my mind.

Mia and Zoe have lots of adventures while they try to break the curse.

Girls and boys would like this book, but boys might think it's only for girls since the main characters are girls. But if you like science fiction or mysteries, whether you are a girl or a boy, you would like reading this book. It is fun for people of all ages, but especially for kids ages from eleven to thirteen should read this book. ❖

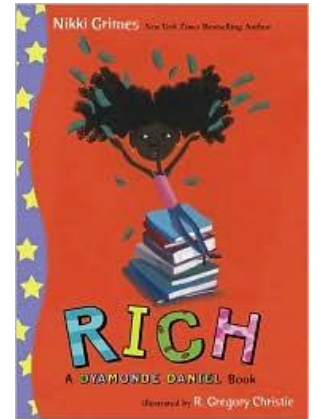
## The Girl Who Wants to Know Everything

By Lindsay O.

Dyamonde Daniel is a third grader. In the book, *Rich: A Dyamonde Daniel* by Nikki Grimes, Dyamonde meets a new student named Damans,

who lives in a homeless shelter. Both Damans and Dyamonde's best friend Free are entering a local poetry contest for a \$100 prize.

This book is very funny and interesting. This is just giving you an excerpt if you read this book. ❖



## Sarah Plain and Tall

By Michaela L.

Dad put advertisements in the newspaper to help find a mom for his family. The title name of this book is, *Sarah Plain and Tall*. The author is Patricia MacLachlan.

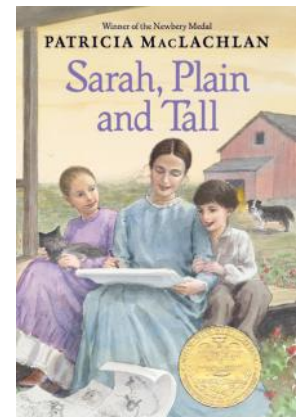
This book is set in the late 1800's in the Mid-

west. The dad who is trying to find his two children a new mom, because their mom died. The day after the ad is published, the dad got a letter from a woman who was not married.

The woman's name was Sarah and she

wanted to be dad's new wife. She was from Maine, and when she got to the Midwest, she missed her old home in Maine.

This is a good, well-written book, that girls aged 8 and up will like to read. ❖



## Out of Darkness

By Aimee C.

Have you ever heard of Braille? It is the way that blind people (or people who can't see) read.

Do you know who invented Braille? If you said Louis Braille, you are absolutely right.

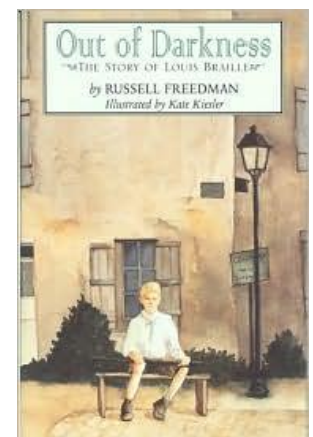
In the book, *Out of the Darkness - The Story of*

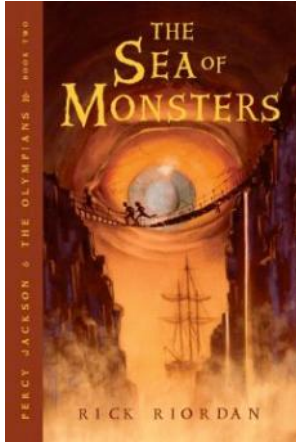
*Louis Braille*, author Russell Freedman tells about Louis Braille's life in a new special boarding school for blind children and how he developed Braille by poking dots into paper.

I liked this book because of the story and also because of the pic-

tures. *Out of the Darkness* is a good book, and it is preferable for kids ages 10 and up.

*Out of the Darkness* is a book you want to read. It is well-written and you learn a lot. Look for it at your local library and happy reading! ❖





## A Dying Camp

By Andrew B.

The book is called *The Sea of Monsters* and it is part of the *Percy Jackson* book series. It was written by Rick Riordan. The book has three settings: New York City, The Sea of Monsters, and Camp Half-Blood.

Camp Half-Blood is dying. It is a training camp for half-bloods or demigods.

It is up to Percy Jackson, Annabeth, Grover, and Tyson to save the dying camp. Percy is the son of Poseidon (the god of the Sea). Annabeth is

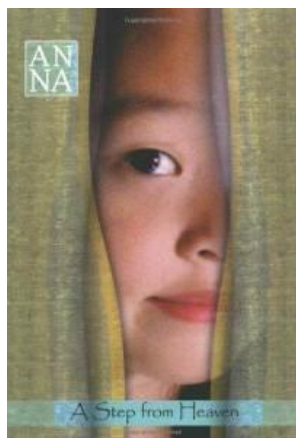
Percy's friend and the daughter of Athena (goddess of Wisdom). Grover is a satyr (half goat and half human) and is Percy's guardian. Tyson is Percy's half-brother and is a Cyclops. Percy's quest to save Camp Half-Blood starts when he is expelled from school for destroying the gym. They found out that the magic that protected the camp had been poisoned.

They set off on a ship called the Princess Andromeda into the Sea of Monsters to retrieve the

Golden Fleece to save the camp. The Golden Fleece has powers heal anything. During their journey, they encounter a lot of different dangers and challenges, such as when they are captured by a Cyclops and other exciting adventures.

This is a great book to read if you like Greek mythology and action. The book has all of my favorite myths, and the story is entertaining and lots of fun to read.

Both boys and girls will enjoy reading this book.❖



## A Step From Heaven

By Sydney C.

"I don't want to move to America!" Young Ju says from the book, *A Step from Heaven* by An Na. This book is about a little, four-year old girl moving from South Korea to America. Throughout the story, she has a difficult time in school learning English.

This extraordinary book mainly takes place at her rental house. Her

family has to rent a house before they can afford to buy one.

My favorite character is four-year old Young Ju. I like her because she is just like me! She is Korean, like me, and has a brother, like me, too!

I like this book because Young Ju lives with a stupendous family. Her mom and dad are very kind and nice.

Her younger brother, Joon, is generous and caring for others.

I think *A Step from Heaven* is a really good book because it's about a girl who moves from one county and one culture to another.

Girls who are nine and older will LOVE this book! *A Step from Heaven* is an amazing book to read! ❖

## For Taylor Swift Fans

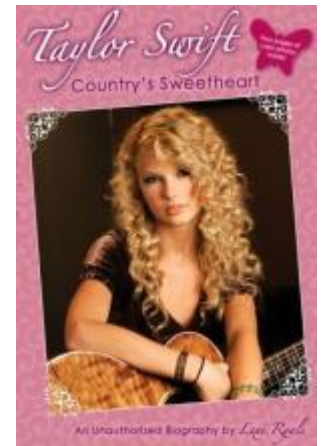
By Lindsey M.

**D**o you like the glamorous, country star, Taylor Swift? Well, if you do, here is a book for you! *Taylor Swift: Country's Sweetheart* is written by Lexi Raulds. Raulds wrote a very descriptive biography about Taylor Swift.

The main focus of the book is about Taylor working up to being famous. It talks about her years in elementary school in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, and her move to Nashville, Tennessee and the way she got fame.

This book is good because it gives tips to girls who want to become country singers.

I recommend this book for girls ages 8 and up who like Taylor Swift. *Country's Sweetheart* is a great book for Taylor Swift fans! ❖



## The Adventure to Uluru

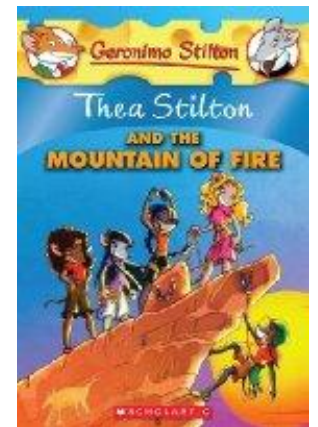
By Phillip H.

**O**ne day Nicky got a phone call from her grandma in Australia. She said the sheep were very sick, and no one knew what's wrong with them. So the next day, she told her friends Paulina, Colette, Pamela,

and Violet who decide to go with her to help out. So they take a plane to Australia. When they get there, they drive to Nicky's grandma's house. Then, they try to figure out why all the sheep are getting sick.

*Thea Stilton and the Mountain of Fire* is part of the Geronimo Stilton series.

The book is fun to read and tells you a lot about Australia. It is good for both boys and girls.❖



## The World's Greatest Detective

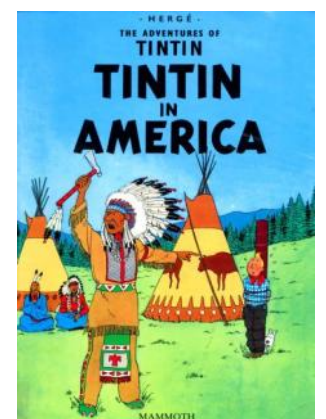
By Michael T.

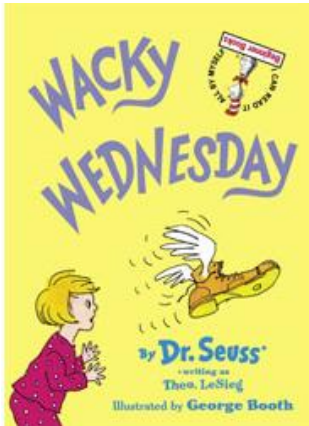
**T**he world's greatest detective Tintin is a reporter who travels from Europe to the United States to report on crime in Chicago. The story is set in 1931, and Tintin is trying to catch a huge criminal.

My personal favorite character is Tintin, because he always fights the bad guys and always catches the criminals.

The book, *Tintin in America*, was written by Herge and was part of a comic book series.

The book is so good that there is going to be an animated movie about the *Adventures of Tintin*, produced by Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson, that is scheduled to be released in the late fall.❖





## Wacky Wednesday

By Elisa L.

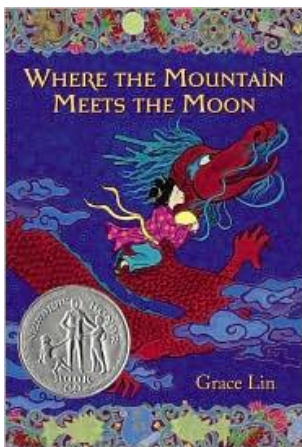
One of Dr. Seuss' best books is *Wacky Wednesday*. It all starts on a Wednesday when a girl sees a shoe on the wall. Then she looks out the window, and she sees bananas growing on her apple tree. Then she sees a moose chasing her cat.

There are more wacky things happening that Wednesday. The girl then looks down the hall and on the door to the parents' bedroom are two knobs and a picture on the wall is upside down.

In the bathroom, the girl has one sock on while

taking a shower, there is a tree in the toilet, and a fish swimming inside the shampoo bottle.

It was pretty scary in the end when everything got more and more crazy, but then the day was over and Wacky Wednesday was gone. ❖



## The Giant Mountain

By Kaylin L.

Once there was a girl named Minli. She was very poor. Her dad told her folk tales about the Jade Dragon.

Minli goes on an adventure to find the Old Man on the Moon to try to help out her family. She makes friends on her

journey, including a dragon..

Minli has to solve a lot of puzzles on her trip. She goes through a peach grove, but the monkeys won't let them through. Minli finally finds a way through the peach grove. She faces

many more puzzles like this on her journey.

Minli meets a lot of people and helps all the people in the town, so they all are happy.

*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin is a good book for kids, aged 7-12. ❖



## A Trip to Another World

By Jason L.

A teenager named Jason Walker goes to another world! It all started when Jason got swallowed by a hippo and then is transported to another world. There, he finds an evil emperor who tries to kill him.

This happened when the Earth was modern and the other world was medieval. The story takes place in both worlds.

Jason is my favorite character in the book, because my name is Jason too.

*A World Without Heroes* by Brandon Mull is funny and full of adventure. It also involves manglers, constrictors, and knights. I recommend this book for boys nine through fourteen years of age. ❖

# Zorgamazoo

By Minji J.

If you like books with a lot of mystery and adventure, you'll like *Zorgamazoo*, written by Robert Paul Weston and illustrated by Victor Rivas.

The main character is Katrina Katrell who lives with a mean guardian. One day Katrina Katrell thinks that she sees a beast with horns stand-

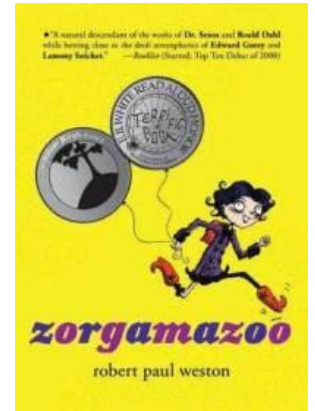
ing in the shadows at the train station. But, when she tells her guardian she gets in trouble for thinking unbelievable thoughts.

Katrina thinks she can live through it, so she keeps her mouth shut. But, when her guardian calls the Lobotomy Doctor to remove

her brain, Katrina knows it's time to run away.

Karina meets Mortimer Yorgie beneath the subway and together they go to Zorgamazoo. What kinds of horror await her?

This is a good book for boys and girls in fourth and fifth grade. ❖



## Introducing the Peacock Press

Featuring News from all PVPUSD Elementary Schools

If you are in fourth or fifth grade in a PVUSD Elementary School and want to be a Peacock Press reporter,

download the application form from

<http://pvphspressfriends.weebly.com/peacock-press.html>

The application deadline is September 1st. Third graders may apply, but if selected, parent involvement is required.

Interviews will be conducted during the first and second week of September.

Peacock Press will be published online twice a year—once in the fall and once in the spring. Peacock Press reporters will work with PVPHS PressFriends Club members in three workshops.

Four reporters per school will be selected. For those selected, a materials fee of \$70 applies.

Please do not send in a check until the selection process is completed. The fee will include editorial materials, snacks, and tentatively one field trip per year and will contribute to the cost of printing an issue for every elementary school teacher in the District to post in their classrooms.

The Peacock Press is a peer mentoring program focusing on making writing fun. Peacock Press reporters will work with high school mentors.

The Peacock Press is a project of the PVPHS PressFriends Club and Palos Verdes Peninsula High School



## Debra Attridge

*Continued from page 1*

**PV Kids News:** How long have you been directing?

**Attridge:** About 15 years.

**PV Kids News:** What is the best part of your job?

**Attridge:** The best part would be at the end—after you go through so much work and the stress of trying to get everything near the end to come together. When it finally comes together and you hear the applause, and everyone is having such a good time, and parents are saying, “Oh, you guys are so great,” I think that’s my favorite part.

**PV Kids News:** What is the worst part of your job?

**Attridge:** The worst part is casting, because you always break some hearts.

**PV Kids News:** Do you like directing?

**Attridge:** I do, I would certainly not do it if I didn’t like it, because it’s a lot of work.

**PV Kids News:** What is your favorite play that you’ve acted in?

**Attridge:** It would probably be *Bye Bye Birdie*, because it was the first musical I ever did, and that wasn’t until I went to high school.

**PV Kids News:** Is it hard directing?

**Attridge:** It’s hard because you have to deal with so many different things. You are telling the actors where to go on stage, you’re worrying about what the set’s going to be like, you’re worried about the lighting, you’re worried about costumes, and you’re worried about the sound.

**PV Kids News:** Are you currently directing a play?

**Attridge:** I am. I’m directing *The Wiz*, and that’s through South Bay Conservatory, and we’re going to be doing our show the last weekend of July at Torrance High School.

**PV Kids News:** Do you like acting or singing more?

**Attridge:** That’s a tough one. I would say singing only because the best singers are acting when they are singing – they are telling a story. But they’re very different yet very connected.

**PV Kids News:** How did you decide to become a director?

**Attridge:** Well, I spent my early years as a professional actress and singer, and then decided

it was time to settle down more so I went back to school and got my teaching credential. Afterwards, I became a choir director and drama director.

**PV Kids News:** Do you make a lot of friends in your job?

**Attridge:** Absolutely. A director’s job is all about putting all different things together – the sets, the costumes, the lighting, the choreographer, the assistant director, so you make friends because it’s a very strong buddy system. You’re helping each other and working as a team, so it helps to be friends.

**PV Kids News:** What inspired you to do theater?

**Attridge:** Probably because when I was young, I started doing plays. It was so much fun that I couldn’t imagine doing anything else. It was a natural progression from acting to directing.

**PV Kids News:** Do you like your job?

**Attridge:** I do, very much. You have to think of so many things that it is always a challenge and always interesting. ❖



Friday, July 29, 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, July 30, 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, July 31, 2:00 p.m.

Torrance High Auditorium  
2200 W. Carson Street  
Torrance, CA 90501

Adults \$10, ages 3-18 \$7



## Michael Barb

*Continued from page 1*

for many years as a journalist, technical writer, and marketing writer.

**PV Kids News:** Why did you become a librarian?

**Barb:** I think I really wanted to help more people get the books and information that they wanted, and get the immediate result when you help them find it right away.

**PV Kids News:** Do you like reading?

**Barb:** Yes, I love reading. Ever since I was a little kid, I would read everything in sight: comic books, magazines, Tarzan novels, and lots of science fiction.

**PV Kids News:** What is your favorite book or author?

**Barb:** I just reread the *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* after twenty years, and it's still one of my favorite books.

**PV Kids News:** Can you eat in the library?

**Barb:** Yes, but I have to obey the same rules as everyone else. I can't have anything that is too messy or smelly, and you have to be careful not to bother other people in the library and not to spill something on a computer.

**PV Kids News:** Do you work every day at the library?

**Barb:** No, I work five days a week, and I work every other Saturday, because Saturdays are really important days for us. A lot of people, especially kids, come in on the weekend since they're in school during the week.

**PV Kids News:** Have you worked anywhere else other than the library?

**Barb:** Yes, I did. I had all kinds of strange jobs. I once worked in a factory making paint. I also worked in a factory where they made metal rulers. I used to sell Sparkletts water on the phone. I did all sorts of wacky jobs and then I became a writer and wrote mostly for company brochures and newsletters.

**PV Kids News:** Did you always want to be librarian?

**Barb:** Yes, I think I always did. I thought about it when I was younger, but I would have had to go back to school to get a special degree and at that time I was tired of school and didn't want to go back. But I did have to go back to school a few years ago when I finally de-

ecided to be a librarian. I had been away from school for a long time, but it was a lot of fun and I learned a lot of things I didn't know about libraries.

**PV Kids News:** What are some things you learned about the library that you didn't expect?

**Barb:** I learned how important it is to remove old materials from the library that no one has checked out in a long time. The average library just doesn't have the space to keep everything. We call this process of removing unused items "weeding."

**PV Kids News:** Is there a special place you work in the library?

**Barb:** Most of the time when I'm helping people, I'm at the Young Readers' desk but then I also have my own desk downstairs. Most people don't realize that librarians do a lot of work behind the scenes too. We are busy ordering books, movies and music; planning programs; making flyers and brochures; creating lists of recommended books and movies; and actually doing a lot of the kinds of things you're learning about at PressFriends. ❖





PressFriends mentors are awarded President's Volunteer Service Awards by RHE Mayor Steve Zuckerman

## Summer Fun with PressFriends

By Luke S.,

PressFriends held its third annual summer workshop at the Library's Teen Annex with over thirty diligent elementary student reporters and writers.

The elementary student reporters worked with middle and high school PressFriends mentors to produce this issue of *PV Kids News*.

Everyone did a great job, and PressFriends would like to thank all the reporters and their parents.

### More Summer Fun

PressFriends is holding a summer science writing workshop at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium on August 20th. If you are in third, fourth or fifth grade and want to enroll, go to [www.signupgenius.com/cma6](http://www.signupgenius.com/cma6).

This workshop will involve a tidepool walk with CMA Educator, Carl Carranza, and then researching and writing in the CMA's library.

### Peacock Press

If you are in third, fourth or fifth grade in a PVPUSD elementary school, the Peninsula High School PressFriends club is starting a district-wide elementary school newspaper. Interested students must apply and attend an interview, and only a limited number of students will be accepted.

For more info, go to [pvphspressfriends.weebly.com](http://pvphspressfriends.weebly.com). ❖



PV Kids News reporters and PressFriends mentors at the summer workshop



Sign up now for *CMA Kids News* workshop at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium on August 20 at [www.signupgenius.com/go/cmakids6](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/cmakids6)

**SPACE IS LIMITED AND REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

For more information on PressFriends, visit our website at [www.pressfriends.org](http://www.pressfriends.org)

**Please be sure to RECYCLE this paper when you are done with it.**