

# THE INFORMANT

Newsletter of The Knowledge Center, Inc.  
*Pro Amore Discendi - For The Love of Learning*

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**GEORGE WASHINGTON** – Bill Perryman of History In Person will return to Lubbock November 15-17, 2006. He will portray General George Washington for selected Core Knowledge schools. His presentations are scheduled for Roscoe Wilson and Wheelock (15<sup>th</sup>), Lubbock Christian and Bowie (16<sup>th</sup>), Rush and Hutchinson Middle School (17<sup>th</sup>). The presentations are funded in part through the CH and Helen Jones Foundations.

**POWER POINTS** – Power Point presentations for classroom use have been developed and may accessed at [www.theknowledgecenter.org](http://www.theknowledgecenter.org) . The Power Points include George Washington Carver, Theodore Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt and Franklin D. Roosevelt.



**STORYTELLER** – Jim Weiss will return to Lubbock January 16-18, 2006. He will present two programs at each elementary school (one for primary and another for intermediate) and one program at middle schools for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. He is scheduled for the following schools: Murfee and Iles (16<sup>th</sup>), O. L. Slaton and Hutchinson Middle Schools (17<sup>th</sup>), Roscoe Wilson and Rush (18<sup>th</sup>). The presentations are funded in part through the CH and Helen Jones Foundations.

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE** – The 16<sup>th</sup> Core Knowledge National Conference will be held in Washington, D.C. this February. Information regarding conference registration, related tours, and the conference hotel are available at [www.coreknowledge.org](http://www.coreknowledge.org) (conference button).

**TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS** – Lubbock area teachers in Core Knowledge schools are eligible to apply for a \$500 travel scholarship to assist them in attending the 16<sup>th</sup> Core Knowledge National Conference in Washington, DC this February 22-24, 2007. Travel Scholarships are very limited. The application forms will be sent to Lubbock area schools. A letter of support from the campus administrator is required. Interested teachers may also request an application by e-mail ([sam.ayers@lcu.edu](mailto:sam.ayers@lcu.edu)). The deadline for submitting the application and supporting materials is October 20, 2006.

# PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



**MUSIC AND ART** – Christian Thomas Lee returned to Lubbock in September. He performed classical guitar and made presentations about artists and their art. His schedule included Honey, Murfee, Christ The King, Lubbock Christian and Hutchinson. At Hutchinson he made a special presentation for advanced art and creative writing classes. The presentations were funded in part through the CH and Helen Jones Foundations.

**EROSION AND WINDBREAKS** – During the spring, 7<sup>th</sup> grade science students at Hutchinson Middle School completed a study of erosion with their teacher, Ms. Karen Eubanks. As a culminating activity, they learned about the purpose of windbreaks and planted sixteen *Juniperus Chinensis* (Chinese Junipers) along the west side of the school tennis courts. The trees are intended to provide some much needed aesthetic value to the campus and, over time, serve as a wind-break for student athletes participating in tennis practices and matches held on the courts. Additional student projects related to plant life cycles and the environment are being considered for future classes.



**TEACHER RECOGNITION** - The *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* and the Department of Education at Lubbock Christian University hosted the annual NIE Teacher Recognition Reception on May 2. The event was held in the Baker Conference Center on the campus of LCU. Twelve NIE Teachers of the Month were recognized with plaques along with teachers nominated for special recognition by their students. Julia Childs of the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* coordinated the event, and Dr. Jean Hines of LCU served as the keynote speaker. The Hutchinson Varsity Orchestra provided the entertainment for the evening.

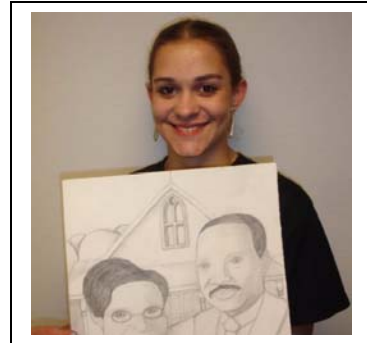


**PAINTINGS EXHIBITED** – The bright watercolor paintings of Kay Smith were exhibited at the Asbury Gallery during the month of June. The exhibit was also one of the featured stops on the First Friday Art Trail in June. Kay Smith, an artist living in Big Spring, graduated from LCU.



# CORE KNOWLEDGE ACTIVITIES

**AMERICAN GOTHIC** – Hutchinson art students learned about Grant Wood and his *American Gothic*. He created the work in 1930 after spotting a small farmhouse with an interesting Gothic style window. The students created their own original parodies of the painting, which were displayed at the Asbury Gallery during the month of April. Visitors participating in the First Friday Art Trail voted for their favorite parodies. The Viewers Choice award was awarded to 8<sup>th</sup> grade student Rebecca Lopez.



**PHOTO EXHIBIT** – Photography students from Hutchinson exhibited samples of their black and white photography in an exhibit entitled, *Life in Room 200*. The exhibit at the Asbury Gallery was one of the venues featured in the May First Friday Art Trail. Visitors voted for their favorite student photographs, and the winners were Saja Kwheis and Katelyn McPherson. Elton Pharr also had color digital photography on exhibit at the gallery.

**NEW TEACHER TRAINING** – Eight teachers new to Hutchinson Middle School attended a session of the Core Knowledge Overview Training in early June. In addition to the overview information and interactive activities, the teachers also identified topics they plan to present to students in the fall. They returned to school in August to complete plans with the rest of the faculty.



**UNIT WRITING** – A total of twenty-seven Lubbock teachers attended the Core Knowledge Summer Unit Writing. The workshop was held at Hutchinson Middle School. The lead trainers were Shelly Reid and Sam Ayers. Brian Gollighugh assisted with technology. All of the completed units will be presented to students in the fall, and most were submitted to the Core Knowledge Foundation for unit presentation consideration at the annual 16<sup>th</sup> Core Knowledge National Conference. The national conference will be held in Washington, D.C. February 22-24, 2007

**ISLAM STUDIES** – A study of world religions is part of the *Core Knowledge Sequence*. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Iles Elementary Magnet School participated in a unit addressing Islam, which was developed by their teachers. They completed research notes and various small group projects related to their studies. Students reported on what they learned, and their projects were displayed in the classrooms for viewing.



**GARDEN PROJECT** – Students at Hutchinson Middle School worked on the second phase of their outdoor garden. A greenhouse was planned and constructed by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students during the spring. An outdoor garden area was prepared by current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Area Boy Scouts completing a service project also assisted with the preparations. A third phase involving students and volunteers is planned for the late fall. A garden project is also underway at Murfee Elementary School. Modifications to their original plan were needed, which resulted in some delays. However, their first phase is planned for the fall. Both projects are made possible in part through a generous grant from the Lubbock Osteopathic Fund, Inc.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Other Core Knowledge events scheduled for the spring semester include the following:

- Bill Perryman of History In Person will portray Col. William Travis in March. Schedule schools include Christ The King, Hutchinson, Lubbock Christian and Idalou.
- Don Smarto will make presentations related to the Civil War. These presentations are scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Hutchinson in March.
- A Western Heritage program designed to reinforce studies of the cowboy period is schedule for middle school students in March.

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