

THE INFORMANT

Newsletter of The Knowledge Center, Inc.

Pro Amore Discendi – For The Love of Learning

September 2007

Lubbock, Texas

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GRANTS – Schools will again receive grant support for implementation of Core Knowledge. The CH and Helen Jones Foundations are combining to provide \$127,330.00 in grant funding to Lubbock area schools. The funds will be applied toward instructional materials, special programs, and professional development.



ART AND MUSIC – Classical guitarist and art collector Christian Thomas Lee will return to Lubbock in November. He will make a presentation to intermediate students at Murfee Elementary School. He will also make presentations to art and creative writing students at J. T. Hutchinson Middle School.

HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS – Bill Perryman of *History In Person* will be in Lubbock to make presentations November 26-30, 2007. He will enhance the study of social studies topics through his portrayal of historical figures. He will visit several elementary and middle school campuses and perform as Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, and Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Perryman is a former classroom teacher and educational consultant. He is based in San Antonio, and makes presentations throughout the state of Texas.



STORYTELING – Jim Weiss will again travel to Lubbock to enhance students' language arts experiences through storytelling. He will make presentations at elementary and middle schools December 3-7, 2007. Jim Weiss is an award winning storyteller and recording artist based in Charlottesville, Virginia. Recordings of his stories and books on tape are available through *Greathall Productions*.

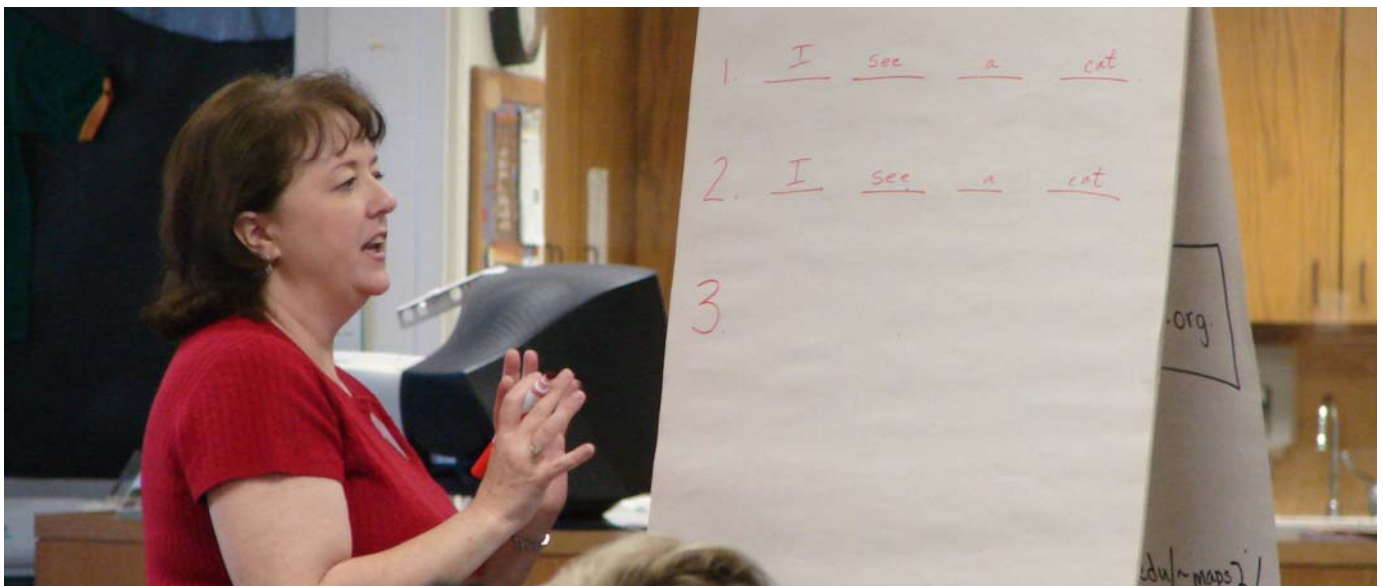
TUBMAN PERFORMANCES – Hope Shiver will return to Lubbock in January. She will make presentations as Harriett Tubman at several elementary schools. Mrs. Shiver has performed in professional musical productions throughout the world. She now resides in Houston and travels throughout the state performing as Harriett Tubman and Sojourner Truth.



CORE KNOWLEDGE NEWS



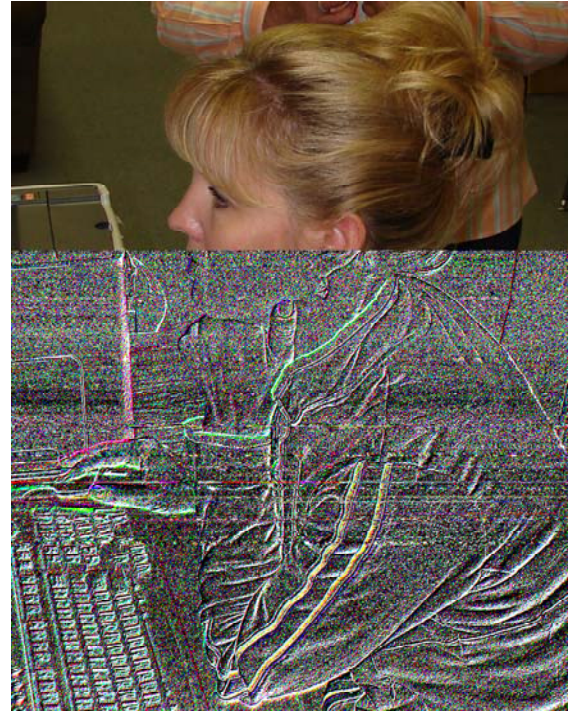
PreK TRAINING – Thirty Lubbock area PreK teachers attended training on June 25-26, 2007. The module topic was *Using Children's Literature and Writing to Develop Literacy and Language Skills*. Mrs. Deb Kee, who serves as Coordinator for PreK Programs in the Bentonville, Arkansas school system, served as the Core Knowledge training consultant for the session. The participants represented preschool programs from Christ The King, Hope Lutheran, Oakwood Methodist, St. Luke's, and St. Joseph Preschool. Lubbock ISD schools represented at the training included Murfee, Smith, Waters, and Whiteside.



PreK TRAINING – The Lubbock Independent School District established tuition-based PreK programs at selected campuses a year ago. These classrooms utilize the Core Knowledge PreK Sequence and are identified as SOAR, which stands for Students Obtaining Academic Richness. Included in the SOAR program were Murfee, Smith, Waters, and Whiteside elementary schools. Because of their success additional classrooms at Honey and Centennial Elementary School are being added. Lubbock ISD arranged for the newly hired teachers to attend the Core Knowledge *Getting Started* training module in June. Core Knowledge consultant Deb Kee conducted the training. New consultant Katie Huey observed and assisted with the training as needed.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT NEWS

UNIT WRITING WORKSHOP – A Core Knowledge Summer Unit Writing Workshop was held at J. T. Hutchinson Middle School June 11-15, 2007. Sam Ayers organized the event, which was funded by the CH and Helen Jones Foundations. Shelly Reid, Hutchinson Teacher, served as the lead trainer. Jenny Rowan, who teaches at Roscoe Wilson, provided technical support. The fourteen participants represented several Lubbock area campuses including Bowie, Honey, Iles, Murfee, Waters, Roscoe Wilson, Christ The King, and St. Joseph elementary schools. In addition to writing the units to be taught in their classrooms this fall, the teachers plan to submit unit proposals as possible session presentations at an upcoming Core Knowledge National Conference.



DEAN OF WEST TEXAS ARCHITECTURE Sylvan Blum Haynes



Samuel J. Ayers, Ed. D.
Foreword by Mike W. Moss, A.I.A.

ARCHITECTURE BOOK - Many of Lubbock's landmark buildings share a commonality; they were designed by the architect Sylvan Blum Haynes. Haynes moved to Lubbock in the 1920s. Lubbock High School, which was eventually renamed Carroll Thompson Junior High School, was the first building that Haynes assisted in designing. Soon after, he designed the first Lubbock skyscraper, the six-story Myrick Building. Haynes went on to design over 400 buildings throughout West Texas and eastern New Mexico. Many of these buildings continue in use today, including the Lubbock County Jail, the Lubbock Courthouse, the City Bank Municipal Auditorium and Coliseum, and numerous other buildings. *Dean of West Texas Architecture: Sylvan Blum Haynes* is a 32-page book with color photographs of several of these buildings. Several of the photographs were

contributed by student photographers from J. T. Hutchinson Middle School. It also includes a brief history of S. B. Haynes with explanations of the various architectural styles he used. Complimentary copies were distributed to Lubbock public libraries and area school libraries. **3**

SCHOLARSHIPS – This fall, two students will receive Helen Jones Core Knowledge Scholarships.

Courtney Yonke graduated from Coronado High School in LISD. She is a sophomore majoring in Early Childhood Education. After graduation she plans to teach 2nd grade and earn a Master's degree in Special Education.



Angela Ward graduated from Whitney High School in Whitney, Texas. She is a senior majoring in Early Childhood Education. She plans to teach in the elementary grades and may pursue a Master's degree in Special Education.



Angela Ward (above) and Courtney Yonke (below).

TRAVEL

SCHOLARSHIPS – A limited number of Travel Scholarships are available to assist teachers with attending the Core Knowledge Regional Conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Funding for the scholarships has been provided through the generosity of The CH Foundation. Interested applicants should request an application (sam.ayers@lcu.edu). The deadline is Monday, October 1, 2007

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

November 19-20, 2007	Christian Thomas Lee
Monday 19	Hutchinson (8:45 and 2:15)
Tuesday 20	Murfee (9:00) and Hutchinson (1:15)
November 26-30, 2007	Bill Perryman of History In Person
Monday 26	Murfee (9:00) and Waters (1:30)
Tuesday 27	Roscoe Wilson (9:00) and Honey (1:30)
Wednesday 28	Bowie (9:00) and Wheelock (1:30)
Thursday 29	OL Slaton (9:00) and Hutchinson (1:30)
December 3-7, 2007	Jim Weiss of Greathall Productions
Monday 3	Iles (9:00) and Hutchinson (1:30)
Tuesday 4	Waters (9:00) and Murfee (1:30)
Wednesday 5	Lubbock Christian (9:00) and OL Slaton (1:30)
Thursday 6	Roscoe Wilson (9:00) and Christ The King (1:30)
Friday 7	Bowie (9:00) and Rush (1:30)
January 21-22, 2007	Hope Shiver as Harriett Tubman
Monday 21	Iles (9:00) and Rush (1:30)
Tuesday 22	Lubbock Christian (9:00) and Murfee (1:30)

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