

The Kino Connection

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Where Is Jonna on Mondays?

She's interning at the Federal Public Defenders' office.

Saul Huerta, Diego and Alex's father, works at the Federal Public Defenders'. He helped arrange the internship for Jonna. On her first day on the job this week, Saul showed her around and introduced her to the people in the office.

Jonna says she will be available to help any of the lawyers or paralegals, who might ask, for example, for her to xerox or file. She's also hoping to go along and watch interesting trials and hearings.

This week, she went to the new courthouse and sat in on plea hearings for 50 or 60 illegal aliens. She says, "The lawyers are trying to challenge Project Streamline, where defendants go before the judges in groups of ten. They were trying to draw attention to ways their clients have special circumstances."

Jonna's long range career plan is to go to law school and become a lawyer.



Multi-talented and hard working, Jonna ran the face painting booth at the Fall Festival.

New in the Science Center

Anna won the door prize at last week's National Science Teachers' Association conference: a geiger counter!

Anna spent Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the conference in Phoenix, which was attended by science teachers from elementary grades through college.

She concentrated on attending physics, biology and chemistry related workshops, though every conceivable science was represented.

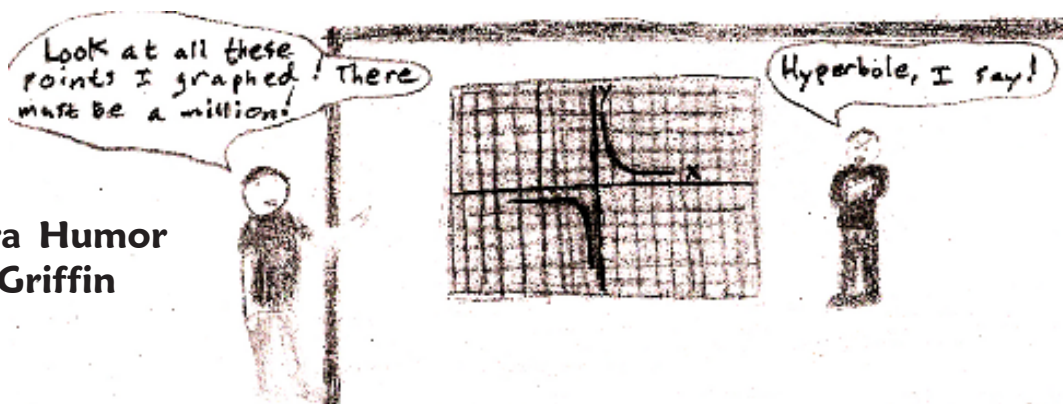
Anna reported a common experience that all Kino teachers seem to have at such conferences: she was able to say, "That's what I already do," when curriculum involving creative problem solving and hands-on activities were encouraged.

Anna says she got lots of good ideas. She was sanding paint off of a soda pop can during her lunch hour when I talked to her about the conference earlier this week, preparing it for a chemistry experiment. After Christmas break, she's going to have kids make cloud chambers where they can actually see the emissions of alpha and beta particles.

Anna's immediate plan for the geiger counter is to have students measure the amount of radioactivity in common household items, such as smoke detectors, computers, and orange Fiesta ware.



AJ and Anna check out the geiger counter.



Algebra Humor
by Griffin

Biology Update

by Ian Downs

Anna's and Jack's biology class is preparing for a large experiment in the wash. They are setting up a blind where they can observe and photograph the wildlife. They need to buy screening material, but it is pretty pricey.

Next week the class will be having a drink stand in front of school to fundraise. If you are feeling a little more charitable, there will also be a donation jar. They ask for your help to participate in any way possible.

Thank you!

Jack says all the kids in the biology class have their own scrapbook projects, which involve collecting and identifying animals and plants from around the school grounds.

They were recently given a tour at Catalina State Park, where they learned about the dying oak trees and the invasive grasses.

Next week they are all going to the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum. They'll see the raptor flight and get a behind the scenes tour with Aiden's mother Debra, who works there.

Holiday Giving

Vanessa's homeroom is organizing a **food drive** for the Community Food Bank. Please bring your donations of non-perishable food (like boxes and cans of food) and put them in the drawer under the green sofa in her homeroom area by December 18.

The Middle Level are organizing their annual **sock drive** again this year. They are looking for donations of new socks, and for things to stuff in the socks -- like shampoo, soap, razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, combs, etc. Please bring in you donations by Dec. 15. They will stuff the socks and deliver them to Casa Maria, where they will be distributed.



The computer by David's area is monitoring the voltage output of the wind generator. Ed says "It can record and graph the output over a twenty-four hour period."



Mark your calendars for our Holiday Program: December 16 at 7 pm. There will be performances by our music students and the Middle level students will be performing Peter Pan, Part Two, written by Diego and the Middle level students.

Science, Heather-Style

Amidst the casualness there's a high level of excitement and interest. There were two projects going on at the same time in Heather's science yesterday: Liam demonstrated how you can use electrolysis to make hydrogen out of water, which he promised would be flammable. Alex and Zach were using the electric stirrer to make a super saturated saline solution to create salt crystals. In both cases, Heather kept 'em thinking: "Where is the hydrogen coming from?" "How much salt do you think you can add?"

