

# Kids create caring community

## CELEBRATING FAMILY



LISA LUCKOW-HEALY

60 fellow Pine Lake Elementary first graders say "peace" for the camera to finish up their patriotic photo mural for some of America's heroes.

These young, innocent children understand that some bad people have hurt our country, and that some very good people have worked very hard to help our country restore peace and unity in the wake of the attacks.

The 6- and 7-year-olds, with

the help of their teachers and some parents, are finishing two heartfelt projects for a department within the Pentagon and a very special New York City fire station.

The students traced their hands onto red, white and blue construction paper, cut them out, and placed them onto a large mural in the shape of a peace sign, with the words "Let there be peace on Earth" draping their hands of peace. The children also cut out red, white and pink hands to form a large heart of hands on another mural featuring the words "Extending our hearts and hands for all you do," surrounding the heart. The murals also feature each child's signature.

"The murals are special because they truly do come from the hearts and hands of these children," says Beth Hoyt, first grade parent.

A relative of one of the first grade students is a firefighter at Engine Company No. 78, a station within New York City working at Ground Zero.

"This company has lost many lifelong friends as a result of the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center. The children will send their heart mural to this firefighter and his station to say, 'We want to let you know how much we care.'"

Another student's relative is an officer at the Pentagon who was inside the building and very close to the crash on Sept. 11. The Pine Lake first graders want to send their peace mural off to this special person and his department within the Pentagon to help brighten their day, and to extend peace and love from the children's hands to some of the country's military.

"I like the way this school project is in keeping with Pine Lake's theme for the 2001-2002 school year: Creating a Caring Community," says Beth Michelson, first grade parent.

"It reinforces the values and ideas that we are trying to teach our children at home, especially in light of recent terrorist events. It helps us, as parents, teach 6- and 7-year-old children how to

cope with the overwhelming events going on in our world.

"By giving back and doing something meaningful for these individuals in New York City and Washington, D.C., the children are showing all of us how to make the world a better place."

Take the time today, this week, and in months to come to ward off your anxieties over terrorist actions by stopping to observe the messages you can learn from your children or your neighbor's children. Young people understand more about what is happening in America than you think.

In this time of crisis within the United States, these 61 young children are teaching their school and family communities that where there is strength and love from the heart, there can be peace and unity in America's hands.

To leave Lisa Luckow-Healy a message from a touchstone phone about how you celebrate family, call (734) 953-2047; or e-mail suggestions for future family topics to [LiHealy@mediaone.net](mailto:LiHealy@mediaone.net).

## CALENDAR

■ The Southfield Americana Antiques Show and Sale will take place Friday-Sunday Nov. 16-18, at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen at Civic Center Drive (10-1/2 Mile). Hours are 2-9 p.m. Friday, noon to 8 p.m. Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$5 with any ads or listings of the

event, \$9 regular, free for ages 12 and under. One paid admission is good for all three days of the show. The show will feature painted furniture, pottery, textiles, American Indian art, architectural artifacts, rustic furnishings and decorative objects.

■ The Troy Historical Society will have its annual Hand & Eye

Craft Show 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at Troy High School, 4777 Northfield Parkway, off Long Lake Road between Crooks and Coolidge. Shuttle bus service will be provided; look for signs. Admission is \$2. The juried show will feature 143 exhibitors. The event is the historical society's major fund-raiser, and benefits the Troy Museum and Village Green. For more information, call (248) 878-6305.

■ Home decorating classes at Haberman Fabrics, 117 W. Fourth in Royal Oak, include Beginner Pillow, three Saturdays beginning Nov. 17 (\$45). Pre-registration is required. Call (248) 641-0010.

## Brushing up

Out of the bottle: This bottle brush tree is an unusual modern Christmas item. Designed by Kuno Frey, a professor at the famous Bauhaus design school in Dessau, Germany, the tree will elicit a smile from all who see it. The tree is made from industrial bottle brushes dyed green, which insert easily into a bright red painted wood pole. It looks great undecorated, and even better with your personal collection of ornaments. Obviously fake, but obviously fun, the bottle brush tree is available for \$195 from Unica, 340 E. Maple in Birmingham. Call (248) 593-9085 or visit [www.unicahome.com](http://www.unicahome.com).



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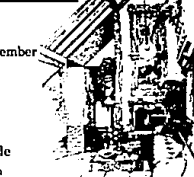
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