

TOP 5 KIDS



Most-performed holiday songs in America

1. "The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)"
2. "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"
3. "Winter Wonderland"
4. "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"
5. "White Christmas"

SOURCE: AMERICAN SOCIETY OF COMPOSERS, AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS

What's happening

Today

■ **The Davis Police Department is sponsoring an open gym** for junior high school students this week and next at Holmes Junior High School, 1220 Drexel Drive. Open gym days this week are today and Wednesday, and next week on Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 30, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information contact Officer Dan LaFond at dlafond@davispd.org.

Monday

■ **Davis Hoops hosts a basketball camp for boys and girls** ages 7 to 14 on Monday, and Tuesday, Dec. 29, at Davis High School. The camp is for both beginners and experienced players, focusing on team and individual fundamental skills as well as fun competitions. Camp hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the fee is \$100. Registration forms are available at <http://davis hoops.com> or call Carol at (530) 574-7115.

■ **Davis Kids Klub's holiday camp** runs Monday through Wednesday at both Korematsu and Patwin elementary schools. Camps feature arts and crafts, games, quiet time, reading and more. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.davis kidsklub.com> or call (530) 220-4731.

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Thursday, Dec. 31

■ **Fourth- through eighth-grade students** interested in participating in an **All-City Math Tournament in February** should contact the Davis Mu Alpha Theta Chapter by today. Visit <http://sites.google.com/site/davismathtournament>.

Friday, Jan. 8

■ Today is the deadline for applications for the city of **Davis' Battle of the Bands concert**. Applications are available online at <http://www.cityofdavis.org> and must be received by the Community Services Department at City Hall, 23 Russell Blvd, Attn: Caitlyn Hughes, by 5 p.m. The winner will receive a \$100 cash prize. The concert, for high school students only, will take place Friday, Feb. 5, at the Brunelle Performance Hall at Davis High School, 315 W. 14th St. Approximately five bands will be selected to play sets of one to three songs. At least half of the band members must be high school students. For more information, call (530) 757-5626 or visit <http://www.cityofdavis.org>

■ Today is the deadline for nominations for the **2010 Golden Heart Awards**, which recognize outstanding Davis youth in grades 7-12. Nomination forms are available online at <http://cityofdavis.org>. They are due in the Community Services Department, 23 Russell Blvd., by 5 p.m. They also may be faxed to (530) 758-0204. The awards presentation and reception are planned at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 16, at the Davis City Council meeting. For details, call (530) 757-5626 or visit <http://www.cityofdavis.org>.

Like mother, like daughter

Baking duo concocts cakes, cookies and confections

By **Anne Ternus-Bellamy**
ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

Hailey Reynolds began following in her mother's footsteps at an early age. First there was the Easy-Bake Oven producing wondrous confections of all kinds; then the plates of homemade goodies showered on friends and teachers; and finally, this past summer, the ribbons. Though perhaps on that front, Hailey surpassed mom Michele, judging by the display of ribbons won at the State Fair for her cookies, truffles, cake and pie.

"I wasn't expecting so many ribbons," Hailey laughed.

In her first trip to the State Fair baking contest, the 17-year-old Da Vinci High School senior took home four blue ribbons, a "Best in Class" ribbon for her carrot cake and the top prize, "Best in Division" for her chocolate-peanut butter pie.

All were family recipes passed along by mom.

Michele Reynolds began baking at an early age too — "I've been baking since I was 3," she said. "My Easy-Bake Oven was smokin.'"

Though a full-time employee of the Davis Police Department, Michele's baking business "Cake It Up Cakes" is regularly producing three to five cakes a week. And these aren't any old cakes: These are 3D-sculpted cakes for baby showers, weddings and graduations. She and her cakes were regularly featured on

KCRA Channel 3's noon news for a while.

Hailey has been helping out her mom for years, doing everything from folding cake boxes to making fondant, a thick icing for cakes.

But unlike mom, Hailey hit a bump in the road at the age of 7.

That's when she was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, causing a sea change in the Reynolds household.

"I definitely didn't bake for a lot of years after that because it wouldn't have been fair to have all that in the house," Michele said. Controlling Hailey's blood sugar, she said, "was a big struggle for a lot of years."

But now that she's older, it's gotten easier.

"She has her ups and downs, but she's really good about it," Michele said. "She knows she can't just eat a plate of cookies."

"It's all about moderation," Hailey added.

The mother-daughter pair, who share everything from a gracious manner to a ready smile, hope to go into the baking business full-time together. Mom's goal is to open her own shop in the next couple of years and hopes Hailey will be ready to join her after college.

"She'd be really good in a business setting," Michele said of her daughter. "She's organized, but also creative."

For her part, Hailey's thinking about next summer's State Fair and what confections she'll enter. And still occasionally surprising her teachers at Da Vinci with her goodies.

Da Vinci teachers Scott Stephen Bell and Zachary Ronnenberg nominated her as one of October's Students of the Month, calling Hailey "a remarkable and talented young lady."

— *Reach Anne Ternus-Bellamy at (530) 747-8051 or aternus@davisenterprise.net. Comment on this story at www.davisenterprise.com*



Hailey Reynolds fills some of her delicious cookies and shows off a pile of awards received for her baking skills.

FRED GLADDIS/
ENTERPRISE PHOTOS

Twin teens are deserving of 'Volunteers of the Year' honors

By **Anne Ternus-Bellamy**
ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

Davis High School seniors Kelly and Bob Riestenberg have been named "Volunteers of the Year" by the American Youth Soccer Organization.

The national award, for their countless hours of work with AYSO's special program for children with disabilities, earned the twins a trip to Disneyland, which they are taking with their parents this week. They plan to tack on a few visits to Southern California colleges while they're at it.

"We were really surprised to receive the award," Kelly said last week. Neither she nor Bob knew that local AYSO coach JP Marié had nominated them.

"We are so grateful to him," Kelly said.

Marié heads the Davis AYSO's Very Important Player program, which provides a fall soccer season for children with mental or physical disabilities that prevent them from playing mainstream soccer.

The Riestenbergs have been assisting the VIP program for three years, regularly spending their Sundays at Nugget Fields, coaching, encouraging and cheering on the youngsters in the program.

"Bob and Kelly are the most resourceful, dedicated and dependable youths I know," Marié said via e-mail last week. "In the fall, while I talk to the parents and try to keep them



FRED GLADDIS/ENTERPRISE FILE PHOTO

Kelly and Bob Riestenberg kick around a soccer ball in August. Both are being honored by AYSO for their volunteer work.

off the field to relax for an hour, Bob and Kelly basically run the program: They lead the players through the warm-up, various activities and organize the scrimmage."

In his nomination letter, Marié told AYSO officials, "The Riestenbergs have been keys in recruiting their pals at Davis High to assist the players on the field as buddies. Because of their dedication, these kids had the unique opportunity to play soccer like their peers. Bob and Kelly truly enriched these kids' lives."

"The program couldn't have been successful without them," he added.

And if that weren't enough, the Riestenbergs

took it a step further this year, creating a summer VIP program as well. The six-week camp was a resounding success, and just one of the reasons Marié nominated the twins for the AYSO award.

"Organizing a summer camp for disabled children is a big task to take on by anybody, especially teenagers," Marié said.

Kelly said she and her brother get plenty back.

"We really enjoy it," she said. "It's a lot of fun. I've always liked being around little kids and it gives you a really good feeling that you're helping them have fun, and they really appreciate it. It's something I would like to continue to do as I get older."

She and Bob plan to run the summer camp again in 2010, but then will have to bid farewell to the fall program, as

both expect to be off at college then. Kelly said they will be recruiting successors this year.

"We're looking for someone," she said.

They have had success recruiting in the past. "We got a bunch of our friends to volunteer for VIP so we would have one-on-one time with the kids," Kelly said, who added that Marié was instrumental in helping the siblings train the other volunteers.

"We're really lucky to have him in the program," she said.

— *Reach Anne Ternus-Bellamy at (530) 747-8051 or aternus@davisenterprise.net. Comment on this story at www.davisenterprise.com*



Willett Elementary School chorus members Analeah Malay Elohin and Jake Goidell perform a festive rendition of "Frosty the Snowman" during a winter concert at Willett last week.

SUE COCKRELL/ENTERPRISE PHOTO

Thumpety thump thump ...