



LSMA Rings the Bell

Mariah Price and Miriam Barillas

In 1865 a man by the name of William Booth started the Salvation Army in an effort to bring the word of God to the poor, homeless, and hungry. These people felt uncomfortable in the fancy Victorian churches of England, so he formed a church especially for them. This organization soon expanded worldwide and by the late 1800s Joseph McFee, associated with the organization in San Francisco, wanted to help those less fortunate during the holiday season. He placed a red kettle next to a ferry landing in hopes that passengers leaving the boats would find it in their hearts to toss a few coins in to help the poor. That first year he collected enough money to host a Christmas dinner for these people. Today, bell ringers and their red kettles are seen around the world in front of many well known stores in an effort to continue to help in any and every way possible during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

La Sierra Military Academy students volunteered to help with the bell ringing project during this past Christmas season. They took an hour of their day and stood outside several different establishments ringing a bell in hopes that people would open their wallets and be generous enough to share with others. The students who participated were Nadia Mueting, Gabriela Meza, Albert Solis, and Andres Castro.

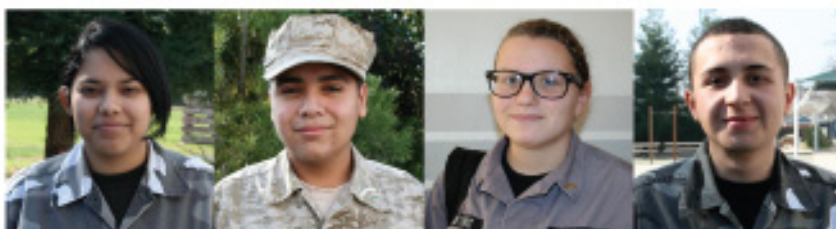
Each student had different reasons why they were inspired to help. Nadia wanted to help people while Andres stated that he always wanted to do it after his cousin stated the same. Gabriela wanted to participate after hearing about the opportunity from Drill Sergeant and Albert thought it would be a fun activity to do with his friend.

Participating in this type of community service always has an impact on the person. Castro said that it made him feel good to help out and Solis said it helped him to open up and develop his people skills while also helping him to be less embarrassed. Mueting felt more thoughtful toward the homeless and their situation and Meza felt that the experience made her want to do more to help her community.

This year was the first that La Sierra students donated time to the Salvation Army in this manner. Our school will continue to reach out to the community in an effort to make a difference for others and for our students.



What did you learn from this experience?



Gabriela Meza

I learned to not care about what other people think.

Albert Solis

Helping people makes me feel good.

Nadia Mueting

There are many people who are willing to give.

Andres Castro

It's better to give than to receive and to help others.

Mrs. Zermeño Takes Command

Sam Cervantes, Mariah Price and Seth Short



Last semester, our former principal Mr. René Moncada, had the honor of passing our school flag to the new principal, Mrs. Anjelica Zermeño. During our interview of Mrs. Zermeño, her intentions for our school became clear. When asked about her first goal of improving La Sierra she stated that she was done talking the talk and that she wants to walk the walk. She wants to justifiably brag about having the most respectful students in all of Visalia's high schools as well as the brightest group of kids. Having grown up in poverty and

been challenged by its negative effects, Mrs. Zermeño has a very clear idea of what it takes to be successful and to overcome obstacles. She was born and raised in Tulare and attended Tulare schools. She was a good student, getting no lower than a B on her grades. Mrs. Zermeño was also active in extra-curricular activities such as softball, soccer, cheer-leading, playing flute,

band letter girl and Girl Scouts. She was always busy and rarely had time to hang out with her friends. She had to work harder than most to attain success but eventually graduated from college and began her career as a classroom teacher teaching in both elementary and junior high schools. Then she moved to coaching teachers on how to better teach their students and most recently she became a principal for the first time at our school site. While there are probably many things that Mrs. Zermeño plans to implement at our school, students were very

interested in what she has planned for end-of-the-year activities. One very interesting event that was discussed was a Military Ball. Students and parents would dress up and attend an awards ceremony and formal dance. It's a great idea and we look forward to hearing more about it.

When Mrs. Zermeño was asked why she chose La Sierra she said, "The teachers have the same care and concern for the students that I do." The students of La Sierra wish Mrs. Zermeño success in her job and we look forward to all of the positive changes that she plans to make for everyone's benefit.



LSMA Goes to SCICON

Sam Cervantes, Shelby Brown, Austin Crow, Rafael Cazares, Andres Castro

SCICON has been an outdoor school of science for over 50 years. It is operated by the Tulare County Office of Education and is located above Springville. Over the years many students have opened their minds to nature and science at this unique camp. This year, La Sierra had the opportunity and privilege of sending six students to the camp to act as counselors and mentors to the 6th grade campers that were there for a week. The students who volunteered were Cadets Cabada, Cazares, Guevara, Sevilla, Segura, and Crutchfield. When asked what it was like to be a counselor, Cadet Karissa Cabada said, "It was fun and a big responsibility as well." Cadet Crutchfield said that the kids were awesome, the food was good, the trails were great, and the staff was helpful. Cadet Marisol Sevilla enjoyed getting to meet a lot of people. Cadet Cazares said that getting to help

the disabled kids hike the trails was his favorite part of the week, while Segura said that she liked meeting the other counselors. Marisol Sevilla liked being in charge and helping other kids overcome their fear and Guevara thought that the food was "the bomb!" Mr. Wittwer had a conversation with an adult who works at the camp who stated that La Sierra student counselors were the most well behaved students at the camp. This is most definitely the type of compliment that our cadets strive to achieve. In fact, Rafael Cazares was nominated for the Ray Burbank Laurel Leaf Award for having played a significant role in helping children be winners in life. The final selection from the nominees will be made in May. We look forward to finding out the results. Overall, being a SCICON counselor is a once in a lifetime opportunity. SCICON really shows kids that you can learn and have fun at the same time.

Fall Semester Awards

On Friday, January 21st, La Sierra opened its doors to parents and the community for a special event. LSMA cadets were recognized for Near Perfect Attendance, Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll and the Principal's Award. The students worked hard for the entire fall semester to earn these awards. Job well done to the following cadets:

Junior High Near Perfect Attendance

Vic Andrews
Daniel Borbon
Celine Borges-Vargas
Jonathan Hernandez
Manuel Lucero
Alexas Murillo

Junior High Perfect Attendance

Jonathan Alvarez
Michael Cuellar
Daxx DeSousa
Richard Hicks

Junior High Honor Roll GPA of 3.0 to 3.49

Roxanna Slover
Manuel Lucero
Suniko Aguirre
Jessica Barba

High School Principal's Award GPA of 3.5 and above

Lawrence Lamar
Milcah Vizcarra
Troy Underwood
Jesse Chavez
Shaelysa Dodd

High School Near Perfect Attendance

Jason Aboytes
Jose Barajas
Randy Bullard
Kenia Castro
Samuel Cervantes
Angel Cisneros
Austin Crow
Carlos Diaz
Yadira Enciso
Anthony Enriquez
Jasmine Gonzalez
Yareli Gonzalez
Victor Guzman
Michael Hernandez
Ofelia Leon
Antonio Lopez
Matthew Magana
Oscar Plascencia
Ryan Rice
Jasmine Rodriguez
Maria Rodriguez
Julian Sanchez
Keana Segura
Marisol Sevilla
Stefanny Terriquez
James Wiggins

High School Perfect Attendance

Kimberly Alvarez
Naomi Amador
Jason Briseno
Breanne Cabada
Karissa Cabada
Anthony Cardenas
Andres Castro
Rafael Cazares
Stephen Crutchfield
Oscar Dominguez
Jonathan Duran
Jordon Guevara
Lawrence Lamar
Fernando Lopez
Ramon Madrigal
Pedro Mendoza
Nancy Morales
Nadia Mueting
Robert Munoz
Myrissa Navarette
Corrina Ortiz
Rubi Quintana
Angelique Sanchez
Albert Solis
Troy Underwood
Kenneth Williams

High School Honor Roll GPA of 3.0 to 3.49

Alex Ontiveros
Kimberly Alvarez
Fernando Lopez
Adrian Sandoval
Keana Segura
Miriam Banillas
Nadia Mueting
Joaquin Padilla-Puga
Marisol Sevilla
Darline Arce
Breanne Cabada
Gabriela Meza
Anthony Enriquez
Rafael Cazares
Naomi Amador
Samuel Cervantes
Sabrina Garcia
Andrew Valenzuela
Yadira Enciso
Ofelia Leon
Melissa Avila
Austin Crow
Oscar Dominguez
Mariah Price

Question:

*Do you want PT to be changed
back to the afternoon?*

NO—89%

YES—11%



*Research proves that students
perform better in their academic
classes after they have physical exercise.
Thanks for voting!*



**Tulare County
Office of Education**

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

La Sierra Military Academy High School

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