

CLASSNOTES



PHOTO BY CLAUDETTE LANGLEY

Alejandra Chavez, left, Brittany Strange, Vanessa Garcia, Kara Smith-Williams, Jennifer Harrison, Jade Smith-Williams and Charlie Ruiz checked out the career fair at Madison Elementary School.

Kids Take Helm at Madison School

By Claudette Langley
San Leandro Times

Things are really hopping in Madisonville. Everyone's got a job and a sterling group of new town leaders have taken over the helm to guide the town's future.

Madisonville or, as it more commonly known, James Madison Elementary School, installed its new officers last Friday with just the right amount of pomp and circumstance. San Leandro Postmaster Wesley Tatum, Councilman Garry Loeffler and Assemblyman Mike Sweeney were on hand to swear in Madisonville's finest.

Ready to get down to busi-

ness were Postmaster Alejandra Chavez, 10, Secretary Elizabeth Shaughnessy, 8, Treasurer Jade Smith-Williams, 10, Vice President Charlie Ruiz, 10, and President Corbin Tangney, 10.

This week's installation follows last week's Microsociety Career Fair where about 120 third, fourth- and fifth-graders checked out occupations ranging from banking to publishing.

The students buzzed around tables staffed by the grownups who held some of the jobs they were seeking. Peter Aviles, a retired assistant district attorney answered questions about the courts. Kathy Neisse, from

Washington Mutual Bank satisfied curiosities about the banking industry. Councilman Garry Loeffler filled in the students on what is expected of an elected official and this intrepid reporter handled questions on publishing.

However, they finally settled on their choices and all 120 are ready to start work next Monday. James Madison is a Microsociety School where students, in addition to their regular studies, hold jobs and earn Microsociety dollars.

"The third, fourth- and fifth-graders will run the systems," said teacher Kathy Romines. "And the kindergartners through second-graders will be the consumers."

Rededication Ceremony at Madison Elementary

The rededication of James Madison Elementary School will take place on Thursday, Oct. 22, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the school, 14751 Juniper St., San Leandro.

Refreshments will be served from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Students in kindergarten through second grade will provide entertainment.