

# Ahoy Mariner Fans!

By  
Laura Alvarez

Ahoy Mariner Fans!!! Marina High School is not a big high school like other high schools in our area. I get asked the same question every week, "What school do you go to? I heard its small... Do you like it?" Our campus might be small but the students and staff have big hearts. We have good teachers taking the time and the effort to help develop our learning skills and help us understand what we are learning. We are fortunate to have 2 sets of text books in good condition. We might not have lockers but we don't have much to carry around since we have a set of text books to keep at home and a set in the classrooms. Okay, so we don't have a gym or sports stadium, but we do have a sports program. We recently had 15 students recently inducted to the National Honor Society. What good would it be to have a sports program, a football field and gym if our grades were not good enough to play sports? We have social and academic clubs. We have had Homecoming, Prom and other dances. We have hosted musical programs and the International Festival. In

Don't forget...  
\* All Marina High School Parents!!!! We are in need of volunteers from parents of all grades. Email estherlisa15@yahoo.com for details or call (831) 915-0942. Next meeting March 11, Thursday, 5:30 pm at Marina High School.  
\* PTSA Meeting Thursday, March 4 at 6pm at Marina High School.  
\* Yearbooks are still on Sale; order forms are available in the office.  
\* Senior Disneyland Graduation Trip Reservations/Deposits/Payments in full due by April 30, 2010.

On Monday, Marina High School's National Collation Building Institution aka NCBI presented an assembly for the whole school in honor Black History Month. All grades attended. The leaders of NCBI arranged for a speaker Helen B. Rucker a Monterey Peninsula Unified School District Board member. She has 37 years of teaching experience and still volunteers in our community. She spoke to us about her childhood and how she strived through school. She also mentioned how important education is to her and much she feels it has changed. After her talk with us the NCBI leaders organized a little game called, "How did this relate to Martin Luther King Jr.?" The rules of the game were simple: There was a picture and we associated the picture to Martin Luther King Jr. When you answered correctly you got a lollipop. It was a great learning experience for the whole school.

Who knew Senior year would be so expensive? My mom purchased my class ring (by the way, thanks mama I love it!), my yearbook, Senior Recognition Ad, cap and gown, announcements, Senior Portraits and Senior Disney Trip. Still to come, Prom tickets, prom dress, and all the expenses in between which = a lot of money ...and I'm still not in college yet!!! Economics class has certainly been an eye opener for me. There is still so much to learn. To all my fellow Seniors and students out there we definitely need to give our parents a big hug because they deserve it.

First Mate, Laura Alvarez

Sailing off for now... Go Mariners!!!



## Marina Girl Scout Cookie Booth Locations

### Save Mart - Marina

Saturday March 6 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday March 13 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday March 14 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Friday March 19 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### Save Mart - Sand City

Wednesday March 3 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday March 6 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

### Wal-Mart - Marina

Saturday March 6 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Friday March 12 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday March 13 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday March 14 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### Home Depot

Saturday March 13 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Friday March 19 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### REI/Target - Marina

Saturday March 6 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday March 13 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday March 14 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday March 20 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

### Borders - Sandcity

Sunday March 7 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Wednesday March 17 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### Safeway - Del Rey Oaks

Thursday March 4 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday March 7 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Friday March 12 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday March 13 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday March 14 10:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday March 21 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### Ord Commissary PX

Saturday March 6 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Saturday March 13 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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a x paying citizen to do so. Compared to most people mine are extremely simple. The two "problem" things I have are my retirement accounts and my student loans; two things which really only require you to cut and paste from box 1 to whichever box on the TurboTax website. Also, since I've used that site for the past three years it had my AGI (adjusted gross income) already prefilled from the previous year. I double checked the information of course but that's because like all good, taxpaying citizens/permanent residents/non-tourist types I am deathly afraid of the IRS. They're out to get me... I'm sure of it. Little do they know just how poor I am. While I complain about paying taxes it's not the actual paying of taxes that gets me it's, as I mentioned earlier, the time it takes. Why can't they just take out a percentage from my paycheck and just leave it at that? Make my life easier? In fact there should be an option where if you don't feel like filling out your income tax returns later on down the road you just pay a certain percentage off the top and leave it at that. How about 25% for federal and 3% for state? Why those numbers you might ask yourself...? It's simple; that's what I already pay in taxes. And instead of keeping the money (which you think would be the whole pur-

pose of taxing people) they're just giving it back to me. While I'm extremely satisfied with the idea and actuality of the IRS/government/money fairies putting money into my account (remember this money hasn't actually been in my account yet... it's just been numbers on a pay stub that I never look at or pay attention to) I would think they could put it to better use. Okay, maybe they can't put it to better use; I'm at least using it to pay down debt, they would probably use it to build a bridge in the middle of nowhere. But you would think that they would rather keep the money... and the only way I'm going to let that happen is if they don't make me take time out of my busy (albeit, blasé) existence to fill out income tax forms, no matter how simple. DON'T FORGET: taxes are due by midnight on Thursday, April 15th. Filing your federal return electronically is free and easy. State income tax filing depends on the state and you can e-file here in the State of California. And also, if you're a business don't forget to sign up for electronic filing (EFTPS) ahead of time... you don't want to be stuck mailing a check last minute or getting your taxes in late. The IRS is scary... I don't care how much money you make or how you make your living (I'm sure all you tax lawyers and accountants also have a healthy fear of the IRS). ð

Exercise Your  
First  
Amendment  
Rights.  
Write Letters  
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it's  
Cookie  
Time!