



# Southern Lee Environmental Science Club

May 11, 2017

Issue 14

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL ART CONTEST WINNERS



Melanie Gisselle Ayala Hernandez (pictured 1st on the right) of San Lee Middle School won 1st place in the Earth Day Art Contest. Her winning entry is pictured above.

The talented winners of the Middle School Art Contest are:

- Melanie Gisselle Ayala Hernandez, 1st place**
- Teniya Wilson, 2nd place**
- Corey Vander Roest and Anna Boone, 3rd place tie**
- Cheyanne Bullard, Honorable Mention**
- Tys'Jahnay Williams, Honorable Mention**

Melanie, Teniya, Corey, Anna and Cheyanne (pictured above from right to left attend San Lee Middle School and Tys'Jahnay attends East Lee Middle School. You all did a great job! Thanks to all the participants, principals and teachers who supported this project! A special thank you to the judges: Mrs. Yarborough, Mrs. Ansted, Mrs. Downey, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Singleton.

Tys'Jahnay Williams (pictured at right) of East Lee Middle School won Honorable Mention in the contest.



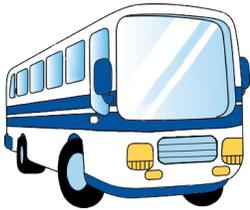
### TRASH PICKUP DAY/EARTH DAY PLANTING

Thanks to everyone who helped pick up trash on April 22. We picked up 20 bags! We also planted a butterfly bush and lantana near the pond to celebrate Earth Day.



## NC State Stewards' Project

Are you going to N.C. State? If so, the Wolfline bus now has a solar powered bus stop where riders can charge their cell-phones while waiting. The shelter on Dan Allen Drive is powered by 2 solar panels and riders bring their own USB charging cable to connect to the system. This is a project spearheaded by the N.C. State Stewards. The Stewards are a group of students who promote and design sustainable practices and projects. Other projects include solar patio umbrellas near Tucker Dorm and Library which allow for mobile device charging as well. This sounds like a great group to investigate!



News and Observer 4/3/2017 by Madison Iszler

## Activity Builds Bones for Life



Recent studies at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver have confirmed that being active during adolescence is essential for building strong bones. When girls are ages 10 to 14 and boys are ages 12 to 16, over 36 percent of the adult skeleton is forming! If children develop strong bones during these ages, their bones will be harder to break when they are older. Vigorous activity for over 60 minutes a day increased the strength and density of bones by 8 percent. Load bearing exercises were the best for strengthening bones. These include jumping, gymnastics, dancing, running and basketball. So get up and move! <https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/active-teens-build-strong-bones-life>

## Toxic PCB Levels Found in Orca

In January of 2016, a dead whale was discovered in Scotland. Researchers analyzed the orca's body and discovered that she had the highest levels of PCBs ever recorded— over 100 times higher than the safe toxicity level for marine animals. Additionally, researchers discovered that she had never reproduced. PCBs are human made chemicals which are known to cause adverse health effects. These are found in products ranging from oils to electric appliances. The EPA estimates that 1.5 billion pounds of PCBs were made from 1920 until they were banned in the U.S. in 1979. Sadly, PCBs take a long time to decompose and the chemicals are often found in the environment far from their original source because snow, water and animals transfer the chemicals. This is an especially concerning finding because PCBs may be affecting the fertility of orcas and other animals which could lead to their extinction. <http://www.livescience.com/59024-dead-orca-is-considered-most-polluted-whale.html>

SENIORS: Mrs. Braxton will have your graduation cords. You will get a text when they are here.



CONGRATULATIONS!

*"I thank you God for this most amazing day, for the leaping greenly spirits of trees, and for the blue dream of sky and for everything which is natural, which is infinite, which is yes".*

—e.e. cummings