



The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

May 2001

A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School

School Holds Law Day

A pair of local attorneys recently spoke on the occasion of Law Day, explaining to students such legal elements as the Bill of Rights and how patents work.

On May 1, Samuel J. Churikian stepped up first and addressed the Upper School students. Churikian, who specializes in criminal law, spoke on the rights of criminals and citizens alike, and explained the basic principles of our Bill of Rights.



On consecutive days in May, Manoogian hosted area attorneys on the occasion of Law Day. May 1, Samuel J. Churikian (left), who specializes in criminal law, spoke to the Upper School students, while Dickran Boghigian (above) met with the Lower School students May 2.

The following day, former Manoogian student Dickran Boghigian met with the Lower School students.

Boghigian touched on the types of attorneys, the amount of time it takes to become an attorney, and how patents work.

All in attendance were eager to learn and did not hesitate to ask questions.



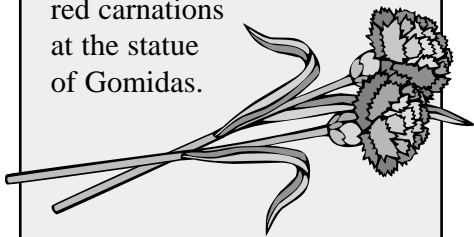
Herman Misirliyan (right), Chair of the Cultural Society of Armenians in Istanbul, presented Manoogian School Principal Dr. Nadya Sarafian with a \$10,000 donation to the school on behalf of the society. Dickran Kurjian, Board of Education Treasurer, is also pictured.

Genocide Commemorated

Manoogian held ceremonies recently marking the 86th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide that took place in 1915. This was the first genocide of the 20th Century.

Both middle and high school students participated in a morning assembly April 24 that included a discussion, readings from the life story of a survivor of the atrocities, and the showing of "Voices from the Lake," a video which includes pictures taken in Kharpert in 1915 and an eyewitness account from the diary of an American missionary.

4th- and 5th-graders took a trip to downtown Detroit in conjunction with the school activities, placing red carnations at the statue of Gomidas.



A memorial luncheon sponsored by the Shirvanian family in memory of deceased loved ones was held at the school. An evergreen tree, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Navasart Madoyan and their children, Armen and Anoush Mardigian, also was planted in the playground in memory of the children's grandmother, Violet Zenedjian.

Recognizing Our Environment

Beginning with Earth Day, April 27, Manoogian School was involved with a great deal of environmentally friendly activities.

In conjunction with the City of Southfield, Manoogian School students took great care in cleaning the school grounds, including the Northwestern Highway

service drive, as well as the grounds of St. John's Armenian Church.

Southfield provided eight-dozen cotton gloves for use by the students, in what was an extremely successful event.

In May, a pair of students, Taline Topakbashian and Anna Mikaelian, worked on an environmental project that searched for pollutants in Oak Openings Nature Park in Toledo.

The park is known for rare species of plants and other specimens. When completed, a report from the students was sent to Michigan Metroparks and to Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. Dr. Larry Kolopajlo oversaw the project.

Finally, in honor of Arbor Day, the Southfield Parks and Recreation Department designated Manoogian as a recipient of one of their gifts.

Southfield provided two red maples, which were planted on the school's playground. In addition, Southfield's Department of Forestry provided seedlings for each student. Seedlings included cedar, sugar maple, and tulips, which the students were able to take home and plant.



The results were overwhelmingly positive on Earth Day, April 27, when Manoogian School participated in a clean up in conjunction with the City of Southfield. Students cleaned the school grounds, as well as the Northwestern Highway service drive.



3rd grade students at Manoogian spent February and March learning all about prominent Americans. Each student researched his or her favorite and composed a paragraph summarizing the life of each person. The students were then responsible for putting together an oral presentation, complete with costumes and props. The project was meant to strengthen the students' reading, writing, and research skills, and to help them develop public-speaking poise.

Students Excel in Science and Math

February 13 8th- through 12th-graders participated in the American Mathematics Competition. In the 9th and 10th grade competition, Michael Untea took first place and Galine Torossian finished in second. Thomas Yuhana took first place, with Shant Kasparian, Bashar Makhay, and Nora Palanjian all tied for second in the 11th and 12th grade division.

Eight students competed in the 2001 Science Olympiad at Lawrence Technological University on March 17. Aleek Kahramanian and Galine Torossian won a blue ribbon for their work in "Write It-

Do It." Rocky Namou and George Yazbeck took 10th place for their work on "Bottle Rocket." Fallon Gammo and Mary Malko also captured 10th place for "Write Stuff." Shant Kasparian and Stephanie King also competed.

Under the guidance of Dr. Larry Kolopajlo, 15 students' projects were selected for submission into the Metropolitan Science and Engineering Fair, held annually at Cobo Hall. Results were:

- **Blue Ribbons** – Taline Topakbashian, Anna Mikaelian, Lavinia Luccaci, and Alex Osipov
- **Green Ribbons** – Sima Kalendjian, Adina Nance, Vatche Bassmagian, Avak Kahramanian, and Michael Untea

- **Red Ribbons** – George Yazbeck, Dmytro Pivtorak, Natella Ayrapetyan, Shant Kasparian, Aleen Krikorian, and Rocky Namou

5th grade students from Manoogian are participating in "Math You Can Bank On", a *Detroit Free Press* Newspapers in Education program sponsored by Comerica Bank. Students learn some of the basic vocabulary of money and financial management. They learn how to keep and "balance" a checkbook, design a personal budget, and comparison shop. This program helps identify personal long-term and short-term financial goals by outlining a strategy for achievement.



Ellen Matlen's 6th and 7th grade classes got to get their hands wet, so to speak, when they turned scientific application into reality. The lower grade built mousetrap-driven vehicles, while the upper grade built vehicles that were battery-driven. The respective classes then raced their vehicles, once they were put together and adjusted.



Students from Manoogian School participated in a February Mathcounts competition held at Lawrence Technological University. Students included (left to right, back row) Harout Haroutunian, Avak Kahramanian, Dmytro Pivtorak, Michael Untea, and Vatche Bassmagian, as well as teachers, Ellen Matlen and (behind Matlen) Karen Goulasarian. In the front row holding t-shirts are Ani Toumajan and Lori Pilibosian.

Remember to Visit Our Web Site for a Virtual Cornucopia of Information About the Manoogian School: www.manoogian.org

A Trip Back In Time

Marlene Baker's 6th and 7th grade classes recently studied ancient Egyptian history with a visit to the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The May 2 trip included a tour of Ur and numerous exhibits, including the medieval exhibit. 7th-graders also studied the medieval period by building castles of cardboard, sugar cubes, and a cake, which doubled as a tasty treat.

The students created sarcophagi (tombs), coffins, and mummies, and they wrote a story about mummies and picked five items to put into the tomb to use in the afterlife.



Manoogian School's poet-in-residence, Kathleen Ripley Leo, third from right, spent two weeks in early April at the school assisting Kindergartners through 12th-graders in expressing themselves through poetry. The poems will be placed into a volume, and some will be included in the next edition of the school calendar.

Athletes Make Their Marks

Varsity sports have triumphantly returned to Manoogian School, with the boys' basketball and girls' volleyball teams successfully completing Public School Academy League (PSAL) seasons.

The boys' basketball team, led by sophomores Sevag Shiklanian and Shant Kasparian, managed several victories, losing a few close ones, including a season-ending overtime thriller. Junior point guard Rocky Namou led a balanced attack and freshman Robert Lacefield also contributed.

"I was extremely impressed by the maturity level of the 8th- and 9th-graders who had to step in right away, and contributed offensively and defensively, against taller and more physical players," said coach Al Torossian.

The girls' volleyball team made incredible strides this season, going from "worst to first." Following a winless season, the 2000-2001 campaign brought some serious changes to the program, including first-year coach Torossian. Tough preseason conditioning paid off, as the volleyball team beat Henry Ford Academy, the defending PSAL champions, and handed them their first defeat in two seasons.

The Cougars went on to capture their first ever, first-place finish atop the PSAL with a 7-0 record in the league, 7-2 overall. Sophomore twin sisters Rita and Rana Yelda anchored the young Cougar team. Sophomore Mais Sami became a strong setter as the season progressed, and freshman Anita Djaridjian and 8th-grader Leila McQueen also developed into strong starters.

"From day one, I knew there was talent. They just needed to be pushed and understand that to be successful, you need to work hard," said Torossian.

On the soccer pitch, the school's two squads, Ararat Blue and Ararat Gold, began play recently with a contest against one another, with Gold defeating Blue.

The season includes games throughout the month of May.



A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

POSTAGE