



# Aldo Leopold Charter School



## *Weekly Update*



*(Brought to you by the Middle School Journalism Class)*

May 1, 2019

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## News for all

### Lunch menu

**Wednesday 1.....**Sausages, Marinara sauce, Penne pasta, WG roll, Green salad, and fruit.

**Thursday 2.....**Veggie enchiladas, Steamed rice, Chopped veggie salad, and Fruit.

**Friday 3.....**No lunch. All students off campus. Pack a lunch.

**Monday 6.....**Spaghetti and meatballs, Seasonal steamed veggies, Garlic bread, Garden salad, and Fruit.

**Tuesday 7.....**Quiche, French fries, WG bread, Mixed salad, and Fruit.

## Know where your food comes from



The cooks at the Guadalupe Montessori School make lunch for Aldo students four days a week. Lots of the fresh produce comes from the garden and greenhouse at the Montessori. We are so grateful for the care and thought that goes into feeding some of the children in our community.

## Showcase

One of the cornerstones of our school is the **internship and YCC program** in the high school. Every Friday all sophomores, juniors, and seniors participate in internships or are part of a Youth Conservation Crew. Twice a year, these students welcome families and community members into the school to talk about what they have learned during the 72 hours they spend with mentors at their businesses, at schools, in doctors offices, in open spaces, at the college, in greenhouses, in fields, and in the wilderness. Please come to hear what our young people have to say about their experiences in the real world on **Wednesday, May 8 from 4:00-6:00 pm**. All high school parents are asked to help with snacks. Food donations are organized alphabetically by the students last name.

### *List of snacks in Alphabetically sorting*

- A-C**~ Chips or crackers
- D-G**~ Vegetables
- H-L**~ Dips for vegetables or chips
- M-P**~ Fruit
- R-Z**~ Cheese, approximately 8 ounces

*(Feel free to bring other snacks of your choice!)*

## **Committees**

**Tue, April 30**...Audit - **4:00 pm to 4:30 pm** - Mr. Sherwood's office

**Wed, May 1**.....SHAC - **4:30pm to 6:00pm** - Jim's room

**Tue, May 9**.....Governing Council Meeting - **5:30pm to 8:30pm** - Ms. Chaney's room

**Tue, May 14**....Risk Management - **4:30pm to 6:00pm** - Jim's room

## **Calendar**

**May 2**.....Bequeathing Ceremony - Seniors/Juniors

**May 4**.....PROM @ Old Elks Lodge - Grades 9-12

**May 4**.....Casino Night @ ALCS - Grades 9-12

**May 6**.....Parent Input meeting for next year's IDEA-B grant application

**May 9**.....Senior Banquet @ Old Elks Lodge

**May 10**.....Art Show @ Javalina Coffee House

**May 15-16**.....Middle School Finals

**May 15-16**.....Senior Finals

**May 20-21**.....Finals - Grades 9-11

**May 17**.....Graduation Practice 3 pm @ the GRC

**May 19**.....Aldo Graduation 1pm @ the GRC

**May 22**.....Last day of school-half day

## **Special money!**

Each year Aldo receives about **\$30,000 in federal funding** for special education. We typically use this to hire an educational assistant and contract for Occupational Therapy services. The feds would like us to involve parents in deciding how to spend their funds, and we would like that also, so Siah Hemphill and Harry Browne are hosting a meeting for that purpose on **Monday, May 6, at 4:00 pm**. We'll meet in Ms. Hemphill's office, which is much neater than Mr. Browne's.

## **Garden Fundraiser**

The school's **Garden Crew** has grown **400+ veggie starts** as a fundraiser for the school and YCC. They will be offering these starts at the **First Farmers Market** this **Saturday, May 4**, at the **Ace Hardware parking lot** from **10:00am to 1:00pm**. They will also be present at the **Give Grandly/Give Local Event** on **Saturday, May 11** as a vendor at the **Farmers Market** off Bullard, between 7th and 8th Street from **8:30am to 2:30pm**. The Garden Crew invites all staff and parents to donate for a veggie start to plant in your own garden. Please contact Guy <[gramirez@aldocs.org](mailto:gramirez@aldocs.org)> or Catalina <[cclaussen@aldocs.org](mailto:cclaussen@aldocs.org)> if you would like to schedule a time to pick from the start's and they will put you in touch with one of the Garden Crew members.

## Where to shop

Every Friday Pete, Orien, and Kristin take the 9th graders in Community Orientation out in the community to survey what is there and how they are apart of it. This is the next step after the Middle School Friday program that further introduces students to options for internships. Back in March C O students were divided into groups and visited local food stores to survey food prices and food origins. The following is Molly's journal entry from that day.

Today we surveyed 3 different stores, Food Basket, Co-Op, and Bear Creek Herbs. During the survey we compared the amount and price of organic, local, and fair trade food items to those that are not. Food is an important piece of our community. By observing stores as diverse as the Food Basket to the Silver City Food Co-Op we notice major difference in price. This is because the Co-Op carries many local and organic products that cost more to produce. The food that the Co-Op produces is much better for the health of our community but may not be available to everyone for economic reasons. The high prices for better food is sometimes not an option. This is an important thing to measure within our community. We get an idea of some of the stress put on families who can't afford the better option. Our school is all about the health of the community and the people in it. We are all a part of that no matter where we shop. The diversity of economic situations within our community keeps both stores open. All throughout my journey in this school we have been building a community. We now study how other communities work and how in some situations the circumstances are not good at all. It is important to understand how income influences our community and how it has torn some communities apart. Take bangladesh for an example. People work all day for only two dollars. Families have been broken apart for there is not an enough money to support them or no one to take care of their children whilst they work. We want to buy organic, local, and fair trade items to make sure we aren't making the problem worse and now we will know which store offers those products.

## Aldo gets out there



Three Aldo Leopold Charter School students, **Emily, Aiden, and Izabela**-all seniors-(shown here at the conference with another attendee) attended the **Climate Reality Leadership Project Corps** training in March, accompanied by **eco-monitoring director Mike Fugagli**. On this past week's Earth Matters program on the local radio station KURU (89.1 on your FM dial) UGWA Executive Director Donna Stevens interviewed these new Climate Reality leaders about their experiences at the training, their renewed commitment to climate activism, and the realities of climate change.

## Aaahhh

Mr. Sherwood,

This semester, several of your **middle school classes** taught by **Aysh and Maia** participated in the **Asombro Institute for Science Education's 8th annual Desert Data Jam**. The Desert Data Jam challenges students to analyze real datasets collected in southern New Mexico and find creative ways to present trends they discover in the data. The top 12 projects from ALCS were part of the regional competition we hosted here in Las Cruces last week.

Your students did very well at the competition, taking home **six honorable mentions!** It was the best showing by any school in our competition this year. I'm attaching the full list of winners here.

It was such a pleasure to work with Aysh again this year, and we were delighted to meet and work with Maia for the first time in this year's competition. Once again, Aldo Leopold Charter School teachers and students impressed us with their creativity and dedication.

Congratulations to you and your school community!

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Bestelmeyer, Ph.D.  
Executive Director, Asombro Institute for Science Education

### **Honorable Mentions Asombro Institute Data Jam**

#### Aldo Leopold Charter School

*Water 'Bout Drought* by Ella, Minnie, and Yureau

*Cott-on a Shrubland* by Morgan and Noah

*Mission Decomposition* by Zoe, Phoenix, and Evangelica

*A Brief Leaf Debrief* by Lily, Axan, Drew, and Michael

*Save the Succulents* by Jasper

*Foxy Data, No Kit'n* by Aria and Reece

## **I swear a teacher did not write this**

**Teacher Appreciation Week** is next week, **May 6-10**. There are 3 ways that you can show your appreciation for the amazing teachers here at ALCS. **1.** Sign up to send food for the Monday staff meeting (contact Cathie at the office for details). or **2.** Send in \$10 or less to help purchase goodies for baskets to give to the teachers. or **3.** Simply send in a written letter or note of appreciation to a teacher who has impacted your child's life. Please contact the office to sign up or for more information. Email [cgomez@aldocs.org](mailto:cgomez@aldocs.org) or call 538-2547.

## **High school**

### **Scaling the big challenges**

Community Orientation is wrapping up its year and this Friday they will finally be going rock climbing and hiking along Cherry Creek. Students will skip the usual language arts and math classes and go right to CO.

### **PE for reals**

This **Saturday, May 4** the **ALCS high school PE** class will be participating in the **Tour of the Gila Citizens Race**. This **1.08 mile race** is a required part of the ALCS PE curriculum and the race for



ages 13-16 starts at **1:10 pm**. If you have a student in the race, they need to **register by 12:15**. If your student needs to check out a bike from the school, they can do that **Thursday afternoon**, or tell **Maddy** if she needs to bring one to the race. There are **registration forms in the front office** and they can also be downloaded at <https://tourofthegila.com/race/citizens-races/>

## Masquerade Ball

The High School will be having their 2019 prom on **Saturday, May 4** at the **Old Elks Lodge starting at 7 pm and ending around 11 pm**. This is a Masquerade Ball so attendees will have to bring their own masks and dress formal. Tickets available for purchase at the front desk or from a junior during advisory, tickets are \$5-single and \$8-couple.



## The Merry Month of

### May(hem)-From Jim, Senior Class Advisor

Having just returned from their New Mexico History/Grand Canyon Epic, Seniors are now looking forward to a series of rituals that celebrate their transition from Aldo veterans to Great Big World neophytes.

The first of these seasonal celebrations

arrives this **Thursday night** when Seniors & Juniors meet at **Jim's house** for a potluck and a **Bequeathing Ceremony** around a (small) bonfire. Graduate & staff member Maddy Alfero reinstated this Aldo tradition in 2017, & last year's class carried it on around a fake fire in Jim's classroom when a county-wide fire restriction thwarted their bonfire plans in 2018. But with recent rains in our favor, a bonafide bonfire will be the order of the day. Seniors & Juniors will gather at **6:30**, at which time all will feast on potluck grub & await the



official handing-off of the Aldo Vibe to the Class of 2020.

**One week later**, Seniors & their closest family members will gather at the **Old Elks Lodge** for the annual **Senior Banquet**. The evening begins at **6**, with recognition of student scholarship winners, the “Senior Film,” & some light-hearted ribbing on the agenda. In the past, the event has last a couple hours. We are asking each family to **bring a dish to pass** (usually, about 80-120 people attend, depending on



the size of the class) & to **contribute \$12** to defray the cost of a **chicken/pasta alfredo main course**.

The **following week** will offer Seniors a chance to “show what they know” during their **Final Exam Week**; exams are scheduled for **Wednesday, May 15 & Thursday, May 16**. From an insider’s perspective, this class seems

well-prepared the master this ordeal, but you never know what evil lurks in the hearts of Aldo teachers when they write their exams at the end of a long, arduous school year.

**Once exams are scored**, Seniors will gather at the **Global Resource Center for Commencement Rehearsal on Friday, May 17, at 3 PM**. With any luck, we’ll be out of the GRC by 5 PM with a plan intact....a plan, that is, for the Big Event, the **Aldo Leopold Charter School Commencement, slated for 1 PM on Sunday, May 19**, at the **Global Resources Center on the WNMU campus**. (That’s an easy date to remember: the Class of 19 graduates on the 19 th !) We hope to see you there to celebrate this goofy, creative, close-knit class.



## Middle school

### Once again

This Friday half of the middle school will be in town. Our day will begin with a talk from 9:00-10:00 at ALCS from Bob Hempstead about his adventures climbing 7 peaks on 7 continents. Next this group will head to the Commons to help in the garden and food pantry. After a day of hard work we will walk up the big hill back to school. The other half of us will be going to the Mimbres to visit two homes to learn about sustainability and permaculture. Don't forget the BIG 5!

- 2 Water Bottles
- A Wide Brimmed Hat
- Sturdy Shoes
- Journal and Writing Supplies

- A Lunch

## Open Mic Night

The Middle School Gay Straight Alliance will be holding an **Open Mic Night** for Middle Schoolers on **Thursday, May 2 at 5:30-7:00** and it will be in **Ms. Chaney's room. This will be free.** GSA is doing this event because they would like to celebrate diversity while having fun. The evening will include food, lip syncing, singing, jokes, and other things. If you would like to come, then dress as you are, as you wish you could be, or as your favorite performer. Sign up as a participant (list your song or act) or as audience member only, so we can be sure to have the songs people need, and enough food. If you have any questions ask Miss Bailey.

## Community Events

### Tour of the Gila



The Tour of the Gila is a “cycling stage race for both men and women. It consists of three road races, an Individual Time Trial, and a Criterium.” The Tour of the Gila is taking place from **Wednesday, May 1- Sunday, May 5**. The most exciting day for viewers is the [Downtown Criterium](#) on **Saturday, May 4**. A one mile loop from 6th and Bullard to College to Cooper to Broadway to Bullard and back to 6th

will be closed to traffic as some of the best cyclists in the world spin their wheels around our downtown. The first race starts at 8:00 am with the Women's Category 3,4,5 riding 12.9 miles. There are races in all categories throughout the day with the UCI Men closing the day riding the loop for 43.2 miles starting at 4:15. If you are feeling feisty and want to get a taste of what the big girls and boys do you can join the [Citizen's Races](#) starting at 12:30 pm.

### Walking Tour

The Mimbres Culture Heritage Walking Tour will be taking place on **Saturday, May 4**. The tour will take place at **12 Sage Drive in the Mimbres at the Mimbres Heritage Cultural Site. One block off highway 35 between mile markers 3 and 4.** The **tour will start at 1:00pm**. This will be “light walking on a **1/2 mile trail** of the

Mattocks Ruin Prehistoric archaeological site with a guide. Learn about the ancient people who lived in the Mimbres Valley and the homesteaders living on the site in the late 1800's and early 1900's." There will be museum admission, an ADA restroom, a museum with a gift shop, and plenty of parking.