

RAPP

February 2016

Contents

- HOPE Week **2-4**
- RA Happenings **5**
- Teacher Spotlight **6-8**
- Announcements **9-11**
- Phoenix 200 Club **12**
- FEC Announcements **13-15**



Important Dates in February

- | | | | |
|--------|--|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 2/4 | Chinese New Year Celebration - 6:30pm | 2/19 | 5th Grade Underground Railroad |
| 2/5 | FEC Meeting - 8am | 2/22-26 | 2016-17 Lottery this week! |
| 2/5 | MS field trip - Utah State Capitol (7th/8th) | 2/22 | Chick-Fil-A Night |
| 2/5 | MS field trip - UVU (9th) | 2/23-26 | Spring Bookfair*** |
| 2/7-19 | 2016-17 Returning Student enrollment | 2/25-26 | SEP's - Early out 12:15pm Thurs/Fri |
| 2/11 | 3rd Grade field trip* | 2/25 | SEPs 2-7pm |
| 2/12 | Valentines Day Celebrations | 2/26 | SEP's 12:30-3pm (by appointment) |
| 2/15 | Washington/Lincoln Day - NO SCHOOL | 2/27 | Ballroom Team Match @ UVU |
| 2/17 | 4th Grade field trip** | 2/29 | Leap Year Day! |
| 2/17 | Board Meeting - 7pm | 2/29-4/1 | Reading Month begins |
| 2/18 | RA Spelling Bee 6:30pm | | |

*Museum of Natural Curiosity

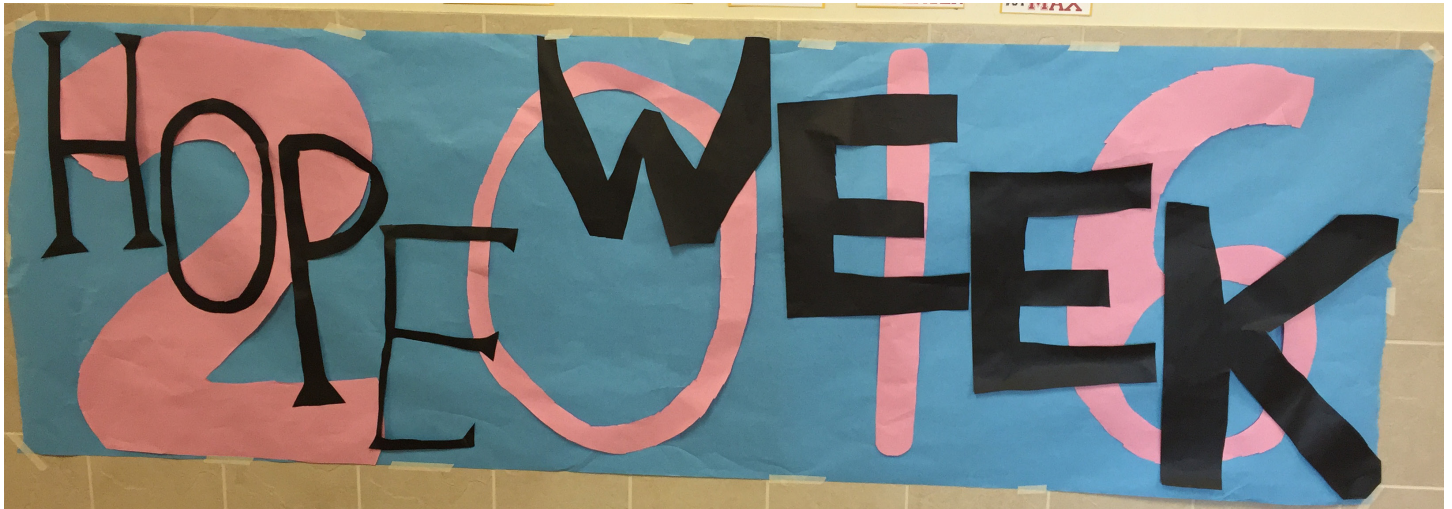
**Classroom Aquarium

***Tues/Weds 7:45am-4pm, Thurs 7:45am-6pm, Fri 7:45am-1pm

The Renaissance Academy Printing Press



HOPE Week



The HOPE Squad is a Suicide Prevention program. The HOPE Squad is made up of Middle School students and is a group that other students can come to for support. HOPE Week was full of great activities, organized by our counselor, Nettie Naumann. The focus of the week was "Kindness Matters." Some of the activities throughout the week included a Kindness Tree, compliment cards and a photo-booth. There was also an assembly with guest speakers that came and talked to the kids about being kind. The HOPE Squad members also went in to each Elementary class and taught a lesson about kindness. It was a really great week!



The HOPE Squad set up a coloring table for all the students to come and color as a stress reliever.



Students pledged that they will be kind by writing their names on a heart and putting it on the Kindness Tree.



The HOPE Squad set up a photobooth for everyone to take pictures during lunch.



HOPE Week

HOPE Week Assembly

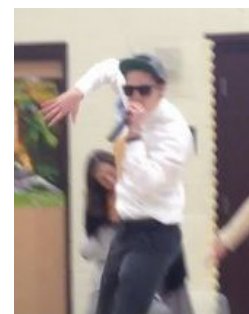
Dance team performance



"Glorious"

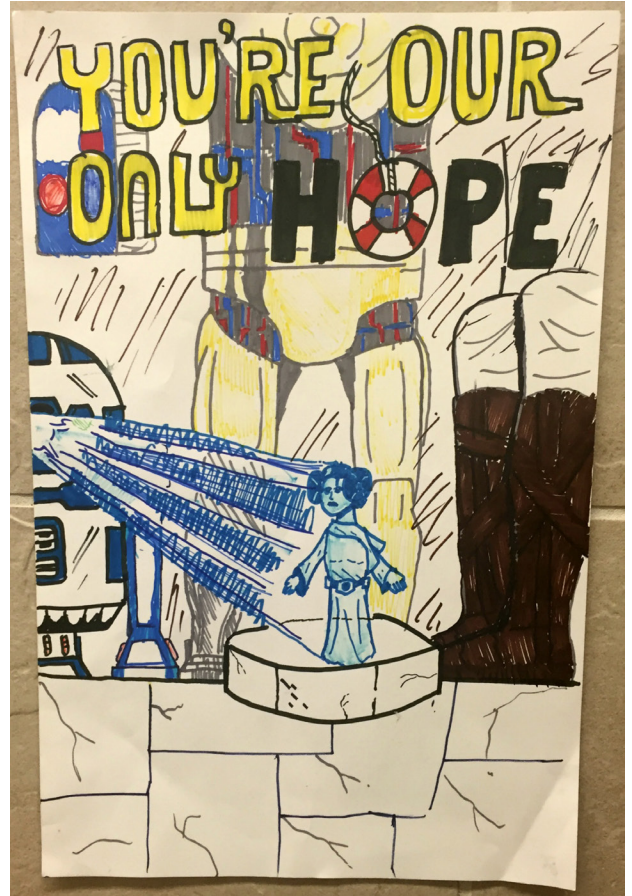
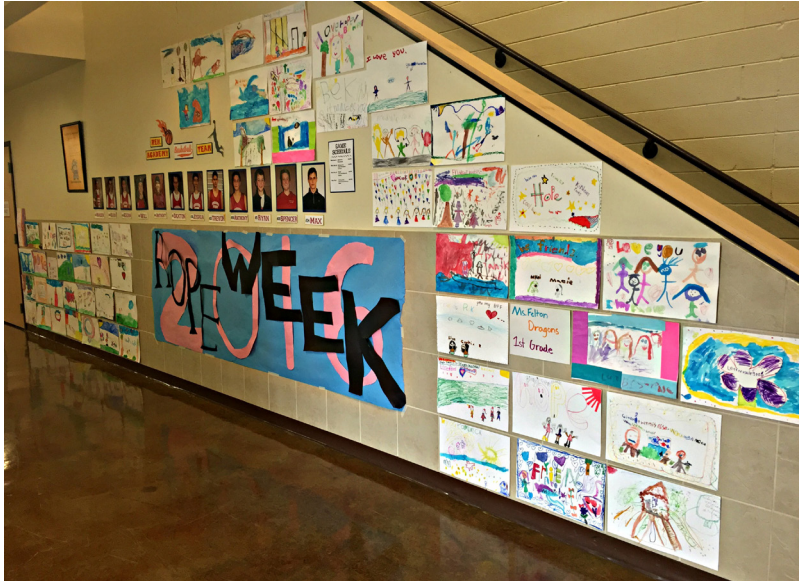


Teacher flashmob

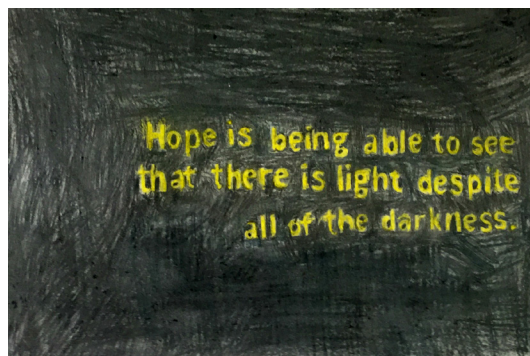
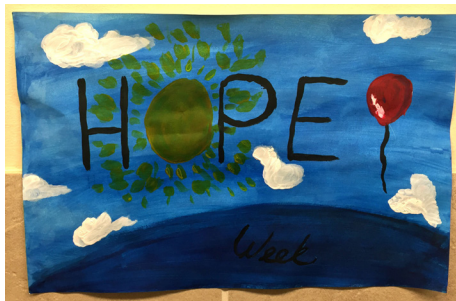


HOPE Week

Kindness Posters



We had amazing posters that were created by all of the students in the school. A list of the winners can be found on the FEC Facebook page. Here are a few examples of the posters:



RA Happenings

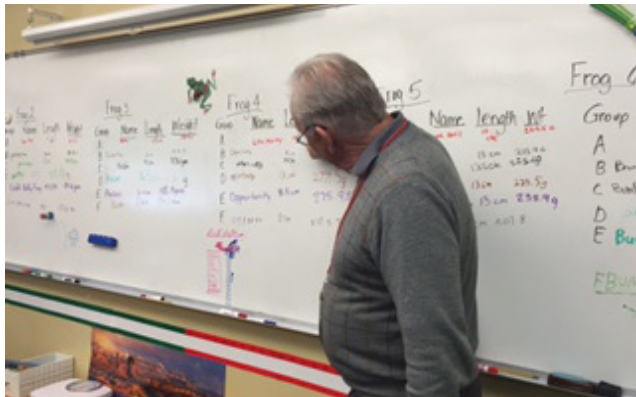
5th Grade Science with Mrs. Hopkins



Biology guest speaker, Dr. Palmer



Learning about Wetlands



Collecting frog data



Ballroom Dance Team



RA Happenings

Grade Level Spelling Bee Winners



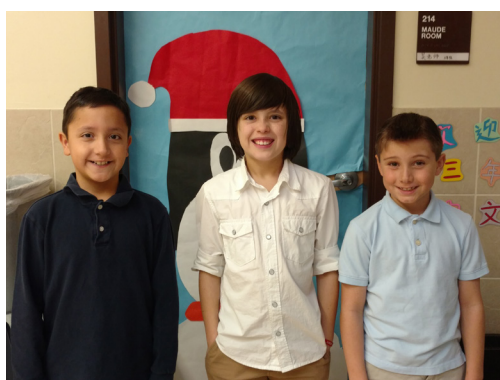
1st Grade

1st - Carson
2nd - Jarom (not pictured)
3rd - Anisa



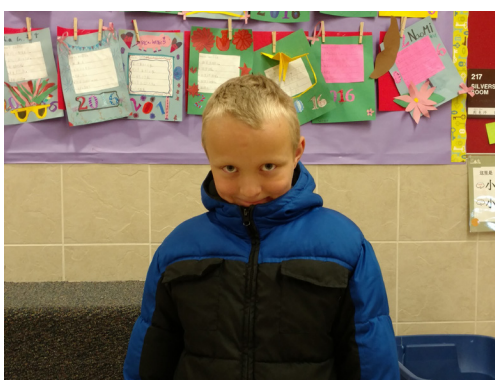
2nd Grade

1st - Lucky
2nd - Mia
3rd - Autumn



3rd Grade

1st - Quinton
2nd - Porter
3rd - Kaden



4th Grade

1st - Jude (not pictured)
2nd - Adam
3rd - MaryGrace (not pictured)



5th Grade

1st - Elvin
2nd - Annika
3rd - Zaya



6th Grade

1st - Andy
2nd - Ziyad (not pictured)
3rd - Meigan



7th Grade

1st - Madeline
2nd - Adriana
3rd - Ethan



8th Grade

1st - Jonah
2nd - Vanessa
3rd - Karina



Teacher Spotlight - First Grade Team



Miss Jenkins, Miss Chen, Miss Fox, Miss Felton, Mrs. Pena

Janice Jenkins - First Grade Teacher

Ms. Jenkins is from Orem, Utah. She has been at Renaissance Academy since the school opened 10 years ago! She earned a Bachelor's degree in Behavioral Science and Elementary Education from UVSC. She likes to read, hike, repel, kayak and loves doing crafts and projects. Ms. Jenkins stated that her favorite thing about teaching is the kids! "I really like little people," she says, speaking of the kids, and they love her right back. She likes to do projects with them when she can!



Valerie Fox - First Grade Teacher

Ms. Fox is from Provo Utah. This is her fourth year teaching at Renaissance Academy. She loves biking and latin dancing and she knows American Sign Language. In her class, Ms. Fox encourages and emphasizes the motto 'Everyone is an individual'. She tries to always encourages her students to show their personalities and to be true to themselves. Ms. Fox loves doing activities with her students to help them learn. She also loves going and playing fun games with the kids at recess!



Teacher Spotlight - First Grade Team



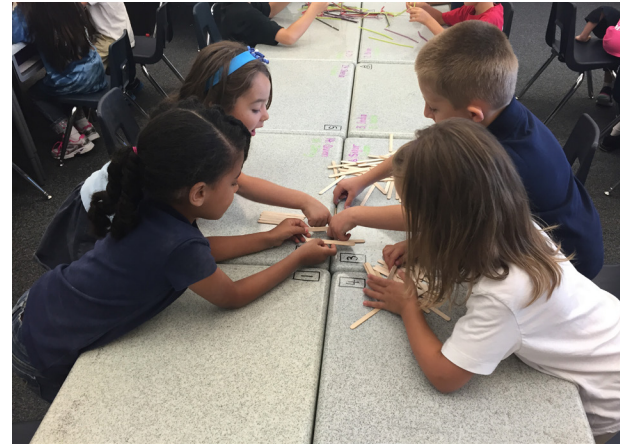
Eden Chen - 1st Grade Chinese

Immersion

Ms. Chen is our 1st grade Chinese Immersion teacher here at Renaissance. Ms. Chen is a native Chinese speaker, originally from Taiwan and in her fourth year of teaching Chinese Immersion at Renaissance Academy. Some things Ms. Chen enjoys when she is not teaching our students Chinese include working out, hanging out with friends and singing. In her classes, Ms. Chen loves to have her students interact with each other and practice their Chinese using role play activities. Her favorite part about teaching is seeing her students enjoy Chinese and make such quick progress in learning with language. Ms. Chen also loves to hear her students speak Chinese with each other and when her students get excited about learning!

Anna Felton - 1st Grade Immersion Partner

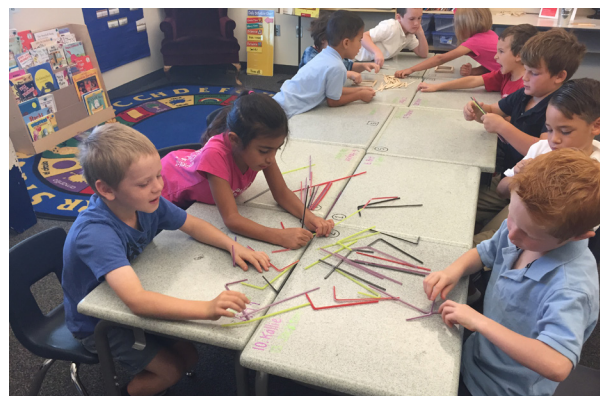
Ms. Felton is from Brisbane, Australia and has taught at Renaissance Academy since January 2015. Ms. Felton completed her university education in Australia and student teaching in England. She loves to do yoga, bake delicious cakes and treats, and style, cut and color hair (and she is great at it if you are looking for a new hairdresser!). At school Ms. Felton loves to have classroom and individual discussions with her students to help them dig a little deeper into concepts and things they are learning about, and to help expand their horizons about the world they live in. Ms. Felton reported that some of her favorite things about teaching are watching her students constantly improve and learn new things, receiving cute notes from them and remembering the funny/interesting comments her students make on a daily basis. Ms. Felton is very creative and loves to do hands on activities with her students and help them think outside the box.



Teacher Spotlight - First Grade Team

Dorie Pena - 1st Grade Aide

Although Mrs. Pena was born in the Mormon Colonies in Chihuahua, Mexico, she has lived most of her life in sunny California in a beautiful small town called Monrovia. Mrs. Pena has three awesome children, Seth, Bryanna and Jared. She speaks English and Spanish, and enjoys making crafts, reading and watching movies. Mrs. Pena has worked at Renaissance for 8-years. Her favorite thing about working with the first grade students is that they are so easy to work with! Her students love to get excited about learning new things! She especially loves to see the expression on students faces when they realize they can READ!



Announcements



Spelling Bee

Come support our top spelling students in grade 3 - 8 at our school-wide Spelling Bee on Thursday 18th February at 6:30 pm in the gym. Our students have been working hard to learn to correctly spell all of the words on their grade level list, and under pressure in both classroom and grade level Spelling Bees have now advanced to our school-wide event! Come cheer on our students as we discover our Renaissance 2016 Spelling Bee Champion. The winning student will then represent our school in the Regional Spelling Bee at UVU next month.

If the grade level bees were any indication, the competition will be fierce. Please email Mr. Scheerer at dscheerer@renacademy.org for more information. For a copy of your students grade level spelling list visit our FEC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/renaissancefec/files/> or see Mr. Scheerer.

Math Tutor

Our wonderful math aide is available after school for private or small group tutoring. \$20/hr private, \$10/hr small group sessions. Contact Ethan Swanson at eswanson@renacademy.org or 801-698-0272 for availability.



Chinese Tutoring

Chinese tutoring is available from many of our Chinese DLI teachers (contact them individually via email) or April Wang (not an RA employee but currently tutoring students from other schools). April can be reached at 801-888-1917. Rates vary. Contact teachers directly.



Please do not use your cell phones any time during pick-up and drop-off.



Announcements cont.

Increasing Parental Advocacy in Special Education: Helping Your Child Be The Star!

As parents, we are our children's best and most important advocate. But, when our child struggles, do we know what to do? You've spoken with their teacher. You've done all you know how to do to help at home...now what?? Could your child have a learning disability? How do you get them tested?



Renaissance Academy is pleased to announce a unique opportunity for parents to attend a free workshop designed to educate parents on the specifics of Special Education and the Individuals with Education Disabilities Act. Come and learn what you need to know, get answers to your questions, and find out about the people and services out there designed to help the struggling student.

Our workshop will be held on Saturday, February 27th from 8:00am-5:00pm. Lunch will be provided. Topics being covered are as follows:

- What is Special Education?
- The importance of being your child's best advocate
- The referral process
- History/Laws of Special Education - Knowing your rights
- The IEP Team - roles of each member
- Preparing for an IEP
- IEP Meeting - interpreting data, goal setting, services/supports/placement, etc.
- Resources available to parents

Our workshop will be held at Renaissance Academy located at 3435 N 1120 E, Lehi, UT 84043

Please RSVP for lunch count or to ask any questions by contacting Sarah Robbins at 801-616-9159 or sarahrobbins000@gmail.com.



Announcements cont.



Arbor Day Poster Contest

Though snow may be falling outside, it is time for us to start gearing up for spring! The Utah Arbor Day Committee welcomes your school to again participate in the annual Arbor Day Poster Contest. The theme for this year's contest is: "Trees are Terrific for Our Health and Happiness!"

The poster contest is creative and rewarding — we encourage your school to join other Utah students in this celebration of Arbor Day 2016. Please consider the benefits of participating in the Arbor Day Poster Contest:

- Students learn about the benefits of trees in the places we live – Utah Core Curriculum based activities will be provided for each grade level and can be incorporated into existing social studies, science or art units.
- Students will be eligible to get their poster professionally framed as well as win gift cards, t-shirts and other prizes.
- Schools may be eligible for a \$500 check for producing the best poster in their region.
- Participating schools will receive a coupon worth \$50 towards a purchase of a tree for an Arbor Day Ceremony.
- Grand Prize winning poster will be reproduced in statewide publicity campaigns.

To participate in the Arbor Day Poster Contest:

- Visit our website and review the Participation Guidelines and Official Contest Rules In addition, entry forms and detailed information on rules and deadlines can be accessed:www.arborday.utah.gov.
- Complete the online School Registration Form by February 26, 2016, and
- Mail or hand deliver completed posters so they arrive by March 21, 2016

We will be mailing an envelope containing all the necessary forms to all schools that participated in 2015. These can be filled out and returned to the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands. If you didn't participate in 2015 then please go to our website to download the necessary forms.



Phoenix 200 Club

We had two groups of Phoenix 200 Club Winners who enjoyed field trips to BYU performances this last week. Our first lucky group of students enjoyed the internationally acclaimed Salzburg Marionette Theatre performance of 'Peter and the Wolf' and 'Little Red Riding Hood'.



Our second group of winners had the privilege of attending the fun, color-filled, ballet performance 'Alice in Wonderland'. All students appeared to enjoy their culturally-enriching experience at BYU. A special thank you to our volunteer parents who helped chaperone and drive our students to and from BYU.



FEC Announcements

FEC Meeting

Come and join us for our monthly Family Engagement Committee meeting this Friday, February 8, 2016 in the faculty lounge at 8:00 a.m. It's always a privilege to see new faces at our meetings!

Buddy Bench

Take a peek at the playground and you will see our new Buddy Bench. The FEC was able to purchase the bench this year for our playground. The idea is based on a little boy in Pennsylvania's idea that we can eliminate loneliness by fostering kindness on our playgrounds. Our FEC is so excited to be able to bring this idea to our school and to support the importance of kindness. Check out more about the buddy bench idea on their website. There is also a short video:

<http://buddybench.org/what-is-the-buddy-bench/>



amazon

Support Renaissance Academy when making purchases on Amazon! Shop through smile.amazon.com and a portion of your purchase will be donated to R.A. It is the same site and prime still works! SO EASY!

Book Fair

Come visit us at our Book Fair! Every purchase helps to build our school and classroom libraries! We will be open late during SEPs. If you would like to help out during the Book Fair, it is a FUN way to get in volunteer hours. Contact Kim Rollins for more info at rollinsjk@gmail.com

Tuesday, February 23rd 7:45am - 4:00pm

Wednesday, February 24th 7:45am - 4:00pm

Thursday, February 25th 7:45am - 7:00pm

Friday February 26th 7:45am - 1:00pm

thank
you!

We would like to thank all of our Class Coordinators that have worked tirelessly in helping make this a successful year! They have made it a lot easier for our teachers by facilitating help in their classrooms and also have made it a great year for the FEC with their help in school-wide events.

Another thank you to the Inspirations and Science Fair committees! We have had great events over the past month and we couldn't have done it without them!



FEC Announcements cont.

Get Involved!

The Family Engagement Committee (FEC) is looking for parents to get involved with us next year!!

We will have a few presidency positions open as well as opportunities to help out with heading various committees or joining on as a committee member.

If you are interested in being involved with brainstorming ideas, planning, organizing, working with some really great parents or just having more general involvement in the activities and events going on at Renaissance Academy please let us know and we would love to have you involved in the capacity that works best for you.

Please email Alyson Harper (alysue23@gmail.com) and she can let you know more about the opportunities for 2016-2017.

Battle of the Books 2016

Thank you to all of our amazing students who participated in our first Battle of the Books quiz table on January 21st. You impressed us with your knowledge! Our next quiz table day is coming up soon, so we hope you're getting ready! It will be on Thursday, February 11th.



- Students can choose any book from their Battle of the Books reading list and then they will be asked a question about that book. If they get it right, they will get a small prize and get to write their name on a sticker that will go on our reading posters.
- Kindergartners will have an opportunity during their day to participate.
- For first and second graders there will be a table in the gym during lunch.

Let's see how many stickers we can add to our posters!! For book lists see: renaissancebob.blogspot.com

Lost and Found

Come and check out the lost and found items located in the gym. We will post pictures of most lost items on Facebook. Remember to please label all jackets and lunch boxes.

Attention all Volunteers!

Are you logging your hours? Please pop into the front office before heading to your volunteering! Use the laptop to select your name and sign in. We need to have you sign in for safety reasons, and the program will automatically track your hours throughout the year for you! Next month we will have a raffle for Volunteer of the Month from the names of people who log hours throughout this month!! (If you would like to log past hours from home go to www.helpcounter.net/volunteer).

