

—Education—

 **Local Boys Take Top Honors**

The Old Sacramento Schoolhouse annually sponsors an essay contest for fourth grade students in California's public schools. Since the competition began in 1984, more than 20,000 students have written essays on the theme of "A Day in School in 1875." The essays are first judged in their own schools. The winning essays are then forwarded to the Schoolhouse for final judging. Cash prizes and other awards were presented to this year's winners at the Schoolhouse. Student and teacher prizes are provided by Capital City Masonic Lodge #499, F&AM, Harding San Juan Masonic Lodge No. 579, F&AM, River City Baseball, California State Railroad Museum, and the Old Sacramento Schoolhouse Museum.

Green Oaks Fundamental's Chandler Malm won first place in the regular division of the essay contest. Brendon Henkel, also of Green Oaks, won first place in the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) division. They boys are both in Mrs. Hill's fourth grade class at Green Oaks Fundamental School in Orangevale. They first

met in kindergarten and have been best friends ever since. Upon being told their essays had been selected to be sent on to the Old Sacramento Schoolhouse for final



Chandler Malm and Brendon Henkel

judging, they wished each other luck, saying may the best man win.

While writing his essay, Chandler choose to focus on the hardships of life for children growing up in 1875. He wrote about his father dying and soon after his mother giving birth to his baby sister. Of

the family's several children, he was the oldest; therefore he had to take on all the responsibilities of the family, the farm, and his own schooling. It gave readers a true feel of what children had to endure in 1875.

Brendon's essay told of how an unexpected tornado ripped through town on the first day of school. While reading Brendon's essay you feel as though you are right there in the middle of the devastating storm. After the storm, the local men, women and children worked together to rebuild their town.

The boys were excited when they learned that they were both first place winners in the Old Sacramento Schoolhouse Museum 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fourth Grade Essay Contest. The picture shows Chandler and Brendon enjoying an evening at a River Cats Baseball game since, as part of their first place prizes, they received game tickets. Under the instruction of Mrs. Bev Hill, both boys are excellent students. The best men did in fact win. Congratulations on a fine job, Chandler Malm and Brendon Henkel.

**Pet of the Week: Kittens**



Animal ID#: A471136 and A471137

Litters of kittens have flooded the Sacramento County shelter in recent months, which is why this time of year has been dubbed kitten

season. When the weather starts to get warm the kittens start to appear, and there are only so many cages at the shelter. Many kittens are found on the streets without shelter or are brought in by owners who were not expecting their cats to give birth. The abundance of unwanted kittens is a perfect example of why it is so important to spay or neuter your pet. These three kittens came in together and only one has been adopted. The other two brothers have short orange and white fur and are 2-months-old. If possible it would be wonderful to keep siblings together, but the ultimate goal would be adoption, even if that means splitting them up. If you are looking for a kitten, or two, now

is the best time to head down to the County of Sacramento's Animal shelter to see what is available.

To see these kittens or other adoptable animals visit:  
Sacramento County Animal Shelter  
4290 Bradshaw Rd, Sacramento, Ca 95827  
Open Tuesday – Saturday, and the first Sunday of every month.

Offices open at 8:00 a.m. and Kennels are open to the public at 10:00 a.m.

Visit us on the web to view pets online and learn more about our animals, services and programs at: [www.saccountyshelter.net](http://www.saccountyshelter.net).  
(916) 368-7387 (PETS)

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