Highlights for Oct. 22-29, 2012
Sandra Day O’Connor, Shared Savings and Book Clubs

One hundred and seventy SFUSD high school students will attend a rare public appearance by former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, the first woman ever to be appointed to the court. All students enrolled in the Law Academy at Balboa High School as well as students from Mission, June Jordan, Hilltop and ISA will attend. O’Connor will discuss the need for a better-informed citizenry, as well as her life, career, and personal views on the role of the U.S. Supreme Court. Students will attend free of charge compliments of The Commonwealth Club.

When: Monday, Oct. 22 / 12:00 p.m.

Since 2009, SFUSD has saved $1 million by reducing its use of gas, electricity and water. Through a district-wide sustainability effort called the Shared Savings Program, public schools receive support in reducing their utility usage, and sites that reduce costs by more than five percent keep half the savings. Some schools saw a big drop in energy use by simply turning off un-needed heating or closing more doors and windows. Last year, a few schools earned over $3,000 each by participating in the program. These funds can be used to increase energy savings even more at the school or for curricular programs and supplies. Shared Savings now offers schools customized audits that pinpoint sources of waste on their campuses.

Please call for details.

Teens at Balboa High gather at lunchtime once a month to talk about the books they're reading for pleasure. The book club, which has been meeting for three years, is a lively group of 9th-12th graders as well as Balboa teachers. Club members choose titles and talk about how the books relate to their lives. Librarian Molly Lazarus says the club is a great example of helping teens cultivate their love of reading in a relaxed and social environment, which helps them become better readers in their academic pursuits. Authors, Becca Fitzpatrick, Siobhan Vivan, and Jenny Han will be visiting the group to talk about their work, and the club will be receiving new books. The author visit and book donations are courtesy of Books, Inc.

When: Monday, Oct. 29 / 11:50 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.
Where: Balboa HS / 1000 Cayuga Ave.

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