

Stephen Foster Elementary

2nd Grade

Bailey, Joshua
Melvin, William
Miller, Kirsten
Moore, Alexa
Toves, Ryan

3rd Grade

Gil, Vincent
House, Alexis
Machado, Lauren
Moran, Dominique
Vasquez-Rodriguez, Itzel

4th Grade

Cornell, Breanne
Grkinich, David
Marquez, Angela
Rayos, Mark
Robert, Derek
Sanchez, Quiana

5th Grade

Encina, Lea
Hawkins, Dana
Nieves, Christian
Sevilla, Brittany
Turner, Jessica
Van Horn, Austin

6th Grade

Agramonte, Monika
Fisher, Rachel
Ross, Cheyenne
Van Winkle, Grace
Vasquez-Rodriguez, Tlaloc

October 19, 2003

From:
Joshua D. Bailey
Stephen Foster Elementary School
Room 11, 2nd Grade

To:
Dear Mayor Esquivel
5050 Clark Avenue
Lakewood, California 90712

Subject: A Lakewood Person I Admire

This is a letter to let people know about the person I admire in Lakewood the most. At first, I told my Mom that I liked Yu-Gi-Ho, but then she said I needed to pick someone that is not on T.V. I asked her to tell me what admire means and she told me. She said it was someone that you liked and someone that does good things. Mr. Mike the custodian at our school is the person I thought of.

Mr. Mike is the custodian at our school Stephen Foster Elementary in Lakewood. He helps in the cafeteria by putting the tables out from the walls, and helping us with the trash after lunch. He also helps the kids when playing on the playground by making sure they play fair, and he also helps in our class by cleaning it and building and fixing things. I really thought it was cool that Mr. Mike brought in some mill worms into the class with some food for them. We got to learn about the worms and how they eat. This is one of the ways that he helps in the classroom. He helps in the computer room too.

The thing that I like the best about Mr. Mike is that he always says Hi to me and the other kids. He always smiles and says, "What's up?" I really felt as though he really cares about us kids. On day I was not feeling too good because of my Leukemia and I was late getting to my class. When I went to my classroom I could not find them. I started to get really worried and started crying because I did not find my class. Mr. Mike saw me crying and he took me back to the office, then he help me find them at the kite assembly. He always gives me high fives and asks me how I am feeling.

An Admirer

Joshua D. Bailey

William Melvin
Stephen Foster Elementary
Mrs. Defazio, Room #23, Grade 2

What I Like About Lakewood

I like living in Lakewood because of the trees. They make the streets and sidewalks shady so that I can play outside with my friends. My family goes to the Lakewood Library on Clark Avenue every Friday. I like to pick out movies and books. I also like the sports. I play flag football at Mayfair Park. That is what I like about Lakewood.

I like living in Lakewood because there is a lot of exciting sports in park and recreation. I have been in Tae Kwon Do for two and a half years.

I achieved a green belt and would one day like to be a black belt with Master Cha. I started gymnastics when I was two and

a halt and now I still
do gymnastics in
another gym. During
the summer I take
swimming lessons at
Mayfair Pool. Someday
I would like to be a
lifeguard.

My dad and I
have gone to the
Daddy-daughter
Dance for two years
I use to dance

on my dad's feet
but now I dance
next to him because
I weigh more. I
feel like a beautiful
princess when I am
all dressed up.

In Lakewood, the
schools have extra
fun activities and
playgrounds! I love
playing on the metal
bars at recess. It's

fun to flip around
and around on the
bars.

In Lakewood, people
are nice. My neighbors
are kind and let me
play in their yards.
I like living in
Lakewood.

Kirsten Miller

Foster Elem.

Louden, Room 25

2nd grade

Alexa Moore
Stephen Foster Elementary
Mrs. Sooter – room 22
Second grade

MY FAVORITE TEACHERS

What I like about Lakewood are the teachers at Stephen Foster School. Mrs. May was my Kindergarten teacher and is very nice. I liked how she did fun stuff if we did all our work at the end of the day. She taught us learning games. She taught the class this song: “Wibbly wobbly wibble -- an elephant sat on you!” I learned all the states of America in Kindergarten. Kindergarten is my favorite year of school so far. My brother is going into kindergarten next year. I want him to have Mrs. May. Mrs. Christopherson was my first grade teacher. She went to another school far away. She is so nice. Mrs.

Christopherson had a Band-Aid box with chapstick, cream for your hands, and a cream that stings your skin. She took care of us and is also my favorite teacher. I had so much fun in her class. She is an important teacher to me. It is too bad that my brother Nicolas cannot have her for first grade. My teacher now in second grade is Mrs. Sooter, and I am starting to get to know her, too. She is really great. Lakewood teachers are the best!

The End

Ryan Toves

My Teacher - Mrs. Vigil

I think my teacher is special because of the things she does. One of the most important things she does is to take the time to teach kids so they can have a better future. I admire Mrs. Vigil because she is smart and kind and most of all caring. I think she makes learning fun and exciting! I like when Mrs. Vigil complements me for my work because it makes me feel proud. She makes class interesting by letting us study plants

back →

and living creatures. Mrs.
Vigil inspires me to do the
best job that I can and to
be the best person I can be.

Come Live in Lakewood

by Vincent Gil

Lakewood is extremely safe. Lakewood is safe because there are neighborhood watch programs and lots of people participate. Lots of police watch out for any trouble and if they find it they will take care of it. There are not a lot of crimes in Lakewood because the police protect us. If you come to Lakewood I know you'll be safe.

Lakewood is also terrific because it's drug free. I know this because the clerk won't let you buy drugs without a prescription. The police watch out for criminals like the people who steal drugs. Also, they do not sell a lot of drugs in Lakewood. If you want to live in a drug free city, Lakewood is the one!



10-8-03

Dear Mayor,

I'd like to tell you about Sue Williams. She is always helpfull and always patient. She works as a secertary at Stephen Foster Elementry. She's always helping teacher and students like me. She's like a grandma to me. She's good at what she does. She helps the principal and everybody in the office.

I hope you know how I feel
now.

Sincerely Alexis
House.

Stephen Foster
Jean Lederer
Room 53 Gd 3

My Friends And Neighbors On My Block

I am very proud that the people on my block in Lakewood are nice. My friends and neighbors make me feel happy a lot. All of my friends make me laugh when I'm down. We all care for each other. My friends and neighbors on my block care about me if I get hurt. Different friends and I love to watch baseball games in the park. Some of my friends help me with homework and play. I've always loved Lakewood. I hope I

never move away from here.

Lauren Machado -

10-9-03

Dominique Moran
Oct. 10, 2003

Life in Lakewood

Lakewood is a wonderful city. It is not a trashy city. I love living in Lakewood. I go to a school called Stephen Foster Elementary. It is a really great school in Lakewood. I have fun at Stephen Foster School. I also like the city of Lakewood's mall. I go to Lakewood Mall a lot with my Dad. He takes me to different stores like Rave girl, Rave, and Hot Topic. Lakewood mall is a nice place to go to most of

time. It IS not a trashy mall. I
also like the city of Lakewood's
restaurants, too. My mom and my
grandma like to take me out to
eat at a Mexican restaurant called
Salazars. I like to eat taquitos
and tacos at Salazars. Salazars is
right across the street from my
grandma's work. I have a great
time going to school in Lakewood,
shopping in Lakewood, and eating
in Lakewood.

Student Name: Itzel Vasquez-Rodriguez
School: Stephen Foster Elementary
Teacher: Vanderbaan/Rosenthal
Room #: 42
Grade: 3rd

The Write Stuff
Lakewood City 50th Anniversary Essay

One of the things I like most about Lakewood is the park. Mayfair Park is a great park. First of all, the one that just got remodeled is cool! The best part about the new park (well it's like a new park but they just remodeled it, so it looks like a new park) anyway, the best part about the new remodeled park is those things that go back and forth like you are climbing a hill back and forth, back and forth. Or, you can do it faster back and forth, back and forth. And the new train, gotta love that train. The new train has a wheel (like a cartwheel) the last train we had stunk! The wheel was all messed up. But, the bad part about the new train is the rooms are disconnected! And there are no seats in the front! That's all I have to say about Mayfair Park. Except, There's another Mayfair Park and it really stinks. Now that's all I have to say about the Mayfair Parks.

I also love my school, but I don't know about all the others. My school Stephen Foster sells ice cream, has no uniforms, has a sheltered place to sit, has nice students and teachers, and much more. I don't really think all our students are nice. This girl, one time after P.E. We were playing the memory game. The memory game is when you throw to the same person every time. This girl kept kicking it and the person would always miss the ball and it would go into other peoples' circles. I told her to stop but she looked like she was actually enjoying herself. After P.E. she said you can't boss me around your just as tiny as a little ant! Guess what? I was actually taller than her! I know the name of the girl. I was talking about _____ was her name. I guess telling lies is her game. I like my school except for the part about _____. Lakewood is a great city because of special things that happen. Like parades, fundraisers and many more. On the fourth of July they canceled our street just to have a parade and do fireworks. I just love the City of Lakewood, don't you?

fBreanne Cornell
Stephen Foster
Min/Wood
Rm. 54
4th grade

Dear Mayor,

I admire policemen in the City of Lakewood. Policemen protect us by catching bad guys. They also keep us safe on the road. For example, they keep us from speeding and driving drunk. Policemen keep us safe at home and in stores by making sure we don't get robbed. They even make sure we have a fun and safe 4th of July. For instance, they make sure we don't use illegal fireworks. They also help us find our parents if we get lost.

A police named Deputy Scott comes to my class each month to teach us about safety rules. Last month she came and was talking about what we want to be when we grow up. She gave us a folder called S.T.A.R. and a paper. Then we wrote what we wanted to be when we grow up on the paper. After that we drew a picture of ourself in 2015. Deputy Scott is a good policeman. I might be a policeman when I grow up and help the City of Lakewood. There are many more reasons why I admire policemen. Someday you might be pulled over by a policeman for speeding and you might see me.

Sincerely,

Breanne

David Grkinich
4th Grade
Mrs. Ferrara
Stephen Foster

Lakewood Pride

I feel pride in Lakewood. Lakewood is a city that is magnificently remarkable. It has parks, people, and schools. It is an outstanding place to live. Shopping is made effortless in Lakewood.

We have Mayfair Park. It has a pool and a little baby pool. Also it has an immense basketball court. The park includes football, soccer, and tennis courts. A sort of day care center is available where your parents sign you up to play a game and you play until your parents come and pick you up. A marvelous swimming program runs throughout the summer in the park. Last but not least, it has fairs and carnivals. The park is fun!

People are very nice and help a lot in Lakewood. They help our streets by keeping our streets nice and clean. If helping were a contest, Lakewood would win by a landslide! Nearly everybody in Lakewood helps and is respectful to the city. They are courteous to others and watch out for themselves. The people are so helpful and clean.

The schools are very good in Lakewood, and have good rules. Many of them are blue ribbon schools. They have excellent teachers and students and are just perfect in a lot of ways. Schools also support AYSO soccer by allowing soccer to be played on the fields. Lakewood has magnificent schools.

Shopping is easy because there are so many stores around that can sell you whatever you are looking for. If you can't find it, they tell you where it is sold. You can count on a shop in Lakewood to have what you are looking for.

I am glad that we have parks, nice people, good schools, and marvelous stores. Those are just the many reasons that I take pride in living in Lakewood.

Angela Marquez
Steven Foster
Min/Wood

Dear Mayor,

I admire Mary and Derek in the City of Lakewood. They work at the George Nye Jr. Library. They are very nice and help us with our homework when our parents are busy. I think that they are smart, I also think they are great people because they are great at helping other people. The reason we appreciate them so much is because my brother Christian. Instead of doing his homework he runs around the house jumping and skipping so it is hard for my mom to watch him and the baby, he goes to the library. We go there for about an hour. They are very considerate people because they listen to what we have to say. They care about us and are very nice. When we are done with our homework we get to play on the computer or read a book that is why we appreciate and admire Mary and Derek. They are probably admired by a lot of people besides me. I like them as people as much as I like them as library pages.

Sincerely,

Angela Marquez

Why I Like Lakewood By Mark Kayss

Lakewood is a nice and safe place to live in. The neighborhood is so quiet and the people are very friendly. It is a very convenient place because it has very clean parks, educational schools, a great mall, a post office, and grocery stores.

I like Lakewood because of the Lakewood neighborhood watch, police night-watch, security guards at the malls and festivals. Police in cars or bikes try to find criminals and speeders. Firefighters who rescue people in burning buildings and put out fires in our community is another reason why I like Lakewood. There are cross-guards who help kids (like me) cross the street on school days. These people all lead to one important thing, our "city heroes", who keep us all safe.

Every night, I can hear some helicopters roaming around, they are the Lakewood night-watch. They check the whole community. It makes me feel safe because I know my community is being watched by the patrol squad in the helicopters. It makes me feel safe, secure, and comfortable when I go to sleep in this protected city. I'm glad and lucky to live in Lakewood.

Derek Robert #20

10-23-03

What I Like About Lakewood

Lakewood is a great place to grow up. I live in a great house. My dad spent about two years remodeling it. My brother, sister and I have lots of room to play now. Our street is a real fun street. There's lots of kids to play with on our block too. The neighborhoods of Lakewood are a great place to raise a family.

Living in Lakewood, we're close to lots of other things. It's only a half an hour to the beach and a two hour drive to the mountains. There's also lots of beautiful parks to go visit in Lakewood. Shopping is fun here too. My mom likes to shop at the mall.

School is another good thing I like about Lakewood. I go to Stephen Foster school and I like going. I have had some good teachers.

My mom takes me and picks me up every day but sometimes I get to walk.

Another thing about Lakewood that I like is the fire and police departments. They help us when we're injured or if there's a fire.

I also like its history and famous people. I'd want to be here too if there was a gold rush.

Lakewood is also a great place because we use recycled water for sprinklers and hoses so that we have lots of water to drink. Lakewood has trash collectors, street sweepers, and signal maintenance too.

I think Lakewood is one of the greatest cities in California. I'm lucky to live in a community where people care for each other.

I feel pride living in Lakewood. Lakewood is a city with malls, no gangs, parks, activities, good neighborhoods, movie theaters, schools, libraries, mild weather, parades, festivals, and last but not least polite people.

The Lakewood mall is wonderful because it has a food court that's clean and has delicious food, useful small and large stores, two theaters complexes and great customer service. I'm glad that I live only a few blocks from the mall. What a convenient advantage to Lakewood!

Another thing that makes Lakewood a magnificent place to live is the family oriented neighborhoods. I think the neighborhoods are nice because the people help each other. They work together to make the city a better place. Also, the streets are kept clean with help from the street sweepers. The residents take pride in keeping up the appearance of their homes.

One important thing that makes Lakewood so brilliant is the schools. All the schools are great, not just mine. What makes these schools so great? Well, it's a combination of caring teachers, parents, children who want to learn and surrounding businesses who all help to make our schools super. Without the staff, we wouldn't have the superior schools we have now. Another thing that makes our schools educational program wonderful are the assemblies and special programs we have. Without these assets we wouldn't be as smart and enthusiastic. We also

owe a lot to our active PTA. They help by raising money that enable us to enjoy more field trips and special events.

One of the most important things we enjoy is the climate. It helps us stay healthy. It is just right! It is mostly sunny, but when it does rain we are ready, thanks to the newscast. I just *love* the weather here!

I am proud to say that Lakewood has no gangs, thanks to the sheriffs! They work hard to do their job right. They make sure we have safe streets. I don't have to worry that much about being safe when I play ball outside. Lakewood has safe streets!

Lakewood also has fabulous libraries. Our libraries are peaceful. You can really concentrate and get some work done. Special people come and teach or entertain us during summer programs. Sometimes sheriffs or even clowns come! The libraries are organized and the staff is helpful and patient. There are even people who volunteer their time to read to the children. Our libraries amaze me!

Lakewood is full of variety which makes it interesting. I am grateful for all the residents and employees who work hard to keep Lakewood a desirable place to live. **Thanks!**

What I like about Lakewood

I enjoy lots of thing in Lakewood. Especially all the colorful plants , shrubs , and flowers. They also have a beautiful nature center in Lakewood too. You could take a quiet stroll or ride your bike on a half a one , or two mile bike ride. It is a tremendous sight.

Another thing I like about Lakewood is their housing. They have wonderful colors , landscaping. Also all of the people are trying to in prove on their appearances. A lot of people are putting fencing , new grass , and colorful plants. I think all the houses in Lakewood are beautiful.

How ever there are terrific libraries and nice books to read. Speaking of libraries my school has a library too. It has lots of good exiting books. It also has a story corner. A story corner is where you can read quietly to your self. Our story corner has bean bags , a rocking chair , and some stools.

My school is one of the nicest schools I've seen. We have clean bathrooms , classrooms. All the teachers at Stephen Foster Elementary I think do their jobs and are responsible. When we eat lunch I think how clean Lakewood is. One other thing is that I am lucky to get to go to school.

There is also another thing I love about Lakewood. It's the animal shelters that I like. They take good care of the animals. The animals get baths and they get fed everyday. That's what I like about the animal shelter.

Lakewood is one of my favorite cities. It's a nice place to raise a family and live. I think it's a safe place and a friendly city. That's what I like about Lakewood.

Dana #12

October 27,2003

What I Like About Lakewood

What I like about Lakewood is Mayfair Park. I like it because it has a fun playground. I love to go there on weekends. In Mayfair Park you can slide on slides, play on the swings, and dig in the dirt. There are many different kinds animals there too. I also go to Mayfair Park on field trips at school. My favorite thing is to make sand castles and volcanos. Mayfair Park is right by Stephen Foster and the Intensive Learning Center. One day at the Intensive Learning Center in 3rd grade I went to Mayfair Park with my book buddy Branston. My teacher Mrs. Cunningham watched us play on the playground. I was making holes and sand cakes in the dirt. I also like to fill bottles with sand and pour it on things. I also like to play with the dogs and squirrels. I like to feed them and run around with them. The slides are also fun. I like to slide on them when it is filled with sand. I also like to push people while they're on the swings.

DANA HAWKENS

Hello my name is Christian Nieves I like Lakewood. My family and I have lived here for about 12 years. We like it here. Lakewood is a beautiful place for people to live in.

My family and I like Lakewood because there are many nice and good restaurants. The restaurant we like is Souplantation. We like Souplantation because you can eat pizza, chicken noodle soup, and many more. Another restaurant we like is Hometown Buffet because it is all you can eat. You can eat B-B-Q chicken, macaroni, ham, turkey, hot dog, fries, mash potatoes, hard tacos, brownies, rice krispie, salad, and ice cream. We also like Red Lobster. They give you crab leg, apple sauce, shrimp, fries, and bread. They give you a drink. I also like IHOP because they give you pancakes, hash browns, strawberries, hot chocolate. They also give you other food.

I like schools because they have academics. They also have Assemblies, Band / Chorus, PE. The schools also have 6th vs. staff softball and carnivals at school. I also like the lunch pizza, chocolate milk, and many more.

I like the mall. The stores the mall has are Vans, Anchor blue, Hot Topic, Foot Locker Kids, Foot Locker. At the mall I buy games, clothes, and shoes. They also have food there like Chinese food and pizza. One of my cousins works there. His store has nice shoes.

I also like the theatres. The theatres are nice. The theatres have good movies. The theatres give you food pizza, icee, popcorn, hot dogs. The theatres have arcades with good cool fun games. There are lots more I like about Lakewood.

That is what I like about Lakewood. Thank you and bye.

What I Like About Lakewood
By Brittany Marie Sevilla
Room # 34
Mrs. D Ambrosio

What I Like About Lakewood

Lakewood is a great place to live. There aren't any gangs. There aren't a lot of crimes in Lakewood. Everyone is nice to one another. Lakewood is an excellent place to live.

There are so many great places to eat in Lakewood. Wherever you go you will get a great meal. Some of the places to eat are Chili's, Hometown Buffet, Fuddruckers, Marie Callenders, Starbucks, Red Lobster, Souplantation, and many many more. Those are some of the places to eat in Lakewood.

There are great places to shop in Lakewood also. The Lakewood Mall is a great place to shop. There are so many stores in the Lakewood Mall. You can find anything you need at the Mall. It is a great place to shop.

There are great parks in Lakewood; the parks in Lakewood are a great place to relax. The parks are beautiful in Lakewood. They are also clean. The parks are all great in Lakewood.

There are nice houses in Lakewood. They have big backyards. They are very colorful and vivid too. They can be red, blue, yellow, peach, or any color you can think of. The houses in Lakewood are cool.

The schools are excellent in Lakewood. They are clean. The children can learn a lot in the schools. There are great Teachers at the schools in Lakewood. The schools are cool in Lakewood.

These are just some of the great things about Lakewood. Lakewood is a great place to live. The City of Lakewood is my favorite city in the whole wide world. That is what I love about Lakewood.

Jessica Turner
Stephen Foster
Mrs. Lee
RM55

What I Like About Lakewood

Lakewood means a lot to me. It is a really great city. Most people wished they lived in Lakewood, so I'm glad I do. It has different varieties of culture. I truly do like this city.

Stephen Foster is the school I go to it is really nice. I am blessed to have schools in our city. Stephen Foster was put in the greatest, greatest city of all. I am glad to have a great school.

Our mall is probably why people come to Lakewood. I like the mall cause it has nice stores in it. It also shows different varieties. It has like shoe stores, book stores and basically anything that you can think of. It is a nice place.

The library that I know in Lakewood is Icaboni. The workers there are very helpful. There are like millions of there. There is a summer library readathon I join. That is where I go to read a lot if books and magazines.

All of my favorite restaurants are in Lakewood. You can't decide which one to eat at sometimes. You can always know service will be great. I like the restaurants in Lakewood.

Mayfair Park is in Lakewood. It is a nice and clean park. They have some activities that I join. Some of the sports I have joined are basketball and swimming. They have good things to do when winter comes along. I like Lollipop Lane. Now you know Lakewood is a wonderful city.

What I Like about Lakewood

**By Austin Van Horn
Stephen Foster Elementary School
Lakewood, CA**

There are many things I like about Lakewood, but right now I'm only going to mention one. My favorite thing I like about Lakewood is Mayfair Pool. I feel good knowing on hot sunny summer days I can always count on Mayfair Pool. Every year when I am at daycare there will always be a very hot day. On that hot day, my daycare already has plans to go to Mayfair Pool. It is hot, and then when I step into the water you automatically feel cooled down. After about an hour you will feel hot again. So then you can get out and jump right back in. Then somebody can start to drown but then the well trained lifeguard jumps in and saves you. You can always count on lifeguards. Back to Mayfair Pool. At Mayfair Pool expect to find the water clear and clean. I am sure that the City of Lakewood tells Mayfair Pool to clean the pool everyday. I don't mean to be mean but some other pools I've seen they have been dirty. Mayfair Pool is the closest pool near my house. Whenever you go to Mayfair Pool in the City of Lakewood you can always expect to be cooled down or rescued by a lifeguard. This is my essay on What I Like About Lakewood.

Monika Agramonte

Lakewood's Anniversary

Lakewood is an exciting city with many attractions, events, and educational programs. Six of these that I like the most are the mall, library, movies, sports, parks, and food.

Our Lakewood Mall goes back in history forty or fifty years ago. It was one of the first malls opened. This mall is my favorite because it has all of my favorite stores such as "Hot Topic" and "Anchor Blue". There are friendly workers in the mall who treat you well. I go to the mall a lot with my parents, sisters, and friends. When we go there, we buy clothes and get cookies at Mrs. Fields, or eat at Taco Bell or Mc Donald's. I really like all of the fun activities at the Lakewood Mall. I'm glad that they built it.

The next thing I like about Lakewood is the library. Libraries are my favorite place to go when I need to think. I check out most of my books from our Iacoboni Library, or I check them out of my school library. The Iacoboni Library has all of my favorite books. They have the books I need to read for school, and the books I want to read for school and home. I love reading. Iacoboni has different sections with categories like kids, young adults, and adults. It has a reference section and computers to look for a title, author, or keyword. I love the Iacoboni Library and hope it doesn't close for a long time. I can do my homework in peace and quiet there.

One of my favorite things about Lakewood is the movies. I can see all of the new movies at the theatres. My favorite theatre is the Pacific theatre. My parents take my brothers and sisters and I to the movies. Sometimes I go to the movies with my cousins and friends. When I go to the movies, I buy popcorn, an icee, and candy. Just like the Lakewood Mall, the people at the movies treat us kindly and always tell us to enjoy the movie. They also tell us hello and good-bye, and they don't criticize our choice of movie. A lot of people go to the movies to have fun. I'm one of them.

Lakewood has all of my favorite restaurants too. There are buffet restaurants and regular restaurants. There is Mexican food, Chinese food, seafood, and regular food. I have a lot of restaurants that are my favorites. Souplantation is at the top of my favorites list. It has different types of food. I mostly eat clam chowder, baked potato, salad, and pasta. They have really good food. Another one of my favorite restaurants is Super Mex. I get the kid's burrito. It comes with rice and beans too. Last but not least is Hometown Buffet. Hometown is a really big buffet. It has all kinds of food like chicken, rice, French fries, mashed potatoes, and a lot of other foods. When I go there, I get mashed potatoes with chicken and

gravy. I also get corn and broccoli. Lakewood has all of the restaurants for people who have certain favorites. I love Lakewood's restaurants.

If you want to have parties and fun, Lakewood's parks are great. You can bring your whole family to the parks for any reason. My favorite parks are Mayfair Park and San Martine Park. I live a block away from Mayfair Park, so I can go there a lot. I walked my dog there a couple times, but it's the park I mostly go to because I live so close to it. They have a playground for older kids like me, and a playground for toddlers and little kids. I go to the park to play baseball with my dad and little brother. Sometimes I ride my bike around the park. It's fun to just ride down the path. San Martine is my next favorite park. When I was younger, I used to pretend I was Cinderella going to the ball. San Martine has a castle and pumpkin carriages. My cousins and I still like playing around at the parks. My parents and family enjoy having parties at Mayfair and San Martine. They are clean, fresh parks. I'm glad that we get the pleasure of having them in Lakewood. I think that they are the best parks. So if you want to relax, go to Lakewood's parks and find peace.

Certainly, the last thing that I love about Lakewood is the sports programs. My brother and I participate in Lakewood's sports. He plays baseball and I play soccer. I have been playing soccer for at least five years. I've played since I was five, and I am eleven. This would be my sixth year playing, but I have a lot of things to do since I am in sixth grade. Next year I'm going to play though. I will be in division three. One year I tried playing softball. I was six and very small, so I was scared of the ball. My dad was my coach, so we had a lot of fun together. My dad coaches my little brother Michael's team. Michael has been playing for two years, and my dad has been his coach for those years and maybe some of the upcoming years. Michael is seven years old, and this will be his third year playing. My family loves sports, so it's fun that Lakewood has sports programs that we can participate in. Sports can bring families closer to each other, that's why I'm glad we have them here.

These reasons and many more are why people enjoy living in this glorious city. Lakewood, California is a great place to live in for everybody. Everything that I talked about above is true. If you want to come and see yourself, do so. I guarantee you'll like what you see. This is my opinion of Lakewood. I believe that it is the truth. It is what I see in my own eyes, but people might think different. They might of course have their own opinion, but they will probably say what I said. Lakewood is a truly great place, and I love it.

Sincerely,

Monika Agramonte

Things I Like About Lakewood

By: Rachel Fisher

I live in the City of Lakewood, which is almost 50 years old. Lakewood is very clean, the houses are nice and I feel safe here. Some of the things I like about Lakewood are the theaters, the restaurants, the mall, the Sheriff's station, the Icaboni Library, and the parks, I would like to tell you why I enjoy living here and why I like these places.

Each year the sheriff station has an open house. I got to look in the police cars and the helicopters. Lakewood was one of the first cities to use helicopters for the sheriff station. At the open house the sheriffs show you the equipment that they use and I even got fingerprinted. One year the open house was right before Halloween, they let us go into the jail and see what it was like. It was scary, because the police men had put spooky music on and had straw men in the cell. I never want to go to jail. The policemen also explain what we can do to keep Lakewood a safe place. We have a great neighborhood watch program. I really do feel safe in Lakewood.

Lakewood has a great shopping mall. The mall was one of the first of its kind to be built. JC Penny has been there for a very long time. It has lots of good stores, and a food court. The mall even helps our school with the school cents program. The mall is good for the city and I love shopping at the mall.

We also have some great theaters and restaurants in Lakewood. The theaters are kept clean and have all the latest movies playing. The police are on patrol on the weekends so everyone is safe. There are many restaurants in our city too. Some of the very oldest ones are Loves and I Hop but, we keep up with the times by building new restaurants. The most recent ones that have been built are Mimi's Cafe and the Elephant Bar. My parents enjoyed going to both of them. I am glad we have a good, safe theaters and a variety of restaurants to choose from.

One of my favorite things about Lakewood is the Icaboni Library. The library has a good selection of books. They also have a nice big computer area. You can use the computer to find a book that you want to check out or you can go onto the internet. When the library was remodeled I went with my friends and we volunteered to help reshelve the books. It was fun. The library is a clean and quiet place to read and do your homework. I have participated in the summer reading program at the library. You get prizes and have fun reading at the same time. They also have some cool activities at the library, like storytime for preschoolers and magic shows. The Icaboni Library is a fun place to go!

However, the best thing about Lakewood is the parks. All of the park workers are very nice. The parks have free sports programs for all ages. Some of these include, flag football, basketball, baseball, softball and volleyball. They stress learning how to play the sport and good sportsmanship. I like to play volleyball and softball. This past summer my softball team were the city champs for our division. We were on the Lakewood cable TV. I have also won the good sportsmanship pin in volleyball. The recreation center at the parks provide after school activities, like carom boards, foosball and board games. Even during the holidays they have crafts, movies, and lunches. Lakewood has two parks that have big pools and most of the other parks have wading pools. They have free swim time and they have swimming lessons. You can even be a junior lifeguard and help the real lifeguards teach little kids to swim. My older sisters had fun doing that. The Lakewood parks have fun playgrounds with different kinds of

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equipment at each park. Overall, the parks in Lakewood are the best thing about our city.

As you can see, Lakewood is clean, safe, and fun for all. I love living in the city of Lakewood. "Tomorrows City Today!"

What I Like About Lakewood

Lakewood is a magnificent city with many attractions, events and programs. Some of these things are the mall, the library, safe parks, good protection, good places to eat, good neighbors, stores, schools and special programs and events.

The Lakewood mall was one of the very first malls. Some of the very first stores in the mall were JC Penny and Montgomery Wards. There are many terrific reasons I like the Lakewood mall. One is the unique stores that are in it. Another reason is because of the great service that you get. They greet you with a smile and always ask, "Can I help you"? It always makes you feel very welcomed.

A marvelous place to go is the Iacoboni library. To go there and get books is one of my most favorite things to do. I love to look through the shelves and shelves of books. Trying to pick out just three or four to take home is always difficult. Whenever I am there I get great service from the people that work there. The library is definitely one of my favorite places to go in Lakewood.

Mayfair park in Lakewood is really a great place to go. The basketball courts are a great place to shoot some hoops and hang out with friends. Another great place in the park to talk and hang out with friends is the grass field. It's green grass and shady trees are very soothing and help to make you feel calm.

In Lakewood, you are very lucky to have great neighbors, who are always nice and very helpful. My neighbors, have always been very kind. Every time my sister's hit their balls over the fence, our neighbors either throw it back over or tell us that we are welcome to go over and get it. They also always say "Hi", with a smile and that is what counts most.

Protection is another great thing Lakewood has to offer. The police, firemen and neighborhood watch program all make you feel very safe. When there is a problem they are right there to help.

There are many wonderful schools in Lakewood. Even though I've only been to Stephen Foster, I still think all the schools are great. Stephen Foster is a really terrific school. We have great staff members and many educational programs and events, like chorus plays and Super Star. Our chorus plays always turn out great because we have a great chorus teacher. He always makes it really fun. We get to try out for everything. Mr. Dennis doesn't just pick people out of the audience and say, "Your going to be in the play because you dress nice". We get a week to practice, then we try out for what ever part we want. We all have a fare chance at everything. Then after every part is picked, and we have practiced until we know every part of the play, we perform in front of the school. Then we perform at the civic center in front of our parents. Super Star is a very educational program. I always learn something new from every Super Star event. We also have a carnival every year at our school. We have many games and we bid on baskets that every class helps to make. Last but definitely not least, we have great teachers and staff members. All six, going on seven years that I've been at Stephen Foster, I have always had fantastic teachers. They have taught me very well and I have always learned as much as I could from them. They have always answered all my questions.

Another great thing about Lakewood is its great places to eat. In Lakewood we have many tasty places to eat, such as; Outback, Chili's, Quizno's, and Black Angus. Black Angus is my favorite place to eat out of all of them, they have very tasty food. My family goes there on special occasions.

The stores in Lakewood are another fantastic thing about Lakewood. Right when you walk in you get greeted with a smile or "Can I help you"? It makes you feel really welcome, so you want to come back again and again.

Lakewood has many special programs and events. These include: football, soccer, baseball, cheer, tennis, Mayfair pool, car shows, the Pan American festival and many more. Basketball is a fun way to improve your aim. Football is a good way to test you muscles. Baseball is a great way to learn teamwork. Tennis is mostly a grown up sport, but it is still a unique sport. Cheerleading is a fun way to get active and to learn teamwork. It is also a great way to stay in shape and improve your memory skills. You have to remember all the cheers. The Pan American festival is a really awesome event. You get to hang out with friends and the games there are great. The rides there are the best thing of them all. My favorite ride has always been the swings.

That's why I like Lakewood.

By Cheyenne Ross

**Grace Van Winkle
Stephen Foster**

What I Like About Lakewood

Lakewood is an extremely excellent city. I often enjoy many features, attractions, and programs here. Some of these are: the AYSO soccer program, the Pan Am festival, and Mayfair Park.

Let me first tell you how much I enjoy the AYSO soccer program. I love to practice my skills at Mayfair Park, and play my soccer games there as well. Soccer is a passion of mine, and it is a joy to find a soccer program as close to home as AYSO is.

Another thing I appreciate is the Pan Am festival. The rides are very exciting and fun. When I last went there, I particularly enjoyed the ride Kamikaze. I hope that Lakewood will continue to have magnificent rides at the Pan Am fair.

Something else that exceeds expectations in the city of Lakewood is Mayfair Park. The large field (as I have mentioned before) is the perfect place to practice sports, or just walk around and talk. The Mayfair pool is superb, and I have had some extremely pleasant times swimming in it. The pool has always been open for our school to use for the end of the school year pool party and I hope it will stay that way for a long time.

An excellent thing about Lakewood is that the theaters are very close by. Pacific Theaters is a very nice place, and I have enjoyed seeing many movies there. Some of the movies I have seen at Pacific theaters are: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, and Monsters Inc. Lakewood has very convenient movie theaters.

Another great feature of Lakewood is that it is safe. There is a very good police department in this city. If I got a dollar every time I saw a police car, I'd be rich. (By the way, that's a compliment.) I just wanted to say that Lakewood has a great security system.

An attraction I think I can safely say everyone finds enjoyable is the mall. There is something for everyone at the mall. Whether you like books, clothes, eating, or just plain shopping, there is a place for you at the mall. Some of the stores I like to go to while I explore this very special feature are: See's Candy, Rave Girl, Mrs. Fields Cookies, and Claires. In my opinion, Lakewood Mall is in the top ten places to go to when you have time.

Some of my best memories have taken place in Lakewood. Among many, here are a few: Winning the last soccer game of the season, seeing the first Harry Potter movie on the day it came out in theaters, and swimming in Mayfair pool for the end of the school year pool party.

Lakewood is a wonderful city. I'm proud to live in a town where people are so kind and there are so many things to do. Everything. Soccer, the theaters, the mall, the Pan Am festival, and Mayfair Park is here because of the city of Lakewood. If there were no Lakewood, there would be no Mayfair Park. There would be no Lakewood Mall, theaters, soccer or Pan Am festival. Most importantly, this area probably wouldn't be as safe as it is now. I think what we need to do right now is say thank you. Thank you mayor, thank you city council, and thank you community. Thank you for being there for entertainment, fun, and much more. Thank you Lakewood.

by: Grace Vandenberg

Lakewood is a truly great city. I would like to tell all about the mall, the parks baseball program, the library, the good restaurants, and the safe neighborhoods in Lakewood.

The Lakewood mall is a personal favorite of mine. I just love going to the different stores and seeing what my mom would buy me as a treat. As a treat, my mom would usually take me to Dairy Queen or Pretzel Wetzel. I got the book, Harry Potter the 5th from the mall. Of course, who could forget the new food courts? Those are the best!

I also love to play baseball. Last year, I joined a baseball league at Mayfair Park. Our team was the Cubs. We earned 2nd place in the league (falling only behind the Angels.) In one game that we could not lose (or else we would finish 3rd in the league), I was awarded the game ball because I was playing 3rd base (a position I do not usually play) and made possible the game winning double play.

One of the greatest cities to eat at would probably be Lakewood. It has almost everything, and you don't have to go across town to get a burger from Carl's Jr. after a movie or a day of shopping with my mom. I like to go get a bite at restaurants like the Elephant Bar or Souplantation or Round Table pizza. When I go to Wilmington to visit my grandmother, we almost always go to the same three restaurants every time. There is no Carl's Jr., no Burger King or nice restaurants. We are very lucky to live in such a city.

Another good quality about Lakewood is the safe neighborhoods. Lakewood has one of the safest neighborhoods that I know. On the news, you hear about break-ins or kidnappers or child molesters in cities like Irvine or Palm Springs, but never our city Lakewood. Lakewood has neighborhood watches to keep us safe. I feel very safe in this great city of Lakewood.

Lakewood's great library the Icoboni Library is packed with books. I myself have donated some of my old books to them. Whenever I need a certain book or I am looking for some information I go to the Icoboni Library. It is so calm and quiet that I could just find a quiet spot and read for an hour without being disturbed. The Icoboni Library has a few computers too. Before I had a computer I used to go to the library all the time and log on to the computer and do some work on it. I have been to the new Cerritos Library, and I've got to say no library I will ever see will match up with that library. But I like the Icoboni Library just the way it is.

That was just a few things I like about Lakewood. I hope this essay has enlightened you on how important Lakewood is to me, and that without this great city; my life would probably be very different.