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## On The Town

May 26, 2005

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## Banyan school really cares when it matters

I am very grateful for the continued efforts of our Banyan Elementary Bobcat family and community for altruistically financially helping my brain-injured daughter, Katie Berke, with her ongoing needs through the Save Katie's Smile Campaign inspired by Mr.

Moccia.

For starters, a big thanks to Mr.

Schoenhofen, the local motorcycle club community, the Alamo Restaurant proprietors and all the organizers and participants who supported Katie's fundraiser at the Alamo in February. Thank you!

April blossomed with more tremendous efforts at Banyan Elementary with ongoing endeavors to help Katie. A big thank-you to school principal Mrs. Tetzlaff for her continued support of the Bobcat family assisting with the campaign. I acknowledge that there are many individuals behind the scenes making these fundraising efforts possible, and to you, thank you.

April started with the book sale fundraiser. Big kudos to Mr. Holland, Mrs. Miller and all who participated in donating and buying books. This was followed by a huge rummage sale, and word has it that Banyan Girl Scouts incubated this idea. A bucketful of thanks to Girl Scout Troops (girls, you rock!) Nos.

881, 488, 398, 126, 75 and 32, volunteers Cheryl Miller, Debbie Dreese, Kristin Bertrand, Donna Sales, Susie Lambertson, Hollywood Storage, Tedco Printing and all the participants and supporters of this great cause. Thank you!

Thanks to the support from the community and caring individuals, Katie slowly makes progress towards the lengthy process of getting her front teeth.

She still continues to recover from the first hip-to-jaw bone graft surgery, again fighting an infection done in January. She is a trooper and works daily on keeping her spirits up. May shall reveal the next steps towards the goal. While her surgeons continue to emphasize that her case is very severe and complex, we are most thankful to all who are contributing to making her teeth a reality, hopefully within two years. Thank you!

For more information on Katie's progress, you can visit the website [www.ecofotos.com/ktb](http://www.ecofotos.com/ktb).

Traumatic brain injury is a silent epidemic affecting all those involved, and there are many families struggling with the ramifications of acquired

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brain injury as well.

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every Thursday at 72 Moody Court, Thousand Oaks. For information call Shaw at (805) 499-4790 or Veronica at (805) 498-6851.

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