

The BEST things in life are
FREE

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**MINEARDS'
MISCELLANY**



Presidential Partying: Erstwhile Montecitans Harold and Annette Simmons join George W; meanwhile, Nancy Koppelman and Mollie Ahlstrand party with the Obamas, p. 6

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Pajama Night at MUS

Last week, local author **J.Z. Bingham** read her recently released, award-winning book series, *Salty Splashes Collection*, to students at Montecito Union School. The event, sponsored by the PTA, was part of the Books for Bedtime series, which had been on hiatus for the last six years.

The children's book series feature lighthearted tales of adventure with engaging characters and full bleed illustrations; Bingham has received nationally acclaimed recognition, along with a Mom's Choice Award. The three books are loosely based on an animal adventure of the Channel Islands, says PTA president **Cindy Feinberg**, who organized the event.

Locally, the series will be carried by The Book Den, Tecolote Book Shop, The Good Cup, and Chaucer's, and online at www.barnesandnoble.com and www.amazon.com.

MUS Chief Academic Officer **Dr. Nick Bruski** said of the evening event, in which students dressed in their pajamas: "J.Z. is a wonderful storyteller who brought her books to life by reciting them from memory. What a great opportunity for students of MUS to meet and learn from a real, local author who writes stories about the place in which they live."

For more information about the books and author, visit www.jzbingham.com.

