

Riley Elementary School

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Heather Watson Davidson
Riley Elementary
Mr. Geary
Fourth Grade

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT LAKEWOOD

I would like to tell you why I like the City of Lakewood. The City of Lakewood has so much to offer people. It gives you the feeling of family and community that goes back a long, long time ago. I know because my great grandma Barbara Norton was one of the first people to buy a home in Lakewood Park, back in May 1951, and she still lives there today. She told me there were dairy cows, donkeys and skunks near by! Eew!

After the farms disappeared they built a place called Dutch Village with a great restaurant for hamburgers called "Tip Toe Inn", that was owned by my other great grandma and grandpa Watson. My grandma worked there and said people came from as far away as Hollywood and Huntington Beach for their hamburgers because they were so good! So it's extra special to me because my family had a home and a restaurant back when Lakewood was a new city.

My great grandma told me that a long, long time ago the milk man would deliver milk to your door and that a Helms Bakery Man would come down the street blowing his whistle to let you know he had fresh bread and donuts. Now they are all gone but now you can go to nice clean markets, shopping centers and the Lakewood Mall, when you want to go out to eat. Even though my great grandma's restaurant is gone, there are lots of restaurants you can go to with lots of good food.

My grandma went to elementary school, junior high and high school in Lakewood and we both agree that these schools are the best schools there are ever!

The parks are so pretty and nice with so many cool things to do. They have some great play equipment and their sports activities are the best!

The neighborhoods are nice and clean and the people are very nice. You can tell that other people love living there too!

We have so much in this wonderful city. Today I am lucky to be a part of Lakewood like the rest of my family. Tomorrow will be lucky too because of how they built Lakewood. Like the name, "Tomorrow's City Today", that they gave Lakewood a long time ago, it really is, and I'm lucky and proud to be a part of it.

Ashantah Grant
Riley Elementary
Mrs. Evans/Mrs. Ollen

What I Like About Lakewood

What I like about Lakewood is that there are new people to meet. There are wonderful schools to go to with wonderful teachers. My favorite teacher is Ms. Wystrach. There are also lots of stores to go to. My favorite store is in the Lakewood Mall.

There are lots of things to do and nice people in Lakewood. Sometimes in the morning I go for a walk with my Grandma. Everybody is friendly. My Grandma makes new friends every day. So do I. Even though I do not live in Lakewood, it feels like home to me.

What Do I Like About the Lakewood Mall?

Amber Haskins
10/28/03

When I used to live across the street from the Lakewood Mall, my family and I would go shopping at the mall all of the time. Other times we would just go to sight see. Whenever we would go to the mall there are so many things that I like to do because it is a cool place to hang out and its always a lot of fun when I'm there. Some of my favorite places there are the book store, carousel, Mrs. Field's Cookie Factory and See's Candy.

The bookstore has so many books. My family and I spend a lot of time looking for interesting books to read. We always find a lot of books for my mom to research certain things when she has a project to do for her school. What I like about that is that I always manage to find a couple of books that I like to read.

The carousel is something that I really love because we always have fun riding it over and over. It seems as if the ride is so short, so as soon as the carousel stops, I would always ask my mom if we can ride it again. My mom lets us ride at least three or four more times. My mom or dad take lots of pictures as we go around.

The aroma that comes from Mrs. Field's Cookies smells so good that we could never pass by those delicious cookies. They are always hot and yummy and so many varieties to choose from. They are all so good, but my favorite cookies are chocolate chip and peanut butter.

If you are looking for some good candy, See's Candy is the right place to go. Almost everybody, including myself, love See's Candy especially at Christmas time or special occasions. There are so many different kinds of candy to choose from; nuts, chews, caramel, chocolate and many more. It drives me crazy looking at all that candy and trying to figure out which two I want. My mom will only let me have but two pieces at a time, so I enjoy sampling a few pieces of chocolate in the store.

In conclusion, after a day of searching for books, riding the carousel, taking pictures, eating cookies and candy all day, I get kind of nauseated, but I do it over and over again because it's lots of fun and I love to go to the Lakewood Mall.

Diana Hoang
Riley Elementary
Mrs. Evans/Mrs. Ollen
2nd Grade

What I like about Lakewood

What I like about Lakewood is all the wonderful places. It is so peaceful. My cousin always comes to the green park. "It is so peaceful," she would say. My park is the best.

Lakewood is close to the beach, it is so fun. The swimming pool at the beautiful park is a good place for practicing swimming. You could swim because there are three lifeguards, so you can really be safe. I really like Lakewood. It is the best.

Davina Martino
Riley Elementary
Mr. Geary
Fourth Grade

The One I Admire Most

The person I admire most isn't famous or well known. She is not perfect and sometimes can make mistakes. She is just a regular person with a lot of love and caring in her. She is a Lakewood citizen and is the best thing God ever gave me. The person I admire most is my mom.

The reasons why I admire my mom are because she is a strong and thoughtful person. She teaches me to respect and be kind to others. She struggled all her life being an orphan trying to survive a hard and lonely childhood. She was a sister, and parent to her younger brother and sister, and she basically raised them too. She did a great job because my aunt and my uncle have gone onto college and have grown up to be great people, just like I want to be. My mom has been a single mom since I was born and has always managed to keep a roof over my head and food on the table. I know it hasn't been easy doing it on her own and I admire her for doing a great job raising me and trying to teach me not to make the same mistakes she did.

She is also a very helpful person. For example, just recently she told me to get all my clothes and toys so we can help the fire victims. She climbed a wall to get my ball and does a lot of little things like that to help. The things she does might not be big to the rest of us but it is to me. She's playful and fun too, like when she does curvy wurvys down the street. She just wants to put a smile on your face!

You kids out there would be lucky if you had a mom like mine. But I got her first and I'm not giving her up. She is happy to be a part of Lakewood and so am I. Lakewood is lucky to have a woman like my mom living here. Not many people know my mom but once you meet her and get to know her, you'll see what I mean. Now you know why I admire her.

What I Like About Lakewood

I live in Lakewood, California. I go to school in Lakewood at Riley Elementary School. I'm in Third Grade.

One thing I like about Lakewood it is a big area. You can do lots of stuff. I like to ride my bike.

My favorite activity in Lakewood was swimming lessons. I am a good swimmer. I like the diving board.

The most important thing to me in Lakewood is the trees, because they are pretty. They are everywhere. The leaves are everywhere.

*The Best Vice Principal in the Universe, Mrs. Sanchez
by Elda Ortega*

I know the greatest vice principal in the universe. She used to work at Riley, but now she's at MacArthur. Mrs. Sanchez is a very generous, funny, and caring person. She treats all students with respect—even the ones that behave badly.

Mrs. Sanchez is very bighearted in many ways. She used to give us prizes for perfect attendance and good behavior. Our vice principal bought us books with her money. Mrs. Sanchez was very giving to our family. She helped us when we were having some problems. Mrs. Sanchez is also very generous with her time. She always made time to talk to students even when she was very busy.

Mrs. Sanchez is also very funny. She used to tell jokes and everyone laughed. Then she would laugh. Mrs. Sanchez has a great laugh; its very loud and sometimes she snorts. Mrs. Sanchez also acted silly around us and made funny faces. I think it was her way of helping us feel comfortable.

What I admire most about Mrs. Sanchez is that she is very caring. She was always there for us, not just for homework or tests, but also to listen to our problems. Mrs. Sanchez also listened to teachers. Sometimes she taught for them and sometimes Mrs. Sanchez did their playground duty.

In conclusion, Mrs. Sanchez is generous, funny, and caring. When I grow up, I want to be like her. I have a great deal of admiration for her. I wish she were still here. I miss her very much. I'm sure the kids at MacArthur now appreciate her humor, generosity, and thoughtfulness.

The Best Place in the World: Lakewood, California
by Auggie Solis

I live in Lakewood, the best city in California. It has the best places in the world such as: the Lakewood Mall, Bolivar Park, and Riley Elementary. It is also a very safe city with fine weather.

We don't have to worry about hurricanes, tornadoes, or volcanic eruptions in this city. Sometimes there are thunderstorms, but only about four times a year. The climate is dry and warm and you can wear shorts most of the time.

This is a very safe city. I've never seen anyone hurt or burglarized in this city. I've never heard gunshots or the cry of people in pain. I feel comfortable being out in the open and playing at Bolivar Park.

Lakewood also has fun places to visit and shop. The Lakewood Mall is huge and has something for everyone. There are all kinds of stores: Mervyn's, J.C Penney's, Macys, Target, and many, many more. There is also a food court where I have enjoyed salads, Chinese food, and pizza often.

The very best place in Lakewood is James Whitcomb Riley Elementary School. The teachers are very professional and caring. They show respect for children and provide great support. I know I am getting a great education here. Riley also offers us a many fun activities: cooking classes, music classes, Meet the Masters art program and many after school sports and games.

Finally, Bolivar Park is where I like to play. Like Riley, it offers many free activities after school and during holidays. My favorite holiday activities are the Halloween Carnival, and the Paint an Egg Easter celebration. The park allows students to play a lot of different

sports such as football, softball, baseball and basketball. There are tournaments each season for these sports. We compete against other parks for the City Lakewood Championship.

I have a wonderful life and part of that is because I live in Lakewood. It is a very safe place with fine weather and it is full of great places. When I grow up I hope I will have enough money to be able to buy a house here. I love this city!