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Palmetto Elementarys 60th Anniversary Gala Celebrates Fontana Community, History

FONTANACA—Orange and black balloons swayed in the breeze, children customized their stuffed tigers and teachers dressed in ret50s attire as Palmetto Elementary School celebrates of excellence Sept. 2 with current and former students, parents, staff and community members.

"Palmetto is not only at the heart of Fontana city, it is in the heart of many," Palmetto Principal Lauri Martin said. "Such is the impact of the school that you either went to Palmedion, eone in your family performances from Kaiser

High School bandand Kaiser and Palmetto cheerlead and decorations provided by Jurupa Hills High, as children colored in 50 are cartoons like "Tom and Jerry."

Sitting in a corner holding court was former Palmetto Elementary-sixthe teacher Carol Ragan, who spent 36years teaching at the District23 years at Palmetto before retiring in 1993.

Ragan is the matriarch of a Fontana Unified teaching family, with son Jeff Ragan, a social studies teacher and coach at Fontana High, and Jeff's Matricia, a Palmetto kindergarten teacher, close by sinder. Ragan's lateusband, Dan taught in Fontana Unified for 3 sears.

Many of Ragan's former students stopped to chat with her and pay their respects. One former student, Kaiser High Assistant Principal Felix Joræ almetto student from 19866 – took the time to thank Ragan for all the lessons she taught.

"The best thing about Palmetto is the relationships ave friendships that date all the way back to first grade," Jones said:Many of my friends are also educators in the Dist**Nts**. Bowen,Ms. Dison, Ms. Ragan

e capsule, including Tigershirts, class photos, a Pete the Cat book, a National Geographic					