neighborhoods

sticker artists

A+ in recycling

Debris detective



Nourishing our neighborhoods Every year tons of edible food gets thrown into

the landfill, but it's still a waste-especially since there are thousands of families in our county who need healthy meals.

RecycleSmart's compost bins. That's better than



produce, canned goods, dairy products, and prepared meals. Edible food donation provides food to our neighborhoods and reduces waste by diverting useable food from the compost and landfill streams. Edible food donation is a great idea, and soon it will be the law (for commercial food providers).

Fortunately, there's a solution! There are organizations within Contra Costa County

working to manage edible food donation. Local businesses can donate unused

Donation organizations like Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties, White Pony Express, Copia, St. Vincent De Paul can get food quickly to communities where

purchasing decisions for the future. As part of California's waste-reduction bill, SB 1383, most food providers (like supermarkets, restaurants, and large institutions with on-site kitchens) will be required

it's needed most. Businesses benefit too-they can enjoy tax benefits and make smarter

RecycleSmart.org/food-recovery **SOME EXTRA FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

to participate in donation programs starting in 2022. You can learn more at



If you'd like to get involved, more information is on our website at RecycleSmart.org/food-recovery

Many food donation programs rely on volunteer support.

Celebrating our sticker artists!



We received quite an array of terrific submissions and were happy to send prize packs to the artists. Themes of worms, trees, and dinosaurs delighted the panel of judges. Thank you to all of the young readers who participated:

Alexandra created the outstanding poster, above, to

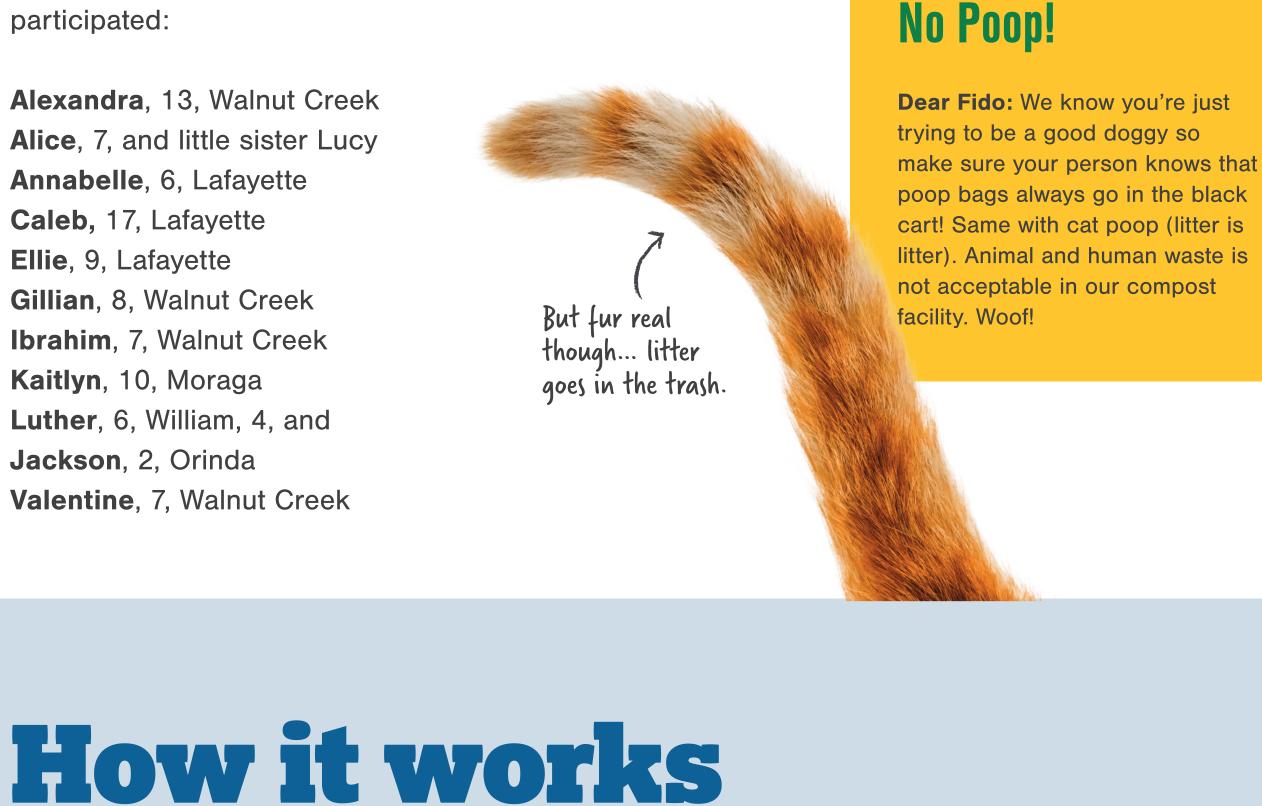
remind us that fruit stickers are trash, not compost!

Caleb, 17, Lafayette Ellie, 9, Lafayette Gillian, 8, Walnut Creek Ibrahim, 7, Walnut Creek Kaitlyn, 10, Moraga Luther, 6, William, 4, and Jackson. 2. Orinda Valentine, 7, Walnut Creek

Alexandra, 13, Walnut Creek

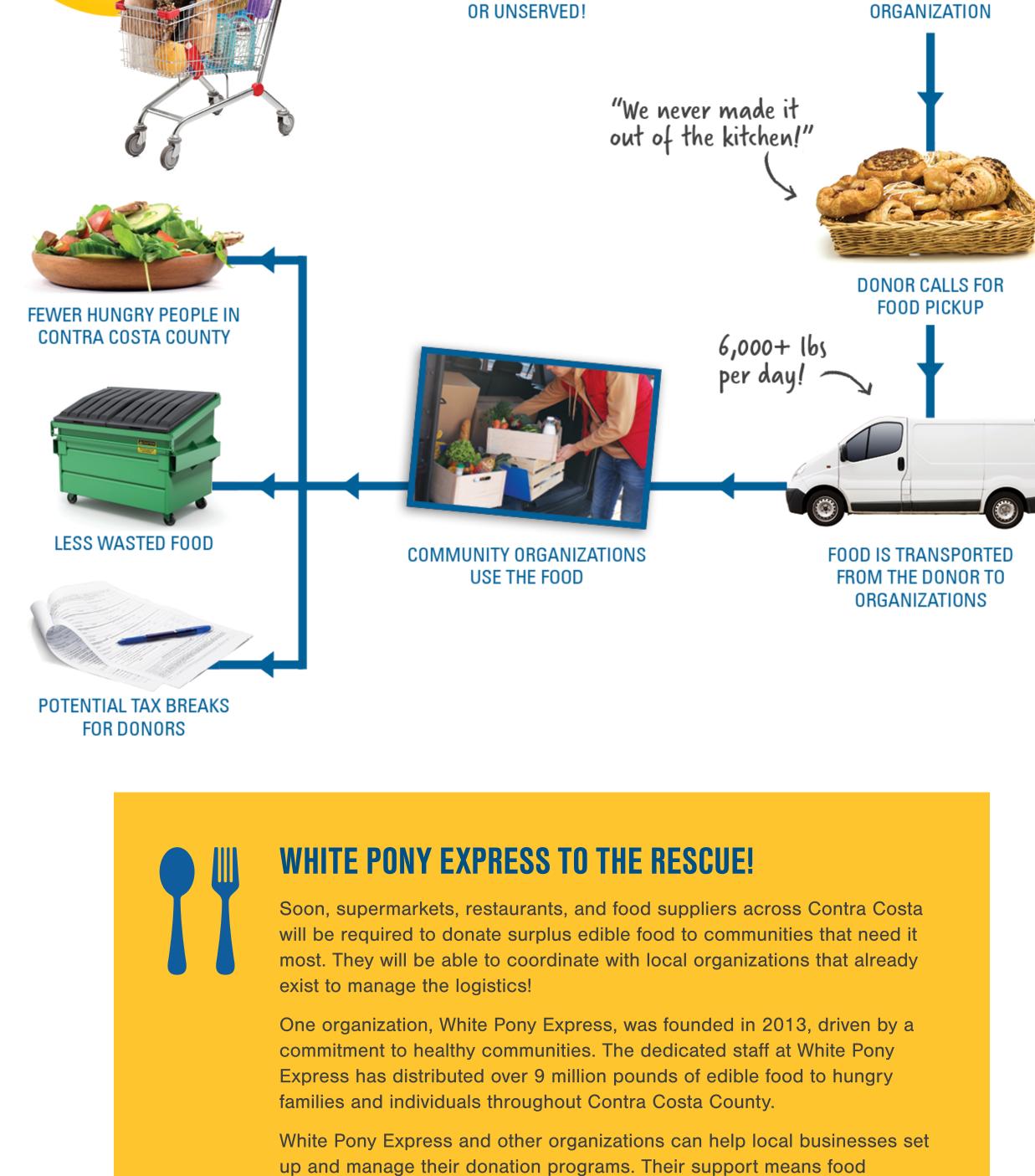
Alice, 7, and little sister Lucy

Annabelle, 6, Lafayette



Here's the Scoop—





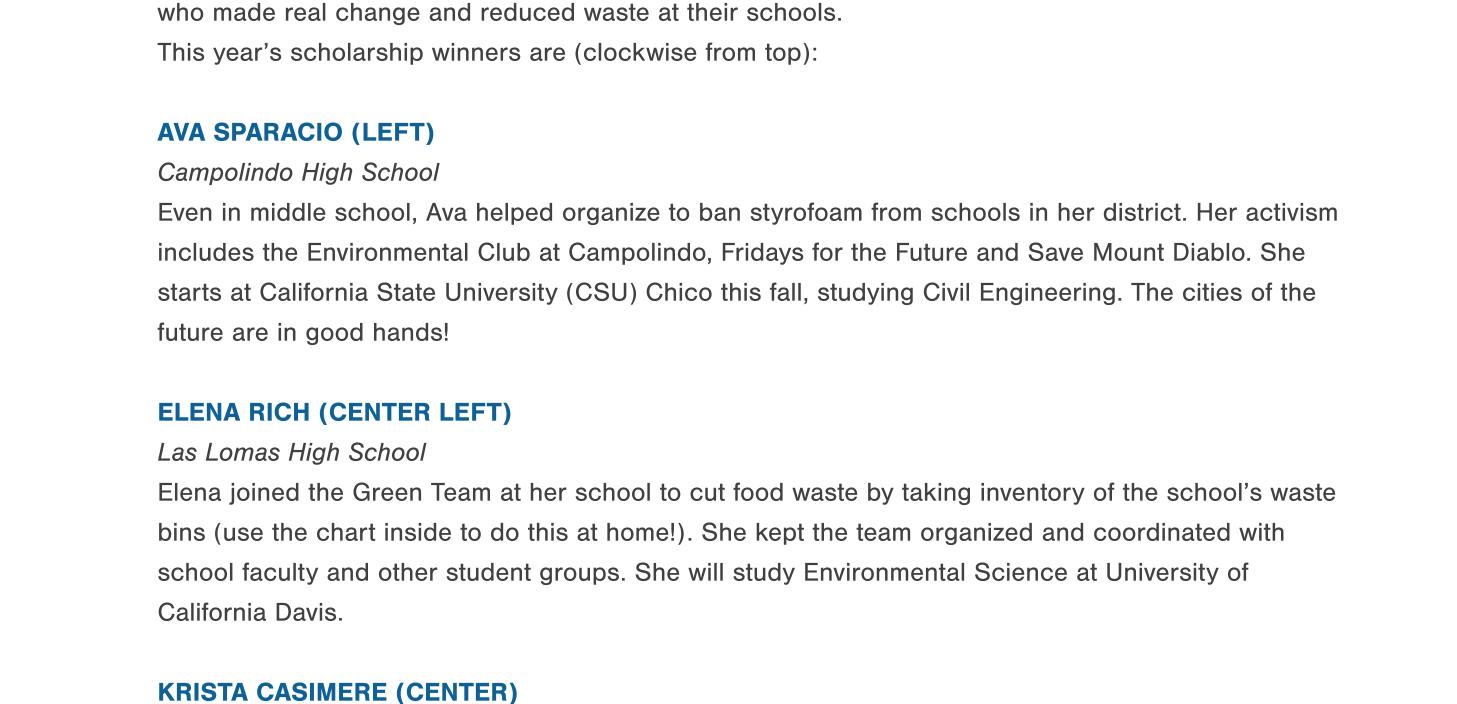


Students earn an

communities.

At in recycling

providers can comply with State regulations while they help feed our



Krista's dedication to sustainability is all-encompassing. When she wasn't upcycling thrift shop clothing,

Lexi collaborated with multiple groups to create a fun recycling behavior video. In just two months after

its release, Campolindo's waste diversion rate increased from 48% to 54%! She will study Environmental

student-run bin monitoring program during lunch. Her commitment will continue this fall as she studies

she co-led Miramonte's Environmental Club. She will start at Loyola Marymount University this fall,

studying Environmental Studies and Political Science (a powerful combination)!

Congratulations to these five outstanding students! Each of them earned a Waste Reduction Student

Scholarship this year! Each year, RecycleSmart awards scholarships to several high school students

TESS HORNBECK (RIGHT) Miramonte High School Inspired by a trip to Ecuador, Tess coordinated with different clubs across campus to implement a

Campolindo High School

Miramonte High School

ALEXANDRA YOKOMIZO (CENTER RIGHT)

Science at CSU Monterey Bay this fall.

sustainability at University of New Hampshire.

Complete info about our scholarships is at RecycleSmart.org/schools-programs A TIP FROM VANESSA P. IN LAFAYETTE Frugal foodie

Send your ideas to Authority@RecycleSmart.org

Corner activity! Check it out on the next page (the activity is fun for all ages).

DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?

Recently our family started keeping track of the things we put in our

compost pail. We have a checklist where we mark what goes in-food scraps, soiled paper, leftovers, etc. Most of the waste is banana peels, coffee grounds, eggshells and things like that, but we discovered that we also throw out a surprising amount of perfectly good food—just because it spoiled before we ate it. Our mini-audits help us shop smarter. wWe can save money by buying only what we need and reduce our food waste at the same time! Editors' Note: We liked Vanessa's tip so much that we turned it into our Kid's

ోత్త Kid's Corner We have a sleuthing activity for you this summer. See what your family's chucking with We have a sleuthing activity for you this summer. See what your this scorecard!

family's chucking with this scorecard! How many of these items does your family compost each week?

their shopping or composting habits. Bonus points if you find items that don't go in the compost—you can take them out and put them in the correct place. If you have

Tell your family what you learned and they can use it to adjust

Debris detective

questions about a specific item, you can always go to

RecycleSmart.org/houses/green-cart for help!

KID'S CORNER

cycleSmart

Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority



How many of these items does your family

Banana peels, carrot

(unfinished meals)

be eaten

tops, things that can't

compost each week?

Tally to keep track of

how many you toss!

Bones or shells from meat, eggs, seafood

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