

KERSA ILLALA, ETHIOPIA

HOPE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

THE VILLAGE FOR VILLAGE PROJECT: LET US TELL YOUR STORY



Young girl receives an education kit.



Sunlight is the light by which Kersa students learn their lessons at school.



Students line up for lessons.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Science Booklets
- Periodic Table made from ceramic tiles
- World Map Mural
- Village for Village Challenge (Carry Water)
- Photographic Gallery
- 'A Day in Africa' Family Night
- Assembly of Nations

Will Rogers Middle School students from their own Fair Oaks Village reach across continents to the village of Kersa Illala, Ethiopia, in the heart of the Rift Valley, in a yearlong **service learning project**.

Students from Will Rogers will tell the story of Kersa Illala through photographs, art, exhibits, music, brochures, published "Village Series" stories, video presentations, assemblies, story kits, puppets, banners, murals, curriculum booklets, and field experiences. The students at the Kersa Illala Village School will receive the **service learning project products** with the Ellison die cut machine which will be presented to them in July 2005.

Students from over 30 countries around the world come to Will Rogers Middle School, some learning English for the first time. Understanding the value of education, Rogers' students have made education kits and hygiene kits for their friends in Kersa. They have even carried water as a symbol of hope for the village to have a well. This

year they will share science booklets, *All About Matter*, *The Periodic Table*, and *The Heavens Above*, and the *ABCs of Science* made with Ellison die cut alphabet letters.

The most important lessons are learned at home. Now students at Kersa Illala Village School are able to make their own letters and numbers in their new library and then take them home to share with their families.



THE ELLISON STORY-A STORY OF HOPE- TOLD UNDER THE LITERACY TREE IN KERSA

There is a tree in Kersa Illala called the Literacy Tree. Women and children gather there to learn to read and write. In the summer of 2005, the hope-filled story of necessity, vision, and invention, will be told under the Literacy Tree, of how the founders, LaDorna and Robert Eichenberg, built their first die cut machine and began the Ellison enterprise.

Kersa Illala, is also called the Village of Hope by the founders, Lon and DeAnna Kennard. Hope makes all the difference to a

village that had no hope. DeAnna Kennard regularly brings medical and health education teams to Kersa Illala to treat as many medical problems as possible and reinforce prior teaching and training.

The Ellison die cut machine will give students their own micro-enterprise and a way to raise money for their school. Now **HOPE** can be spelled out in every classroom and in every hut. **HOPE** remains a symbol of things not seen but will surely happen for the villagers in Kersa Illala, Ethiopia.



Students learn about how one boy, Abu used the 8 Be's in the book, *The Village That Smiled*©, and felt happiness as he made a difference in his village.

ETHIOPIA, AFRICA
2005

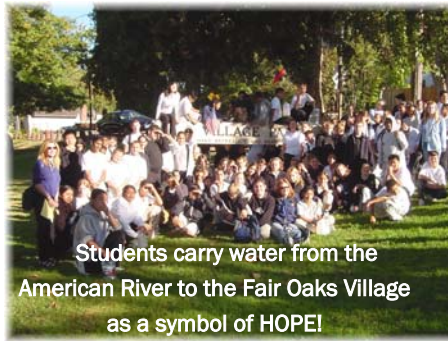
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Will Rogers Press Corps at work!



Students carry water from the American River to the Fair Oaks Village as a symbol of HOPE!



3 gal. of water = 24 lbs.

5 gal. of water = 40 lbs.



Service learning projects and building booklets



Students are challenged to carry water.

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Del Campo High School ROTC Honor Guard Posted Colors for the Assembly of Nations

