

## New Teacher: Mrs. DeMarco

By Britta Swanson

Students may think of Melanie DeMarco as simply the new teacher, but she is also someone who has been around a lot. She has lived in a half dozen different places. She was born in Miami, Florida; lived in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania; Elmhurst, Illinois; Columbia, Tennessee; and Los Gatos, California.

She says she moved to California so she could stop shoveling snow and she moved to Sacramento so that she could enjoy life without being rushed, a common condition in the high-stress Bay Area.

Mrs. DeMarco has taught at McKelvie Middle School and South Valley Carden School. She has taught 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, so she knows a lot about how students of all ages act. "I wanted to become a teacher so that I could give back something to the younger generation. I wanted students to enjoy learning about



math," she says.

Mrs. DeMarco teaches math and science to 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders at Brookfield. In college, she majored in

math and also has always had a great love of science.

When she's not helping students learn at Brookfield, she enjoys gardening, walking her part-pit bull and part-boxer dog, Buster, with her husband, and enjoys feeding humming birds.

Mrs. DeMarco has a daughter named Jennifer, who is 19 and a sophomore at San Diego State. Her husband, Sam DeMarco, works in the high-tech industry. Because they're Italian, Mr. and Mrs. DeMarco are also thinking about opening an Italian deli.

## Temple Not Just the Landlord for Brookfield

By Katherine Carey

Brookfield has been renting space from the Congregation B'nai Israel Temple for about 40 years – and although students come to school every day, most know very little about the Temple.

In addition to serving as classrooms for the school, the classrooms are used for the Temple as well. Judica (the Jewish culture), Hebrew (the Jewish language), and Religious School are taught on Tuesdays and Sundays.

Students may also notice occasional gatherings in the Social Hall. That is often a meeting of the seniors in the Senior Sacramento City Uni-

fied School District Program. The Social Hall is used for other things as well. The public is able to rent the Social Hall for conventions and other uses.

The room adjoining the Social Hall is used for the congregation's services and the Social Hall is used as a place to put the surplus of people who attend the service. The Temple even uses it as a classroom at times.

A fire bombing about three years ago destroyed much of the Temple's property. The incident had a big effect on the city and students as well. When she was interviewed, 4<sup>th</sup> grader

Melissa Huang said, "I hated it, I hated it, I hated it. It closed off a lot of our play space." Ian Tipton, also in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, thought that it was horrible and 5<sup>th</sup> grader Taryn Yee stated that the construction made it much harder to concentrate.

Although the rebuilding project seemed to take forever, it only took a year and a half. The Temple added some more offices and a bigger library as part of the project. The original building took less time to build.

The new building is called the ACL 2, which stands for Administration Chapel Library Two.