



# The Hurricane



[www.albertct.k12.ia.us](http://www.albertct.k12.ia.us)

Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

December 2016/January/February 2017

## *We Have the Best at AC-T! By Mrs. Sarah Voyles, Principal*

It is amazing to me how every school year continues to fly by. I am sure because each day in a school is filled with so much activity of happy children learning and growing. At AC-T we have no shortage of great examples of students learning, growing and having a great time at it.

Throughout our newsletter you will notice many of the great things that are happening at AC-T. We are currently in that season of

“Hurricane Love”. Mrs. Wildeman, our guidance teacher, encouraged the students on Compliment Day to spread compliments to each other. This idea spread into our “Hurricane Love” campaign. If you visit our building right now, you will see many hearts hung throughout the hallways that include compliments to each other. Our students and staff have really enjoyed getting to spread some joy, with many asking if we can continue doing it the rest of the year!



Our Watch DOGS (Dads of Great Students) is in its second year and we have been happy to have many father figures step up to volunteer a day to help out. If you missed our kick-off date in the fall, there are still dates to sign up. Please call the school office and we will find a date that will work.

Conferences are just around the corner. This is a great opportunity for our teachers to discuss the growth that the students are making and areas where continued progress is needed. However, our teachers are happy to have discussions at any time a concern might come up. Please feel free to give them a call or send them an email. Parents more information will be coming out soon for your scheduled conference time.

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, staff and students took some time to celebrate World Read Aloud Day. This day is a day when over 18 million people online and over 1 million people across over 100 countries stop what they are doing to read. The goal at AC-T is to ensure our students understand the importance of our literacy education as well as taking some time out of our day to celebrate the gift of education for our students. We





spent the afternoon with a story from myself and then gave the students an opportunity to read with a book buddy from a different grade. It was a great way to spend time together as a school community. This is always a great reminder to each of us as adults that the gift of reading to a child of any age is an important gift. I encourage you to read to a child today and every day!

There are a few other important dates that are coming up, that I would like you to be aware of. March

1<sup>st</sup> is our open enrollment deadline. If you or someone you know would like to attend AC-T next year, the forms need to be turned into the office by March 1st. Also, our Preschool/Kindergarten Parent Night is on April 6<sup>th</sup> this year. If you know of a child who will be four on or before September 15<sup>th</sup>, we would love for you to attend to learn more about our FREE full day preschool.

As we continue through the remainder of the school year, please check us out on Facebook at Albert City – Truesdale Elementary and at our school website, [www.albertct.k12.ia.us](http://www.albertct.k12.ia.us) to learn more about all of the great things happening at AC-T!

### *AC-T Preschool and Kindergarten Registration*

A combination meeting for parents of children who are planning to be enrolled in Preschool (4 years old by 9/15/2017) or Kindergarten (5 years old by 9/15/2017) in the fall of 2017 will be held on Thursday, April 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the AC-T lunchroom. Please use the lunchroom door on the north side of the school on that night. Teachers will preview classroom curriculums and answer any questions that arise. Childcare and refreshments will be provided. All updated immunization records and each child's birth certificate are requested at the meeting. Parents are encouraged to notify the school (712)843-5416 if unable to attend.



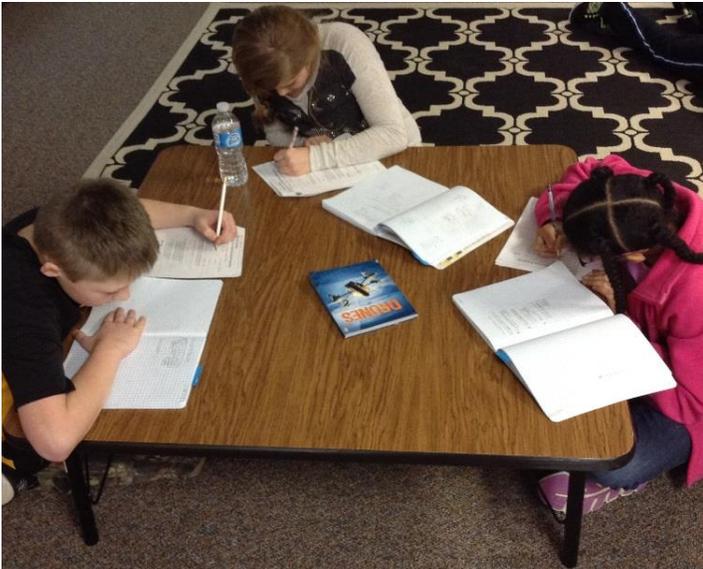
### *Open Enrollment Deadline of March 1<sup>st</sup>*

Parents and guardians considering the use of open enrollment in the state of Iowa should be aware of the following dates: **March 1, 2017** - Last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2017-2018 school year. If the student meets the definition of good cause under the Iowa Administrative Code, or is an entering kindergarten student for the 2017-2018 school year, the application can be accepted after March 1, 2017. **Kindergarten ONLY - Deadline is Sept. 1, 2017.** If you need forms or additional information, please contact Principal Sarah Voyles.

## **5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE NEWS BY MRS. AMY STEPEC**

In 5th grade, we have implemented a Flexible Seating Pilot Program. We have a variety of seats for students to sit at throughout the day. Students are free to choose where they sit. Research shows that students need to move around ... Brain research also confirms that physical activity – moving, stretching, and walking – can actually enhance the learning process. Eric Jensen (2000), in his article *Moving with the Brain in Mind*, protests against the sedentary classroom style and suggests a better way to spend the long days in our classrooms, not only for students, but for teachers. Teachers need to engage students in a greater variety of postures, including walking, lying down, moving, learning against a wall or desk, perching, or even squatting. The brain learns best and retains most when the organism is actively involved in physical activity.... Reynolds (Science of fitness, 2015) says that “Globally speaking, kids sit on average 8.5 hours. Movement and activity really drops after age 8. That’s of course, when school, homework and tech devices take over kids’ lives.”

Here are some comments from the students about our new seating:



- ❖ I love standing up while I’m working. Flexible Seating is very fun. I like that you can move around. - Gavin Thams
- ❖ I like the floor table because I like sitting on the floor while working on the table. - Mac Eral
- ❖ The floor is nice to sit at. - Raine Miller
- ❖ The comfy chairs are the newest addition to our room. They are also the most comfortable seats. - Mady Forbes
- ❖ There are some wobbly chairs in our class. They are black and they are for kids that like

moving around in their seat. - Layla Scruggs

- ❖ I like the floor table because it is my size. - Addisyn Fuchs
- ❖ The wobbly chairs are the best because they wobble around and I am able to move around while I work instead of sitting in one spot. - Steven Jacobs
- ❖ The floor is awesome and it is comfy but I like the comfy chairs the best. - Kurtis Wood
- ❖ The comfy chairs are soft, squishy and relaxing. They help me focus when doing my work. - Aiden Cady
- ❖ I like the wobbly chair. - Taber Caraway
- ❖ I like being able to sit at a table. I can do my work better there. - Janessa Nielsen

## **1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE NEWS! BY MRS. AMELIA WERNER**

We have had a great start to our adventure in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. We are working hard every day to become better readers, writers, problem solvers and critical thinkers. We have had fun exploring with hands on opportunities such as creating moon phases out of Oreos, building words with play dough, and

writing about real world scenarios. In addition to the fun we are having learning we are also having fun exploring new strategies to social situations. We have enjoyed time to read with 4<sup>th</sup> grade partners, play with a variety of people with joint specials including kindergarten and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

In addition to all of our fun learning, we have a BVU student with us for the month of January. Brady Illg is a junior at BVU where he is studying Elementary Education and playing football. He has observed for the first week and is starting to teach/co-teach with me. We have really enjoyed having a positive male role model in the classroom.

### *AC-T Students Participate in Area Honor Band by Mrs. Anna Davis*



Erin Daly (alto sax) and Braeden Cormany (trumpet) were selected to participate in the Strong Foundations Honor Band Festival. It was held Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> in Sioux City at East High School. There were 2 bands each with 100 students. Chosen students were selected from over 400 nominations from the quad state area. AC-T students played in the Orange Band directed by Julie Forney. The other band, the Black Band, was directed by Eric Lang. After a day of rehearsal the students presented a concert in the Sioux City East HS Auditorium. It was a fun day of Music Making!

### **Being COURAGEOUS in ART! By: Katie Wenell**

Hi, my name is Katie Wenell and I am the new art teacher here at AC-T. I am so blessed to be following such a great art teacher, Andy Bean! I have loved getting to work with the students and teachers here and I am inspired by the kindness and respect that is shown by all.

Henri Matisse said, "Creativity takes courage." and I have seen some courageous kids this year! The elements of art (line, shape, color, space, texture, value, and form), art history, and famous artists have been, and will continue to be, the focus of our art projects. Students are demonstrating these elements while being introduced to a variety of mediums. Some of these mediums include oil pastels, watercolor paint, tempera paint, colored pencil, and more. Some highlights include 6<sup>th</sup> grade name totem poles, 5<sup>th</sup> grade's Rene Magritte surrealism project, 4<sup>th</sup> grade's pop art, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade's embossed Christmas tree, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade's abstract name design, 1<sup>st</sup> grade's tissue paper Fall leaf (warm/cool colors), and Kindergarten's designer turkeys.

Keep an eye out for more art shows to see their awesome works! Looking ahead into the second semester, we will be starting our Soil Conservation Poster Contest! This year's theme is, "Healthy Soils are Full of Life!"

**REMINDER!! AC-T collects empty pop cans and bottles, Box Tops for Education, pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, Campbell's Soup UPCs, and Hy-Vee receipts. Donations can be brought to school to benefit our students! These funds help to purchase supplies for students at AC-T. Thanks so much!**

# Library News: Mrs. Kellie Wells

## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

**Student "A"**  
reads **20 minutes**  
each day

3600 minutes in  
a school year

**1,800,000 words**



*90<sup>th</sup> percentile*

**Student "B"**  
reads **5 minutes**  
each day

900 minutes in  
a school year

**282,000 words**



*50<sup>th</sup> percentile*

**Student "C"**  
reads **1 minute**  
each day

180 minutes in  
a school year

**8,000 words**



*10<sup>th</sup> percentile*

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

The students at AC-T were fortunate to return to a newly renovated library! New paint and carpet along with reorganization of shelving for the weeded collection have made the room more appealing and user-friendly. The Iowa Children Award books have been read to or book talked with students. The younger students have studied authors such as Deborah Diesen (Pout, Pout Fish), Eileen Christelow (Five Little Monkeys) and Laura Numeroff (If you Give a Mouse a Cookie.). The older students have spent time using the AEA databases. We've specifically used Britannica for a mini research project and will start a biography research project to coordinate with classroom work. Recently the second through fifth graders

chose a genre and authored their own books. Please try to help your child remember to bring library books back for library class on Mondays and make some time each night for reading with your child. Making reading a priority and an enjoyable activity for them will make a positive impact in their future!

# NEWS FROM THE 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

## Get To Know Our Sixth Graders

### ***BERKLEY JOHANNSEN***

***BY MAKINZIE MILLER***

Berkley Johannsen, one of our wonderful six grade students. She has always been part of this community, with her mother, Joni Johannsen, and her three siblings Chandler, Chance, and her little sister Brogan. Her favorite thing to do is sports even though her fashion statement is "lazy". She also enjoys school. She loves all of our teachers here although her favorite class is T.A.G. Next year she will be going to Sioux Central! I'm glad we're going to the same school next year. She is such an amazing person!

### **Andrew Anderson**

**BY: Berkley Johannsen**

Andrew starts his day at 7:00 A.M. otherwise he will miss his flight to get to Parker, Colorado. Even though his flight is at noon he has to get his peregrine falcon ready to fly next to the plane on the way. He put on his blue Under Armour sweat pants, so he would be comfortable on the flight. He grabbed his favorite book called 39 clues and some of his favorite kind of Casey's pizza. It was time for them leave so he got the falcons leash and headed out. On the way he saw some kids playing soccer his favorite sport! He wanted to go play but he knew he was running late. When he got to the airport he had a long layover. Then, he got on the plane. During his flight the plane was going down, but since he was an engineer he fixed the plane and the flight continued. A person on the plane was someone who gave out Nobel prizes and gave one to Andrew.

### **Sarah Christensen**

**BY: Jenna Abbas**

It was a cold day in Iowa when Sarah decided to hop on a plane to Hawaii with her younger sister Sophie. When they were on the plane, they decided they would eat tacos. When they were eating their tacos, Sarah got a phone call from her Grandpa on her new iPhone 7 plus. So they talk for about 20 minutes and then there was an emergency at Grandpa's house so he had to leave. Now it was around 12:00pm when the intercom said "I need Sarah Christensen; your parents, Kari and Adrian Christensen, are calling for you." So she got up and walked to the front of the plane and saw her mom and dad. Her mom was in an Under Armour T shirt and her dad was in an Under Armour baseball cape. She was like "Mom, Dad what are you doing here?" and Kari said "We wanted to go on a family vacation with you guys!" and Sarah said "Well then go and take a seat. I will be back in a sec." Then all of a sudden the first ever horse pilot had a heart attack, and luckily Sarah was a vet and saved his life. The 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot took over and they all lived happily ever after.

### ***Preston Harder*** ***by Erin Daly***

We have this boy in our class; his name is Preston. We were talking and I was getting to know Preston better. One thing I never knew about him is that he is 5 feet 4½ inches. That's pretty tall for being 12! The next day we were eating Beef Stroganoff and he told me that it was his one of his favorites, the other one is

pizza. Then we went to art he used the color neon green a lot so I figured he liked that color a lot. He told me he wanted to be a doctor too. I went to his house the next day and he had two dogs, Max and Molly. Then he had to go to basketball practice when I realized that's not the only sport he's in! He's also in football and baseball. I'm glad my time with him was fun.

## **TREVOR EHLERS** **BY REAGAN WOLFF**

Trevor was born in the state of Iowa. Trevor has always lived in Iowa! Trevor has a many animals he's had 13 different animals. Trevor is 11 years old, and born on June 22, 2005. Trevor has four family members his mom, dad, Brady and, Trevor when Trevor is older he wants to be a pro football player. Trevor Favorite Hobbies are sports, and P.E. Trevor said if he ever won the Powerball lottery Ticket He would buy a truck and big house and give some to charity. Trevor Said

if he lived anywhere he would live in the Handle of Oklahoma or Colorado He said it depends if he played for the NFL. I'm glad he is at are school he is a good friend!

## **Christmas Break** **by Gregory Anderson**

I interviewed several students and staff about what their favorite thing that they did over Christmas break was. This is what they said: Jett Griffin - open presents, Mrs. Sievers - 32 people together on Christmas Eve and danced around the Christmas tree, Braeden Cormany - ice fishing, Max Bjork - family Christmas, Kim Ellrich - sat all day and watched movies, Amy Stepec - went to Iowa City with family, Makayla Scruggs - built a snowman, and Annabelle Christensen - watched movies at a Christmas party. They all had lots of fun!

## **The Christmas Field Trip** **By Sarah Christensen**

The day of the school movie trip the whole school had to load up and get ready for the movie. First we needed to get prepared.

We had to use the restrooms, get our coats on, and get ready to load up. We

had to pick partners for the way there and then were off. We headed to the movie theater. This year we watched the movie "Trolls" It was a very good movie. The whole school probably agrees with me. During the movie everyone was eating their popcorn, pop, and candy. After the movie we all were tired and some people fell asleep. When we got back we went back to our lockers and put our coats away. We all had a blast at the movie and at lunch we talked about the movie a bit. The rest of the day was fun. I'm thankful our school gets to go to the movie theater and they pay for our movie trip.



# Christmas Program by Trevor Ehlers

The Albert City Truesdale concert was on December 13<sup>th</sup> on Tuesday at 7:00pm. Many students love to participate in the winter concert. In the beginning of the concert the fifth grade band and the sixth grade band played. The fifth grade band played "Good King Wenceslas", "Dreydl, Dreydl", and "Jingle Bells". Mady Forbes and Addisyn Fuchs played flute, Gavin Thams and Kurtis Wood played trumpet, Layla Scruggs played clarinet, Mac Eral and Raine Miller played trombone, Aiden Cady played saxophone, and Janessa Nielsen, Steven Jacobs, and Taber Caraway played percussion. The fifth grade band did excellent in their band group and it sounded great. The sixth grade band played "Away in the Manger" and "Kings from the East". Sarah Christensen and Taylor Melby played flute, Braeden Cormany, Makenzie Miller, and Reagan Wolff all played trumpet, Trevor Ehlers-me and Preston Harder played trombone, Berkley Johannsen and Erin Daly played Alto-saxophone, Angel Pineda played Tenor saxophone, and Emily Salazar, Andrew and Gregory Anderson played percussion. Everybody but one person played for the sixth grade band this year. Once the fifth grade band and the sixth grade band played, the Preschool and Kindergarten sang "If I could fly like a Snowflake" and "Five Little Snowman" and it was so cute. The Preschool, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade sang, "I want a Hippopotamus for Christmas." 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade sang "Nice, not naughty" and "We will jingle". The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade played on recorders, and they played "Mary had a baby". The 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> sang "Chestnut". 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade alone played "Russian fantasy" on recorders. The whole school altogether for the last song sang "Santa is the man". It was a very fun Christmas concert and everybody loved it!

## Guess the Teacher by Taylor Melby

It was a winter day in Albert City, Iowa. So, in that case, we should play a game called guess the teacher!

So number one I was born in Minnesota.

Number two I have been to Africa.

Number three I do not like olives.

Number four I know how to snowboard.

Number five I took figure skating lessons as a child.

Number six I went to the same school for K-12.

Number seven I once did a rollerblade marathon.

Number eight my favorite Disney princess is Ariel.

Number nine I love to eat PB&J sandwiches.

Finally, number ten my favorite cookie is a monster cookie.

Can you guess this teacher? Look for the answer on the last page of the newsletter.

## FAVORITE SCHOOL FOOD BY ANDREW ANDERSON

Cyndie is our school cook, and she makes wonderful school food. Some of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade's favorite foods are: mac and cheese, beef stroganoff, scalloped potatoes and ham, nachos and cheese, taco in a bag, mandarin chicken, crispitos, and chili and cinnamon rolls, a school favorite. Some of the staff said chili and cinnamon rolls, cinnamon roll casserole, and chicken ala king. My favorite food is chili and cinnamon rolls. The winner is chili and cinnamon rolls!

# HISTORY DAY BY ANNE P. WEAVER

Iowa History day kids research people from Iowa history. This year's theme is people who lived in Iowa and took a stand in Iowa history. I and my friend Andrew from Albert City-Truesdale are currently doing our IA History project on James B. Morris Sr. He was one of very few African American lawyers during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He took a stand in Iowa history by helping found the NBA (National Bar Association) in 1925. Researching James B. Morris Sr. is very fun. We've found lots of facts about him and things he was involved in. He also was the editor and publisher of the Iowa Bystander in 1921. The Iowa State University put James B. Morris in the Iowa African American Hall of Fame in 2011. Hopefully Andrew and I will make it to the state and maybe even national! But until then we will work hard on our project and thank James B. Morris and everyone else in Iowa's history for taking a stand!!

## ***BVU Student in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade by Emily Salazar***

During the month of January AC-T welcomed a BVU student named Louis Salazar. Louis has two siblings and he grew up in Mexico. He is twenty two and plays soccer. Summer is his favorite season (since he doesn't like the cold weather.) He loves pizza! Louis is 5ft 5in and he owns two dogs. Louis wants to become a science teacher when he graduates from college. We are glad to welcome Louis to AC-T. (P.S. he has an awesome last name!)

## ***BVU Student in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade by Preston Harder***

I interviewed a young college football player from BVU. His name is Mr. Illg. He was learning how to be a teacher in 1<sup>st</sup> grade with Mrs. Werner. I asked him some questions about his life. He isn't married yet but hopes to be someday. He cannot speak another language. He likes the Chicago Bears. He would love to play for the Bears someday. He grew up in Spencer, IA. He has two sisters and one brother. Mr. Illg's favorite color is green. He can bench 250lbs. He likes to work out. He does not play an instrument. I hope he has good luck in the future being a teacher and playing football.

## ***Honor Band' 2016 by: Braeden Cormany***

January 9 was the day of honor band when Braeden Cormany and Erin Daly went to Sioux City high school to perform a concert. There were four songs: Aliens' Landing, Lone Star Overture, The Lone Eagle March, and The Cool Cat Shuffle. The day went by so fast; we had four hours of practice and then the big concert. It was awesome! It went by so fast but the audience loved so it was a good concert.

ANSWER: MRS. AMY STEPEC

# THE HURRICANE

Albert City-Truesdale CSD  
P.O. Box 98  
300 Orchard St.  
Albert City, IA 50510

Nonprofit  
Organization  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Albert City, IA  
Permit No. 5



Boxholder

