



The Hurricane



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Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

March/April 2006-2007



Super Bowl Money



The week before the

Super Bowl we raised money for the team that we thought would win the Super Bowl. The money was for Children's Miracle Network. We raised \$162.50 for the Bears and \$144.23 for the Colts so the Bears won with the most money. With the Bears and the Colts together we raised a total of \$306.73! All that money we raised was in just one week! Cool! That was a lot of money and you still need to bring more pennies for Children Miracle Network. Thank You for bringing your pennies!! By: Nate Peterson

AC-T Pie-Throwing Celebration for CMN!

AC-T students had surpassed their halfway goal of collecting pennies for the Children's Miracle Network. Thus far, the children have raised \$840.61. Brad Strader and Mary Johnson from the BVRMC accepted the money on the behalf of CMN. To celebrate and motivate the students, several AC-T Faculty and Staff volunteered



Ms. Dirks

to have pies thrown in their face. Two students from each grade were drawn for the privilege of throwing the pies. Fun was had by all! Once the AC-T students reach their goal, Principal Kady has promised to dye her hair pink. The kids are excited to meet their goal!



Mrs. Wenell



100th Day of School

For the 100th day of school our school took a picture of the number 100 with the kids forming the number in the bleachers. The cooks made the whole school 100th day cupcakes. The 6th grade class drew pictures of what they thought they would look like at age 100. They put where they will be and what they would be doing when they were 100 years old. They hung them by the lunchroom so the whole school could see them. The fifth grade made posters for the 100th day using 100 pieces of paper to make it. The fourth grade had a contest with 3 jars where 1 jar had 100 pieces of candy in it. The class who had the most votes of the jar with 100 pieces would get the jar with all the candy. Second grade won. The 3rd grade listed their 100 favorite foods. They wrote stories about what they would buy with a hundred dollar bill. The 2nd grade made a hundredths chart and an abacus with cheerios. They read 100 poems and a story called *The Wolf's Chicken Stew*. The 1st grade did a hundredths chart and counted to 100 by 5, 10, 20, and 25. They read the story *The Wolf's Chicken Stew* too and *100 ways to get to 100*. Kindergarten put 100 words on their word wall and read them all. Mrs. Kady read a 100th day of school story. They made a link with 100 links and hung it up on the lights. They read a story of what it would be like to live on a farm 100 years ago. Mrs. Bobolz brought in a milk stool that was hers when she lived on an old farm. All the kids got to pretend that they were milking a cow. Everyone brought in 100 different things to eat and put them in a container for snack in Pre-Kindergarten. We all had a great 100th day of school! By Casey Eberle

DO IT! By: Anthony Eberle

Every month we have read for DO IT. Every time we read more minutes than the months before. When we finish the DO IT we get a certificate for a free mini pizza at Godfathers. This year we only need to read for five months. When the five months are done and everybody made all five months we have a pizza party. We have already read four months and just started the fifth month. When we have the pizza party we usually have pop instead of having milk. I hope that everybody in our class makes it so we can have the pizza party at Godfathers.

ITBS By: Alex Terry

The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade classes have taken ITBS tests. Cole M.'s opinion was that "the best thing about it was we got food!" Isaac Richter said, "They're easy but took a lot of time!!" Dallas Heuton said, "They're long, boring, and not fun. But they help us do well in school." Casey Eberle thought, "The best part was the food." So that's what some of the 6th grade thought of ITBS.

C A N D Y G R A M S B Y R E N E E C H A L F A N T

All students got a candy gram from somebody on February 14, 2007. Some students in 5th and 6th grade volunteered to help with candy grams from February 2nd to February 13th. The treasurers from 5th or 6th grade were there to keep track of the money to make sure the school got exactly the right amount of money for the candy grams. Some people sent candy grams to Sioux Central this year.

By February 7th all the candy gram slips were turned into a box that was outside the 6th grade classroom. Valentine's Day was a great day because of the candy grams and we got out of school early!

Juniors Doing a Practicum from BVU By: Isaac Richter

Miss Bump and Miss Ginapp, students from BVU, have come to AC-T to learn from Mrs. Wenell and Mrs. Bobolz. On the last day of there practicum, Miss Ginapp and Miss Bump got a going away party thrown for them.

They got to teach the classes, so they could learn how to do this when they become a teacher. They did a lot of fun stuff. They even came to recess to play basketball with the 6th grade class. We read Mrs. Frisby and Rats of NIMH with Miss Ginapp. She even brought use food that was like what rats would eat. We had good times with them and enjoyed their coming.

Spelling Bee By Cole Groszkrueger

As you may or may not know the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade entered a spelling bee for the first time. It was held on January 27, 2007. The participants in 6th grade were Cole Groszkrueger, Anthony Eberle, and Dallas Heuton. The 5th grade participants were Chelsey Blomgren, Gloria Jensen, and Breana Kulp. The 4th grade participants were Lacey Roberts, Chance Johannsen, and Cheyenne Buenrostro. Overall they did OK, but yet none of them got past the third round. While they were there the got to meet some new friends and have a good time. Afterwards they went out to Pizza Ranch to celebrate. Stay Classy Albert City.

News from the 6th Grade



Robert Hall Taylor By: Justin Romo

Robert Taylor is 12 years old and he just had his 12th birthday on February 2nd. He has 2 dogs named Baby and Gizmo. He also has 1 brother named Abraham who is about 6 months old and a sister named Jenna who is about 2 years old. His sister Jenna will be having surgery on February 17th.

Robert likes to skateboard, play football, hang out with friends, and play video games. Robert's favorite foods are pizza, ice cream, and all school lunches. His friends are Anthony, Cole G (Hobbes), Nate (Calvin), Casey, and Justin. His favorite football teams are the Oakland Raiders and the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Casey Eberle By: Kyle Johnson

Casey Eberle is 12 and likes to go to the library and play Runescape. He also has 4 Brothers!!! They are: Anthony, Christian, Dallas, and Dalton. His favorite hobby is camping with his friends. His favorite foods are almost every thing the cooks make. In the summer Casey likes to go swimming and go to friend's homes.



Cole Bradley Groszkrueger by Cole Moens

Cole likes to play sports and currently is playing basketball. He lives in Albert City, and also goes to Albert City Elementary School. He was born on December 2, 1994. He enjoys skateboarding and listening to punk rock, heavy metal and hardcore metal music. He completely hates country and rap music. His greatest influence in his life is probably his big brother Alan. Cole (either called G or Hobbes, Nathan Peterson is Calvin) has many inspirations in his life besides his brother like, Rodney Mullen, Bam Margera, Johnny Knoxville, and Billie Jo Armstrong (lead singer for Green Day). G's best friend is Cole Moens.

Cole use to live in New York City. Cole says he's an average student at AC-T but we all think he's much more than average! Cole's favorite thing

to do at recess is ball tag.



Iowa History by Robert Taylor

This year the sixth grade class is doing Iowa History. The whole sixth grade class did a report on something in Iowa History. Sixth grade made a quilt that is hung up in the hallway. We did 10 articles about Iowa.





Josh Peterson By Dallas Heuton

Our school had a visit from one of our former student who is in the army. His name is Josh Peterson and he is a specialist 4th class. He has been in Iraq since October and before that he was in Korea. What he does in Iraq is he refuels vehicles. He is stationed in Musel, Iraq at a campus called camp Marez and he is going back on Tuesday February 6. When he came he shared pictures and other information about serving in the war. We enjoyed having him and hope he will come back from Iraq safely.

Fish

Fish are jumping in
And out of rivers like frogs
Lures in, fish out.

By Cole Moens

The Bird

The birds in sight
Nerves, what will happen?
Bank, a sign of relief is out.

By Alex Terry

Spring Is Coming

Flowers are blooming,
Snow and coldness are leaving
Showers are coming

By Nathan Peterson

Music Influences My Life

The music I like
Completes my life in all ways
Music is my life.

By Cole Groszkrueger

Tri-Co Health Network Offers Resource Lending Library

Tri-Co Health Network is a local networking organization serving Buena Vista, Pocahontas and Clay counties. Tri-Co offers many resources, designed to supplement the resources currently offered in the school system.

Our resource library includes extensive curriculum materials, instructional kits, books and videos that assist teachers, administration, guidance counselors and nurses with health care education. We also offer support materials that can promote healthy parent interaction with their children.

Topics include bullying issues, healthy eating habits, substance abuse issues, sexuality issues, social skills and much more.

We welcome any suggestions on materials to add to our lending library. For more information or to get a catalog of resource lending library materials please contact Tri-Co project staff at 712-200-3781.



ASC Update

The AC-T After School Club was awarded an Iowa Afterschool Association Grant. It provides funds for the National Afterschool Convention in Phoenix in March. We also received funds to purchase six

paint smocks, a Lego table and chairs, and a cash register. We also have some new lower level computer games. These games develop Math and Reading skills. They give more children a chance to play at computer time. We welcome your visit! -Mrs. Lange



Reading First Continues 2006-2007

Esther J. Mullen, Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency 8 Reading Consultant

This school year, Albert City - Truesdale Elementary School continues to be the recipient of the federally-funded Reading First grant. Receiving the grant for another two years assists schools in keeping the scientifically-based reading research strategies continuing. We call this 'sustainability,' which is a major focus of continuing the grant for two additional years.

The Reading First grant was designed for grades kindergarten through third grade. However, AC-T's school board and administration has committed to broadening this process to include all grades, preschool through sixth grade, which have received and are receiving, ongoing instruction pertaining to what current research has indicated is the most powerful for all students! This year, half of the early out in-services have been devoted to looking more closely at the teaching of vocabulary.

There are five main components or focus areas under the umbrella of Reading First. They include the study of: fluency, comprehension, phonemic awareness, phonics, and vocabulary. Diagnostic assessments are tests that don't include letter grades, but more importantly, show exactly what skills and understandings each student has or does not have, so that teachers can streamline instruction to focus specifically on where each student has needs. This helps in preventing students from having to repeatedly cover content that they already know, and assists in strengthening those areas of challenge that students may be facing.

The first three years of the grant, every teacher in-service was devoted to the study of Reading First strategies. Books were purchased:

- to increase the classroom libraries
- to create a Reading First Book Room to hold multiple copies of books that are used for small reading groups
- to provide books pertaining to specific topics covered in social studies, science, and health classes
- to provide professional books and materials as resources for teachers to use when planning lessons for the students



The Reading First Continuation Grant provides for additional funds that are used for furthering the training of new teachers, allowing teachers to attend special Department of Education days where national reading experts present current reading research, and continues to insure that every student has many books available to them to read.

Due to the hard work of the staff and students, Albert City - Truesdale Elementary received notification they were recognized as being in the top 15 Reading First schools in the state of Iowa last year that showed the greatest growth with their reading scores. Congratulations to the entire staff and student body of AC-T!! Thanks to the school board and administration for the opportunity and support they supply in this vital work towards increased student achievement!

Thanks to the AC-T Foundation for donating funds to purchase a new portable sound system/microphones, digital camcorder, portable screen, and two benches and a picnic table for the new playground!

Nurses' Notes



The school year is almost $\frac{3}{4}$ done and the nurses at AC-T are finally catching our breath! Deb Clausen & Dorie Lovin are sharing the “nurses’ shoes” this year. We are learning as we go and have found that a School Nurse is an important part of the *TEAM* at AC-T.

In the fall an important part of our job is making sure that everyone’s immunizations are up to date. An important reminder for parents of Pre-K and Kindergarten children is to remember the mandatory law: the last **DTP, POLIO & MMR *MUST BE GIVEN AFTER AGE 4!*** The county and state audit our immunization records and they give **NO EXCEPTION** to this law, even if they are given 1 day before the 4th birthday. Pre-K students **CAN** start school without those last shots given, but **CANNOT** start Kindergarten until all immunizations are current. We truly appreciate your cooperation in this.

Another immunization that has gotten a great deal of attention is the meningitis vaccine (Menactra). As of right now, it is not mandatory, but because of such a high incidence of meningitis in NW Iowa, many children have been vaccinated. Talk with your physician to see if it right for your child. If you do have your child get this vaccination, please give the school a copy of where and when it was given so we can update your child’s health file which follows your child to any school your child attends.

In December, your student(s) was given a mini wellness check. We want to give a big *Thank You* to Julie Olson and Janeen Hogrefe for coming in and helping us that day. We’ve done heights, weights, BMIs (Body Mass Index-a tool for determining the percentage of fat in the body), blood pressures, pulses and vision checks. AEA also came in during that time to do hearing checks. All of these things are done so we can make sure your child(ren) is in tip top shape and able to learn to the best of his/her ability.

When you registered your student(s) for school, you either signed or declined a permission slip for us to do a weekly fluoride rinse. This is another part of what the nurse does for your child, and we are happy to say 100% of our 1st thru 6th grade students get the weekly fluoride rinse. While our audience is captive swishing a mouthful of fluoride for 60 seconds, we have their undivided attention to teach them the importance of good brushing and flossing. Much of what we do IS teaching, and is often related to something also being taught in the classroom.

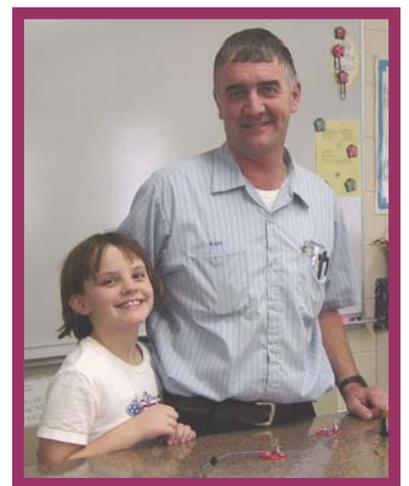
As you can see, in a few short months, we have covered your child from head to toe! Please take time to talk to your child about what they may have learned about staying healthy. You are also welcome to call or e-mail us via the website any time with questions or concerns. We are *PROUD* to be members of Team AC-T!



Electricity! Our 3rd Grade Class had a special visitor come and help us learn about current electricity. Kent Clausen was our special visitor. He taught us about series and parallel circuits. He also showed us how to plug in something safely. We even got to make our own circuits. It was so fun to have an expert come to AC-T school and help us learn. Thanks Mr.

Clausen and Clausen Hardware for giving us some of your precious time during your busy day.

~The AC-T 3rd Graders and Mrs. Spragg



Mrs. Bruns' 2nd Grade Snow Stories

The Sleigh Ride by Sydney Redding
One time Sydney's papa got out his Belgian horses and he got the sleigh out and hooked them up to it. I was sort of scared! Grandma said, "Come on. It will be fun!"

Mom said, "Let's get in the sleigh."

So I got in the sleigh. The sleigh would tip one way and we would tip the other way. It was fun, just like Grandma said!

The First Tractor Pull by Tabitha Demers
At Louisville, Kentucky, it was freezing cold. My friend Jen was there. Jen and I played together. Jen and I played Tic Tac Toe and Hangman. We were there for a tractor pull. Dad didn't win but we had fun.

Snow Day by Cody Martens
I went on a huge snow hill and went snowboarding with my friends D.K., Dallas, and Dalton. Then we played King of the Mountain. Then we threw snowballs.

Snow Fort by Grant Brown
We built a fort. It collapsed on Friday. Our yard is filled with snow. Byron and I defended ourselves from Lexi, our dog.

Snowmobile by Crystal Johnson
One day I went to my mom's boyfriend's house. I rode his snowmobile. I had fun!

Sledding by Dalton Kulp (aka D.K.)
I went to the snow hill. I saw someone on the hill. I met him. His name was Isaac. I went sledding with him.

The Snowball Fight by Nathanael Hartley
One day, Mom, Dad, Nick, Tasha, Natalie, and I had a snowball fight. We played "King of the Hill." Nick threw a snowball at me.

The Trip To Florida by Marcaill Jo Olson
On Thursday we left to go to Florida. It was fun! We stayed on an island. We went to the beach. I collected sand dollars and seashells. I went bike riding. We were there for 3 days and 4 nights. We came home Monday.

We went from Des Moines to Cincinnati to Tampa and on the way back we went from Tampa to Atlanta to Des Moines.

We stayed in a motel called Haley's Motel. We flew Delta the whole time. I missed gymnastics. I left Wednesday night and spent the night at a motel. We got up very early and left.

I got a lot of cool shells. I got six sand dollars.
No Snow!

Snow Fort by Jenny Sievers
One day my dad was in the tractor. Jennifer asked, "Can you make Mitch, Nick, and me a snow hill?"

The next morning there was a snow hill! We made a fort after school. We pretended to have guns. It was fun!

The Winter Fun by Dalton Eberle
I put on my mittens. He put on his hat. Dallas and I put on our snow pants. He put on his mittens. I put on my hat. Dallas and I put on our coats. We went outside. We sledded on the snow hill. Dallas and I had fun. Then it was time to go inside.

Winter Fun by Dallas Eberle
I went to D.K.'s house in the snow and we were riding his snowmobile. Kash was pulling me. The next day D.K. and I were snowmobiling and I got stuck.

AC-T Preschool and Kindergarten Registration

A combination meeting for parents of children who are planning to be enrolled in preschool or kindergarten in the fall of 2007 will be held on Tuesday, April 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the AC-T lunchroom. Teachers will preview classroom curriculums and answer any questions that arise. Childcare will be provided. All updated immunization records and each child's birth certificate are needed at the meeting. Parents are encouraged to notify the school if unable to attend.

All 2007-2008 kindergarten eligible children are invited to a morning in the Albert City-Truesdale kindergarten classroom from 8:30-10:00 on Thursday, April 5.

Plan to Attend the PACT Albert City Community Meeting On Monday, April 23rd At 6:30 pm in the AC-T Library To Discuss Fundraising Ideas For New School/Community Playground

Superintendents Report---Dr. Marlin Lode

This is the time of year when school districts across the state put together their budgets for the next fiscal year. In their regular April school board meeting the Albert City-Truesdale school board members will hold a public hearing for the 2007-08 budget. Per the school aid formula, property tax and state aid constitute the major sources of district revenue. Property tax rates are expected to decrease by about 73 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation in the 2008 fiscal year. This decrease is due to a slight increase in enrollment this year. When enrollment increases, a larger portion of revenue is received in the form of state aid. Overall, Albert City-Truesdale remains fiscally sound. Past and present school board members are credited for doing a good job of maintaining solid fiscal integrity. Please call if you have any questions regarding the 2007-08 AC-T school budget.

Guy Ghan of Ghan Consulting, Inc. completed the field work for a regional high school study as requested by area school districts. Mr. Ghan is prepared to report his findings to the school boards of AC-T, Newell-Fonda, Laurens-Marathon, and Pocahontas. In the near future, a joint meeting of the boards will be held to allow Mr. Ghan to present his findings and conclusions. After the report is delivered, the schools involved will release the information to the public and determine the feasibility of continued discussion.

Plans are in the final stages for the new school and community playground at the AC-T school. Construction of the playground is expected to begin this spring and completed before school starts in the fall. Members of the AC-T board will also consider other improvements to buildings and grounds.

The 3rd and 4th Grade Presentations of:



The Baker's Neighbor
Two Pigs, a Wolf, and a Mud Pie

Red Writing Hood

Date: Thursday, March 29th

Time: 7:00 p.m.-8:15 p.m.

Place: Albert City Old Gym

Admission: Adults \$1.00, Children \$.50

*This money will help pay for play costumes, props, and supplies. The students also plan on having a cast party.

We cordially invite you to attend our plays!

~Mrs. Spragg, Ms. Dirks, and the 3rd & 4th Graders.