

THE HURRICANE

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The Hurricane



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Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

March/April/May 2010

Albert City-Truesdale Students Qualify for State History Day and State Invention Convention!

By Mrs. Sievers, TAG instructor

Albert City – Truesdale Elementary School was host site for the 2010 District (AEA 8) History Day Competition. Twelve schools and about 100 total students from across Northwest Iowa participated.

The theme for History Day this year is “Innovation in History: Impact and Change.” Twenty adult judges volunteered their time to critique group and individual entries in exhibits, documentaries, web sites, performances, and research papers all relating to this theme. Two entries in each category were chosen to advance to the statewide competition in Des Moines on May 3.

Local winners included:

Albert City – Truesdale - Group Performance “Ed Sundholm: The Entrepreneur of Albert City”

Maddy Bjork, Kara Clausen, Dalton Demers, Anna Ehlers, Maggie Loving

Teacher – Laura Sievers

Sioux Central – Group Documentary “The Theiman Tractor: The Innovation that Changed Farming.”

Gloria Jensen, Brad Aronson, Mallory Bjork

Teacher – Eileen Tjeerdsma



Five Albert City – Truesdale 4th grade students attended the Invent Iowa district competition in Humboldt on Saturday, March 13. Invent Iowa teaches creativity through invention, using the academic areas of reading and research, science, creative and critical thinking, writing, art, and persuasive speaking. Each student or team of students creates a new product or improves an existing one and presents their idea to a team of judges for evaluation.



Inventions created by the AC-T students include Mercedes Unger’s Pencil Dispenser, Shera Smith’s Boot Topper 2010, Makayla Bjork and Gabby Long’s Tool Hammer, and Carter Beckman’s Third Hand. Carter was chosen to advance to the state competition in Iowa City on April 24. His invention is a simple way to open doors for people whose hands are full.

American Legion Fifth Grade Flag Essay Contest

One of the goals of the American Legion of Iowa Essay Contest is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the United States Flag on the part of elementary-level students. Other objectives of the contest are to gain knowledge of flag etiquette and respect for the flag.



The written essay, limited to 300 words or less, was to be the student's personal interpretation of what the United States flag means to them.

The contest was blind judged by members of American Legion Post 299 at their February 23, 2010 monthly meeting. Lexi Blakeley was the winner of the American Legion Post 299 Essay Contest. Lexi was awarded a Certificate of Achievement and a \$50.00 Savings bond on February 24, 2010 in an award ceremony at her classroom. All 5th grade students were given a Certificate of Participation from the Post, Freedom Certificates provided by the US Army, and pens, pencils, book covers and stickers provided by the US Navy.

Lexi's essay was forwarded to the 9th District offices for competition at the District Level. At District Level, Lexi will compete against winners from American Legion Posts in the thirteen counties representing Northwest Iowa. District contest winners will compete at State Level with the winner being announced at the July 2010 Department Convention.

Pictured from left to right are Sandra Otto, Post Program Officer, Woody Wenell, Post Commander, Lexi Blakeley (contest winner), Lois Adams, Post Member, Keith Moe, Post member, and Gar Otto, Post Member and Director Buena Vista County Veterans Affairs.

Come to the 3rd and 4th Grade Presentations of:

The Baker's Neighbor

Two Pigs, a Wolf, and a Mud Pie

Red Writing Hood

Date: Tuesday, April 13th

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: AC-T Old Gym

Admission: Adults \$2.00, Children \$1.00

**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.

Nurse Notes

The last few months have been quite busy in the nurse's office!

In December, we completed "mini-physicals" on our students. These included height, weight, blood pressure, pulse and a vision test. The height and weight were graphed on a percentile chart, and also used to calculate their BMI, which is a measurement of body fat. This information was compiled and sent home to parents, which is one way we partner with them in promoting optimum health for our students.

Nurse Deb prepared the immunization records for Public Health to audit in February; they complete an audit of these every year to ensure that all children received the correct immunizations at the correct time.

Nurse Julie completed an audit of dental screens; these screens are required for all Kindergarten and out-of-state transfer students. The state has mandated that dental screens be done for these students to promote better dental health in Iowa's children.

Nurse Deb prepared information to give out to parents on Pre-K/Kindergarten Roundup night (March 22). We invited all parents of students entering these classes in the fall to come and learn about AC-T; Nurse Deb and Nurse Julie are available to answer questions about immunizations and other health requirements for entering school.

Nurse Julie continues to administer fluoride every week to students (with permission) in first through sixth grade. She uses the minute spent "swishing" to encourage good habits in many areas, including dental care, exercise, eating and portion sizes, winter skin care, safety, basic first aid and having a positive attitude!

Just a reminder: The recommendations for prevention of head lice include parents checking the head of each child in the home for 15 minutes every week. Look carefully for nits (eggs) or lice. As lice can occur in any setting, we want to encourage you to take the time to do this every week.

We take care of any injuries, illnesses, aches or pains that occur while we are here at school, and are always happy to answer any questions. Please feel free to call anytime; Nurse Deb is here on Tuesday mornings, and Nurse Julie is here on Thursday mornings.

Have a great spring!

Julie Olson, RN and Deb Clausen, RN, AC-T School Nurses



'Twas the wearin' of the green on March 17th when AC-T's second grade class went to the Pleasantview Nursing Home to sing Irish songs to the residents. Afterwards the students were treated to green punch and green Rice Krispie treats. The second graders really enjoyed visiting with the residents after their performance.

-Mrs. Bruns and the 2nd Grade



AC-T first graders rock!! We started our year with 20 excited first graders. Since losing one student in the fall, we have had three new students join us — so we are up to 22! We have been very busy in first grade this year.

As I write this, we have just finished page 260 in our math workbook! (That's a lot of pages!) We have learned so many new things including: fractions, telling time, different shapes, adding, subtracting. Wow! We can't wait to start working with money in the near future!

In Social Studies we have learned about the continents, the oceans, directions, community helpers, transportation, and have studied many other interesting areas. Science has been exciting because we have been investigating habitats, plants, animals, erosion, land forms, to name a few! We also enjoyed a few weeks of enrichment with Mrs. Sievers and learned about different types of weather.

We continue to work on our reading skills and are amazed at the number of books we each have read this year! We are learning spelling rules that we can use to help us when we don't know a word. We love having our friends from the community come in and read with us each Monday! We are becoming awesome readers!

We are looking forward to our Spring Break Party in April and counting down the days until summer vacation! We can't wait for the sun to really shine!

Mrs. Loving

Selena.

Parker!

Paige.

Sakura

Courtney

Chad

Keinna

Alyssa



Jayden

Alyssa W.

ALEX

Aly

Michael

Ben

Brady

Trevor

McKenna

Morgan

Damien

Gettit

Tristan Keenan

Pictures of 2nd / 4th Grade Reading Buddies



3rd & 4th Grade Flashlight Read

On Friday, March 5th, the third and fourth grade students joined together for a special reading time. What did they need for this special time? All they needed was a book and a FLASHLIGHT!!! That's right! These students enjoyed reading their books in the dark with a flashlight. Some students read with a partner, some read with a teacher, and some read independently. Fun was had by all, and the students did an excellent job reading during this time. Great job third and fourth grade!

****Thanks to all who attended the Scholastic Book Fair during parent-teacher conferences. We were able to receive \$1032.96 total from the fall and spring Scholastic Book Fairs.****

Mrs. Spragg and the Third graders visited the Community State Bank in Albert City

Pat Lullman was the best tour guide ever! She made us do her work, and we LOVED every minute of it! Each of us had the opportunity to make a roll of quarters, click the teller's change counter, and stamp and seal a bank statement. Kari Brown explained how she orders money for the bank. She opened a bag of money and allowed us to hold \$55,000. We felt rich for a few seconds. We really enjoyed going in the vault and viewing all the money. We also were allowed to go in the safe deposit vault. Pat made sure we were quizzed on our math skills while we were there. She asked us many questions and was thrilled with our abilities. At the end of our tour, we gathered in the conference room. Pat gave us pens, suckers, and checks to take back with us to school. We will be practicing our cursive handwriting on our new checks. We would like to thank Pat and the bank for providing us with such a wonderful experience in our amazing town.



5TH GRADE TURN'S JUNK INTO TREASURE!
BY M.S. GOEDERT

The old saying goes, "One man's junk is another man's treasure", but at AC-T's 5th grade one man's junk will help them CATCH their treasure!!! On March 8th when the 5th graders got to school their classroom was turned upside-down. After much investigating into what could have caused such a mess, they discovered that they had a leprechaun visiting from Ireland. The 5th graders spent the two weeks leading up to St. Patrick's Day learning about Ireland and the history of St. Patrick's Day. After many mornings of picking up after their friend, the 5th graders decided, enough was enough and decided to catch him in the act. They sent a letter home asking for "junk" (old boxes, oatmeal canisters, shiny objects, etc.) to turn into a leprechaun trap. They used problem solving skills to plan and build a trap and made many revisions before coming up with the final 2 products. On St. Patrick's Day Eve they set their traps, went home, and crossed their fingers that a pot of gold would be waiting for them when they returned. When they arrived on March 17th, they found a glittery little hat, and a mallet for fixing shoes in their traps, but no leprechaun. He did however leave a consolation price of assorted candy wrapped in golden wrappers! He also left a note assuring them that he would be back for his hat and hammer next year so beware!! ☺ 5th grade would like to tell Clarence to watch out, next time they will be ready for him!!



Dakota Caldwell rides in the new bus purchased this year by the Albert City-Truesdale school district. The bus has a lift to accommodate a wheelchair.



SPRING CLEANING

The snow is almost gone and spring is finally here! It's time for spring cleaning. The AC-T preschool would like you to think of us when you are cleaning and thinking of getting rid of things. There are many things from around the house we would be more than happy to take off your hands and use in our room. Here the things we would be willing to take:

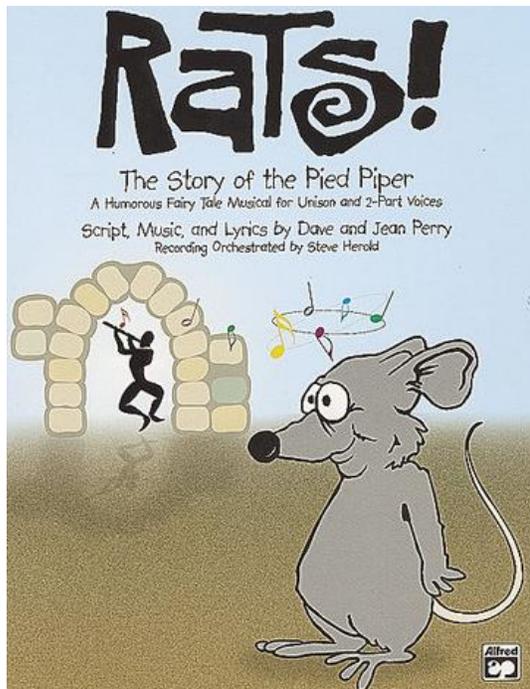
- Toys appropriate for young children (please no puppets or stuffed dolls)
- Yarn
- Buttons
- Ribbon
- Envelopes



- Stationery
- Fabric scraps
- Ice cream buckets
- Pie tins
- Cardboard flats
- Clear plastic containers of various sizes

If you're not sure, bring it on in and we can decide. We enjoy being very creative throughout our day. Thanks so much!
Mrs. Cormany and Ms. Roberts

USED CLOTHING DONATIONS WOULD BE APPRECIATED FOR THE YOUNGER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS FOR SPARE CLOTHING TO USE WHEN ACCIDENTS OR INCLEMENT WEATHER MAKES IT NECESSARY TO CHANGE. PANTS, SHORTS, AND SHIRTS ARE IN THE GREATEST DEMAND. PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO THE OFFICE. THANKS!



Plan now to see "Rats!" by Joe Garvick

The Spring Musical will be "Rats!" The story is about the Pied Piper, Rats, Mayor, and Townspeople. The musical is Tuesday May, 25 2010 at 7:00P.M in the big gym. The musical is free for all ages. The 5th and 6th grade band is going to perform as well. The 3rd and 4th grade will be rats. Grades PK-2 will be children of the town. The 5th and 6th will be townspeople. We hope to see you there.

News from the 6th Grade

Get To Know Our Sixth Graders

Dalton Demers

By: Eric Ulchinsky

Dalton James Demers was born in a hospital in Storm Lake, Iowa. He still lives with his daddy Danny Demers, in Truesdale out in the country. While Dalton was growing up he became really interested in basketball. When Dalton is at home and not at school he plays video games and he takes care of his brother Brandon James Demers while his dad was at work. He also talks a lot about being a cardiologist. He wants to go to college to become either a cardiologist or a basketball player. While playing video games and taking care of his brother he listens to his favorite singer Sammy Hagar. When it is dinner time Dalton loves to make baby back ribs. His dad never let him have a pet but he always wanted a Boston terrier. Right now Dalton is working hard to go to college even though he does not like school he will try his hardest to make it there. My name is Eric and I am very good friend of Dalton's and I know his goal will take a while to reach. I hope he makes it there.

Tanner Orwig by Chris Eberle

Tanner Orwig moved to Michigan when he was 5 and was born in Spencer. His parents' names are Missey and David. He moved to Iowa because his dad did not like living in Michigan City. He always liked football when he was a little kid and he would watch it with his dad. Tanner does not like the snow very much but he likes to have snowball fights and stuff. When Tanner was a little kid and watched football with his dad he always liked watching the

Bengals play. When it is summer time he likes to go to the Albert City pool and swim and have fun with his friends.

ANNA MARIE EHLERS

By: Tanner Orwig

Anna's favorite color is orange. Anna's favorite school subject is Iowa History. She likes Iowa History because it has a lot of interesting facts of our state. She is looking forward to going to Des Moines. Anna also likes spring. Her favorite books are the Among the Hidden series. Anna likes reading Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH. Anna's favorite movie is Left Behind. Anna's favorite thing to in the summer is read and her favorite place to visit is North Dakota. Anna's parents are Carol and Brent Ehlers. Anna has one brother; his name is Austin.

THE LIFE OF MAGGIE LOVING! BY: KAITLYN JONES

Maggie Loving was born in Spencer, Iowa at the Spencer Hospital on April 6th 1998. The proud parents Dan and Melissa Loving and the older brother Gus are very happy to have her here. She lives in the country. Now, eleven years later, she is 11 years old and her brother Gus is 13. She has 2 horses, 1 dog and 2 cats. She attends school at AC-T and her favorite subject is Iowa History. She loves going there because all the teachers are fun and they have fun in their classrooms. She likes all the teachers there. This will be her last year here; then she will go to Sioux Central.

KAITLYN JONES BY ANNA MARIE EHLERS

Kaitlyn Olivia Jones was born on November 16th, 1997. Her parents are Jennifer and Jeff Jones. Kaitlyn lives with two little sisters and three brothers. Kaitlyn's favorite movie is a musical called Hairspray. The Joneses live here in Albert City. They are going to move in April to Sioux Rapids. Her family has two dogs Sadie and Buddha.

Kaitlyn's favorite color is orange. Out of all of the food in the world Kaitlyn prefers eating Taco Pizza. Her favorite place to visit is Sioux City. She likes the season of summer because you are out of school. In the summer she likes going to her friend's houses and sleeping over. Her favorite book she has read is Little House on the Prairie. Her favorite activity to do is ride her bike. She enjoys playing outside with her friends. Her number one favorite sports team is the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Read Across America Day!

by Maggie Loving

On March 2, 2010 we celebrated Dr. Seuss' Birthday! Dr. Seuss is a great children's author. The Albert City Librarian, Mary, and the Cat in the Hat came to the Albert City-Truesdale School on 3-2-10. They showed us many of Dr. Seuss' well known books.

The Cat in the Hat acted out his favorite book called The Cat in the Hat. Mary read while the Cat in the Hat acted out the book. Everybody enjoyed it very much and had some good laughs. You were able to go to the library after school on March 2, 2010 to enjoy some snacks and read Dr. Seuss books. You could even talk to the Cat in the Hat!

Funds for Fireman Update by Luke Johnson

How much money have we raised so far? \$709.88.

What are we going to do for some activities for raising money? We had a bake sale and we're planning some special contest with the students and staff.

If we meet our goal what celebration are we going to do? The teachers are planning some fun activities for when we reach our goal.

STUDENT TEACHER -

BRITNEY COOK

By: Kara Clausen

Britney Cook is from Pleasantville, Iowa (near Des Moines.) She went to college to become a teacher at Buena Vista University. Ms. Cook wanted to become a teacher because both of her parents were teachers. She says that the hardest part about being a teacher is getting up in the morning, getting into a routine, and staying organized! If you ask her if she enjoys teaching she would say YES!!! Her favorite part about AC-T is getting to know all of the cool students and teachers. When Ms. Cook is not teaching she is scrapbooking or shopping!

QUIZ BOWL BY: Dalton Demers

This year quiz bowl will be held on April 17th at West Bend. Dalton Demers, Kara Clausen, Maddy Bjork, and Anna Marie Ehlers are participating in quiz bowl. They are going to be asking trivia questions. The way you do it is the judge reads the questions and the 1st person at the table answers the question and if you get it right you earn points. The kinds of questions are toss-ups where you are read a question and the first person to slap the table answers it. There are toss-ups with bonus which is the same as a toss-up but if you get it right you get a bonus question for more points. There is also a lightning round in which you get 10 questions in a minute and you have to answer them as fast as you can.

Jump Rope for Heart

by Mr. Lovin

Jump Rope for Heart took place on Friday, March 19th from 2:00-3:00 in the Albert City-Truesdale new gym. Students in grades 3-6 had two weeks to collect donations that will go to the American Heart Association. The packets were due March 17th and each student receives prizes according to the amount of money they bring in. Orange drink from McDonald's and cookies made by Cyndie Holt were also served. The students raised \$1845 total with 5th grader Tabitha Demers raising \$326. Great job Hurricanes!



The Little Hurricane Relays will be held May 17, 2009 at the football field in Albert City. Pre-K through 2nd grade will be participating in their events from 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Grades 3-6 will hold their events at 1:30-3:00 p.m. The rain date will be May 24, 2009.

Student Teacher Kelsi Bustad by Tina Ulchinsky

This quarter we had a student teacher. She had been working with Mrs. Benedict in Special Ed. Her name is Kelsi Mae Bustad. She was born in Des Moines Iowa. She goes to college at Buena Vista University. She is hoping to get a job in Special Ed. She got interested in teaching because of her teachers in elementary school, and she likes to help kids! She was not able to choose to come to AC-T, but she is glad that she got to come here. She got to learn a lot of new things coming to AC-T such as, using different types of programs in Special Ed, and Parent-Teacher conferences. The memories she said she is going to have with her from AC-T are when the kids had class parties and she got to come in and participate in the activities. She is glad that she was able to come here and have such a good time, and that all the kids are so respectful and nice to each other.

Random Questions about Mrs. Spragg by: Madelyn Bjork

- 1. What college did Mrs. Spragg go to? Buena Vista*
- 2. How long has Mrs. Spragg taught at Albert city? 17 years*
- 3. How long has Mrs. Spragg been teaching 3rd grade? 7 years*
- 4. What else has Mrs. Spragg taught? Title one reading, title math, English as a Second Language, 8th grade all, 6th grade language arts, 6th Iowa History, 5-8th grade math, Drivers Ed, 3rd grade.*
- 5. What is Mrs. Spragg's original major? Pre-Med*
- 6. What was Mrs. Spragg's major in college? Elementary Ed. Her minor was psychology, then she earned a Reading endorsement, Early Childhood endorsement, and Drivers Ed. endorsement*
- 7. What is Mrs. Spragg's dog named? Shooter*
- 8. What 3 grades have living animals in them? The 3rd grade (Mrs. Spragg) has two birds, 4th grade has frogs (Ms. Dirks), and last but not least, 2nd grade also has frogs (Mrs. Bruns)*
- 9. What two teachers always say "whip out the muscle"? Mrs. Spragg and Ms. Dirks*
- 10. Who did Mrs. Spragg student teach for at AC-T? Mrs. Kruse and Mrs. McGriff*
- 11. What AC-T parents did Mrs. Spragg go to school with? Paul Lindner, Jory Johannsen, and Tricia Willeford*

I hope you learned a lot more about Mrs. Spragg than you thought you knew!

News from the Administration- by Barb Kady

As we reflect during the final quarter of the 2009-2010 school year, we know we have accomplished many things at AC-T throughout the school year. This newsletter is a reflection of some of those achievements. As we look to the final weeks of the school year, there are still many things we are looking forward to!

Our faculty is in the process of developing a district implementation plan for the Iowa Core Curriculum. The Iowa Core Curriculum:

- Is about the success of all students;
- Communicates the expectation that all students learn at high levels;
- Honors prior work districts have done to develop curriculum;
- Focuses on 21st century skills;
- Includes state content standards;
- Encourages instructional practices that deeply engage students as active learners and critical thinkers who can apply their knowledge.

Throughout the next several months, the AC-T faculty will work to incorporate the Iowa Core Curriculum into its academic programs. Professional development will focus on the delivery of instruction, aligned with the goals of the Iowa Core Curriculum.

As you are reading this newsletter, hopefully the harsh winter weather will be behind us and spring will be here to stay! The extreme conditions this year resulted in 9 days of school being cancelled due to the weather, as well as numerous late starts and early dismissals. The AC-T School Board has amended the 2009-2010 school calendar to make up the missed days, making provisions to hold school on several days that had been scheduled as days school would not have been in session. School will be in session at AC-T on April 1, 5, and 6, and May 27 and 28. In addition, AC-T will have an extended school day, from 8:00 AM to 3:38 PM, during the weeks of April 19 through April 30, to make up time equivalent to one school day. Sioux Central School will be in session on April 2, but they will not have an extended school day during the last two weeks of April. A letter was sent home to all AC-T parents on March 19 with details regarding these schedule changes, as well as any resulting busing changes. If you have any questions regarding the calendar revisions or the extended school day, please do not hesitate to call the school office.

School districts across Iowa received news last October that school funding appropriated by the legislature for the 2009-2010 school year would be cut by 10 per cent. This has many districts around the state working to determine how they will compensate for this loss of funding. Your AC-T School Board is working hard to make sure AC-T programs and operations are running as efficiently as possible, while maintaining the tradition of educational excellence at AC-T.

Thank you for your continued support for AC-T, the faculty, students, and staff members. The support you provide is truly appreciated and valued as we continue our commitment to make AC-T a "Great Place to Start!"

****The third grade has been learning about money and enjoyed seeing, touching, and examining real money! They used magnifying glasses to look at the dollar bills up close! – Mrs. Spragg****



100th Day of School!



Thanks to our PACT group!



Jump Rope for Heart

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:25 a.m. KAYL School Spotlight Baseball/Softball Registration 5-7	2 No School @ ACT School in session @ Sioux Central	3 10:00 Easter Egg Hunt @ AC-T in old gym
4	5 School in session Severe Weather Week	6 School in session	7 Bring 50 cents and wear pajamas and slippers today	8	9	10
11	12 6:00 School Board meeting	13 6:30 pm Grades 3-4 School Play	14	15	16	17
18	19 Extended School Days 8:00 am-3:38 pm 6:30 PACT	20	21	22 7:25 a.m. KAYL School Spotlight Funds for Firemen Goal Achievement Activities	23	24
25	26 Extended School Days 8:00 am-3:38 pm	27 Grade 6 Honor Choir @ Spirit Lake	28	29	30 Colorful Day- Wear as many bright colors as you can Extended School days ends	

2010