

The Hurricane  
Albert City-Truesdale CSD  
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Albert City, IA 50510

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# The Hurricane



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

Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

March/April/May 2009



## Iowa Reading Administrator of the Year!

The Iowa Reading Association has chosen Barbara Kady as Iowa Reading Administrator of the Year. She will be honored on Thursday, April 2, 2009 at a banquet during the state reading conference in Des Moines. Barbara was nominated by her local council and selected at the state level.

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

By Mrs. Sievers, TAG instructor

Six Albert City-Truesdale students, Chance Johannsen, Kash

Buse, Nicholas Baack, Lacey Roberts, Kyrstin Erickson, and Amber Horton, participated in the District History Day contest held in Emmetsburg on Saturday, February 28. The theme of this year's competition was "The Individual in History – Actions and Legacies". This broad theme uses history to challenge students to improve their research, analytical, and communication skills. Students may work individually or in a group of up to five students. Lacey, Amber and Kyrstin created a group exhibit on the Sullivan Brothers, five sailors from Waterloo, Iowa who died when their ship, the USS Juneau, was sunk during World War II. Kash and Chance produced a group documentary on Grant Wood, one of the most famous lowans of all time, and Nicholas chose to produce an individual documentary on Chief Black Hawk and his struggles for fair treatment of the Sauk Indians. Two of these projects, the group documentary on Grant Wood and the individual documentary on Chief Black Hawk, were chosen to advance to State History Day on May 4 in Des Moines.



AC-T students Dalton Demers, Maddy Bjork, Kara Clausen, Anna Ehlers, Maggie Loving, Nick Samuelson and Corren Olson recently participated in the district Invention Convention in Emmetsburg. The Invent Iowa curriculum teaches students the inventive process to over 30,000 elementary through high school students in Iowa. The inventions created by students solve problems, make life easier, or can just help someone have fun. Corren Olson's invention, the Pet Waterer 2009, was chosen to advance to the State Invent Iowa Convention to be held on April 25 at Hilton Coliseum in Ames. Other inventions included Nick's Bucket Stilts, Dalton's Adjustable Coffee Pot, Maddy and Kara's Cup-Pro, and Anna and Maggie's E-Z Apron.



# News from the 6th Grade

## Get To Know Our Sixth Graders

### Kash Buse

By: Chance Johannsen

Kash Waltermann Buse was born on July 20 1997. He is 11 years old right now and in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. He lives in town. His parents are Kevin and Shelly Buse. He has a sister, Jordan Buse. He has a dog whose name is Maggie. His favorite colors are black and red. His favorite food is pizza while watching the Iowa Hawkeyes, the Minnesota Twins, and the San Diego Chargers. When he grows up he wants to be a football player. After school he hangs out with his friends or watches Rob and Big (his favorite TV show). Also his favorite movie is "Live Free or Die Hard". He plays the drums and enjoys participating in football and baseball. This year he competed in History day with a friend. He is looking forward to going to Sioux Central next year.

### Nicholas Baack by Hannah Conlin

Nicholas Baack was born on May 11<sup>th</sup> 1997; he is the son of Katie DeMuth and Chris Baack. He was born in Des Moines. He is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student. He has two siblings, a brother, Ethan and a sister, Natalie. He has two dogs. He lives in town, and recently moved from Alta. His favorite movie is Benchwarmers; his favorite book is Harry Potter. His favorite place to eat is Lakeshore Café, in Storm Lake. He also participates in band, as an extra activity, he plays the clarinet. His favorite color is black; he likes to eat chicken strips. His favorite song is "Hero" by

Nickelback. His favorite dessert is ice cream. He also likes soccer, it's his favorite sport.

### Greg Wolfe Bergen

By: Curtis Austin LeRoy Long

Greg's family consists of six people; Greg, Eric, Alex, Kevin, and his parents, Richard and Helen. Greg's birthday is on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1997. Greg has no pets. He is in sixth grade and he is 11 years old.

Greg's favorite video game is Halo 3. He really likes skateboarding and his favorite skateboarder is Tony Hawk. Greg likes cinnamon rolls for his favorite food. Greg's favorite band is Slipknot and his favorite singer is Akon. He likes the song " Psychosocial." Greg enjoys Christmas. He spends his free time watching CSI NY. Greg loves the movie *The Chainsaw Massacre*.

### Amber Horton

By: Caitlyn Moens

Amber's parents are Dave and Kristy Orwig and James and Jennifer. She has six family members. She has two sisters and one brother. She lives in the country. Amber is twelve years old. Amber's favorite color is lime green and her favorite TV show is American Idol. Amber's favorite hobby is playing with her pets. She has three dogs and seven hamsters. She attends band. She plays the saxophone. She did history day with two other classmates. She did the Sullivan brothers but did not make it to state. Her favorite sport is volley ball. She plays soft ball and attends soccer outside of

school. Amber's favorite subject in school is spelling. Amber says next year when we change school to Sioux Central she will very much miss Albert City Elementary School.

## Chance Johannsen

by Corren Olson

Chance is a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at AC-T. He has six family members and they are Joni, Tory, Chance, Chandler, Berkley, and Brogan. His favorite food is pizza. He loves the color orange. His favorite season is summer. Chance's favorite subject is P.E. His favorite teacher at AC-T is Mrs. Spragg. Chance will miss AC-T. He loves sports like football, baseball, and basketball. Chance is in TAG. Chance's pet peeve is people chewing gum too loud.

## The Jungle Book- Spring Musical

by Nick Samuelson

*The spring musical is coming up. We are starting to get parts for The Jungle Book. Some of the main characters are: Mowgli, Shere Khan, and Baloo. Another important character is Shanti. We have the Preschoolers as the bees. Other grades are playing rocks and trees. The director is Mrs. Sievers. We will also be asking parents to help out with the play. The musical will happen Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> in the AC-T new gym. The musical will start at 7:00pm. Also on that night the band will be playing. Mr. Shedenhelm is the director.*

## Leprechaun

By: Greg Bergen

The Leprechaun in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade's classroom is causing mischief, by messing up their

classroom. Today they spent some time making traps so they can catch him and get his gold. Also today, they put up posters that say if you help catch the Leprechaun and bring him back that the 5<sup>th</sup> graders will share the gold with who ever catches him. The Leprechaun's name is Clarence, He is 2098 years young, He has a brother, he is from Ireland. The Leprechaun legend is that he's an old elf who makes shoes, and he likes to make a mess. Leprechauns like shiny things and rainbows, and he said that he picked the 5<sup>th</sup> grade room cause of the shiny shamrocks around the door.

### **NEWS BOWL BY: LACEY ROBERTS**

The Quiz bowl is every week and is about current events. The Quiz bowl is every Wednesday and is asked by Mrs. Sievers. She prints off a quiz each week and asks us about recent events. Once a month, the 4-6 grade students do a News bowl on the computer and a Quiz bowl every week in the classroom for 4-6 grade classes. The News bowl groups consist of 3-4 people and there are 50 questions to answer. There are more questions in the quiz bowl to answer but there are teams instead of groups.

## The National Physical Fitness Test

by Mr. Lovin

The 3<sup>rd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> graders recently participated in the Physical Fitness Test. It recognizes students for their level of physical fitness in 5 events: curl-ups, shuttle run, endurance run/walk, right angle push-ups, and V-sit or sit and reach.

This award recognizes students who achieve an outstanding level of physical fitness. Boys and girls who score at or above the 50th percentile (based on the 1985 School Population Fitness Survey) on all five events are eligible for this award.

AC-T Students who qualified for this award are Hannah Johnson, Gabby Long, Shera Smith, Emma Harvick, Nathanael Hartley, Marcail Olson, Jenny Sievers, Madelyn Bjork, Kara Clausen, Christian Eberle, Maggie Loving, Curtis Long, Caitlyn Moens, and Nick Samuelson.



# Are you smarter than a 6<sup>th</sup> grader? By Nicholas Baack

Here are some fun questions about some 6<sup>th</sup> Grade school subjects:

## Social Studies

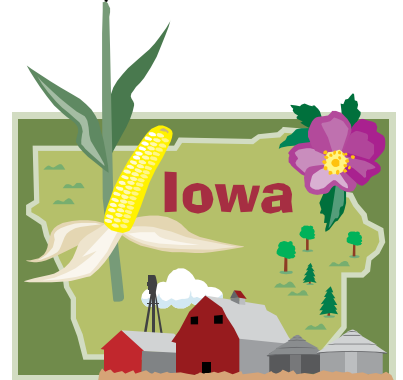
1. In 1519 why was it so easy for Hernan Cortes to take over the ancient city Tenochtitlan?
2. On what day does Mexico celebrate its independence?
3. To this day who is the dictator of Cuba?

## Science

1. What are the three types of volcanoes?
2. What are the three types of rocks?
3. Finish this sentence. The dust bowl started on April 14, \_\_\_\_\_.

## Iowa History

1. When the first telephones came out how were people able to talk to each other?
2. Finish this sentence. People during the \_\_\_\_\_ got battery powered radios.
3. How did the early farmers harvest grain?



### Books used for this Quiz.

Iowa Past to Present book copyright 1989

HSP Science book copyright 2008

Social Studies World Cultures and Geography book copyright 2005

Here are the answers and if you get them all right you get a free car! NOT REALLY.

### Social Studies

1. The leader thought they were gods and they did not have good weapons.
2. September 16.
3. Fidel Castro.

### Science

1. Shield, Cinder Cone, and Composite.
2. Igneous, Sedimentary, and Metamorphic.
3. The dust bowl started on April 14, 1935.

### Iowa History

1. Common Switchboard.
2. People during the 1920's got battery powered radios.
3. Threshing ring.

## FUNDRAISER!!!!

The AC-T teachers are sponsoring a fundraiser for breast cancer. The theme is Fight Like a Girl, and the proceeds will go to Mrs. Spragg's mom who is currently fighting breast cancer. The first order is due March 31<sup>st</sup>. We will place a second order, due April 17<sup>th</sup>. It takes 2-3 weeks for the products to arrive. The merchandise may be viewed on-line at [www.signifypink.com](http://www.signifypink.com) however, the prices on-line may be more than our prices. Please contact Annette Bruns or any one of the staff to get an order form. They are also available on our website [www.albertct.k12.ia.us](http://www.albertct.k12.ia.us) Thanks in advance for supporting this worthwhile cause.

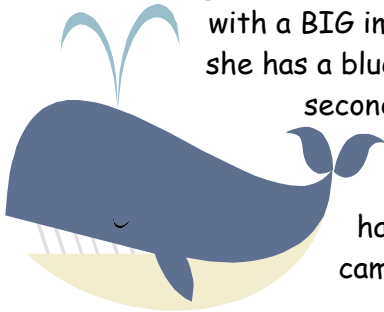


## AC-T Alumnus, Sarah Demers, featured on KWWL

Check out this video clip and article on KWWL.com about Sarah Demers, President of TEAM (Teaching Educators about Math) who credits our own Mrs. Rebekah Spragg for inspiring her to teach!  
<http://www.kwwl.com/Global/story.asp?S=9929901>  
We are proud of our Mrs. Spragg!!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Spotlight by Mrs. Bruns

While reading, "Dear Mr. Blueberry", about a girl with a BIG imagination and thinks she has a blue whale for a pet, the second graders were asked what unusual pet they would like to have. Here's what they came up with:



Laine: a rhinoceros---I would build it a stainless steel cage.

Haylee: an armadillo---it rolls itself up into a ball

Bailey: a polar bear---I would take it for walks

MacKenzie: a lion----I would feed it meat

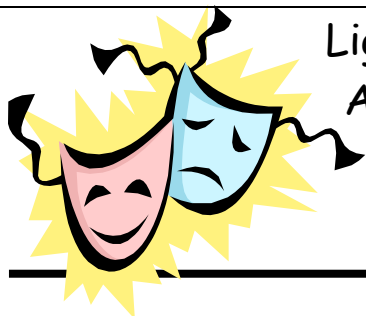
Takoda: a mountain lion---I would have it on a leash

Rachel: a jellyfish---I would keep it in a huge aquarium and teach it tricks

Sami: a monkey---I would have him help me clean the house

Keaton: an elephant---I would keep him in a tall cage in the backyard and teach him to stand on a ball

The Albert City-Truesdale Community School is applying for the "Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children" Grant. The public may view this grant application at the Business Office at the Albert City-Truesdale School.



Lights, Camera,  
Action... it's that  
time again!!!

Mark Your Calendar - The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade plays will take place on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. The plays will be performed at school that day and will also take place that evening at 6:30 p.m. We are looking forward to working with the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students on this project!!! Hope to see you there!

-Mrs. Spragg and Ms. Dirks

The Little Hurricane Relays will be

held May 13, 2009 at the football field in Albert City. Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 15, 2009.



2<sup>nd</sup> Grade received hand washing technique instructions while receiving their weekly fluoride treatment from Nurse Julie Olson.

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN! By: Kyrstin Erickson



Brandon Demers is pictured above.

Abraham Lincoln visited Albert City-Truesdale Elementary School for a reenactment assembly on February 6<sup>th</sup>. We also had South Clay at our school too. Later that night he made a reenactment at Albert City Library. A lot of the students came back to see him. After they celebrated Abraham's birthday he would now be 200 years old. His real name is Stan DeHaan and he lives in Orange City. Stan told us about Abraham's life growing up. Abraham had a difficult childhood. When Abraham was young he lived in one room cabin. When he was older he became a lawyer and a president. When he became president he gave a farewell speech in Springfield, Illinois. When he was president he ended the Civil War and to free slaves which he did.

## Pennies for Parkersburg

By: Kash Buse

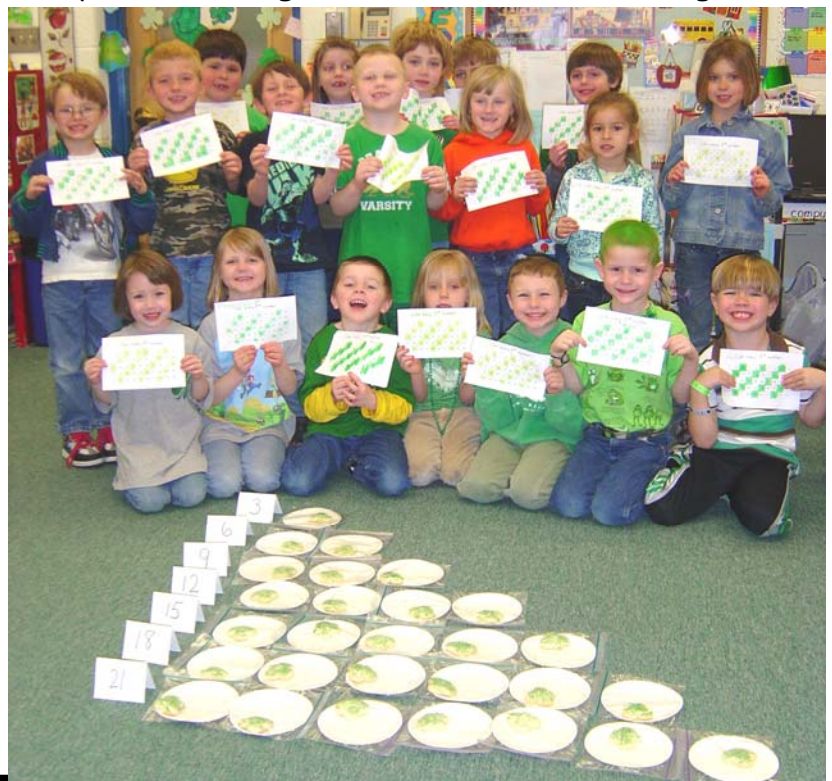
We are collecting money for a small town that lost their playground. We have collected \$739.97 for Pennies for

Parkersburg. When the school got to the half-way mark we earned a free recess but 6<sup>th</sup> grade has not used theirs yet. We had some days if we brought a dollar we could chew gum, wear a hat, and a crazy hair day. We have a nice playground; we want them to have one too. We are sad for Parkersburg that they lost their school. We want our total to be around \$1200.00.

## St. Patrick's Day at AC-T!

By Mrs. Bobolz

Albert City-Truesdale kindergarten students made the most of St. Patrick's Day. Using shamrock cookies, they investigated counting by 3's and practiced by coloring every third number on a number line. The cookies were enjoyed at milk break.





## News from the Principal - by Barb Kady

AC-T students continue to achieve at high levels! Congratulations to Corren Olsen on advancing to the state level in the Invention Convention competition. Congratulations to Chance Johannsen, Kash Buse, and Nicholas DeMuth-Baack for advancing to the state level History Day competition. Their TAG instructor, Mrs. Laura Sievers is also to be commended for her commitment to helping these students succeed. We wish these students and Mrs. Sievers well as they attend the state competitions. Former AC-T Elementary students (now in 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Sioux Central) Evan Balder, Brad Aronson, Mallory Bjork, Gloria Jensen and Gus Loving, have also qualified for the state History Day competition for the second year in a row!

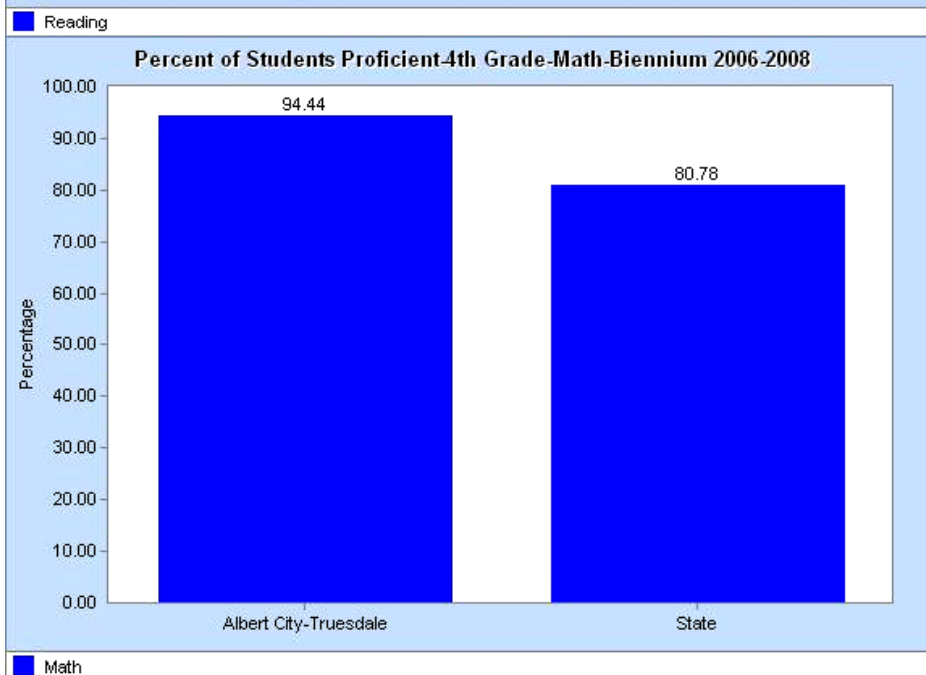
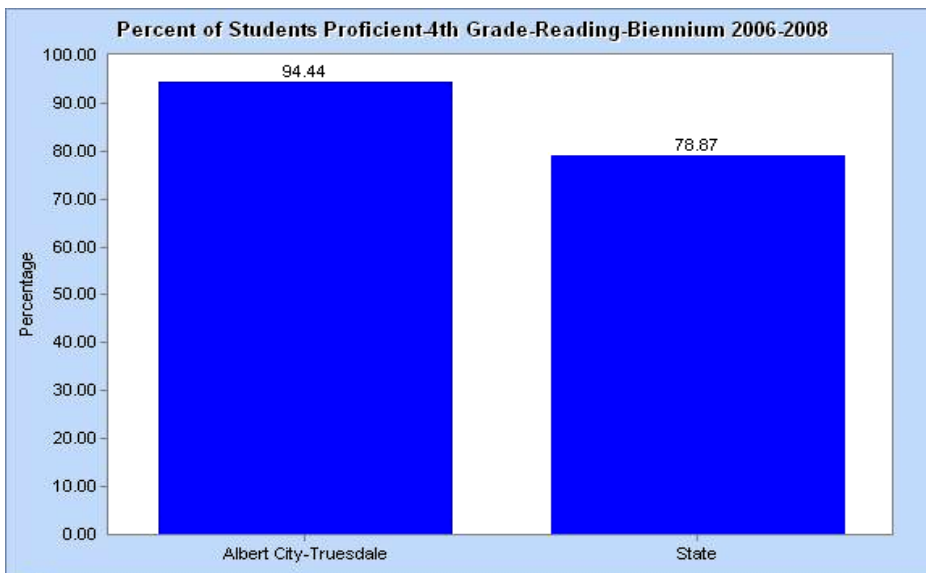
On the Iowa School Profile web site ([www.iowaschoolprofiles.com](http://www.iowaschoolprofiles.com)), the Iowa Department of Education publishes biennium school district profile reports. Information reported for the Albert City-Truesdale School shows that 94.44 percent of the AC-T fourth grade students from the years 2006 through 2008 were proficient in the areas of both reading and mathematics. The state proficiency average for reading was 78.87 percent, and for math, 80.78 percent. AC-T proficiency levels in both reading and math are also well above the averages for area schools belonging to the Prairie Lakes Education Agency. 2008 Iowa Collaborative Assessment Module results showed 100 percent of AC-T fourth graders scored at or above the proficient level in reading and math!

Our students work hard to put forth their best efforts. Our faculty and staff are highly talented individuals who are dedicated to helping students succeed. Students at AC-T are afforded many opportunities throughout their years at AC-T

Elementary School. This spring, in addition to the state competitions, we look forward to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade plays, the school-wide musical, "The Jungle Book," Little Hurricane Relays, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduation ceremony, and numerous field trips.

I am humbled and honored to be receiving the Iowa Reading Administrator of the Year Award in Des Moines in April. Awards such as this happen, not because of the work of just one individual, but because of the dedication and day to day efforts of everyone in the school. It is with pride that I will be accepting this award on behalf of all of the great work that is done by your AC-T school board, superintendent, faculty, staff, and the students each and every day at AC-T. The support that is received from parents in our district is phenomenal, and altogether a powerful team is created that translates into success and an awesome education for our students. Thanks to each of you for the part you play in making AC-T Elementary School truly "A Great Place to Start!"

**These charts show Iowa Test of Basic Skills student proficiency percentages for the school years of 2006-2008. The percentages indicate the number of 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at AC-T who are proficient in reading and math. State wide percentages of proficiency are also shown. This information can be viewed at [www.iowaschoolprofiles.com](http://www.iowaschoolprofiles.com).**





# April

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i>   | <i>Tue</i>  | <i>Wed</i>   | <i>Thu</i>   | <i>Fri</i>                                      | <i>Sat</i>   |
|------------|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|            |  |   | <b>1</b><br>Early dismissal<br>1:00  | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>   |
| <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b><br>School Board<br>meeting at 5:00                                  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b><br>Student Council<br>meeting at 12:15<br><br>Summer Ball sign-up<br>in lunchroom 3:30-<br>6:30 | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b><br><br><b>No School</b>               | <b>11</b>  |
| <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b><br><br><b>No School</b>  | <b>14</b><br><br><b>No School</b>   | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b><br>Grades 3-4 to the<br>Shrine Circus | <b>18</b>  |
| <b>19</b>  | <b>20</b><br>PACT meeting at<br>6:30<br><br>School Board<br>meeting at 6:00  | <b>21</b>   | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b><br>7 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>Transition night at<br>Sioux Central | <b>24</b>                                       | <b>25</b><br><b>State Invention<br/>Convention</b><br>Good Luck<br>Corren Olson!<br>Grades 6-8 <b>Solo<br/>Instrumental Recital</b><br>@ Sioux-Central |
| <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>Plays at 6:30 p.m. | <b>28</b><br>Grade 4 Ag-Citing<br>field trip<br><br>Honor Choir in<br>Spirit Lake | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b><br>9 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>Transition Night<br>at Sioux Central |   |  |
|            |  |   |  |  |   |  |

2009

# May

| <i>Sun</i>                                       | <i>Mon</i>   | <i>Tue</i>                                    | <i>Wed</i>  | <i>Thu</i>  | <i>Fri</i>                                     | <i>Sat</i> |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|------------|
|  |  |   |   |   | <b>1</b>                                       | <b>2</b>   |
| <b>3</b>   | <b>4 State History Day Competition</b><br>Good Luck Kash Buse,<br>Chance Johannsen,<br>Nicholas Demuth-Baack | <b>5</b><br>Grade 3 Farm<br>Safety Field Trip | <b>6</b><br>Early dismissal<br>1:00<br><br>Student Council<br>12:15 | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                       | <b>9</b>   |
| <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b><br>School Board meeting<br>6:00<br><br>AC-T Musical<br>Grades PK-6 <sup>th</sup> @ 7:00            | <b>12</b>                                     | <b>13</b><br>Hurricane Relays                                       | <b>14</b><br>Pre-K Fishing Trip   | <b>15</b><br>Rain Date for<br>Hurricane Relays | <b>16</b>  |
| <b>17</b><br>Sioux Central<br>Graduation at 2:00 | <b>18</b><br>PACT meeting 6:30<br><br>Grade 6 to Des<br>Moines   | <b>19</b><br>Grade 6 to Des<br>Moines         | <b>20</b>   | <b>21</b>   | <b>22</b><br>Early Dismissal<br>2:15           | <b>23</b>  |
| <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b><br><b>No School<br/>Memorial Day</b>   | <b>26</b>                                     | <b>27</b><br>6 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>Graduation @ 7:00             | <b>28</b><br>End of 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter<br><br>Last Day of School<br>2:15 dismissal | <b>29</b><br>Teacher In-Service<br>Day         | <b>30</b>  |
| <b>31</b>  |  |   |   |   |  |            |

2009