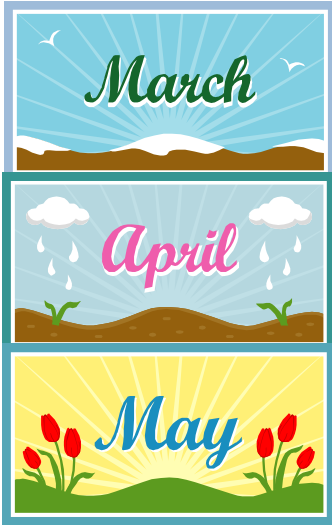


THE HURRICANE

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Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

March/April/May 2013

AC-T STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR STATE HISTORY DAY ~ MRS. LAURA SIEVERS

“Turning Points in History” was the theme for the annual AEA8 District History Day event held at Okoboji Middle School on Saturday, March 23. Sixth graders Rachel James, Haylee Beckman, Mataya Morris, Laine Wolff and Bailey Heuton presented a group exhibit on the Underground Railroad in Iowa, and were chosen to move on to the state event on Monday, May 6 in Des Moines. Students are coached by Laura Sievers and Daunajean Wenell. The Sundholm Foundation provides financial support for the project. Congrats 6th Grade! Good Luck!



Bottom L to R: Laine Wolff, Haylee Beckman, Top L to R: Bailey Heuton, Rachel James, and Mataya Morris.

Physical Fitness Test by Laine Wolff and Mr. Linn Lovin

During Feb. 4th-22nd, grades 3-6 completed a Physical Fitness Test. 3rd and 4th grades ran a quarter mile or five laps around the big gym and the 5th and 6th grades ran a half mile or ten laps around the big gym. Next they all did a V-sit reach to see how flexible they are. Then they had to do as many push-ups and sit-ups as possible in under a minute. The last event was an agility test. We did each test in groups. We didn't want to all be standing around the mat when we did push-ups and sit-ups all clustered together, Most of us ran so hard we could hardly stand up right. Some of us ran so hard we were staggering. After all this was over, the people who earned medals and achieved the 50th percentile were: Madison Blomgren, 3rd grade; Jenna Daly and Keegan Kruse, 4th grade; Alyssa Feeley, Nathan Harden, Brandon Johnson, Dustin Melby, and Jack Pohlman; 5th grade, and Haylee Beckman, 6th grade. Congrats to you all for a great job completing the Physical Fitness Tests.

Nurse Notes

What a joy to see spring around the corner! Winter has been clipping right along in my office...

~My favorite part of being the school nurse is being in the classrooms and interacting with our students! Every week, I continue to administer fluoride in grades 1-6, and use that small amount of time to cover a multitude of subjects. Some things we have talked about recently include cold-weather skin care and exercise, how to take care of a wound, seat belt laws, and water intake.

~To celebrate Dental Health Month in February, I gave a dental presentation to the Kindergarten class, and we learned all about our teeth and how to care for them. We also practiced brushing on a hard-boiled egg and flossing on an egg carton. It's great to "brush up" on those good habits!



~Start thinking about your summer schedule, and when you can make those appointments for the doctor, dentist and eye doctor. Summer seems to go so quickly, and before we know it, we are preparing to go back to school. Getting all of those appointments done in early summer and out of the way makes August and the return to school so much less stressful!

~Just a reminder: The best way to prevent head lice is to check the head of each child in your home weekly. Spend 15 minutes combing and looking through the hair for eggs and lice. They can (and do!) exist in many settings, regardless of hygiene, so please take the time to do this in your home.

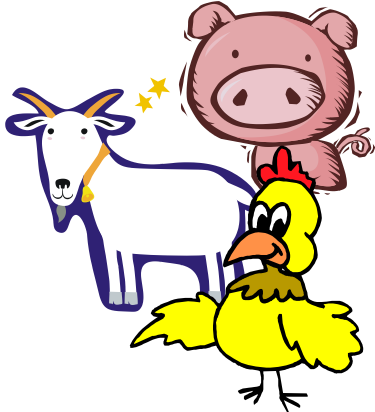
I am happy to serve as a resource to parents and staff; please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. I am here at school on Thursdays, and am happy to partner with you in the good health of our students!

Julie Olson, RN 712-843-5416 ext. 272
nurse@albertct.k12.ia.us



Box Tops for Education proceeds totaled \$428.90 and Land o'Lakes Milk caps totaled \$200.00 when we sent these in for redemption. Thanks to everyone who has helped by donating!!

The 3rd and 4th Grade Presentations of:



The Crowded House -and- The Baker's Neighbor



We cordially invite you to attend our plays!

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2013 Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Albert City-Truesdale Elementary Old Gym

Admission: Adults \$2.00/Children \$1.00

**Funds help pay for costumes, props, and supplies. The students also plan on having a cast party!*

We hope to see you at our plays!

-Mrs. Spragg, Ms. Dirks, and the 3rd/4th graders

Scholastic Book Fair at AC-T by Desiree Fitzgerald

We had our spring book fair on March 13th and 14th during conferences. We appreciate all that came out to visit and purchase some wonderful books. When you buy books from our book fair we earn Scholastic dollars to purchase books for our Library. At this book fair we made \$346.34 of Scholastic dollars to spend for our Library. Thank you for helping the school.

At 7 p.m. on May 14th the Albert City-Truesdale school will be having their spring band/choir concert and performing the spring musical "The Emperor's New Clothes" by Dave and Jean Perry. See you there!

News from the 6th Grade

Get To Know Our Sixth Graders

Bailey Heuton Interview: The Story of the Weirdest Day Ever!! By Haylee Beckman

One day a girl named Bailey Heuton, who lived in a town called Albert City, was watching her favorite T.V. show "Duck Dynasty" with her mom, Deanna; dad Brad, and her sister, Morgan. When she got up to get her favorite food, pickles; she saw a Ford Raptor in the front lawn. She decided she should take it for a spin, so she did! While she was driving she saw a purple house and thought it was cool; billboards that said "Go to UNI" and "Go to BVU" and Bailey, as young as she is, applied. She also saw a cat in the street, and her neighbors playing in their sand box. She thought that things couldn't get any weirder! Then she saw a giraffe in the street and after that she decided that she

needed to go for a swim. When she got there she found a rubber spider and screamed! She went back home she woke up the next day and it was all a dream.....

All About Mataya Morris

BY BAILEY HEUTON

One day there was a girl that walked in the 6th grade room. Her name is Mataya and she is from Paragould, Arkansas. She lives with her dad named Matthew and her little sister, River. Mataya likes to eat hamburgers and watch SpongeBob. She also likes the color blue and zebras. She has a dog named Missy. When she grows up she wants to go to Buena Vista University to be a 3rd grade teacher. For now, she likes to paint and walk dogs. Mataya is very funny and I wish you could meet her. Well that is all.

BVU Theatre Troupe

By: Mataya Morris

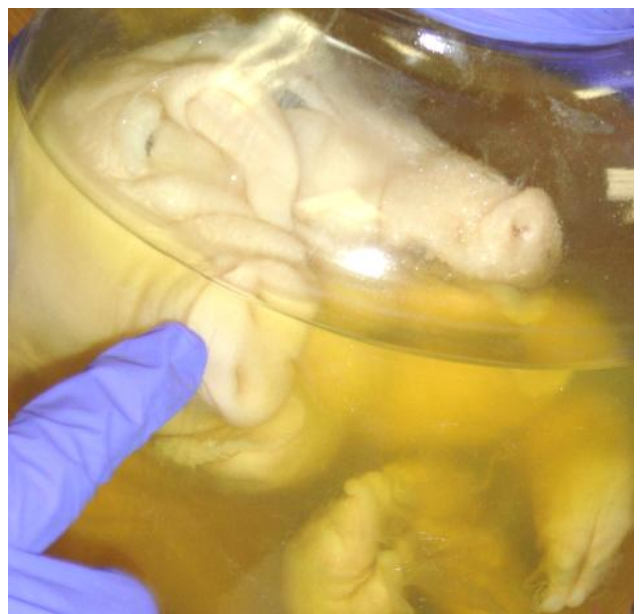
Have you ever been to a magical land? Did you see wonderful surprises? Well, we did on January 23rd. We saw everything there is in a magical land. The BV Theater Troop was funny, scary and exciting. There were creepy goblins, kisses, and different noises to be heard. Everything was wonderful!!! They taught us respect and to use your imagination. If you use your imagination; anything is possible. When I saw them, I was like “wow, they came in with great personalities, confidence and most importantly, a smile😊.” People at AC-T were absolutely amazed. We had a great time, but then it was time for them to go. We all had a wonderful time when they were here. Hope they come back soon!



Dissecting Hearts and Lungs By: Rachel James

Dr. Chris Bean came to AC-T on February 14th to the 5th and 6th grade rooms to dissect hearts and lungs. Dr. Bean works at the Vet Clinic in Storm Lake. She brought a cow heart, a cat heart, cow lungs and cat lungs. Chris blew in the cow lungs to show us how they expand and she let us touch it. It felt weird!

Then we got to dissect the hearts. It was SO cool! When we opened the heart you could see all the valves and passageways. My favorite part was when she blew up the lungs and we got to touch them. I hope we will do this again this year!



Spectacular Second Grade News — Mrs. Liz Perry

The AC-T Second Graders have had a great start to the New Year! We have had a lot of fun this year and have had some great learning experiences! The students have really enjoyed having the high school students from Sioux Central's FFA Class come to our room every other week to teach us about agriculture related topics. In February we had a guest speaker from Iowa Corn who accompanied the FFA students in teaching our second graders all about corn and agricultural products from all over the United States.

To Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday in March the students assembled in the library where we had a special guest, The Cat in the Hat, who read us a number of great Dr. Seuss books!

In Science we have been talking a lot about the Earth. We spent quite a bit of time discussing natural resources, recycling, and pollution. The students had some wonderful thoughts and ideas related to recycling. Be sure to ask your child about recycling and see if they have any great ideas for ways to recycle materials at your home. We are currently learning all about the weather. Mother Nature sure has given us some good examples of weather in the recent weeks! I look forward to continuing our learning about weather and to the rest of the school year!



NEW

BOOTS!

Students at Albert City-Truesdale were delighted to receive 10 pairs of new boots of various sizes and several pairs of gloves from the Thursday Study Club. This club has been very generous to our students in the past and we very much appreciate this much-needed gift!





The Little Hurricane Relays will be held May 13, 2013 at the football field in Albert City. Pre-K-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 is May 15, 2012.

In 5th and 6th grade Writer's Workshop class we have been studying the trait of "Voice" in writing. After sharing different stories with a variety of types of voice, and a great deal of class discussion, students were shown a big red apple and assigned to write about it. The following are some of their writings:

JUST HANGIN BY: HAYLEE BECKMAN – GRADE 5

So there I was, just hangin round. Ya see, that's what I do; I hang and I'm round. Just me and a bushel or two. We were lean, we were green, just hanging by a stem, waitin' for a fall this fall. Some of us had the glow, for some it wasn't so. We were lucky growin' down on the good side of the tree. We felt bad for those who couldn't be seen, 'cause everyone knows those in the sun have more fun. We caught wind. We caught rain. For some it was a pain, but an ugly worm hole was nobody's gain. So the days are getting shorter – the nights are getting cooler – it's so hard to stay warm with such a thin skin like mine. I think I'll be fine. Now here comes a guy and I couldn't tell by the look in his eye that he was thinkin' about some warm apple pie.

THE APPLE BY: ETHAN BARCK – GRADE 5



The Apple was talking to Orange and said, "I'm sad!"
The Orange said, "Why Apple?"
"I will probably be eaten."
"Why would you think that?"
"My brother Bob did."
"Wait, they can't eat you if you're bruised."
"You're right."

So they worked very hard on bruising Apple. When it happened, Apple was happy, but the next day, a family that liked bruised apples took him!

For another writing activity, students were shown 5 different shoes – a cowboy boot, a high heel, and old painters shoe, a sandal and a stinky dirty tennis shoe. They were to choose two of the shoes and use voice to write a conversation between them.

HIGH HEEL SHOE TALKING TO TENNIS SHOE BY SHELBY JOHNSON

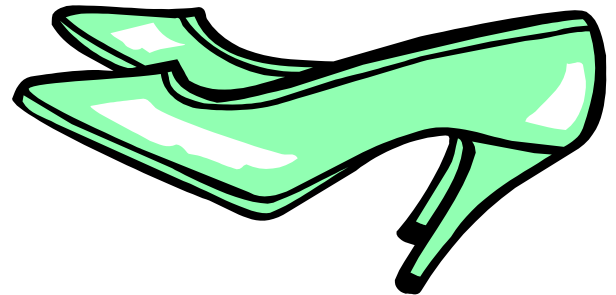
"Hi, my name is Ms. Heel, what is your name?"
"My name is Mud."
"Well Mud, what do you do for a living?"
Well, I do gardening. I love to work with farm animals and manure."
"Why, that is not what I do. I attend parties, meetings, and fancy get-to-gathers. I also get polished every other day,"
"I never get polished. I get used for chores."
"Chores? What are chores? I do not get used for chores!"
"Well, then you're lazy!"

"I am not lazy!!"
"Yes you are. You have never done a chore in your life!"
"Well...well... maybe I haven't done chores, but you have never gone to a party!"
"Maybe I haven't! What if I don't like parties?"
"You don't even know what a party is like."
"Yeah, but you're still lazy and you can't do chores."
"I'm not lazy. Dancing is exercise and I can do chores if I want to."
"You still won't do a chore. I bet you \$.50 that you can't do a chore."
"Fine! A bet it is."



Later in the week, Mud and Mrs. Heel met at Mud's house for Ms. Heel to do her chores.

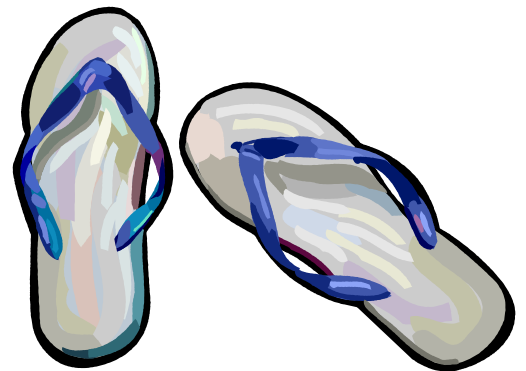
"Okay, time for you to do your chores."
"Okay, what do I have to do?"
"Well, you need to go clean the hog pen."
"WHAT! Clean the hog pen!"
"Yep!"
"Tell me how to do it."
"Well, you need to grab a shovel and start digging."
"What about gloves?"
"Fine, over in the shed."
"Okay here I go. EWWWW! This stuff is gross, what is it?"
"It's manure."
"What?"
"You know, the waste material of animals?"
"EWW!"
"Well are you going to do it?"
"No! Here's your \$.50 and goodbye!"



Students were shown five different types of shoes, a high heel, a sandal, a smelly old tennis shoe, a cracked painter's shoe and a cowboy boot.

FLIP FLOP TO HEEL ***BY MATAYA MORRIS***

"Why are you so pretty?"
"Leave me alone, I don't talk to people or shoes like you."
Well, I'm sorry I didn't know you were mean, but I have to go to the beach."
"Yuck!!! I'm going to a dance where awesome people go. I bet you never stepped foot in a dance."
"What are they called?"
"Beach parties!"
"I would die to go there!"
"Well that could be arranged."
"What "
"About the dance."
"Well don't do that because I thought you were going to?"
"No, no, no you are going to go to the beach."
"Ok."



The flip flop broke her heel off.
"Now I can go."

When they went to the beach flip flop buried the heel for a burying contest game, and forgot all about her and that's the end of heel and flip flop.

News from the Administration- by Barb Kady

With the arrival of Spring, your AC-T students and staff are looking forward to many special annual events. The 3rd and 4th grade plays in April are always a hit. The school musical and band concert will take place in May, as will the Little Hurricane Relays. Many classes will be taking their learning outdoors as they travel on class field trips and picnics. Sixth grade graduation is a special time to celebrate the accomplishments of the oldest students in the building, and to wish them well as they begin the next chapter in their education. We would encourage and invite each of you to attend the special programs presented by and for our students!

In April, the AC-T sixth grade class will participate in a pilot program taking place in 20 states across the country for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Program, which the state of Iowa is looking to adopt during the 2014-2015 school year. The assessment is computerized, so it will be a different experience compared to the Iowa Assessments currently administered each year. We look forward to the opportunity to participate in this process, and to provide input to ensure this assessment meets the needs of our students, and that it provides data that will be useful in helping educators make important instructional decisions. Your AC-T students have traditionally done very well on assessments when compared with students across the state and nation. We would expect no change to that with the changes that are forthcoming to the evaluation process.

On May 7 through 9, the Albert City –Truesdale School District and the AC-T Pre-Kindergarten Program will undergo site visits from the Iowa Department of Education. Several education professionals will be at the school, on behalf of the state, to review the District and Pre-School programs, policies, and procedures. This is a process that is conducted every 5 years in all Iowa School Districts. It is a time to reflect and review the policies and procedures that are in place in the district and for us to share information about the district with the site visits teams. If you have questions about this process, please feel free to call me.

There is much talk in the news this time of year about events happening and decisions being made in Des Moines by Iowa's elected officials. There are many issues on the table concerning education. One important issue is the level of funding that will be allocated to school districts. The state of Iowa has made great progress in recovering from the economic hardships in the state and country over the past several years. Throughout the economic downturn, Iowa schools experienced funding cuts and/or no increase in funding to cover rising costs. We would like to encourage you to emphasize with your legislators the importance of the school funding issue, and urge them to support legislation at a level of 4 per cent allowable growth, to provide funding that will assist school districts in their own individual recovery efforts, as they work to continue to provide quality programs and facilities for Iowa students.

Curriculum reform continues to be a focus for Iowa educators. This year, your AC-T teachers have been collaborating with educators in seven area school districts over four full days of professional development. The goal of this work is to provide the opportunity for teachers to meet with peers who are teaching at the same grade levels or subject areas to study research based instructional practices that will help to prepare students for successful futures. Your area teaching professionals are working hard to align today's instruction with the skills our students need to be successful participants in an ever changing world. This collaborative work will continue during the 2013-2014 school year.

Spring also brings with it Teacher Appreciation Day on May 7. Your AC-T faculty and staff do an exceptional job of educating our students, and you can be assured that tradition will continue. Please take a moment to let these folks know you appreciate the dedication and skill they bring to the school each and every day, to ensure your AC-T School is truly, "A Great Place to Start!"