

The Hurricane
Albert City-Truesdale CSD
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The Hurricane



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Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

December/January/February 2009



AC-T Students Support Our Troops by Hannah Conlin

This year Pre-K-K-6th grade and staff brought items in so we could send it to Marty Demuth and the troops on his base. Marty Demuth was the town cop. He is stationed in Afghanistan. Some items brought for him were games, soap, toothbrushes, and Christmas decorations. Also, donated were 2 big boxes of Beef Jerky from Jack Links. A total of 25 boxes were sent over to Marty and those on his base. Marty left in September. He is responsible for High Value Asset Security of Operation Enduring Freedom. His mission is to directly support operations in the Middle East including Afghanistan, Iraq, and other countries there. Right now Marty is located near the Strait of Hormuz. Marty wrote to us after receiving the packages and here is part of his letter: "My commanding officer was overwhelmed by the amount of packages and how people in Iowa support the military. I am very proud that I live in a community like Albert City and as I have said to many there in Albert City, I think that I have finally found my home. So thank you so much for supporting us over here. Thank all the students and their families for me. I just cannot express my gratitude for all that you have done." We hope you come home soon Marty! Thanks for serving our country!

Notes from the Nurses

It is hard to believe that the school year is half over. We have been *very* busy in the nurse's office. In December, we did "mini" physicals on all of our students as well as vision exams. We hope you noticed the insert when your child's report card came out. If there was a copy of the actual vision screening, it means there was at least some part of the exam that your child had difficulty with and he/she probably needs to have an eye doctor give an exam to determine if there is a need for correction. The eye doctor has more sophisticated equipment than we do and can give you a better idea of exactly what your child needs.

We have also been doing some fine tuning to some of the policies that affect your child's health. Many times, these policies have to do with your child and medications they may need to take at school. We

want to ensure your child's health and safety by making sure we are giving the right medication in the right dosage at the right time to the right person. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about your child and medications at school.

The BIGGEST changes so far for 2009 have to do with IMMUNIZATIONS! If you are the parent of any of our smaller Hurricanes please take NOTE: IOWA LAW has made having PREVNAR (pneumococcal vaccine) MANDITORY for all PRESCHOOLERS. This took effect JAN. 7, 2009. Buena Vista County has been given an extension until March 6, 2009 for parents to get their children up to date. Please check with your health care provider to ensure your child has the proper immunizations regarding Pevnar.

The other immunization change is for ALL children born on or after SEPTEMBER 15, 2003:

- A 5th dose of DTaP
- A 4th dose of Polio vaccine
- A 2nd dose of Varicella (chicken pox vaccine)

Many children have already been getting these amounts as health care providers were anticipating these changes, BUT parents STILL need to be proactive in making sure their children have had the proper immunizations. We will be reviewing our immunization records and will notify you if we find any problems, but we still need you to check with your doctor.

We hope everyone is off to a Healthy 2009! Let us know if you have questions or concerns. You can reach one of us on Tues. or Thurs. mornings at school.

Julie Olson, RN and Deb Clausen, RN AC-T School Nurses
843-5416 ext. 272 nurse@albertct.k12.ia.us



Fifth and sixth graders are going to be selling candy grams this year to earn money for fieldtrips. Candy grams are cards designed by the 6th graders with a piece of candy attached to them. The cost is \$.25. Candy grams can be purchased from February 2nd to February 6th. Candy grams may be purchased for students and staff at AC-T and Sioux Central (please note this on your form), and will be delivered on February 12th. If you wish to purchase for someone else outside the building (other than Sioux Central students) they may be sent home with your child. Please note this on the order form. Orders may be sent to school with your child and put in the box in the 5th and 6th grade hallway (please note if you need diabetic or non-chocolate candy.) Thank you for your support!

By Curtis Long

For Whom:

Grade and School or Sent Home:

News from the 6th Grade

Get To Know Our Sixth Graders

Caitlyn Moens by Kyrstin Erickson

Caitlyn is in 6th grade she goes to Albert City-Truesdale Elementary School.

How many people are in your family?

"5 people."

What are their names?

"Brent, Tonya, Cassie, Cole, and me."

What do you do in your spare time?

"Gymnastics and watch TV."

What is your favorite color?

Lime green

What is your favorite meal at AC-T?

"Wiener Winks"

What is your favorite holiday?

"New Years"

What is your favorite TV show?

"The Secret Life of an American Teenager"

What is your favorite subject?

Science

What is your favorite drink?

"Dr. Pepper"

What is your favorite book?

"The Little's"

What is your favorite food?

"Cheese curds and corn dogs"

What is your favorite special?

"P.E."

Are you going to miss AC-T when you go to Sioux Central?

"Very much!"

Corren Olson by Nicholas Baack

Corren Olson is in 6th grade. His parents are Scott and Julie Olson. Corren also has a sister in 4th grade named Marcail Olson. Corren's favorite food is peanut butter balls. His favorite book and movie is The Chronicles of Narnia. He also likes the color blue. Corren's hobbies are reading, building his electrical train set, and drawing. Corren's favorite drink is root beer. His favorite football team is the broncos. Corren lives in the town-country of Albert City. Corren will miss AC-T ELEMENTARY.

Hannah Conlin by Lacey Roberts

Hannah Conlin is the daughter of Bill and Jill Conlin. She has 1 younger sibling and his name is Ben and he is in Kindergarten. Hannah lives in the country and has about 1 million pets. She is in 6th grade, and is 12 years old. Her 4 favorite pets are Jack (dog), Harley (dog), Louie (cat), and Sid (cat). Her favorite animals are German Sheppard's and orangutans. Her favorite number is 16 and her biggest pet peeve is when people come into her room. Her favorite school subject is Iowa History. Her favorite color is orange and her favorite food is macaroni and cheese.

Nick Samuelson

by Kash Buse

Nick has 6 siblings. His favorite subject is math. He likes chicken and gravy of his favorite food. His favorite thing about the school is the great food. Nick's birthday is Nov. 24. His favorite teacher is Mrs. Spragg. He is interested in being a Mechanical engineer. He admires Bill Gates. His favorite movie and TV shows are Space Jam and South Park. The sports he likes are Tennis and Football. His favorite drink is Mr. Pibb. When he gets older he wants to be an Electrical engineer. He has two dogs and they are poodles. His favorite football team is Iowa. His favorite song is I Kissed a Girl. His favorite candy is Recess Fast Break. His favorite color is red. He is in TAG. His favorite holiday is Halloween. His parents are Todd and Starla Roach and Glen Samuelson. The most fun place he has been is Florida. He is 12 years old. His favorite actor is Jeff Doman. His favorite board game is chess. He has a wii and it is his favorite game station. The most things he will miss about AC-T are the lunches.

Adopt a Family by Caitlyn Moens

This year pre-k through 6th grade adopted a family to support families who can't afford much for Christmas. We collected a lot of items for them. It was very nice to see all the stuff we brought in. It really felt like we were doing something important. We adopted

two families from Pocahontas, Iowa. The families we gave to sent back thank you letters saying how much they appreciated it and how thankful they are.

Christmas Break

By Nick Samuelson

Here is what some of the students and faculty did during Christmas break:

Mrs. Wenell- I went to Des Moines.
Mr. Lovin- I watched football.
Christian E- Went to my grandmothers in Spencer.
Hannah C- I played the Wii most of the break.
Mrs. Kady- Daughter got married in St. Paul, Minn. Celebrated my parent's 60th Anniversary in Orange City. Visited my son in Gillette, Wyoming. Visited friends in Bismarck, North Dakota.
Mrs. Benedict- I went to spend time with my family.
Kash B- Stayed home and watched movies.
Mrs. Spragg- Nieces came to visit and I watched movies
Chance J- I had a Christmas party at my house.

Iowa History/History Day

By: Chance Johannsen

This year the 6th grade class is doing a report on famous Iowans for our Iowa history class. Our TAG and music teacher, Mrs. Sievers is in charge of history day and she asked our teacher Mrs. Wenell to have us do our report a famous Iowan for Iowa history so if we chose to we could compete in history day by creating a project. History day is a competition which 6th graders compete in by creating a project on a famous person. History day's subject of this year is famous individual in history. History day is on February 28, in Emmetsburg Iowa. Chance Johannsen, Kash Buse, Kyrstin Erickson, Amber Horton, Lacey Roberts, and Nicholas Baack are competing in history day. For facts, the 6th grade took

a field trip to Buena Vista University's library. There we found information on our person and we were shown how to find information in a big library. We could check out books and we could print documents. I have been doing my report on Grant Wood and I have enjoyed learning about him.

INVENTION CONVENTION

BY: CORREN OLSON

This year the TAG kids will be going to Emmetsburg for Invention Convention. The kids that will be participating are Corren Olson, Nick Samuelson, Maddy Bjork, Kara Clausen, Maggie Loving, Anna Marie Ehlers, and Dalton Demers. Corren Olson is bringing The Pet Waterer 2009, a unit to water your pet. Nick Samuelson is bringing Peanut Butter Disco. Maddy Bjork and Kara Clausen are working together on the Cup Pro 2009. Maggie Loving and Anna Marie Ehlers are working together on the E-Z Apron 09. Dalton Demers is working on the E-Z Coffee Pot. The kids are working very hard on their projects.



First Grade Fun

by Mrs. Melissa Loving

The first grade class is GROWING in more ways than one. We started the year with seven first graders eager to learn...we now have eleven first graders eager to learn!

Handwriting is done each morning – we are all working on having nice, neat penmanship. Spelling skills are used everyday and we continue to learn lots of new spelling rules. All of the first graders love to read, and we enjoy our Small Group Reading each morning.

Calendar time is always entertaining. We practice many different skills – keeping our classroom calendar, counting the days until the 100th day (soon we'll switch that over to counting the days until summer vacation!), memorizing our weekly poem, monthly vocabulary words, and weather.

In our Reading we continue to learn phonics rules, grammar, writing skills, as well as reading lots of wonderful stories! We have been working on mastering addition and subtraction facts to 12 and are now discovering all the geometric shapes around us.

Science is always interesting – we are currently working on a weather unit. We have learned how anemometers, thermometers, weather vanes (to name a few) work and what type of weather each of these scientific tools measures. Our Social Studies has taken us back to the days of the early American Indians and we are discussing our history. We have talked a little about our ancestors and will be exploring our ancestries even more.

We also enjoy having Mrs. Loving read to us – right now we are reading Pippi in the South Seas. We have so much fun singing and dancing to our Silly Songs AND we learn while we're doing them.

One of our favorite days is Monday (hard to believe, we know!), but on Monday afternoon our Reading Buddies from the community come listen to us read in the library. We each get to have one on one time with a community member and read to them. We truly enjoy “showing off” our reading abilities! Thanks to all of you that volunteer your time on Monday afternoons – we love it!



These items were earned with Campbell's Soup Labels. Thanks for saving and donating the Campbell's labels for our students at AC-T!



AC-T Christmas Concert

By: Amber Horton

The Christmas concert was held in the Albert City- Truesdale gym on December 8, 2008. This concert was held by Mrs. Sievers and Mr. Shedenhelm. The 6th and 5th grade played 1st Christmas March. The 6th grade played Christmas Chimes and Christmas on the Farm. The 5th grade played Jingle Bells and Jolly Old St Nick. The Preschool and Kindergarten sang Eight Little Reindeer, Jolly Old



St. Nicholas and Red and Green. First and Second grade sang Nuttin for Christmas and Someone in the Chimney. PK-2nd grades sang Turkey Tango. 3rd and 4th grade sang Merry Christmas Bells, Jingle Bells, Silly Holiday song Jokes told by 3rd grade. The 5th and 6th grade classes sang Sing We Now of Christmas and Mary Had a Baby with recorders. Grades 3rd through 6th sang Reindeer Twist. My mom said the Christmas concert was the best she has ever seen in my life. We also had a bake sale the PACT group sponsored it.

By: Greg Bergen

This year we are donating money for the Parkersburg School. We have a challenge each day. We bring some money to school and put the money in one of two buckets. One with the Arizona Cardinal's name on it, and on the other bucket has the Pittsburg Steelers' name on it. We stick the money in the bucket with the team's name on it of who we want to win.



News from the AC-T Superintendent – Dr. Marlin Lode

When Do We Make-Up Those Snow Days?

So far this winter students missed three days of school for weather-related reasons. All of the make-up days will be added to the end of the school year. Unless we miss more full days of school, the last day for students is now May 28.

Governor Issues Across-The-Board Cuts in State Aid

Due to lower than expected tax receipts, State government is unable to meet its obligations for providing full state aid to schools. Governor Culver issued a 1.5% across-the-board cut in state aid. For Albert City-Truesdale, it means a reduction of state aid amounting to \$14,306 this school year. Since we are already well into our school year, it is nearly impossible to reduce expenditures by that amount. The district will need to use its reserves to cover this loss of revenue. Like nearly all Iowa school districts, AC-T will need to find ways to

trim future budgets to accommodate the economic slowdown. In the next few months, board members will announce plans for any budget reductions. The board needs to adopt the 2009-2010 school budget in April.

AC-T Students Show Steady Growth

Your AC-T students are on a course of steady academic growth. Iowa law requires every public school district to track student progress and file a report with the Iowa Department of Education. The report is called the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). In the January school board meeting, Principal Barbara Kady reported AC-T students' CSIP results. The report showed students making steady progress in reading and math, attendance rates above 95%, infrequent student discipline referrals, and positive student feedback from the Iowa Youth Survey. Anyone interested in a copy of this report, should contact Mrs. Kady.

Visits to Your School Are Welcomed

Community members, you are invited to visit your AC-T school and see the many great things happening for kids. If you would like to visit, contact the office, and we will make arrangements and set aside time to answer any questions you might have. Your AC-T school is truly a "great place to start."

News from the Principal - by Barb Kady

In the spring of 2008, the Iowa Core Curriculum was passed by the Iowa State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Chet Culver. The purpose of the Iowa Core Curriculum is to ensure that all Iowa students experience a challenging learning environment that prepares them for lifelong success. It was also developed to give Iowa educators a tool to ensure that essential subject matter is being taught. The Iowa Core Curriculum was designed to raise student expectations and to enhance teaching practices to impact student achievement. A goal of the Iowa Core Curriculum is to create continuity across the state for students and educators. It provides the details for teachers to make sure students reach Iowa's Core Content Standards and Benchmarks. It assists teachers in knowing how to integrate essential concepts and skills into student learning opportunities.

The Iowa Core Curriculum identifies essential skills and concepts in literacy, math, science, social studies, and 21st century learning skills. 21st century learning skills include employability, financial literacy, health literacy, and technology literacy.

The Iowa Department of Education is assisting Iowa educators with support, including model units of study which are tied to classroom assessments. Professional development opportunities will help teachers to understand and implement activities, assignments, and work projects, based on the Core Curriculum.

As a district, we will be examining our local learning standards, the current curriculum, and instructional materials to ensure that no gaps exist between our current practices and the Iowa Core Curriculum content.

The law requires elementary and middle schools to implement the core curriculum by 2014. All high schools are required to have a fully implemented core curriculum by 2012.

A committee, consisting of AC-T staff members and administrators, is attending meetings sponsored by the Department of Education throughout the course of this year to examine the contents of the Iowa Core Curriculum, and to make plans to implement the Iowa Core Curriculum at your Albert City-Truesdale Community School.

The implementation of the Iowa Core Curriculum at AC-T is part of our continuous pledge and commitment to provide all of our students with a well-rounded, purposeful curriculum and the skills to experience life-long success. If you have questions or would like more information on the Iowa Core Curriculum, please contact Mrs. Kady at 843-5416.

February

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2 Abraham Lincoln reenactment assembly at 1:45 Community program of reenactment 7:00 at the Albert City library	3	4	5	6	7 Invention Convention Open Gym 1:00-3:00
8	9 School Board meeting at 6:00	10	11 Student Council meeting at 12:15	12	13 Teacher Workshop No School	14 5 th & 6 th Grade Basketball Tournament 8:00-5:00
15	16 No School – President’s Day	17	18	19	20 Pennies for Parkersburg “Crazy Hair Day” Pay \$1.00 to wear a “crazy” hair-do	21 Winter afternoon at the movies 1:00
22	23 PACT meeting at 6:30	24	25	26	27	28 History Day Open Gym 1:00-3:00

2009



Sioux Central

February, 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1 4:00pm Wrestling-B/JH @ Storm Lake Middle School 4:30pm Basketball-B/Freshman (H) vs. South O'Brien @ Sioux Central 5:30pm Basketball-G/Freshman @ Alta 6:30pm Basketball-B/JV (H) vs. Emmetsburg @ Sioux Central 6:30pm Wrestling-B/V @ Marcus-Meriden Cleghorn High School 7:00pm Partners in Education @ Sioux Central 8:00pm Basketball-B/V (H) vs. Emmetsburg @ Sioux Central	2 NWIBA District Jazz Festival @ Sioux City 6:30pm Speech @ Sioux Central	3	4 FFA @ Sioux Central 5:00pm Basketball-G/JV (H) vs. South O'Brien @ Sioux Central 6:30pm Basketball-B/V (H) vs. South O'Brien @ Sioux Central 6:30pm Basketball-G/V (H) vs. South O'Brien @ Sioux Central	5 ISU Honor Band 3:30pm FBLA @ Sioux Central	6 ISU Honor Band State Large Group Speech Contest 12:00pm Wrestling-B/V (H) vs. TBA @ Sioux Central	7
8 FBLA @ Sioux Central	9 NW Iowa HS Honor Choir @ Dordt College 4:00pm Wrestling-B/JH @ Okoboji HS 6:30pm Basketball-G/V (H) vs. Rockwell City-Lytton @ Sioux Central 8:00pm Basketball-B/V (H) vs. Rockwell City-Lytton @ Sioux Central	10 FAFSA Day @ Sioux Central 6:30pm Basketball-B/JV @ Bode 8:00pm Basketball-B/V @ Twin River Valley	11	12 4:00pm Wrestling-B/JH @ Laurens-Marathon High School 4:30pm Basketball-B/Freshman (H) vs. Pocahontas Area @ Sioux Central 6:30pm Basketball-B/JV (H) vs. Pocahontas Area @ Sioux Central 8:00pm Basketball-B/V (H) vs. Pocahontas Area @ Sioux Central	13 No School @ Sioux Central Teacher Inservice @ Sioux Central 6:30pm Basketball-B/JV @ Everly 8:00pm Basketball-B/V @ Clay Central-Everly High School	14 Bluffs Jazz Festival	
15 National FFA Week @ Sioux Central	16 No School @ Sioux Central	17 3:30pm FBLA @ Sioux Central 4:00pm Wrestling-B/JH @ Graettinger 6:00pm FBLA @ Sioux Central	18	19	20	21 All-State Festival Large Group Speech Events @ Ames	
22	23 Lewis & Clark Jazz Festival 4:00pm Wrestling-B/JH @ Schaller	24	25	26 3:30pm FBLA @ Sioux Central	27 3:30pm FBLA @ Sioux Central	28 District Individual Speech Events	