



Bobcat

A monthly publication of ISD news

Great Gifts for ISD Students, Family & Staff

Want to brighten your child's holidays with a special gift? The

ISD Bobcat Bookstore has numerous ISD clothing items, shake-awake alarm clocks, books, games and novelties reflecting

Deaf pride.

Checks or cash accepted.

Contact

cangeroth@

iowaschoolforthe deaf.org or call 712.366.3213 to schedule a shopping trip! Gift certificates also available. Profits benefit the ISD Booster Club and student activities.



Holiday Closings

Winter break for ISD students begins with early dismissal on Friday, Dec. 18 at 11:30 a.m. School resumes Monday, Jan. 4. ISD administrative offices will be closed Dec. 24 and 25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Time Is Ticking-Keep Stacking!



Jose Ureste, an ISD fifth grader, practices sport stacking before being timed. Physical education students in Karen Lechner's classes participated in the world's largest sport stacking event Nov. 12. Nearly 250,000 school-age students across the country and in 28 countries joined the effort to break a Guinness World Record called, "Most People Sport Stacking at Multiple Locations in One Day." **Learn the benefits of sport stacking on the back page. ■**

Elementary & Middle School News

happening in grades preschool through eighth grade

Spooky Art

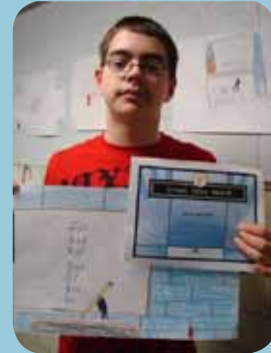
Third and fourth grade art classes learned about the famous architect, Frank Lloyd Wright. They learned about his famous buildings and architecture skills. One of his buildings was a home used in the 1950s horror movie, *House on Haunted Hill*.

With this inspiration, students thought of words to describe a haunted house. Then they chose some of the words (spooky, creepy, slimy, old, dark, scary, smelly, dusty) to help them create a drawing of a house



and then make a three-dimensional haunted house. Recycled material, scraps and a lot of glue were used to construct the houses before they were painted. Then, students added details like spider webs, spiders, ghosts, etc. ISD Elementary staff voted for their favorites (tough decisions!). The results were: Shayla Dobias, first place - Spookiest; Hannah Kohl, second place - Creepiest; Brendan Vinsonhaler, Daniel Dovgaluk, Nathaniel Christensen and Madison Healy all third place winners. **Pictured are Dobias, Kohl, Healy and Christensen.** ■

Pencil Him In



Kory Wattier's sketch of himself in language class writing with a huge pencil was voted most creative by his teachers.

Wattier and his classmates completed a cross curriculum project of reading, writing and art featuring the story, *The Littles*, by John Peterson.

Can you help the Linus Project? The elementary/middle school student council will tie fleece blankets to donate to this program which provides comfort, security and warmth in the form of a blanket to young people who are traumatized or seriously ill. Fleece donations of 1 1/2 yards of 60" fleece are needed. Contact Kate Kasal or Mel Hielen for details. Thank you!



ISD Art on the Web

www.artsonia.com/schools/iowa2

View Iowa School for the Deaf student artwork at this website! ISD art teacher Cindy Soppe has posted some artwork by elementary, middle and high school students using code names to protect their identity. You can leave positive comments for the budding artists or order products with the unique art!

Life on Campus

news and events in the residences • food service
• health center • transportation

The Hunt Is ON!

A stress release to hard working test takers was offered on the last day of final exams this November. Girls living in the dorms, ranging in age from elementary to high school, were surprised with a scavenger hunt arranged by dorm staff. The girls were divided into groups with clues, which revealed photos of a campus location. After following clues, the girls went to five different locations within 30 minutes. The final clue was a photo of the dorm kitchen, where all were rewarded with a sack of goodies. That night, a pajama party with games and snacks was held in the center lounge.

Cassie Contreras (left) and Alba Lavrenz can't wait to get their hands on their group's clue pack.



Miscellaneous News

Forest of Memories will be set up through Dec. 26 at the Council Bluffs Senior Center. You are invited to bring in an ornament and hang it on the Christmas tree in memory of a loved one.

Holiday Happenings in the elementary will start with a party for students through fourth grade Dec. 7, sponsored by the retired airline employees (the Omaha Silverliners). The students will attend this "Annual Flight to the North Pole" in Omaha and be treated with lunch, entertainment and a stocking full of goodies. On Dec. 11, the bell choir will perform at Westside Sertoma. As a holiday break send-off,

presents from the Army Corps of Engineers will be given out to preschool through sixth grade students Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m.

The CBSportsfan website needs a Bobcat fan volunteer to take digital photos at games and post them to the website. Volunteers can post game scores and write brief summaries

Get a dose of Deaf Culture!

Thursday, Dec. 3, 6:30 -7:30 p.m.

at an ICN room near you. Call 712.366.3213 or e-mail cangeroth@iowaschoolforthe deaf for details.

on the site as well. If interested, e-mail cbsportsfan.com.

The Science Center needs just \$140,784 more! As of this Bobcat printing, \$1,359,216 has been raised/obtained for the science center. If you are considering a donation to the science center, please find more information on the website: www.iowaschoolforthe deaf.org.

High School News

happenings in grades nine through 12 and 4PLUS

We're Number One! The 2009 ISD football team was named 8-man Team of the Year by Deaf Digest. Barry Strassler, who decides the titles, said he is also assigning Wisconsin School for the Deaf with 8-man Team of the Year, although he emphasizes this is not a co-championship. Strassler said ISD has not had this honor since the late '80s, when it was named Team of the Year twice. Read more about the team in the upcoming Iowa Hawkeye (coming to students' homes next month).

Running with a Younger Crowd

It's one thing for language arts teacher Jeanette Watson to hand out a grade to her senior students; it's quite another for seniors to gain approval from students ten grades behind them.

Watson was looking for something different to wrap up the first trimester's lessons in writ-

Jayden Kohl benefits from 'hands-on' learning with ISD senior Peter Schwietz.



ing. As an alternative to a final exam, she offered a project to her class which would implement sentence structure, plots, narratives and other aspects of creative writing.

Watson's students were paired up with Katie Wright's first and second graders. The mingled classes discussed their favorite interests. The young students drew pictures of what they wanted the seniors to write about.

The result? Custom-made stories for each of Wright's pupils, complete with characters, pictures and personalization. Seniors read their stories to the class, then presented them with the finished books.

"I was shocked how the students really got involved," said Watson. "It was a way to bring together the entire writing process into one project. It was really well received by the seniors and the younger students." ■

Upcoming Events

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Dec. 3 | ICN Workshop on Deaf Culture |
| Dec. 18 | Holiday Break; 11:30 a.m. Homegoing |
| Jan. 3 | Travel Day |
| Jan. 4 | Classes Resume |

Basketball in December

| Date | Opponent | Place | Time |
|--------------|----------|-------|-----------|
| Dec. 7/JHB* | Seward | Away | 5:30 p.m. |
| Dec. 8/JVB** | Seward | Away | 5:30 p.m. |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|------|--------|
| Dec. 11 | Kansas | Away | TBA |
| Dec. 12 | Kansas | Away | TBA |
| Dec. 14/JVB | RoadRunners | Away | 4 p.m. |
| Dec. 14 | Hamburg | Home | 6 p.m. |
| Dec. 15 | St. Peters Cleaver | Away | 6 p.m. |
| Dec. 17 | Underwood | Away | 6 p.m. |

* Junior High Boys ** Junior Varsity Boys

Basketball in Early January

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|
| Jan. 7 | Kansas | Home | 4 p.m. |
| Jan. 11/JHB | Seward | Home | 5:30 p.m. |
| Jan. 14/JHB | Hrtld Christian | Away | 3:30 p.m. |
| Jan. 14 | Sidney | Home | 6 p.m. |
| Jan. 18/Girls | Boys Town | Qwest | 9 a.m. |

High School News

You're Hired!

Class Exercise Yields Three Jobs

ISD high school students taking personal and career development classes survived their first interviews in November. A few even thrived with these real companies asking real interview questions.

Human resource staff from Best Buy, Software Marketing Solutions, Ameristar, One-Stop, Iowa Workforce Development and Vodec came to campus the afternoon of Nov. 18, filling the board room with interview stations.

Students dressed in their best interview attire and answered questions using interpreters.



Linda Buckendahl puts her best face forward during an interview.

They had been preparing for this day for weeks, as prior classwork had them survey their individual work strengths and goals and help **students devise realistic expectations about their futures.**

Students scoring highest during the interviews (ranked by the outside companies) were invited to a call back interview with Ameristar in a group format. From the call back, Ameristar selected Robby Petersen and Cody Contreras as individuals it will hire if the boys choose to apply. The two were invited for lunch and a tour of the facility.

And then came the unexpected bonus. Late in the afternoon of the interviews, Best Buy contacted transition coordinator Kristi Wills, informing her they would like to hire Cheyenne Terry, should he desire employment with the company. ■

Senior Class Raffle is Iron-ic

Senior class sponsors Jen Herzog and Bob Schulze are already working on the much anticipated raffle to raise funds for the senior trip. Twenty-one prizes valued at more than \$1,000 have been secured, including handiwork from Schulze's own metals technology class in the form of wrought iron projects.

Tickets will be available soon. A lineup of prizes as of this newsletter printing includes: a flat screen HDTV (thanks to Wal-mart), walnut-topped wrought iron table, Simplicity Freedom vacuum (thanks to Kevin Fick), wrought iron plant stand, four ISD-produced chuck irons (come 'n get it), two ISD-produced branding irons with winner's choice of initials, and 11 large pizzas (thanks to Fill-R-Up and GodFather's).



"I really like the wrought iron table I won last year. I plan to win the plant stand this year, so let's get this raffle going."

– Brad Malick, satisfied former raffle winner and current ISD Powerhouse employee

Sport Stacking enhances basic motor skills, hand-eye coordination and accuracy.



It promotes bilateral proficiency (equal skill with right and left hands). Improved concentration and reaction time, such as being faster when trying to catch a dropped item, also may be a result of sport stacking. For

more information, contact ISD physical education teacher Karen Lechner at [klechner@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org](mailto:klechne@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org).

Staff News

Mike Wolf (information technology) and his wife, Sarah, are parents to Zedekiah Kinnick, born Nov. 8. "Zeddy" weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 20 inches.

High school interpreter Marsha Wright has attained National Interpreter Certification (NIC). She passed the NIC written portion last year and has recently been informed she also passed the performance portion.

A huge thank you to Steve Owens and John Woods (facilities) for

taking the time fix my car Nov. 16. They not only reattached my muffler but did it in a way so that it wouldn't cause any more hearing loss. You guys are the greatest!

— Sue Miles

For Sale – Just in time for Christmas! Hannah Montana plug in guitar (plugs into TV and you play along). Purchased this summer for \$60; used two days. Price of \$30 includes size medium Hannah Montana t-shirt, never worn. Also, size 5 Heelys, gently used. \$20. Contact Geri Knoebel for details.

For Sale – Red moped, first and last model Sears produced. Keyless, 100 miles to the gallon with reserve tank of 10 miles. Top speed is 35 mph. \$175. Also, moveable basketball hoop, \$40. Contact Sandra Rolfe for details.

PTSSA NEWS

Notes from the Parent/Teacher/Student/Staff Association

Submitted by LeeAnn Bradley

Great job, parents and siblings who helped at the staff/student/parent volleyball games! We won one game for the first time in years!

Mary Mohr is still working on the Subway cards. She said we can get them now by going to Subway and putting money on a card then go to the website and register that card. We hope to have the packet and cards we registered for by the first basketball game. Thank you for your patience.


Please contact your state legislators to help support ISD through the budget crisis. We need to let them know how important our children's education is and how the budget cuts affect that education.

Have a happy healthy holiday season! We will get together a meeting after winter break.



IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

B · C · A · T



The **Bobcat** is published monthly during the school year. For submission deadlines, please contact Cynthia Angeroth, editor, in outreach services, ext. 213.