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The Source Online

The Spencer Community School District Online Newsletter

GOVERNOR'S DEBATE

Two Spencer High School debate class students attended the governor's debate between Governor candidates, Chet Culver and Terry Branstad held in Sioux City on September 14th. Sara Van Kley to right and Kellerie Carrigan to left.



PICTURE RE-TAKES
Wednesday, October 20
ALL BUILDINGS

DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| October 3- | SHS Annual Band Booster Dinner at HS Student Center, 11:00 a.m. |
| October 8 - | 3 rd grade Grandparent's Day at Multiple Locations |
| October 15 - | End of 1 st Quarter |
| October 18 - | No School – Teacher Inservice |
| October 21 - | HS Fall Vocal Concert at HS Field House – 7:00 p.m. |
| October 23 - | ACT Test at High School -8:00 a.m. |
| October 26 - | Spanish Club Chili Supper at HS Student Center – 5:00 p.m. |
| October 26 - | 5-8 Fall Band Concert at MS Gym – 7:00 p.m. |
| October 27 - | 12:30 P.M. Dismissal/Teacher Inservice |
| October 28 - | School Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m. |

LAKESIDE LAB INFORMATION

Mrs. Chris Oponski, Science Teacher, and Mrs. Elli Wiemers, Math Teacher, chaperoned students in grades 11-12 to the Lakeside Lab this past month to collect and study water samples. This was another interdisciplinary study using Math and Science and was a huge success.

Talented and Gifted and Business Speaker

SHS juniors and Challenge program members Tiara Caleb, Jenna Barnes, and Jesse Barnes pictured with Connie Wimer, Chairman of Business Publications Corporation and Iowa's Businesswoman of the Year. Connie Wimer also holds a place in the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. Connie was a speaker in "Growing Iowa's Economy Speaker Series" hosted at Pearson Lakes Art Center on September 23rd. Among her publications are dsm, Business Record Iowa and many other 'nitch' magazines, newspapers, online journals mainly centered in the Des Moines area. "Her speech was very interesting and directly related to a career path that I'm interested in," said Jesse Barnes. Connie Wimer is originally from Northwest Iowa as she grew up in a town of Merrill, Iowa. While she said small towns may be viewed by outsiders as limiting, but she said it was very broadening for her to grow up in a town where a student could experience all the school's courses and activities. She attended Morningside College. She makes her home in Des Moines.



DISTRICT CURRICULUM updates by Barb Besch, School Improvement Director

Curriculum Revision Work – Curriculum teams for fine arts, foreign language, PE/health, Vocational, Guidance, and Language Arts have been selected to meet and revise curriculum. The work of these groups are supported through ISL funds. They will be meeting monthly to address unit refinement, embed 21st century skills, align current curriculum with Iowa's Common Core Curriculum, and select new resources.

Iowa Core Curriculum – The administrative team joined other local districts in a peer review process of our Iowa Core Curriculum Plan. Our district partnered with Okoboji to peer review 2 prioritized Outcomes from our Iowa Core plan. Outcome 6: Instruction, and Outcome 5: Professional Development were priorities for both Spencer and Okoboji so we were able to have a meaningful and connected discussion.

Intervention Software Read 180 – Elementary and middle school intervention teachers were trained to implement Scholastic's Read 180 program. All resources and materials to roll out the program have arrived and have been distributed to buildings. Each building will be implementing the program at different intervals depending on group rotations and schedules. Our support rep will be returning for Day 2 training in late October. She will also provide coaching support for implementation four days throughout the year as she visits and consults with Read 180 teachers. A demo of R180 will be shown at the Board meeting.

Annual Progress Report – The district's APR for 2009-10 has been completed and filed on the DE website. A document for public review will be available by October 8th. It will be uploaded to the district's website, and will also be available in hard copy.

Vocal Music

The following 8th grade students will represent Spencer in the Northwest Iowa Middle School Honor Choir Festival.

Emma Tighe
Claire Eagan
Lauren Sather
Rachel Sather
Cam Geyer
Matthew Sather
Ryan Crew



The Northwest Middle School Honor Choir Festival will be held in Storm Lake on Tuesday, November 2. There will be an all day rehearsal and students will perform an evening concert at the Storm Lake High School field house. Parents and family are invited to the 6:00 p.m. concert

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS CLASSES NOW OFFERED AT HIGH SCHOOL

by Denise Cole, Instructor

Our Health Occupations class has 23 students from the 9th – 12th grade classes. We are studying all of the different health related jobs and many know what career path they are wanting to do. We have had many interesting speakers talk about their profess

Our Health Occupations class has 23 students from the 9th – 12th grade classes. We are studying all of the different health related jobs and many know what career path they are wanting to do. We have had many interesting speakers talk about their professions and also their injuries and diagnosis. We are going to the Spencer Hospital and the students will shade a job they are interested in.

Our Certified Nurses Aid class has 16 juniors and senior students. They are learning how to make unoccupied and occupied beds and how to take vital signs. After completing 75 hours of lecture, skill labs and working in a nursing home, they will take an exam and be able to work as a CAN in a nursing home or hospital. A dual credit with a 3 hour college credit will be given.

The 19 medical terminology students are speaking a new vocabulary. Most of them are pursuing a career in the health field so they are learning big, challenging words and will receive a 3 hour college credit upon completion.

10 pharmacology students are amazing. They learned how to look medication up in the PDR and how to fill patient's pill boxes. Chad Moser, Pharmacist from Walmart, came and told them about his schooling and job. I know some of these students will be filling prescriptions after they become pharmacists. They also receive 3 hour college credits for this class.

Presentation highlights in Health Occupations by Charlie Rezabek

As a student in Mrs. Cole's Health Occupations class, I realize that we have quite a few guest speakers. I feel that these speakers are a wonderful addition to what we already have learned in the classroom. The guest speakers are wonderful because they are real life examples of what we have talked about or something we will discuss in class. Also, all of the people who have come in tell us a lot about their job. They talk about what the requirements are for their job, what we should be doing in high school to prepare for that career, and what the benefits are to that job or career.

The first speaker we had was Chad Moser. Chad is a retail pharmacist at Walmart. He told us everything we needed to know about becoming a pharmacist. He told us that it takes around 6 years to become a pharmacist and that they use to offer a five year program, but changed it. He said he loves his job and encouraged all of us to strive for what we want.

The second guest speaker was Butch Parks. One of the big things we focused on was entrepreneurship and Mr. Parks is an awesome example of this. He came to show us his prosthesis and also told us a little about how to start up our own business. Mr. Parks had to learn how to do small things we take for granted after he was in an accident and lost his leg.

The third speaker was Joel Roos. Joel is a funeral home director and works with families after they have lost a loved one. He told us being good with people and being considerate of others feelings is also important. He also said that just being kind hearted and compassionate can help a lot over the loss of a loved one. I thought the embalming process, the death certificate, and helping the family were all interesting. All of our guest speakers were amazing. I know Mrs. Cole has some more scheduled.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PARTNERING WITH ISU

One day each week a community volunteer connected to the Ricochet program comes to the middle school and works with students in the 7th grade choices class. The instruction focuses on the five dimensions of leadership, communication, decision making, attitude, information, and stress management. At the end of the nine week course there is a culminating activity that includes a small service project.



Earthwatch Student Challenge Award

Kelsey Salton, a 2010 graduate of Spencer High School, was awarded the Earthwatch Student Challenge Award for the 2010 summer. Kelsey a recent high school graduate of Spencer High School from Ruthven, IA, went into the field on a one week expedition with Earthwatch Institute to study urban ecology and wildlife in New York City. As part of her fellowship sponsored by the Schweser Foundation, Kelsey joined this expedition as a member of a research team consisting of scientists and several other teens from the US and Europe. The research team was lead by Catherine Burns of the University of Maine in collaboration with WildMetro. Kelsey assisted the researchers by setting track-tubes and camera traps for mammal population counts as well as identifying tracks. The main goal of this expedition was to achieve a more sustainable coexistence between people and nature, particularly in densely populated areas. The natural environment in and around urban centers is often overlooked, or is given low priority status due to the difficulty of protecting green spaces when other more lucrative land use pressures exist. Kelsey is currently a freshman at Iowa State University.



3RD GRADERS AT AG-CITING

Susan Coulander's 3rd grade class from Fairview attending "Ag-Citing" at the Clay County Fair. All 3rd grade classrooms from Spencer Schools attended this program to learn about agriculture and how it impacts us in our daily lives.

Tiger Volleyball Camper Recognition Night

Who: All 3rd-6th graders who attended Tiger Volleyball Camp this summer.

What: Tiger Volleyball Camp Recognition Night

When: Thursday, October 7
Spencer vs Spirit Lake
Arrive at 6:30 p.m.
Recognition at 6:50 p.m.



Where: Spencer High School Fieldhouse
Please line up in the south hallway
by the ticket takers.

Why: To recognize all volleyball athletes who participated in camp and love volleyball! 😊

What to wear: Your purple volleyball camp shirt, your bright yellow volleyball spirit shirt, or a purple Tiger shirt.

Ticket: Enclosed is your ticket to get into the match for free. Be sure to have this with you on the 7th, and please come with a parent.



HOMEcoming WRITING CONTEST – WINNING ESSAYS

Jesse Barnes, High School Student, and Rachel Sather, Middle School Student, were the winners of the homecoming week writing contest. The focus of the contest was the students answering the question: “**What it means to be a Tiger**”. 25 students submitted essays from the High School and Middle School. The Class of 1965 donated \$100 to each of these winners. The essays will be displayed at the High School next to the new Tiger face painting by Marcia Tuttle. This painting was also donated by the Class of 1965. Below are the two winning essays. Congratulations Jesse and Rachel.

What Does it Mean to be a Tiger?

Jesse Barnes

Being a Tiger is striving for excellence, regardless of whether or not it is expected of us. It's striving to think creatively, independently, and to be ever inquisitive. It's helping and giving to others with no expectations for anything in return because we are a part of something – a community that genuinely cares for one another. It's supporting each other, supporting our community, persevering until all expectations have been surpassed – even our own.

Being a Tiger means pushing ourselves, pushing limits and expectations until they can no longer hold us. It's taking those walls that we've built around what we thought we were limited to and tearing them down. It's looking for the better in others, for the better in ourselves, and striving to *be* that person that we've always looked up to.

Being a Tiger means respecting others, respecting ourselves, and realizing that we deserve nothing more than the utmost faith from ourselves and our peers that we can be whatever it is we choose. It's knowing that maybe, just maybe, we *can* do whatever we want to, and maybe we aren't as limited in our options as we thought we were, because there are opportunities everywhere, and parents, teachers, and peers to help us reach them.

Being a Tiger means putting your all into everything you do – academics, sports, drama, speech, music, clubs. It's putting in extra hours for the things that you love, and feeling the pride of a job well done when you succeed in your endeavors. It's loving to learn, and learning to lead. It's leading our peers to excellence, not always following in the footsteps of others, but rather forging our own paths and leaving behind our own legacies as the leaders of tomorrow.

So the important question here is not “What does it mean to be a Tiger” but rather, this: are you a Tiger

What it Means to be a Tiger:

by Rachel Sather

Hello my name is Rachel Sather and I am a tiger. Being a tiger is about becoming a family. Many of us weren't born a tiger, but we can all change to become one. In this paper, I will show you what being a tiger means to me.

The first letter in tiger is a t meaning trust. In order to be a tiger, we must trust others. If we don't trust each other, we wouldn't be able to accomplish much of anything. What it means to trust is to believe in our friends and family and hope that they are right. If you are a tiger, you trust your family.

Next, the letter l is for integrity. All of us tigers want to be honest when it comes to anything. We will stand up for what's right even if no one else will. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, “Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind.” When you are a tiger, you have integrity.

The third letter in tiger is the letter g meaning grateful. We are very of all of the teachers and staff that help us through school. Without them we would be nothing and we would know nothing. Also, we are grateful for our teammates and students who care for one another and support each other. We tigers are all grateful.

E is the fourth letter in tiger. The e stands for every one of us. The tigers are not just one person. We are a team that sticks together through thick and thin. Even in a hard time in a sport or game, we are there for each other. Everyone one of us is a tiger.

Finally, the last letter in tiger is r. This stands for respect and responsibility. Being a tiger means respecting yourself, your friends, and your teachers. Just like Baltasar Graciam said “Respect yourself if you would have others respect you.” We also have a large amount of responsibility. When we are in school, we need to be responsible and learn and stay on task. If we have no respect or responsibility, we have nothing as a tiger.

All tigers share these traits in some ways. If I have learned something about being a tiger, it is about caring for others and giving us a hand to the people who need it. Every one of us has a tiger inside of us, even if some people cannot see it. Being a tiger isn't about what you wear or what you look like because it's showing who you really are. In conclusion, my name is Rachel and I am a tiger.



Positively Spencer Youth (PSY) is made up of parents and community members who want to make a difference with the Spencer youth. The goal of the group is to change the attitude towards substance use and abuse through prevention and education.

Future Events:

October 19: 7pm

Monthly PSY

Meeting, held in

Spencer Hospital's Cedar Conference Room
(lower level)

***OUR MEETINGS
ARE OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC***

October 2010

Volume III: Issue II

To reach PSY:

580-SAFE

info@positivelyyouth.org

PSY Newsletter

Parents...have you ever heard about teen drinking parties or other environments where your children might be unsafe and wondered who do you tell? Now you can do that ANYONMOUSLY...

TEXT – A – TIP

REPORT CRIME ANONYMOUSLY

- To report a crime by Cell Phone
 - Dial 274637 (CRIMES)
 - In the message box, text CS121 then your message
- To report a crime by Computer
 - Go to OR
 - Click on "Text-A-Tip"

Clay County
Sheriff's Office
712-262-3221

Spencer Police
Department
712-262-2151

Positively Spencer Youth seeking AmeriCorps Volunteer

Are you looking for a part-time position that will help Spencer to be a safe and healthy place to live & raise a family? Are you passionate about showing youth of our community that we care about them and want them to grow up without drugs and alcohol? Are you looking to make money, help pay for college, or pay off school loans? Then please consider this opportunity.

Candidates should be organized, motivated, and comfortable with computers and web-based technology. Interested persons please contact PSY by emailing info@positivelyyouth.org, by calling 580-SAFE, or by submitting a letter of interest to PO Box 1118, Spencer, IA 51301.

WEATHER RELATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Spencer Community School District participates in School Alerts, a state-wide program that will notify you via e-mail when school is canceled, has a late start, or an early dismissal. You can sign up to receive notification at <http://schoolalerts.iowa.gov>

We also participate in SNOWCAP, a program that will notify you via e-mail and/or SMS text to your cell phone with weather related announcements. You can sign up to receive these notifications at <http://snowcaponline.net/>





Spencer High School

October, 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					4:00pm Fall Play Tryouts @ Old MS Auditorium 7:00pm Football-V Away vs. Denison-Schleswig	8:00am Volleyball-V Away vs. Urbandale 9:00am Volleyball-Freshman (H) vs. Multiple Schools
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11:00am HS Annual Band Booster Dinner @ HS Student Center	4:00pm Volleyball-7th Grade @ Storm Lake M.S 4:15pm Volleyball-8th Grade Spencer Middle School vs. Emmetsburg 4:30pm Cross Country-Middle School Away vs. Estherville/Lincoln Central More...	4:15pm Football-8th Grade Spencer Middle School vs. Estherville/Lincoln Central 4:15pm Football-7th Grade @ Spirit Lake HS 4:30pm Cross Country-V/J.V. Away vs. Eagle Grove More...		4:15pm Volleyball-7th Grade @ Estherville Lincoln Central HS 4:30pm Cross Country-Middle School @ Lutheran Church Camp by Parks Marina More...	HS Debate @ Sx. Cy. Metro 2:30pm 3rd Grade Grandparent's Day @ Multiple locations 7:00pm Football-V Away vs. Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley	HS Debate @ Sx. Cy. Metro IHSMA State Marching Band Contest 8:00am SAT Test Date @ High School
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	4:00pm Volleyball-Freshman Away vs. Sioux Central 5:00pm Football-Fr/Soph (H) vs. Estherville/Lincoln Central 6:30pm Swimming-G/V/J.V. (H) vs. Multiple Schools	4:00pm Football-8th Grade @ Storm Lake High School 4:15pm Football-7th Grade Spencer Middle School vs. Estherville/Lincoln Central 4:15pm Volleyball-8th Grade @ Estherville Lincoln Central HS More...	8:00am PSAT Test @ CO Conf. B	4:15pm Volleyball-8th Grade Spencer Middle School vs. Spirit Lake Middle 4:15pm Volleyball-7th Grade @ Spirit Lake Middle School 6:00pm Swimming-G/V/J.V. (H) vs. Sioux City East	End of 1st Quarter HS Debate @ Indianola TNY 7:00pm Football-V (H) vs. MOC-Floyd Valley	HS Debate @ Indianola TNY 9:00am Volleyball-V Away vs. Algona 1:00pm Swimming-G/V/J.V. Away vs. Lewis Central
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	NO SCHOOL/TEACHER INSERVICE 4:00pm Volleyball-7th Grade @ Cherokee MS 4:15pm Volleyball-8th Grade Spencer Middle School vs. Cherokee 4:30pm Volleyball-Freshman Away vs. Cherokee More...	4:15pm Football-8th Grade Spencer Middle School vs. Emmetsburg 4:15pm Volleyball-8th Grade @ Emmetsburg Middle School 4:30pm Swimming-G/V/J.V. Away vs. Storm Lake, Sioux City North More...	8:00am Life Touch Picture Retakes @ District	4:00pm Cross Country-V/J.V. Away vs. TBD 7:00pm HS Fall Vocal Concert @ HS Field House	7:00pm Football-V Away vs. Sergeant Bluff-Luton	All State Auditions 8:00am ACT Test Date @ High School
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	7:00pm Volleyball-V Away vs. TBD	5:00pm Spanish Club Chili Supper @ HS Student Center 7:00pm 5-8 Fall Band Concert @ MS Gym	12:30pm 12:30 Dismissal/Teacher Inservice	7:00pm Volleyball-V Away vs. TBD	HS Debate @ Mankato West TNY	TBD Cross Country-V/J.V. Away vs. IGSAU HS Debate @ Mankato West TNY TBD Swimming-G/V/J.V. Away vs. IGSAU
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