

Springfield Elementary School Is Making Change, Beating Cancer

SPRINGFIELD — Students at Springfield Elementary in Springfield, collected Pennies for Patients to benefit The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society during the months of January and February. Students teamed together, each contributing to the fundraiser and the total was an amazing \$913.16! We would like to say a special thanks to First Savings Bank for counting all the coins.

The top fundraising class was our combined Kindergarten and First Grade classroom. The students and staff of Springfield Elementary worked hard to reach the designated goal of \$500.00 so they could have a pizza party for everyone. "I am so proud of our students," said Mr. Michael Duffek, elementary school principal at Bon Homme School District. "One student or one penny acting alone doesn't accomplish much, but when we all team together, anything is possible. Our students and staff did a great job of giving selflessly to help children and others battling blood cancer."

"These students serve as an example to all of us through their commitment to helping others," said Kelly Fegley, campaign manager for the Minnesota Chapter. "Their efforts will help local patients and their families along with funding blood cancer research at the University of Minnesota and Mayo Clinic."

Leukemia is the most common cancer in children and young adults less than 20 years old. An estimated 957,902 Americans are living with a blood cancer, and every four min-



COURTESY PHOTO
Springfield Elementary Students teamed together to raise \$913.16 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society during the months of January and February.

utes, someone new is diagnosed. Since 1992, \$6.7 million has been raised locally by thousands of pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle, high school and college students. For

information regarding local programs and services of the Minnesota Chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, call (888) 220-4440 or visit www.LLS.org/mn.



COURTESY PHOTO
Laura Nelson was selected to participate in S.D. Middle School All-State Band. Pictured with her is her director, Meghan Powell, Director of Gayville-Volin High School Choral and Instrumental Music.

Nelson Named To Middle School All-State Band

GAYVILLE — Gayville-Volin 7th grader, Laura Nelson was selected to participate in the 13th Annual Middle School All-State Band this past weekend (March 2-3, 2012) in Pierre.

More than 200 students from various Middle Schools across the entire state of South Dakota participated in the All-State rehearsals and concert under the direction of Dr. Alan LaFav and Mr. Larry Peterson.

"It was a lot of fun to play music with so many talented kids from all over South Dakota," Nelson said. "It was a fun weekend and I met a lot of new friends."

All-State Auditions were held in December, where students demonstrated and played different scales and etudes.

"It's great to see Laura's hard work and dedication to practicing her music be such a rewarding experience for her - it's also a great way for her to represent her school and Gayville-Volin," says her director, Meghan Powell.

For more information, contact Meghan Powell, Director of Choral and Instrumental Band at Gayville-Volin High School, by calling 605-267-4476 ex. 115 (Music Room) or email Meghan.powell@k12.sd.us.

FIGHTING HUNGER



COURTESY PHOTO
Faith Alive Church recently packed 2,808 meals for Kids Against Hunger. To learn more about Kids Against Hunger please visit www.kahyankton.org.



COURTESY PHOTO
The Sr. High Youth from First United Methodist Church collected donations on Super Bowl Sunday for Souper Bowl of Caring. Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement of young people working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities; young people take up a collection (many use a soup pot), asking for one dollar or one item of food for people in need. They give 100 percent of their donation directly to the local hunger-relief charity of their choice. \$432.86 was collected and donated to Kids Against Hunger. Included in the picture is Morgan Tessier, Garrett Adam, Heather Hirsch, Steve Mach, Layne Droppers and Stephanie Anderson presenting the check to Steve Mach.

MATH COUNTS



COURTESY PHOTO
The Yankton Middle School MATHCOUNTS team competed at the Southeast Chapter MATHCOUNTS competition on Monday, February 27th. The Yankton Middle School team earned 3rd place in the team competition. Ben Rust placed 3rd overall in the individual competition and will advance to the state competition in Pierre on March 10th. MATHCOUNTS is a national math program for middle school students and is designed to increase interest and involvement in mathematics among all middle school students. From the local Yankton Middle School competition, four team members and four individuals advanced to the Southeast Chapter competition. From the chapter competition in Sioux Falls, the top two teams and top four individuals who are not on the top team advance to the state competition in Pierre. From the state competition, the top four individuals in the state advance to the national competition in Orlando, Florida this spring. MATHCOUNTS team members and alternates from left to right are: Front Row: Talitha Greaver, Ben Rust, Jessica Muehlbeier, Grant Cammock, Jakoby Goble. Back Row: Sam Gusso, Sophie Drotzmann, Abram Janssen (alternate(alternate), Hunter Lippert, Ashley Lacey (alternate).

Spring International Speech Contest Held

Yankton Toastmasters Club 1294 met at the Fryn' Pan for the Spring International Speech Contest.

Prayer & Pledge was led by Kathy Henja, followed by a brief business meeting led by President John Swensen. John introduced the Toastmaster and Contest Chair Janice Stone. Janice then introduced the Master Evaluator Jeremy Skrenes to introduce his evaluation team. The contest got underway after going over contest rules and timing of the speeches. Contest Participants were Doug Fickbohm, Joy Winther, and Matt Stone. Doug's speech title was "The Great Orator", Joy's speech title was "Old Age Aint for Dummies", and Matt's speech title was "Who Are You". Runner up was Matt Stone, and first place went to Doug Fickbohm. They are both eligible to move on to the Area Contest in Mitchell SD, on March 24th. Judges for the contest were Kevin Buhl, Roy Wilcox, John



COURTESY PHOTO
Matt, Stone, Doug Fickbohm and Joy Winther participated in the Spring International Speech Contest, with Fickbohm being named the winner.

Swensen, and Kathy Henja as the tie breaker. Timer for the contest and meeting was Tara Arens. Vote counter for the contest and

meeting was Harry Voelzke. Janice then introduced Vernon Arens as Table Topics leader, who then called upon, John

Swensen, Tara Arens, and Jeremy Skrenes to give responses. The Table Topics award for best response went to Tara Arens. Jeremy Skrenes then conducted the evaluation portion of the meeting, and called upon Angela Mann, Steve Hamilton, and Carol Hale to give their evaluations. Best evaluator went to Angela Mann. Jeremy called upon Kathy Henja to give an Ah counter's report, and then gave his own report on usage of the word of the day "Liege", as well as other great phrases and imagery. Jeremy welcomed back to the lectern Toastmaster Janice Stone, who then called upon Harry Voelzke to give the Joke of the Day. After a lot of laughter and contest fun, Janice concluded the meeting. We look forward to the evaluation contest next week.

If anyone would like more information about Toastmasters, they may call Janice Stone at 665-1523.

MEETING MINUTES

INTERCHANGE

Interchange met on Monday, Feb. 27, at noon at Minerva's.

Frani Kieffer, Interchange Vice-President, called the meeting to order with the flag pledge.

Announcements were given by Nancy Wenande and Rita Wentworth.

Stacey Starzl was the hostess and introduced her speaker Sherri Rodgers-Conti, Director of CASA. Sheri presented on the SE CASA program which stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASA volunteers are liaisons of the court and advocate for abused or neglected children who are in foster homes.

The next Interchange will be held March 5 at noon at Minerva's. Nancy Sternhagen is our hostess with her speakers Susie Wann and Iva dell Marquardt presenting a program on their business, "Head 2 Heels."

AVERA SACRED HEART HOSPITAL TOASTMASTERS

Club 6217 President Sheryl Schwartz presented a Toastmasters International pin to Eric Taylor at the March 1 noon meeting in the Benedictine Center. Taylor enjoys Toastmasters as a "pleasant diversion" from his work routine.

Toastmaster Schwartz introduced speaker Kary Beltz. Beltz's humorous, personal story on "Compromising" was enhanced with power point photos of family and pets and also cartoons, such as the one depicting "wearing the pants in the family." Schwartz gave Beltz an award for the "Best Power Point of the Day."

MJ Rogers critiqued Beltz's speech. Rogers complimented her on not "reading" her speech, but "giving" it. "Many power point speeches are too wordy," commented Rogers, "but yours fit your topic."

Jennifer Wubben pronounced "voluminous" as the word of the day. As grammarian, Wubben was one member of Jane Miller's evaluation team. The other members were: Tim Bohn giving the invocation and counting the votes, Stan Sudbeck timing the speakers, and Taylor O'Bryan counting the "ahs."

Table Topics Master Greg Stach read some whimsical adages and asked Jeff May, Muriel Stach, Sudbeck,

Gale Vogt, O'Bryan, Jen Hovland, MaryAnn Wortmann, and Taylor to interpret them. Two respondents tied for the trophy. They were Wortmann, who commented on "keeping her hair gray," and Sudbeck, who quoted Fredrick Douglas's motto "improve the world".

Schwartz led the business portion of the meeting. She invited Bohn to display the Club's new banner. They also invited ASHH Toastmasters to Kolberg Pioneer for the March 8 meeting in Room 115C and to the March 24 Area Contest in Mitchell.

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA RC&D

The Northeast Nebraska RC&D Council met on Monday, Feb. 27, 2012, at the Volunteer Fire Hall in Wayne, Neb. Guest speakers Irene Fletcher, Assistant Executive Director of the Wayne Area Economic Development Chamber, and Kent Frauenz, 1st National Bank and representing the new Cobblestone Inn & Suites, were present to talk about facilities and places of interest for the Annual Nebraska State RC&D Conference to be held Sept. 25-27, 2012, in Wayne and hosted by the Northeast Nebraska RC&D.

President Dennis Wacker led the members in a discussion of the new strategic plan which was accepted. Volunteer Jan Jorgensen provided a review of the program designed to recruit future support for the RC&D. Council members, staff and volunteers will begin visits to various groups and individuals soon about the program.

Virginia Buerman offered an update on the Antique Critique event which will take place Saturday, March 31 in Hartington. Two educational tours are also on the docket for this summer — another Wildflower-related event de-

signed to showcase some of the regions unique landscapes and their plants, and a tour to the area of Bliss near Goose Lake which is the setting of the book Hector's Bliss.

The computer recycling collection done during the month of February was well received by the public and approximately 15,000# of electronic waste came in. The collection will continue until March 21 in an effort to "fill the trailer." To date, people from 23 communities participated, the project has served 83 households and/or businesses, and 195 monitors and laptops plus lots of other items containing hazardous materials have been kept out of the landfill. To bring in additional items people are asked to call the RC&D office at 402-582-4866 to make an appointment.

Stan Baier, RC&D Council member from Wayne, reported that the Wau-Col Regional Water System is already providing quality water to Belden. The pipeline crew will return this month and the new water tower for the system will be going up in April near Wausa.

The next RC&D Council meeting will be at the Ponca Public Schools, 505 West 3rd St., Ponca, Neb., on Monday, March 26, at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

INTERCHANGE

Interchange met on Monday, March 5, 2012, at noon at Minerva's. Kathy Jacobs, Interchange President, called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Member, Carla Addy, introduced her guest, Julie Blunck of First Dakota National Bank. Member, Mary Pesek, introduced her guest, Betty Cox of Cox Auto Supply.

Announcements were made by Pauline Akland, Stacy Starzl, Tammy Matuska, Frani Kieffer, and Marcy Moser regarding upcoming events and opportunities.

Nancy Sternhagen of Schaap & Sternhagen Company, CPAs, was the hostess and introduced her speakers Susie Wann and Iva dell Marquardt of "Head 2 Heels" located in downtown Yankton. The owners showcased their spring fashions along with purses, hats and shoes.

The next meeting of Interchange will be held on March 12 at noon at Minerva's. Nancy Wenande is our hostess with speaker Devin Warren, the Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Yankton.

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