



Comet Courier

Volume 12, Issue 3

February 2011

Hello Students, Staff, Parents, and Community Members:

Although it doesn't always feel like it, spring is not far away. If you believe in a groundhog predicting the future, he is predicting spring will be early this year. Meanwhile, we are finishing up with winter activities. We are coming into the home stretch of girls and boys basketball. We are also busy planning for next year in scheduling and budgeting.

I am proud of our students as they have given generously to our county's food pantry this month. This was a project by our character education high school group to include the community as well as our students in both the elementary and high school.

February 14-18 was School Bus Drivers Appreciation Week and I would like to give my token of appreciation for our bus drivers (of Stratton Bus Company) that transport our students every day and at athletic and special events. They are always conscious of the safety of our students and are the first contact each day for our students. They have a difficult job, especially when weather conditions deteriorate.

Our foreign exchange students of this year did a special presentation to the elementary students in December and then met some of our senior citizens in late January. We have enjoyed our students from the countries of Slovakia, Germany, Brazil, South Korea, Norway, and Sweden. Many of our visitors played on our sports team this fall and winter. I noticed at one of our girls' basketball games that we had a team made up of five countries on the court at the same time--a United Nations assembly! Some of the students have gone back to their countries after first semester and we have recently enrolled two at semester time. We hope to continue bringing in visitors each year to our school.

Go Comets!
Mr. Lee Kulland
Superintendent/Principal

Below--elementary students lined the doorways of Cassville High School on Friday, February 18 to cheer on members of the football team, Cassville Fire Department, and students in upper elementary grades as they loaded trucks and vans with food donated by the Cassville schools and community to benefit our county's food pantry.....



High School News



The **Exploratory Spanish 7 and 8** classes are just getting started for the semester. They have both finished units on greetings. They will be working on colors. They will be doing several activities involving colors.

The **Spanish I** students are busily working on new classroom vocabulary. They just completed drawing items that they would find in their book bags. Soon they will be making plans and talking about activities.

The **Spanish II** students are working on reflexive verbs. This is a new concept for them. They will be video taping an activity using reflexive verbs and presenting this to the class.

The **Spanish III** students have been working on commands. They just completed a project where they talked about themselves and all of their likes and dislikes. They had a lot of fun presenting and also asking other students questions.



Mr. Reising's **7-12 Physical Education** classes recently completed the pickleball unit. Pickleball is played on the badminton court and is a combination of table tennis, badminton, and tennis. Basketball, floor hockey, dodgeball, ultimate matball, fitness workouts, and badminton activities are presently taking place.

Last May Mr. Reising received his **Basic Archery Instructor** certificate which will allow his archery classes to join the National Archery in the Schools Program. On November 11th, the Cassville Lions Club voted to donate \$1,100 to the Physical Education Department for new archery equipment. The Cassville Conservation Club matched the \$1,100 as did the Bernard and Janis Willkomm Family, for a total of \$3,300 of new equipment. The students and Mr. Reising are very excited for the indoor archery unit to begin. To everyone that donated, THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!!!!!!!

The **9th grade Health** class recently completed CPR and First Aid in the Schools certification. Each student will be given an American Heart Association card for completing and passing the unit. Adult, child, infant CPR, and choking were taught, along with how to use an AED.

The **Personal Fitness** classes continue to work very hard in the gym and fitness room to improve athletic performance, reduce incident of injury, and develop positive, lifelong health and fitness habits. The following have earned the club listed:

Bronze Club

Tiffany Junk
Chris Meier
Isaiah Okey
Kevin Seng
Chance Clauer
Ryan Mergen
Garrett Schauff
Chance Morley
Jordan Fure
Scott Schnering
Dalton Esser
Krystalia Phillips

Silver Club

Dakota Bernhardt
Nate Baliff
Dallas Bernhardt



Music News



Seventy-five **Cassville** music students grades 5-12 will be attending this year's **UW Varsity Band Concert** at the Kohl Center on April 15. Accompanied by Instrumental Music teacher Koreena Wood, Supt. Lee Kulland, and several adult parent chaperones, the students will enjoy an afternoon of shopping at West Towne Mall, eat their evening meal in the Food Court and be awed by a spell binding show at the Kohl Center.



The **Six Rivers Middle School Honors Chorus** and the **High School Honors Chorus** were held in Cassville on Jan. 24. Thanks to the availability of the River Valley Community Center, Cassville is able to host both events on the same day and present a combined concert in the evening. Also thanks to the Sand Bar, Okey's Market and Ma's Bakery, the students had two good meals that day.

This year's Middle School Chorus was directed by Greg Dennis from UW, and the High School Honors Chorus was directed by Brian Burns from Clarke University. Cassville singers representing the middle school were Brielle Baliff, Ally Clauer, Dani Evans, Zoe Gotzinger, Kami Kedley, Brad Klein, Tyler Koehler, Kennedy McMillan and Kayla Mumm. High School Honors Chorus members were Grace Ballweg, Kelsea Kirschbaum, Greg Kutterna, Chase Pebworth, Natalya Schwab, Rachel Stohs, Tiffany Tarver and Katie Williams.

In addition to the wonderful evening of music presented by both choirs, a very large and appreciative audience also enjoyed a special performance by the **Cassville High School Handbell Choir**. Members of the Handbell Choir are Nolan Ackerman, Rachel Ackerman, Saige Bierman, Faye Demes, Tricia Haverland, Kelsea Kirschbaum, Greg Kutterna, Kayla Mergan, Jonathan Mish, Stephanie Muench, Katie Mumm, Rachel Stohs, Tiffany Tarver, Krista Wieseler, and Courtney Williams



*Jr. High
Honors Chorus*



*High School
Honors Chorus*



*High School
Handbell Choir*

Elementary News

The **Second Graders** at Cassville Elementary School are continually developing their technology skills and improving their math skills as they participate in an **Accelerated Math Program**. Each week students have the opportunity to work on their individualized math skills—thanks to the guidance and expertise of Mr. Bud Faurote, Technology Coordinator. The program offers students the opportunity to work at their own pace—practicing a skill and then testing their knowledge and concepts in a sophisticated high-tech computerized program. Collaborative efforts allow Mrs. Kremer to monitor student work and Mr. Faurote to assist students as they scan their work. Instant reports are generated so the teachers know the results of student performance. The Accelerated Math Program was funded by the Cassville Public Schools Foundation and Alumni Association. As our students continue to prepare themselves with twenty-first century skills, it is important to say THANK YOU to our Cassville Public Schools Foundation and Alumni Association for providing the funding for this outstanding program.



Audrey, A.J., and Laura stand in line for their math results so they can share them with Mrs. Kremer.



Levi and Mr. Faurote discuss completed math problems.



Moria is ready to scan her math answers.

Cassville Elementary **fifth graders** have partnered up with the **first grade** class this quarter and have created money storybooks. Each storybook contains a counting pattern using nickels, dimes, or quarters. First graders helped with developing the story plot and characters. Fifth grade students added details, and completed the editing and publishing of the book. Illustrations were completed by both the first grade and fifth grade students.



Crystal works with Roslin on their money storybook.



Cheyenne and Jaiden work to create the illustrations for their book.



Wade and Cody add colorful pages to their storybook.



Brandon helps Kyle add artwork to their story.

The **Fourth Grade** students and Mrs. Boyum welcomed Ms. Jodi Borcharding to their classroom as a student teacher for third quarter. Ms. Borcharding is completing her degree in elementary education from the University of Wisconsin – Platteville. The Fourth Grade is enjoying working with her and is happy that Ms. Borcharding has been able to begin her teaching career in Cassville.

Character Education Initiative

Cassville Community Valentine Project:

As part of our SERVICE theme for the month of January, WeCare organized a community food drive. Each home room was asked to assist with involving the community by identifying a business and placing a donation jar and/or box for food items at that site. In addition to thanking the community for their support, we want to thank the following businesses for serving as collection sites as well: the Cassville Post Office, Royal Bank, BP, Vogt's Town Pump, Sand Bar Lounge and Lanes, Okey's Market, Eckstein Memorial Library, Friesen's Plumbing and Heating, New Image Salon, Rivers Cafe, and Rapid Die and Molding. The Cassville Elementary and St. Charles School are also participating with their own collections. The donated items and money were delivered the week of February 14. Approximately 1273 items and over \$460 have been collected. We want to thank the Cassville Fire Department and Doug Fure and the Comet Football players for assisting in the delivery of this very special valentine. Below are photos of the football players and fire fighters assisting elementary students with loading the food items to be taken to the food pantry.



Random Acts of Kindness:

In order to encourage people to spread more kindness throughout our school and community, WeCare has started dispensing Random Acts of Kindness cards at the high school. The process involves performing an act of kindness and anonymously leaving behind a random act of kindness card. The card asks the holder to "pay the kindness forward" to some other person. Students have been urged to pass the cards throughout the community. At the elementary school, the 5th and 6th graders all received random acts of kindness cards and will begin the process there. It'll be fun to see how far-reaching these acts of kindness can be.

Meal Site Volunteers:

After conversing with Mrs. Linda Reynolds, WeCare has begun recruiting students to volunteer to help out and entertain at the Cassville Meal Site. On January 31, Mariana Neves, Cecelie Nyhus, Erik Ahlman, Injung Cho, and Aneta Brasenova, our foreign exchange students, and Mr. Kulland were special guests at the site. On Feb. 10, the hand bell choir performed at the site. Assisting with setting up and doing dishes for the Valentineday were Jenny Tanaka, Jenna Friesen, Sean Murray, Rachel Ackerman, Stephanie Muench, and Krista Wieseler. We want to thank Teri Ley for assisting with transporting students to the meal site. Other dates are planned for Washington's birthday and St. Patrick's Day.

Valentine Sentiments:

In reaching out to others, students in the Cassville School District designed and sent Valentine wishes to Olivia Baker, the granddaughter of Jerry and Diane Barton. We continue to support Olivia and her family in their perseverance to overcome Olivia's health issues. At the Student Council Concessions for the Lancaster games on February 22 and 28, money was collected to support Olivia and her family. Thank you again to the many students and community members for showing your support. It's so greatly appreciated.