



Comet Courier

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Hello Students, Staff, Parents, and Community Members:

Spring is taking a long time to arrive at our school this year. Although we have played several baseball and softball games, and ran in several track meets, we still need blankets to keep us warm as we watch our spring sports. We are hoping that our baseball team can repeat as conference champions. We also hope our softball team will increase their winning percentage this year. Track is always competitive.

On a related note on athletics, next year we are entering a two-year agreement with our neighbors to the north, River Ridge, and will co-op in softball. Their numbers are down for the next two years and with their addition we will be able to field a varsity and junior varsity squad. Numbers are better for our team this year so there are more girls waiting patiently to contribute to the team. This agreement will give a lot more playing time in the next two years. We already have a co-op agreement with River Ridge in wrestling. We look forward to the combination.

I had the opportunity to travel with dozens of our students to Madison this spring to watch the University of Wisconsin Badgers Band perform at the Kohl Center. The show was outstanding and our students were very appreciative. We hope that this will inspire our students about the possibilities of fine arts at in its finest form. Our music boosters and Ms. Koreena Wood did a fine job planning this excursion.

We are finishing up our first year of the character education initiative. I would like to thank Mrs. Susan Bernhardt and the WeCare Group for their hard work on the many projects of this year. We are finishing up the year with plastic bottle collection containers for our school.

I would like to finish with some very good news. Cassville High School has been named for the third year in a row as one of the best high schools in America as named by U.S. News & World Report. It shows that a small school can produce a great educational product in whatever setting students are at. Congratulations, Cassville High School!

Go Comets!
Mr. Lee Kulland
Superintendent/Principal

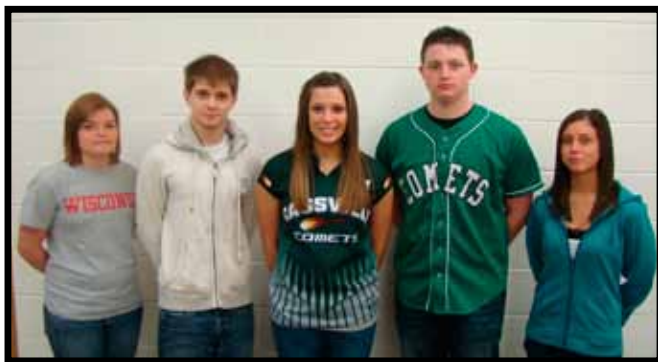
At right is Cassville High School Administrator Leland Kulland receiving a donation from Duane Merlin Ford, Dean-College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture at UW-Platteville. The donation—a photo compilation of Cassville and the Veterans Memorial located at Riverside Park. The photo compilation was created by Andy Weinkauf, a Communication Technologies major at UW-Platteville. Mr. Ford purchased the work of art and decided to donate it back to its proper setting. Duane Merlin Ford will be the new President at Southwest Technical College in Fennimore beginning July 1, 2011.



High School News



On Thursday, April 14, fifteen **Desktop Publishing** and **Intro to Business** students traveled to Dubuque Telegraph Herald and Platteville Shopping News for tours. The tours were excellent with many classroom to workplace connections being made. For example, the software taught and utilized in Desktop Publishing class is Adobe PhotoShop and Adobe InDesign. Both Telegraph Herald and Shopping New use this software for their publications. Students were able to see many departments which included careers in photography, reporting, design and web design. In addition, the printing presses and processes were demonstrated at both businesses. Chaperones for the trip were Mrs. Oswald and Peggy Mergen.



Pictured above are winners of free Cassville Comet yearbooks for their participation in the 2011 Cassville High School Yearbook Ad Sales Campaign. The entire yearbook staff raised over \$4,500 to help with the cost to produce the yearbook. Winners are (left to right): 1st Place – Brooke Becwar, 2nd Place – Alex Hauk, 3rd Place – Faye Demes, 4th Place – Mitch Junk, 5th Place – Kayla Mergen.



Cassville students, Jordan Fure, Greg Kutterna, and Kevin Seng, had the opportunity to partake in the inaugural **“Legacy Initiative”**. The Legacy Initiative was designed to allow students, which may be considering a career in natural resources, the opportunity to partake in a hands-on job shadow with an individual that works in the natural resource field of their chosen career. The Legacy Initiative allowed the students to gather first hand experiences by actively participating in specific tasks and operational events. This year, the three students and Mr. Clyde Male, from the U.S. Fish and Game, identified and mapped active eagle sites using GPS, while recording data specific for each site. In addition, they also attempted to estimate the number of Blue Herron Nests on several of the flooded islands in Mississippi River near Cassville, Wisconsin. There had been many other activities that the group performed, but it was the hands-on opportunity that had allowed the three students to develop a better understanding of their possible future careers.



Greg Kutterna records data about an eagle site



A Blue Herron Nest on the Mississippi River

Mr. Reising's **Physical Education** classes recently completed a 3 - on - 3 basketball challenge, dodgeball, pickleball, eclipse ball, and badminton units. Most recently the 5th - 12th grade classes completed the National Archery in the Schools Program using brand new equipment. The new equipment was donated to our school by: **Cassville Lions Club, Cassville Conservation Club,** and the **Bernard and Janis Willkomm Family.** To everyone that donated, THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!!! As soon as Mother Nature begins to cooperate the classes will be outside participating in golf, flag football, speedball, soccer, fitness walking, softball, and field hockey.

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

Silver Club: Dallas Bernhardt, Nate Baliff, Dakota Bernhardt.

Bronze Club: Ryan Mergen, Chance Morley, Scott Schnering, Isaiah Okey, Jordan Fure, Garrett Schauff, Jacob Haas, Dalton Esser, Chance Clauer, Kevin Seng, Paige Hampton, Chris Meier, and Tiffany Junk.

Keep up the great work
and enjoy Spring!!!!



Mr. Reising demonstrates how to shoot the new bows



Students take aim as they prepare to shoot the target

Music News

CHS Musicians can be very proud of their Solo and Ensemble Festival achievements this year. March 26 District Awards went to:

Gold Medals Class C: Courtney Williams (vocal solo) and Alex Hauk (euphonium)

Silver Medal Class C: Logan Kartman (saxophone solo)

Gold Medals Class B: Rachel Ackerman, Harley Anderson, Injung Cho, Natalya Schwab, Jenny Tanaka, and Krista Wieseler (Vocal Double Trio), Jenny Tanaka (vocal solo), Injung Cho (vocal solo) and Katie Williams (piano solo)

Silver Medal Class B: Maddie Bode (clarinet solo) and Adam Kirschbaum (trumpet solo)

Gold Medals Class A: Jenny Tanaka, Tiffany Tarver and Katie Williams (vocal trio), Chase Pebworth (tuba solo) and the Handbell Choir

Silver Medals Class A: Grace Ballweg and Kelsea Kirschbaum (vocal duet)

At the **State Solo and Ensemble Festival** held April 30 at the UW-P, the Handbell Choir received a gold medal, Jenny Tanaka, Tiffany Tarver and Katie Williams received a silver medal for their vocal trio performance and Chase Pebworth received a gold medal for his tuba solo performance.

Members of the Handbell Choir are Nolan Ackerman, Rachel Ackerman, Saige Bierman, Injung Cho, Faye Demes, Tricia Haverland, Kelsea Kirschbaum, Greg Kutterna, Kayla Mergen, Jon Mish, Katie Mumm, Stephanie Muench, Tiffany Tarver, Rachel Stohs, Krista Wieseler, and Courtney Williams

Band students have had a very busy spring. Twenty band members performed solos for solo and ensemble contest and all did a great job. Congratulations to these students for your hard work and practice time! On Friday, April 15, seventy-seven music students and fourteen parents and family members took part in a trip to see the UW-Madison Varsity Band Concert. The students had a great time on the trip and enjoyed the concert at the Kohl Center. On Tuesday, May 3, the junior high and high school bands worked with a guest clinician. The associate director of bands from UW-Platteville spent the afternoon working with the students and helping them make final preparations for their upcoming concert. Band students will be asked to perform for the Memorial Day Program on Monday, May 30, so please make sure to mark this date on your calendars. The end of the school year also brings the opportunity for 4th grade students to begin band. In the upcoming weeks they will learn about all the band instruments and get to test them all out. After trying the instruments, they will be able to sign up to be members of the band. I look forward to meeting them and working with them as band members!

All of the high school **Spanish** classes will be busy in the next few weeks. Their first big project is the **Cinco de Mayo** celebration where the students will be making floats for our annual parade. They will then be working on food. The **Spanish I** students will choose a recipe, write it in Spanish, and then prepare it for the class to sample. The **Spanish II** students will be making menus, invitations, and food for their restaurants. The **Spanish III** students will be writing jingles in Spanish and making food for their cruise.

The **Spanish 7** exploratory classes will be learning about the different cultures in the Spanish speaking countries.

The **Spanish 8** students will be learning about clothing and be presenting a fashion show to their class.

Reality Check

On Thursday, April 7, 2011, twenty-eight Cassville High School seniors attended the **9th Annual Reality Check** financial literacy simulation at the Armory in Prairie du Chien. Six area schools participated including Cassville, Seneca, River Ridge, Prairie du Chien, Wauzeka, Boscobel, and Clayton Ridge, IA.

Reality Check gave the seniors a first-hand look at the realities of life. They gained an insight and better understanding of the pressures associated with monthly spending once they get out on their own. Students spent the day receiving a paycheck, buying homes, cars, insurance, clothing, vacations, and paying for taxes, speeding tickets, broken water pipes, dental care, investing, and more. Some of the students spent additional time filling out applications and interviewing for a second job when they found they could not remain solvent on their primary income. The Reality Check activity overall gives students an excellent taste of reality as they prepare for their future, and addresses the ongoing need for all students to be prepared to make wise financial decisions.

Attending the event as chaperones were Resource Specialist Mr. Casey and Teacher Aide Robin Rouse. Mr. Kulland, Superintendent, worked at the event giving exit interviews. Mrs. Oswald, Personal Finance Instructor and the Cassville contact for Reality Check, helped organize and worked at the event as well.

Reality Check Photos



**Congratulations to the
2011 Prom Court!**

Ladies: Karley Anderson, Grace Ballweg, Erin Mergen, Stephanie Muench

Gentlemen: Dallas Bernhardt, Gage Cederquist, Chance Clauer, Jacob Wood

Court Attendants: Chris Meier & Kelsea Kirschbaum

King and Queen: Dakota Bernhardt & Saige Bierman

Miniature King & Queen: Shane Okey & Jessa Fure

Prom was held on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 8:00 p.m. to 12 Midnight. The 2011 Prom Theme was "Under the Sea".



Class of 2012



2011 Prom King and Queen

A Huge Thank You...

"A huge thank you to everyone who worked on your food drive. One thousand three hundred and twenty-four pounds of food and \$460 is an awesome amount, and we appreciate it so much. A special thanks to the young men and Fire Department for the delivery. They made quick work of it. We are so grateful for all the wonderful support we receive. "

Sincerely,
Judi Bembek
President
LAC Food Pantry



Keri Retallick, retiring Cassville School Board Member, receives a plaque from School Board President Ben Ballweg commemorating her 9 years of service on the Cassville School Board. Also pictured are (at left) school board member Clayton Williams and Dennis Bausch (at right) school board vice president.

Science News



The **8th Grade Science Students** recently completed a unit on electricity. For the laboratory portion of the class, the students had developed and built a power grid. In addition, they wired a circuit for a miniature home, which had been tied into the power grid.

On Tuesday, May 10 students will be partaking in the Upper Mississippi River Festival at Pikes Peak State Park in McGregor, Iowa. This year's field event will encompass most of the day. The student's will be leaving the high school at 8:05 AM and they will be returning to the school between 2:15 PM and 2:45 PM. The student's will be partaking in the Celebrating a River of Life. The educational themes and stations for this year's festival include: Restoring Our Resources, Imperiled Resources, A Look at Past and Present Resources Utilization and Protection, Aquatic Resources, and a Mississippi River Boat Trip.

The **9th Grade Students** just finished up a major mineral laboratory and portfolio project. The student's tested and identified a specific mineral's properties. The properties included, but were not limited to, the following: color, luster, density, fracture, cleavage, streak, hardness, and other characteristics such as odor, feel, magnetism, crystal form, flexibility, elasticity, translucence, opaque, and fluorescence. In addition, the students developed an informational research paper that was presented to the class. This would allow the other students to record the presenters' information into their mineral chart. The students also developed a visual aide to highlight their mineral.

The **Biology** students will be dissecting a shark in class within the next few days. Yes, that would be JAWS. Most of the students are excited to partake in this laboratory. More to follow later...

The Legacy Project has been temporarily postponed to late May, due to the flooding along the Mississippi River. As soon as the river recedes, a firm date for the makeup Legacy Project will be set.

Three students had the opportunity to partake in the Legacy Initiative. The Legacy Initiative was designed to allow students (that may be considering a career in natural resources) the opportunity to partake in a job shadow with an individual(s) that works in the field of the student's chosen career. The Legacy Initiative allows the student to get a first hand look by actively participating in specific tasks and operational events. This process has allowed the students to develop a better understanding of their possible future career. A big "Thank You" to Mr. Clyde Male, for all his extra time and effort that he put puts forth for the students of Cassville Public Schools. Without his dedication and commitment to our program, it would not be possible to provide these tremendous opportunities for our students. We greatly appreciate it!!



The Cassville Education Association and Alumni Foundation is proud to contribute to this year's Character Initiative conference to be held in Pewaukee on June 14 and 15. The Foundation has paid the \$2,000 registration fee and a portion of the hotel expenses for 12 parent and teacher participants. Thanks to generous supporters and several fund raising activities, the Foundation has purchased the Renaissance Learning Program at a cost of \$6,500 and awarded two \$1000 scholarships to Class of 2010 graduating seniors. At this time, the non profit organization is not able to afford two \$1000 scholarships again, but will award two \$500 scholarships at Class Night on May 25. If you would like to contribute to the Cassville Education Association and Alumni Foundation, please send your tax-deductible donation to P.O. Box 567, Cassville, WI 53806.

For more information you can email us at treasurer@cassvillealumni.org, or you can visit the website at www.cassvillealumni.org.



WeCare Update

Students have made several presentations recently. In their **"Importance of Endurance"** presentation to the 7 - 12th graders, WeCare members reminded their classmates that adversity is something they often must face in life. Of course, there are "cool" and "uncool" ways to deal with the problems life presents. While it's sometimes easier to blame others, dumb luck, and even their own perceived inadequacies as the reasons for failure, students were encouraged to persevere or simply choose to "let go" of the things that can't be changed. One novel approach suggested was to write about one's feelings. Dr. James Pennebaker and Sandra Beall did a study with 46 college students to find out how important it is to express feelings related to problems. They divided students into two groups and asked them to write about their sufferings. One group was told to stick to the facts while the other group was directed to write about their feelings and frustrations. Those who wrote about their feelings experienced had higher blood pressure and heart rates after writing than the first group. Surprisingly, six months later, this group reported fewer illnesses, less tension, and more peace of mind. They felt they could face painful things more easily. Feeling a bit frustrated or blue, pick up a pen and paper and start writing!

The 6th-8th graders received a lesson on **"Constructive Criticism."** They were shown pieces of fruit and then were asked to critique the fruit about its shortcomings: irregular shape, flaws, or odd coloring. They were then reminded that, of course, the fruit can't be personally offended by these criticisms because pieces of fruit are not people. Each group was asked to develop a set of guidelines about how to constructively criticize peers without harming their self-esteem. These guidelines will be posted in their classrooms.

April's theme was **"Respect for the Environment."** As a joint venture of NHS, Student Council, and WeCare, CHS is actively trying to reduce the amount of plastic going into landfills. Right now, the students and faculty do not have access to containers to recycle plastic. The student leadership groups have decided to take ownership of this school improvement project by providing recycling containers around the building and on the athletic field. Students will endeavor to encourage everyone to be more mindful about his or her responsibility to protect our environment. The emptying of the containers will be handled by students as well.

Student Council News

May 2 - 6 was **National Teacher Appreciation Week**. To honor our great teaching staff, Student Council celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week by distributing geraniums and cards to teachers in the Cassville School District.

On June 3, 2011, the 2010-2011 school year will come to an end. Student Council and CAT will be sponsoring an "End of the Year" activity similar to last year's very successful dodgeball tournament followed by a cookout at the park. Students are encouraged to join in this year's fun. Watch for details about this event.

It's not too early to be thinking about Homecoming 2011. Next year's homecoming will be on September 23. Student Council will be looking for ideas for themes. Students are encouraged to submit ideas to any Student Council member.

Student Council Future Events

As part of May's theme CREATIVITY, high school home rooms, organizations, and all the elementary grades have been invited to design cards/posters with words of congratulations for our graduating class of seniors. These will be displayed in the high school foyer during the week of May 16 - 20, and the public may view these best wishes at graduation.

On May 19 there will be a Senior Farewell Get Together in the high school cafeteria. All 7-12 students will gather for refreshments and cookies or bars to celebrate the accomplishments of our seniors and wish them well as they leave CHS. While the punch will be free, we're asking the student body to donate \$1 or more for a cookie/bar. This money will go towards the victims of the recent fire.

On Saturday, May 21, the Student Council, NHS, and WeCare will be sponsoring a Walk-a-thon called Great Strides - Taking Steps to Cure Cystic Fibrosis. All students, as well as other community members, are encouraged to participate. The event will take place at the Eckstein Athletic Field from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Please contact the school for more details.



Cinco de Mayo

On May 5, Spanish students at CHS celebrated Cinco de Mayo. Cinco de Mayo is the anniversary of Mexico's independence. To celebrate, the Spanish class hosted a parade, in which students decorated floats and displayed them to all the students. The winners of Cinco de Mayo were:



1st Place: Isaiah Okey & Ryan Mergen



2nd Place: Grace Ballweg & Chase



3rd: Krista Wieseler & Rachel Ackerman



Elementary News

Cassville Elementary participated in **Hoops For Heart** this year. All of the donations collected by students go to the American Heart Association. There was a fun-filled hour of physical education class and students rotated through 16 basketball stations. Slam Dunk was a big hit this year. The high school students assisted with the groups as well. The elementary students collected a total of \$2,093.00! These donations will help kids that need research or medical treatment for their hearts. All students enjoyed the different activities and look forward to having **Jump Rope For Heart** next year. For more stories and videos of kids with special hearts, visit www.americanheart.org/hoops. Thank you for all your support!



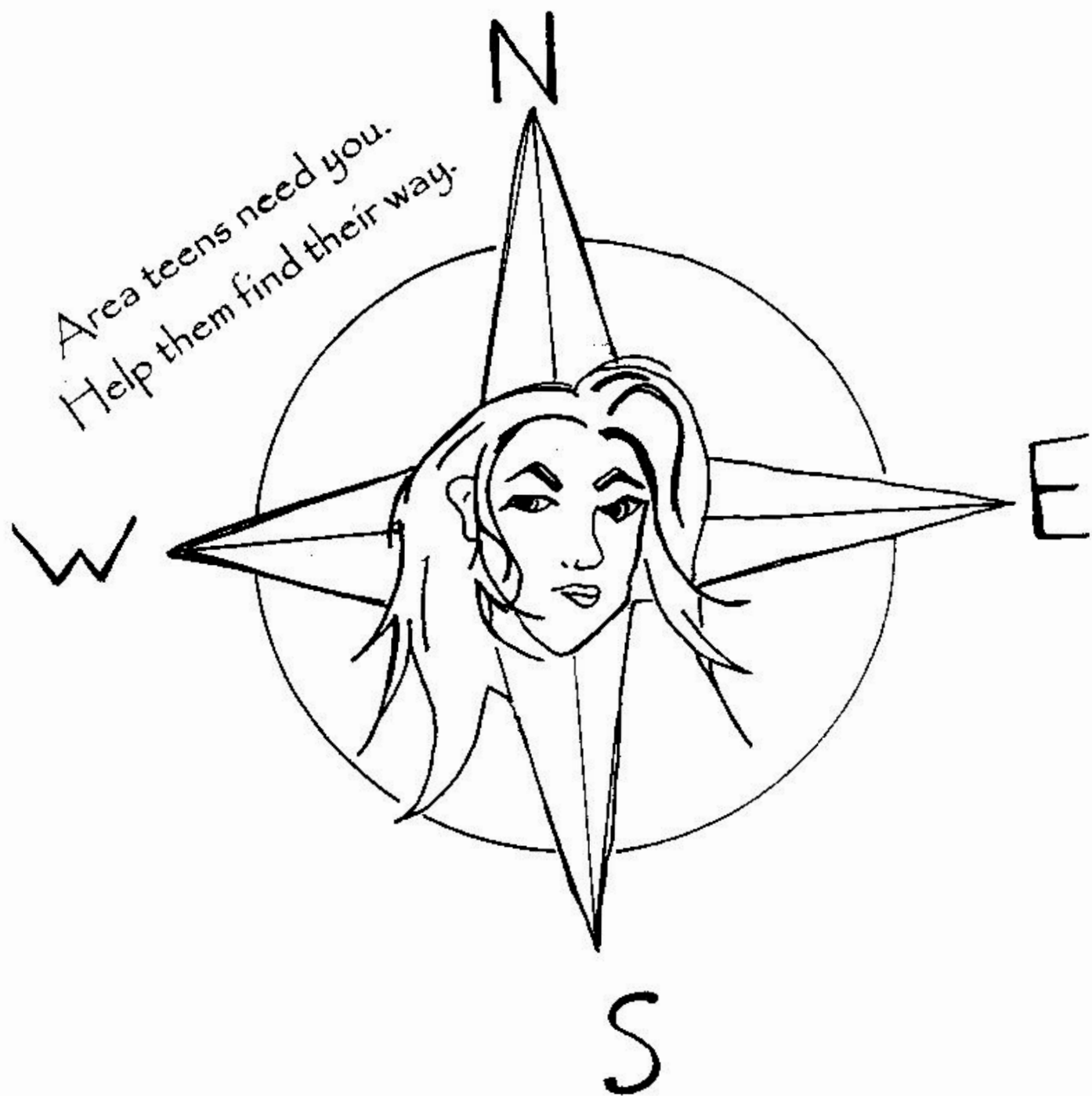
The **5th grade and 1st grade** did an activity involving money concepts, good character development, and making a product. On Tuesday, April 19, the two classes sold lemonade and an Easter treat to the elementary school. They received \$150 in donations. Half of the money was given to Mr. Demert's Haiti fund and the other half went to Capable Canines of Wisconsin.

The **5-year-old kindergarten** class has welcomed their student teacher, Ms. Borcharding, into their classroom this fourth quarter. Over this past month the 5-K class has been quite busy both inside and outside of the classroom. They have participated in field trips to Dubuque to ice skate and Platteville to see a play. They will also be going to the Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium in the beginning of May with the 4-K, 1st grade, 2nd grade, and 3rd grade classes. The 5-K class, along with the entire elementary, had the opportunity to perform some musical numbers for some of the senior citizens in the Cassville community; as well as enjoy a lunch with them. The students and senior citizens both enjoyed the company of each other over a nice meal. The kindergarteners were also able to spend some time working with the Desktop Publishing class to create a Mother's Day gift. With the end of the school year fast approaching, the students are anxiously awaiting their summer vacation.

Cash donations are being accepted at Royal Bank of Cassville for the Families that were displaced as a result of the fire.

If you have any questions, please contact Joy Blum at 725-5121 Ext. 115

Thank you for your support!



Become a foster parent. For more information,
contact the Dept. of Social Services: 723-2136