Greetings from your Superintendent

By Debra Johnsen
johnsen@boyer-valley.k12.ia.us

Technology continues to increase

The state legislature has cut technology dollars the past years, but Boyer Valley is committed to integrating technology into the curriculum and keeping current systems updated. Federal dollars under Title II entitlement allows schools to spend dollars for school improvement including technology equipment. Teachers, administration, and the school board have prioritized technology by purchasing new computers for classrooms and labs on a rotation basis.

The latest technology called E-instruction is an interactive educational system. Students each have individual remotes that allow students to answer questions simultaneously. The program automatically calculates the correct or incorrect answers for the class, then graphs the incorrect and correct percentage of answers. This interactive system has the ability to grade homework, calculate answers for pre and post testing, and provide immediate feedback for students and teachers. Three systems have been purchased for the district to pilot this new interactive technology. For further information log on to www.einstruction.com.

The science teachers have submitted a grant that would further integrate technology into BV’s K-12 science curriculum. The grant was written to the Qwest Foundation to provide “Seamless Science-Elementary through High School.” The grant request includes laptops, video projection devices, and an E-instruction system.

A big thank you goes to Frank Marsh, high school science teacher, for spearheading this project and spending hours writing the grant. Also, another big thanks goes to the science teachers for their time helping with the grant: Stacie Pippitt, Jennifer Renze, and Sue Cogdill. This volunteer out-of-school time is reflective of their dedication to Boyer Valley School District.

Last Day of School

is now Friday, May 25th
Early Dismissal 11:00am

May 23rd last day for Quad Academy classes.
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Tuesday, March 27, and Thursday, March 29, from 4:00 PM – 7:30 PM. Kindergarten through third grade conferences will be held in your child’s classroom. Fourth and fifth grade conferences will be held in the gym. Each student has a scheduled time for his/her conference. Parents should try to be as punctual as possible in order for the teachers to stay on schedule. All elementary conferences will be held at Boyer Valley North.

Kindergarten Roundup

Kindergarten Roundup was held on Monday, March 19. We had 31 students signed up to participate. This won’t necessarily be our final number for next year, but it is a good start. The 5th grade class that will be going to middle school next year is a small class so the enrollment should hold pretty steady at the elementary next year.

Elementary Parent Advisory Mtg.

The Boyer Valley Elementary Advisory Committee met for the first time on the evening of Monday, March 5. Sue Cogdill (Mrs. Tim), Sharon Heffernan, Mary Klein, Greg Sisco, and Carol Stark weather were the parents that attended this meeting. Several elementary issues were presented and the group held significant discussions on each topic. Parents provided important insight and opinion regarding the discussion topics. We look forward to meeting at a minimum of one time each semester next year. I’d like to thank Sarah Malone, BV Family School Coordinator, for organizing this meeting.

NWEA Testing

Thank you to the students in grades 2 – 5 that worked so hard to complete the NWEA testing during the weeks of March 5 and March 12. These tests are computerized and are used as our state-required second assessment. The Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) is our main assessment. The NWEA tests require the students to answer 40 or 50 questions. The difficulty of these questions adjusts to the child’s success at answering the questions correctly. These tests are administered in the fall and in the spring.

Spring Fever

Students should be encouraged to stay focused on their school work and positive behavior as spring arrives. As the weather gets nicer the effort towards homework often decreases and the energy towards inappropriate behavior increases. Please help us to continue encouragement of positive behavior and strong efforts towards homework.

For Your Calendar

• The elementary spring concert will be held on May 15 at 6:30 PM at the gym in Dow City. Please come out to see the wonderful talents that our elementary students possess.
• The K-2 Fun Day will be held on the afternoon of Friday, May 11. More information regarding times and events will be sent home at a later date.
• The 3-6 Puppy Relays will be held on Wednesday, May 16. This big event will take place at the track in Dunlap. Look for more information to come at a later time.
Principally Speaking
By Chad Straight, BV South 6-12 Principal
straightc@boyer-valley.k12.ia.us

Prom Is Almost Here

It hardly seems possible that prom is here again, but it is that time of year. The Boyer Valley Prom is scheduled for April 21, 2007. The dance and dinner will once again be held at the Parish Center. The after-prom festivities will be in Blair. The students will ride buses to Blair.

Although prom can be a special night for a high school student, it can also be a negative experience as well. As students plan for their 2007 prom, I encourage them and their parents to remind each other of the possible consequences of making poor decisions. Let’s make it a positive experience in which safety is the top priority.

I have included the prom schedule below.

Have a great prom!

2007 Prom
Saturday April 21

3:15 Picture set up
3:30-5:30 Parish Center
Open to Public for Viewing
5:30 Line up for Grand March
6:00 Grand March-high school commons
6:30-8:00 Program and Dinner
at Parish Center
6:45 Dinner is served.
7:15-8:00 Picture taking resumes
8:00-11:00 Dance
11:00-11:30 Prom clean up
11:30 Load buses for after-prom
11:30 Parent clean up

Important Information

Boyer Valley High School Blood Drive
By Stacy Pippitt
Science Club Sponsor
pippitts@boyer-valley.k12.ia.us

April is National Donate Life Month. In the United States alone, someone needs blood every two seconds. You can make all the difference by being a blood donor.

When: April 11, 9am to 2:30pm
Where: Boyer Valley High School in Dunlap
Information/Appointment: Call 712-643-2258

Our goal this drive is 45 units and you can help us reach our goal. We appreciate your support.

VOLUNTEERS; A Priceless Treasure

You’re someone we appreciate
For all the good deeds you do
Thanks for being a volunteer
Who’s caring and loyal too!

Here at Boyer Valley volunteers are a priceless treasure. Folding the newsletters, cutting out labels, reading to students, or organizing student activities such as after-prom, Booster Club, Music Boosters, are a few of the ways they help us out. This not only saves us time by doing these tedious tasks, it sets a great example for our students. Volunteers, we thank you for sharing your time and your talents.

National Volunteer Week is April 15-21.
Thank the volunteers of our community who are a PRICELESS TREASURE.
Counselor’s Corner
By Amy Bemus, Dean of Students
bemusa@boyer-valley.k12.ia.us

NWEA--We made it through the spring session for NWEA! It always takes awhile to get everyone tested, but we definitely get valuable data…and a majority of the individual information is immediate. We have to wait for our summary information until everyone has been tested in all subjects, but that does not usually take very long. I tried something in the middle school and high school that I have not done previously—giving students information about last fall’s scores prior to their testing, so they knew what they were trying to “beat.” Research has shown that a large part of student motivation is intrinsic (from within), rather than extrinsic (from rewards). It appeared that this really did work for some of the students and it’s certainly something that I will do again.

High School Guidance News
2007-2008 Class Registration- I have been in the classrooms talking to the students about registering for classes next year. We covered graduation requirements, as well as what courses might be appropriate to take when planning to enter a 4 year college. This always stresses the students out just a bit because they really want to make the “right” decisions, which is a great thing! The registration forms need to be signed by parents, so please help your son or daughter get those returned, if they have not. This is a very long process, and I like to get a start on it as soon as I can.

Scholarships- Please encourage your son or daughter to check the guidance office and the career center frequently to see what is new in terms of scholarships. Many of the local ones are starting to become available, and they seem to be open to a wider variety of students than the ones we have had previously. The list is updated regularly on the school website too, so parents can stay on top of their kids if they are a little “reluctant” to get moving on that! Scholarship applications can take a lot of work, but they are certainly worth it. Even if a scholarship is “only” for a few hundred dollars, that can buy books!

How to Succeed in College - The College Planning Center will be giving a presentation for the seniors on how to do well in college. This has tentatively been scheduled for April 2. They always do a good job when they come into the school and speak, so I’m sure this will be very informative. Some of the information is probably a “repeat” of things the students have heard before, but it never hurts to say it more than once (especially with seniors during the last semester of high school!)

Scholarships Awarded- Oftentimes the school is notified when scholarships are given out, but not always. In order to be sure that everyone gets the recognition that they deserve at graduation, I ask for your help. If your son or daughter gets a scholarship that you would like to have announced at graduation, please let me know. You can send a note, have the recipient tell me, or give me a call. Thank you for your help!

ITBS Results
As of the time that this is being written, ITBS results for grades 2-8 have not come back. It generally doesn’t take very long, so we are hoping for great results in the near future!

Middle School News
Movie Day- On March 23rd, eligible Middle School students went to the movie “Wild Hogs” at the Crawford County Cinema IV in Denison. The students that got to go were those who had 4 points or less on the D and F list for the entire 3rd quarter. The theater owners gave us a great deal on admission, which the Middle School Student Council then covered. The kids only had to bring money for snacks, which they ate plenty of! Congrats to all of those who got to attend, and thanks to the theater. This is always a lot of fun!

ITBS Incentive- Once our ITBS results are in we will know which middle school students will be participating in our trip to the Blair YMCA on April 20. In order to earn the reward, the students must reach the goal for improvement that was established before the testing began. Students needed to raise their scores over last year by a certain amount or for special education students, show growth. As the date nears, and we know for sure who will be participating, I will send out an informational letter.

WIT Career Day- On March 22, all 8th grade students went to Western Iowa Tech, in Denison to learn about various career programs that are offered there, and are also available at other post-secondary institutions. The areas we learned about were Health Occupations, Auto Mechanics, Construction Trades, Digital Media Publishing/Web Design, Architectural Construction/Engineering Technology, and Electronics/Home Technology. It was a very beneficial day!
Increasing Motivation to Learn
There are many things parents can do to increase their child’s academic motivation including keeping good parent-child relationships, teaching your child good study habits, providing recognition for his or her successes, and working as a partner with your child’s teacher.

Here are some ideas to help you increase your child’s motivation to learn:
- Be firm and fair when you discipline your child. Children need reasonable discipline to be independent and responsible.
- Teach your child to be responsible at home. Chores and expectations for proper behavior are ways of developing self-discipline that can transfer to school-related learning.
- Do family activities that encourage learning, such as visits to the library, museums or parks.
- Let your child know that you think learning is important and is the central purpose of school.
- Provide opportunities for successes. Children who feel successful are more likely to try new things.
- Help your child identify things that they enjoy and do well. Capitalize on their interests to build learning experiences. For instance, if your child likes baseball, you can encourage your child to read and write about baseball players or the history of baseball.
- Talk with your child about school and show an interest in their school activities.
- Talk with your child about their career interests and how school is related to a career.
- Be sure to praise your child for trying hard and for being successful. All children need to know when they are doing well.

If Your Child is Already Having Problems with Academic Motivation
1. Talk with your child about the problem. Is he or she feeling confused or frustrated by the work? Does your child feel that he or she is trying hard to do well?
2. Talk to your child’s teacher to identify areas in need of improvement.
3. Let your child know that you are willing to help them do better.
4. Help your child identify things he or she does well so that the focus isn’t only on areas of difficulty.
5. Reward effort and productivity.
6. Provide rewards for improvement. (Remember, rewards don’t always mean getting money or privileges. Just telling your children that you are proud of them or you notice the effort they put into their work will make a big difference.)
7. Limit things that interfere with learning, such as excessive TV, video games, and computer time.
8. Increase the amount of time your child studies each day by a small amount – 5-10 minutes until you reach a reasonable goal (such as an additional thirty minutes per day).
### High School Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meet</th>
<th>Girls/Boys</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 3</td>
<td>MV/AO Varsity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>BV Girls Invit.</td>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Big Red Relays</td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>MoVal</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>Bob Evans Relays</td>
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<td>Logan</td>
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<td>Denison-Schles.</td>
<td>Girls/Boys</td>
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<td>Treynor Cadette</td>
<td>Girls</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
<td>Battle Creek-IG</td>
<td>Girls/Boys</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Woodbine Boys In.</td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>Battle Creek-IG</td>
<td>Girls</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
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<td>G/B Varsity</td>
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<td>May 3</td>
<td>LoMa Co-Ed</td>
<td>Girls/Boys</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>BV Boys’ Invit.</td>
<td>Boys</td>
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### Junior High School Track

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<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>BV JrHi Invit.</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>Lo-Ma</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Harrison Co. JrHi</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>JH Conference</td>
<td>Home</td>
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Track concessions are shared by the Cheerleading and Drill/Dance Squads

### High School Golf

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Girls/Boys</th>
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<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>BCIG</td>
<td>Var./JV</td>
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</tr>
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<td>April 18</td>
<td>LoMa</td>
<td>Girls/Boys</td>
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<td>April 20</td>
<td>West Monona</td>
<td>G/B Varsity</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>Manning/IKM/BV</td>
<td>Var./JV</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>BCIG</td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Away</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>BCIG</td>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 03</td>
<td>LoMa</td>
<td>Var./JV</td>
<td>Away</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Readers Honored

The Boyer Valley Elementary honored the monthly goal winners for the month of February in a schoolwide assembly. Each day the students read books and take a comprehension test on the computer about the books that they have completed. Each classroom sets their own goals of how many points the students need to reach for the month. Once the students have reached the goal, they get to do something fun that is organized by their teacher for the month. These students are recognized each month by standing up at the assembly.

The Boyer Valley North Staff is proud of all our readers for each month. Keep up the good work! The top two winners from each classroom receive a certificate signed by Mr. Weber. The students also received medals and candy from the Boyer Valley Elementary Student Council. There will be two top winners for each month. The top winners for the month of February were Katy Puck, Michael Seuntjens, Olivia Heistand, Ricky Krueger, Ethan Collins, Martin Lopez, Colton VanHouten, Nicholas Walker, Cody Berens, Joe Reetz, Shawn Freeman, Quest Hack, Bailey Schaben, Tim Davis, Travis Shumate, Lane McDonough, Lexi Smith, Emily Thompson, Fernanda Pacheco, Brandon Krueger, Kelsi Segebart, Destanie Rucker, Joel Torres, Danielle Shumate, Yatchi Lucio, and Zach Nuzum.

Each student, who reaches his/her classroom goal for the month, has his/her name thrown into a drawing. The lucky students the month of February received a blow pop from Moose’s Fillin’ Station in Dunlap. Thank you to Moose’s Fillin’ Station for providing these rewards. The winners for the drawings were Jacob Klein, Carsyn Sisco, Brittney Shumate, Bethanie Burbidge, Daina Rucker, Sadie Snively, Carter Klein, Kassidy Willis, Brandon Krueger, Jennifer Zehner, Joel Torres, and Alex Whiteing.

### Boyer Valley Booster Club

The Booster Club would like to invite anyone to join this worthwhile organization. They are also in need of active members willing to donate their time, ideas and light labor. To join and become a member you may contact any BV Booster Club officer or watch for the membership drive, which is coming soon!

**Membership Dues**
- Single-$5.00
- Family $10.00

2006-07 Officers
President- Sharon Heffernan
Vice President- Sharon Mitchell
Secretary/Treasurer- Cindy Stessman

Thank you and we appreciate your support!

### Booster Club items for sale at varsity athletic events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hoodies</td>
<td>Adult $13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child    $9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweatshirts</td>
<td>Adult $9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child    $7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Sleeve Tee-Shirts</td>
<td>Adult $8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Child    $5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Sleeve Tees</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zipper Coats</td>
<td>Adult $30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Child    $25</td>
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<tr>
<td>V-Neck Jackets</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bags</td>
<td>$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blankets</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloves</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
'Archive' Yearbook

By Ted Mallory
Art teacher, Student Publications Advisor
malloryt@boyer-valley.k12.ia.us

You can still get your copy of the 2005-06 yearbook for just $36 while supplies last- there are extras, but not many.

You can pre-order your 2006-07 Yearbook now. Please send your order with payment to the school office no later than April 30, 2007. A copy of the order form is on our website: http://boyer-valley.fesdev.org and enter and look for “The Archive Yearbook” or enter “007 Yearbook” in the “Search site” engine in the top right corner of the home page.

We need the support from advertisers too. We've mailed them to local businesses and yearbook staffers visited as well. You can also find one on the school website Please show students how much they mean to you, purchase an ad and they'll know you support Boyer Valley.

We still have an archive full of old ‘Archives.’ If you're a historian doing research, we have issues that go back as far as 1925. If you're an alumnus who's missing one of your books, we have a few for sale:

• 2004-05 for $30
• 2003-04 for $20
• 1994-95 and 1993-94 for $25
• 1995-96 for $20
• 1991-92 for just $15

Please email Mr. Mallory or call the high school at 643-2258, extension 249 and leave a voice mail.
Who:
Children ages birth to 5 who live in the Boyer Valley Community School District and are not presently in Kindergarten.

What:
A developmental screening which gives you the opportunity to see if your child is playing, moving, thinking and talking at his/her age level. Screenings include: vision, hearing, speech-language, and overall development. Car seat checks will also be available. Child Fairs can give your child a better educational start when they enter school.

When:
Thursday, April 24, 2007
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Must have an appointment

Where:
St. Patrick’s Parish Center
312 South 3rd
Dunlap, Iowa

For Appointment:
Please contact the Boyer Valley Community School District Office at
• Dunlap: 643-2251
• Dow City: 674-3248
Please bring your child’s immunization card to your appointment.

If you have concerns about your child’s development but are unable to attend the Child Fair, you may contact Area 13 to schedule an in-home screening at 1-800-886-4112 or 712-642-4112

Cost:
It’s free for all children, fun for all children and reassuring to parents!!

Participating Agencies include: Loess Hills Area Education Agency 13, Boyer Valley Community Schools, Iowa State Extension Service-Harrison County, Harrison County Home and Public Health, Headstart, Harrison County Sheriff, Learning for Life, West Central and Lion’s Club for vision checks. and Broadway Dental.
Vaccination clinic to be held in the community room

By Amy Malone School Nurse
malonea@boyer-valley.k12.ia.us

On April 20th from 1pm until 5:30 pm a vaccination clinic will be held in the Community Room at the Dunlap campus. Three vaccines will be offered: HPV, Hepatitis B, and Meningitis. The Hepatitis B and Meningitis vaccines will be offered to all juniors and seniors who have not previously had them. Both vaccines are needed to get into most colleges and universities. The HPV vaccine will be offered to all girls 9 to 18 years of age. The vaccines will be free of charge to all participants that either don’t have insurance, their insurance doesn’t pay for vaccines, their insurance underpays for vaccines, or the participant is Medicaid approved.

So why should I get my child vaccinated?

❖ Bacterial meningitis (not to be confused with the less serious viral meningitis) is an inflammation of the membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord. It starts as a flu-like infection or sore throat, but within 24-48 hours after the first symptoms appear, it develops into a full-blown disease with severe headache, a stiff neck, vomiting, fever, mental confusion, and, in some cases, coma or death. Many people (by some estimates, as many as 30%) are infected with the bacteria that cause meningitis, which live in the throat without harming their human host. But for unknown reasons, in a small percentage of people who harbor the bacteria, it enters the bloodstream, crosses the blood-brain barrier that normally protects the brain from infections, and sets up shop, rapidly multiplying and causing the body to respond with an immune defense that causes the severe inflammation and other symptoms associated with the disease. The infection can spread among people living in close quarters such as college dorms. Kissing an infected person or sharing food can also spread the infection.

❖ Menactra is the vaccination that protects against bacterial meningitis. Vaccination is the most effective way to reduce the risk of death and permanent disability caused by bacterial meningitis.

❖ Hepatitis B is another deadly virus that effects the liver. It is also easily spread from person to person. Children are now receiving the first of three vaccinations at birth. If your child has not had the vaccine they need to receive it. It is also required to get into public school if born on or after July 1, 1994. Almost all colleges and universities are requiring the series of shots to enroll.

❖ HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine is recommended to any girl ages 9 to 18 years of age. This vaccine protects against the 4 majors types of HPV. About 20 million people in the U.S. are infected with HPV, and about 6.2 million more get infected each year. HPV is important mainly because it can cause cervical cancer in women. Every year about 10,000 women get cervical cancer and 3,700 die from it. HPV is also associated with several less common types of cancer in both men and women. It can also cause genital warts and warts in the upper respiratory tract. More than 50% of sexually active men and women are infected with HPV sometime in their lives. It is important for young girls to receive the vaccine before they are sexually active. For these girls the vaccine can prevent almost 100% of disease caused by the 4 types of HPV targeted by the vaccine.

❖ HPV vaccine is given as a 3-dose series: Initial dose, 2 months after the first dose, and 6 months after the first dose.

❖ The state of Texas has already made it mandatory of all girls prior to entering the 6th grade and it is only a matter of time before Iowa does the same.

❖ I am encouraging all parents to be proactive and to have your daughters receive the vaccine. Again, any girl age 9-18 can receive the vaccine.

Consent forms will be sent home with all girls between 3rd and 12th grades. Consent forms for the Hepatitis B series and Meningitis vaccine will be sent home with all juniors and seniors.

Prevention, Prevention, Prevention!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sources: www.cdc.gov/std/hpv and http://children.webmd.com/tc/Immunizations-Childhood-Immunizations
If you are a reader

By Grace Reineke

If you are a reader, come and read it to me, please, come and read it to me.
And if it is scary read it to my brother.
And if it is cute read it to my mommy.
And if it is sad read it to my daddy.
And if it is happy read it to me.

Imperfection

By Kaylie Fouts

Imperfection
Is all she sees
So she stops eating
Perfection she wants to seize

Longer and longer
She goes without food
Imperfection has a hold on her
She’s not in the mood

Her friends try to help
Parents and teachers concerned
But she won’t stop
Until it’s perfection she has earned

She’s lost a lot of weight
She doesn’t look the same
Imperfection keeps telling her
If she eats, she gains

Running deep in her mind
It sneaks and it stains
Perfection isn’t a quality
That her mind says she contains

So many people talk
About but not to her
The baggy clothes and sunken face
Make them know for sure

That she has a serious problem
And that isn’t just it
But she is now too skinny
Even for perfection to any longer fit

She looks in the mirror
At her recent weight
And thinks back hard
To the last time she ate

It is now taking its toll
You can see it in her eyes
And as she stares at the mess she’s become
She finally sits and cries

She walks downstairs
To talk to her mom and dad
To bring up her happy memories
Of a perfect child they once had

Listening, she’s quiet
She realizes those memories have faded and died
But brought back to life
She sits there and sighs

She finally gathers herself
Shakes her head at her ridiculous act
And has come to her senses
This whole time that has been the only thing
She’s lacked

She now looks in the mirror
Imperfection she no longer sees
So she keeps on eating
And now it’s perfection she’s finally seized

Who is she?

Excerpted from the short story
By Donna Habinck

On Tuesday, April 22, 1986, the body of an unidentified woman was found in the alley behind PJ’s Bar. She had no identification with her and no visible signs of violence to her person. The body was found by PJ Olsen, owner of PJ’s Bar. Reporting officers included Officers Terry James, Jon Hamean, and Lucille Carson.

“Hey, Thomas, come open up this trunk.”

“Okay, Abby,” he responded as he walked over towards his sister. “What do you think’s in there?”

“No idea. Seems really light though.” She held the trunk up toward the lights so Thomas could open it.

“I’m gonna ask Widow James if she wants us to bring it down before I open it. Ok?” Thomas said, leaving his sister to finish sorting the previous box of stuff she had found. He walked into the kitchen where Widow James was taking a batch of cookies out of the oven.

“Hey, Thomas, want some cookies?” she asked without turning to see who had come into the kitchen.

“Yeah, I’ll go get Abby. She’ll want some too,” he replied to the elderly woman. He went up one flight of stairs and yelled up the attic stairs, “Hey, Abs, Widow James has some cookies if you want some.”

“Don’t call me Abs,” she grumbled as she walked into the kitchen.

“Abs, Abs, Abs,” he teased.

“Stop it,” she ordered her twin.

“Children, stop that bickerin’n!” Widow James commanded as she handed them some cookies.

“Hey, Widow James, we found another trunk. Its red with silver trim. Would you like us to bring it down?” Thomas asked after eating all his cookies.

“I forgot all about that old thing. Why don’t you go grab it?” she answered him.

“Okay, I should be able to do it. It seemed really light.” Thomas turned and walked out of the room.

“Hey, Widow James, we found another trunk. Its red with silver trim. Would you like us to bring it down?” Thomas asked after eating all his cookies.

“I forgot all about that old thing. Why don’t you go grab it?” she answered him. “Okay, I should be able to do it. It seemed really light.” Thomas turned and walked out of the room.

“Here you go, Widow James.” Thomas sat down the ancient looking trunk and decided to take a closer look at it. He then walked around the table to sit down beside his sister. Widow James opened the old trunk and Thomas gasped...
This newsletter is prepared in the office of the Superintendent to inform parents and other interested persons of the happenings concerning the Boyer Valley Community School. Contributions include students, faculty, and administration.

The mission of the Boyer Valley Community School District is to promote and deliver a comprehensive, futuristic educational program challenging all students to develop their full potential by providing and using all available resources.

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