



Bobcat Insider



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Shea Can Bake

What started as making a unicorn cake for her daughter's third birthday party has grown into a new side business for Miller Middle School reading interventionist teacher Shea Hill.

"I posted pictures on Facebook," Shea said of how her business got started. "Three people contacted me and asked if I could make a similar cake for them and I did. I didn't have the intention of starting a cake business but it really took off with word of mouth."

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Pictured are a unicorn cake and a bear cake made by Miller Middle School teacher Shea Hill.

Teachers attend Iowa World Language conference



From left to right- Naomi Musal (MHS), Isabel Campos Padilla (MHS), “Sr. Wooly” Jim Wooldridge (keynote speaker,) Mary Harris (Woodbury) and Jason Noble, AATSP treasurer at the Iowa World Language Association annual conference held in Ankeny last fall.

Four MCSD language teachers travelled to DMACC- Ankeny on October 12-13 to attend the Iowa World Language Association (IWLA) annual conference. They all agreed it was definitely worth their time.

Isabel Campos Padilla and Naomi Musal tied their attendance to their IPDP, attending both workshop sessions on Friday and Saturday’s presentations. “It was fabulous to see and hear Comprehensible Input practices from World Language master teachers. I also enjoyed learning new strategies, technologies, and tools to implement in my classes” said Naomi Musal, French instructor at MHS. “Additionally, networking with other WL teachers and hearing about the Seal of Biliteracy was valuable to bring back to Marshalltown.”

Isabel Campos Padilla remarked, “The World Language Conference was a professionally enriching ex-

perience. Each year I have attended, I learned unique and valuable strategies to support my ELLs. If you work with English Learners you would not be disappointed with the new tools you learn.”

Deirdre Murphy and Mary Harris drove down after the school day to attend the AATSP meeting and the evening festivities. Deirdre Murphy, Woodbury ELL teacher, stated, “Being able to come together to meet teachers from your specialty from around the state and other states, is an excellent way for professional exchange and inspiration for instruction.”

Mary Harris, Woodbury ELL teacher, attended the Saturday sessions and keynote as well. She ended up winning two prizes: a year’s subscription to the Senior Wooly Spanish language learning app for 160 students and 10 copies of a novel in Spanish that complement the Sr. Wooly program. She is

working with Woodbury principal, Anel Garza, to distribute student accounts. “Besides being super lucky this year, it was exciting to hear the enthusiasm of beginning-level language teachers who are now teaching novels in class with the Comprehensible Input method. Getting new ideas, tools and tech to help language acquisition is always rejuvenating,” Harris said.

This year’s conference will be held in Iowa City on October 4, 2019 with the theme of “Biliteracy and Beyond!!” and proposes to work on all language acquisition, English and languages from around the globe, including World Language, ESL (ELL), and bilingual professionals in the state. The theme continues to support the implementation of the Seal of Biliteracy on transcripts and diplomas.

- **Story Written by Mary Harris, Woodbury ELL teacher**

Giving hearts around the holidays



Among the many caring projects in the district for the holidays were Central Office staff providing gifts for a family in need (above left) as well as staff at Anson Elementary School (above right) also making the holidays brighter for families in need.



Sue Cahill, right, is pictured with state legislators Mark Smith, left, and Jeff Edler during a Marshalltown Education Association legislative breakfast last year. See the schedule of this year's legislative breakfast events at right.

MEA Legislative Breakfast Schedule

Everyone is welcome to these discussions with local state legislators on education issues at the local, state and national level.

All free sessions are from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the following Saturdays at the Marshalltown Public Library.

- January 26
- February 16
- March 23
- April 20
- May 18



More of Shea's Creations

Story continued from front page

She recently named her new business Shea Can Bake.

She has been self taught looking up YouTube videos and using Google to access more information on cake making.

"I take pleasure in being able to provide custom made cakes, cupcakes, and cupcake toppers that don't cost an arm and a leg," Shea said. "I enjoy seeing the cake and cupcakes at the parties and seeing how they tie in with a theme. It's been fun watching

the progress I've made with my baking and decorating skills and seeing how much better I've become since I am self taught."

So far the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

"Many customers post about their cakes and cupcakes on Facebook or Instagram and express how pleased they are which is the best type of advertisement I can ask for," she said.



The Marshalltown Community School District Bobcat Insider is distributed as a project of the District's Communications Office. Unless indicated, articles are written by Andrew Potter, Director of Communications for Marshalltown Schools. Articles and story ideas may be submitted to the editor, Andrew Potter, Central Office, 1002 S. 3rd Ave. Marshalltown, IA 50158 or apotter2@marshalltown.k12.ia.us.

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