



Inside the Cat's Eye



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For Employees of the Marshalltown Community School District

November 2015

District educators attend Reading Recovery Literacy Academy at UNI



MCS D in RR first year

Marshalltown Reading Recovery teachers attended the 2015 Jacobson Center and Reading Recovery Literacy Academy, Oct. 20-21 at the University of Northern Iowa.

During the two-day conference, Reading Recovery celebrated its 25th year in Iowa. A special presentation was given during lunch to recognize all of the Reading Recovery sites in Iowa along with the Reading Recovery teachers at each site.

A special reception was held at the Commons Ballroom in the evening.

During the reception, former Reading Recovery students and their teachers were present to give testimonies on where they are today.

See Reading, back page

Marshalltown Community School District educators took part in the Reading Recovery Literacy Academy Oct. 20-21 at the University of Northern Iowa. Pictured are, from left, Jacque Kopsa (Anson), Kelli Hamblin (Anson), Melissa Ulch (Anson), Susan Pollpeter (Fisher), Chris Lester Tullis (Rogers), Tami Huck (Franklin), Kami Uhde (Hoglan) and Karen Roessler (Woodbury). Not pictured is Jasmine Hazen (Woodbury).



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Minion Bowling at Rogers

Rogers Elementary School teacher Anna Wolverers helped organize a Minion Bowling event at the school recently. It was designed to help students learn addition facts by using the popular characters. "Fun was had by all," Wolverers said. "Even tears of excitement were shed by a few of the students who had never gotten to experience bowling."

4 questions with....

**Julie Underhill, second grade teacher,
Rogers Elementary School**



What drew you to work in the field of education?

Julie: I always played school as a young child with worksheets that my aunt would bring to me. When I was ready to start a family we moved back to our hometown of Marshalltown, that's when my first career as an Assistant Buyer ended. I knew this was my opportunity to go back to college and become what I had always practiced becoming as a child.

What's the best thing about working at Rogers Elementary School?

Julie: The best thing about working at Rogers Elementary School is that every staff member working there helps one another through challenges and celebrates in each other's successes.

What's the best way to get through a challenging day?

Julie: When I have a challenging day I turn to my teaching partner Chelsea Kasal and co-worker Jodi Kolbe for advice and support. They are always there to remind me that tomorrow is a new day!

What is something unique about you (hobby or activity)?

Julie: This was by far the most difficult question for me to answer, so I sent a text to my closest friends and asked family to help me. Without a shadow of a doubt my answer is..... my friends and family are what truly make me unique! They give me purpose, drive and a love for life!

Arevalo receives Iowa High School Counselor of the Year Award



Marshalltown High School counselor Lydia Arevalo received the Iowa High School Counselor of the Year Award from the Iowa School Counselor Association during a conference held on Nov. 2 in Altoona.

Arevalo was nominated for the award by Miller Middle School counselor Angie Radcliffe.

"I feel very humbled to receive this recognition," Arevalo said. "I truly love my job and will continue to work hard to provide the students at Marshalltown High School the best support they need to be successful."

Wedding Bells

Hurd-Templeton

Hoglan Elementary first grade teacher Emily Hurd married Travis Templeton on Oct. 3, 2015 at Pilgrim Heights in Montour. There was an outdoor ceremony by the lake and an indoor reception with guests from across the United States as well as from China and Germany. The bride now goes by Emily Templeton.



Troup-Pigors



Amy Troup and Kevin Pigors were married on Sept. 19, 2015 in their hometown of Elkart, Indiana. They couldn't resist taking this "couple's selfie." Amy is the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Technology at the District Office. She now goes by Amy Pigors.

Placing baby photos on pages? I can handle that

As with any job, there are good parts and less pleasurable parts of my position here with Marshalltown Schools.

Creating this newsletter during the school year definitely falls in the good column.

I get the pleasure of sharing some great news from the staff

all over the district. There are far worse things to do than placing photos of cute-as-a-button babies on pages in my publishing program. I also enjoy receiving the happy couple photos I see from recent weddings.

In this edition of the newsletter, we have our first-ever wedding selfie making an appearance. Didn't we all know that one was coming someday?

Thanks to Amy who works across the hallway from me for submitting that one.

I also love to share the news of the awards received by the MCSD staff. We all know you work hard day-in and day-out for the betterment of students and it's always nice to see you get that extra recognition as well.

Keep the news coming, because it keeps bringing a smile to my face when it lands in my inbox. Hopefully, those smiles spread throughout the district when this newsletter is dispersed.

Let's keep spreading the good news about the district, because there is plenty to share.

- **ANDREW POTTER**
Communications Director





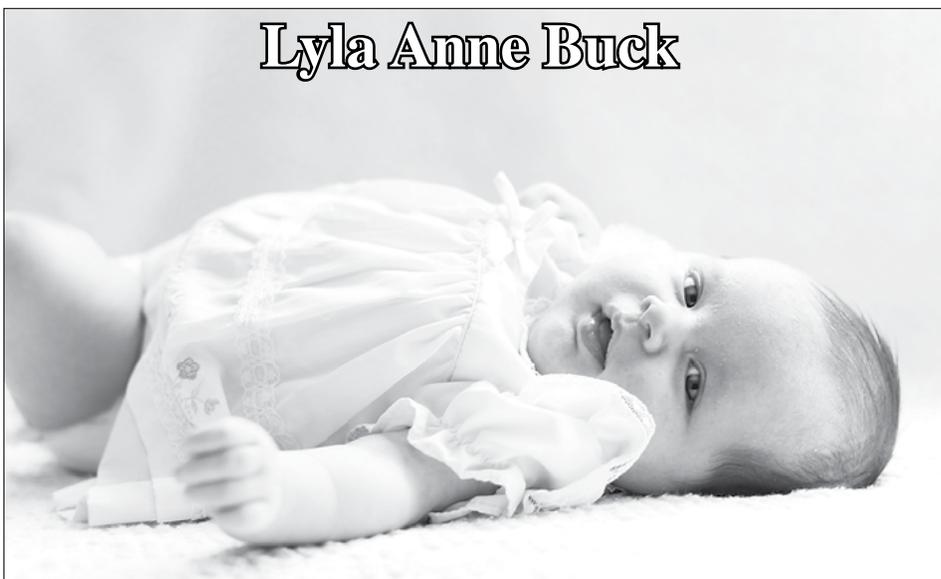
Reading

Continued from front page

Throughout the 25 years in Iowa, Reading Recovery has served over 80,000 first graders.

This is the first year for Marshalltown having its own site. A room with one-way glass has been added to the Staff Development Annex for weekly teacher training. Teachers alternate bringing students each week and teaching lessons, while the training class discusses teaching implications for supporting the students learning to read and write.

During the teacher's training year, these classes are held weekly. After the training year, teachers continue the same model of ongoing professional development six times a year for as long as they are Reading Recovery teachers.



Lyla Anne Buck

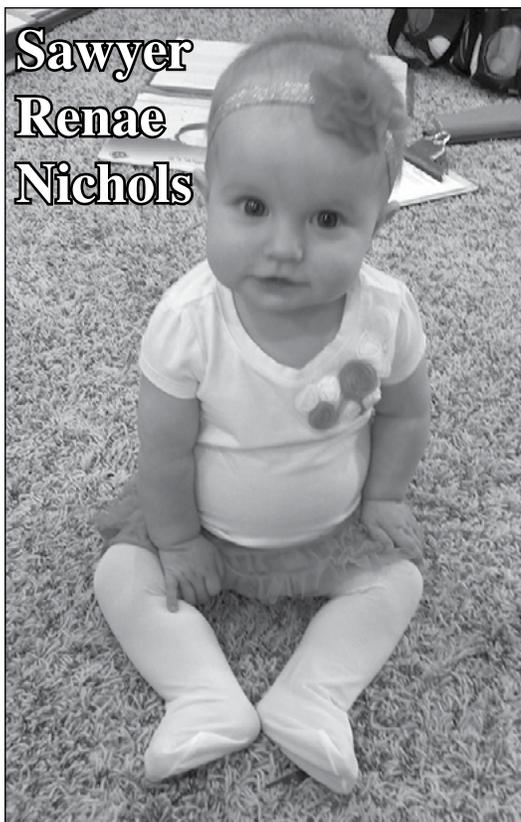
Fisher Elementary ELL teacher Kristianne Buck and her husband, Tim, welcomed their second daughter, Lyla Anne Buck, to their family on July 30, 2015. Lyla was born at 5:29 p.m., weighing 9 pounds and was 21 inches long. At 3 months old, Lyla enjoys watching her big sister Evelyn, playing under her gym and grabbing things. Kristianne writes, "She is such a sweet addition to our family. We enjoy all our family time together!"

Pie fundraiser for MHS Speech

The MHS Speech team is selling homemade pies as a fundraiser for pick up at the high school on Nov. 24. The money made is going to help the program host the Individual Speech Competition. For more information visit sites.google.com/site/bobcatspeech/.



Hoglan Elementary teacher Sara Nichols and her husband, Tim, welcomed their first child, Sawyer Renae Nichols, to their family on April 9, 2015. She was born at 4:07 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.



Sawyer Renae Nichols

Submit your news

Submit MCSD staff news such as new babies, or grandchildren, marriages, personal or professional accomplishments to: Andrew Potter, Communications Director, at apotter2@marshalltown.k12.ia.us, or call 641-754-1000.

Band fruit sale

The annual MHS Bobcat Band fruit sale is one of two fundraisers sponsored by the band. The fruit sale is underway with all orders to be received by Nov. 21 and a delivery tentatively scheduled for Dec. 17. Questions can be directed to the high school band office (754-1130 Ext 1159).

Proceeds from the fruit sale will be used for the 2015-2016 trip to Phoenix for the Fiesta Bowl Parade.

Contact a band member to order or call the band office.