

# News and Views

from the Vandercook Lake Public Schools

Golf Avenue

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Jackson, Michigan

## DAR WINNER SELECTED

Kristyn Sprangel

In 1934 the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution established a Good Citizens Contest in high schools. This award is to recognize and encourage outstanding young people in the pursuit of high ideals. The established qualities for good citizens are based upon:

1. Leadership: personality, self control, assumption of responsibility
2. Dependability: truthfulness, loyalty, and punctuality
3. Service: cooperation, courtesy, consideration of others
4. Patriotism: unselfish interest in family, school, community, and nation.

During the month of October, the teachers were asked to nominate a senior student for the DAR award. The top six teacher nominee names were presented to the senior class for their final vote. There was actually a tie for one of the positions. Those names were in alphabetical order: Jessica Fall, Mike Lombrano, Andrew Sabin, Jeff Spencer, Kristyn Sprangel, Melissa Tucker and Rebecca Weaver. Kristyn Sprangel was chosen to receive a Good Citizen Pin and Certificate from the Sarah Treat Prudden Chapter of the NSDAR.

During December Kristyn began her state competition by completing a questionnaire and submitting a letter of recommendation, complete transcript, and graduation picture. She also wrote a 500-word essay on a topic selected by the NSDAR. Congratulations to Kristyn!

## Academic Games 2001

Vandercook Lake High School will compete in Academic Games, Saturday, March 24, 2001 at Jackson Community College. Our students will compete with students from other county schools in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. It is open to the public beginning at 8:45 a.m. The schedule of competitions will be posted at the fieldhouse.

The English team is coached by Mrs. Jennifer Schupbach. Team members include: Jessica Fall, Jenny McDaniels, Jessica Perdew, Casey Spaulding, Jeff Spencer, Kristyn Sprangel, Jenny Stevens, Emily Tripp, Becky Weaver and K. C. White.

The English essay team is also coached by Mrs. Schupbach. Team members include: Casey Spaulding, Kristyn Sprangel and Jeff Spencer.

The Math team is coached by Mr. Dan Roggenbaum. Team members include: Captain: Melissa Tucker, Kera Clemons, Jasmine Gary, Jessica Gazlay, Chris Hewitt, Erin Sedgman, Scott Spencer, Kirsten Yonnick and Sarah Zebarah..

The Science team is coached by Mr. Wes Stevenson. Team members are Co-Captains: Chuck Rumsey, Mark Rumsey, David Higgins, Dani Lowe, Ben Masters, and Laura Ritson.

The Social Studies team is coached by Mr. Mark Bareis. Team members are Co-Captains: Mike James, Jeremy Tripp, Jacob Ashley, Julie Hancock, Paul Heath, Mike Lombrana, Jordan Masters, Tyler Pierce, Trista Rink and Ryan Seidler.

## Good Luck Teams

### Lions of Michigan Exchange Program May Be Looking For You

Lions of Michigan Youth Exchange Program offers summer opportunities for youth to travel, to expand their knowledge of family and community life in other cultures.

Young people between the ages of 16 and 21 may participate. Youths traveling must be of good health, both mentally and physically, and be willing to learn new customs and cultures.

Knowledge of foreign languages is not mandatory, except in France where the participant must have previously studied at least one year of French. However, some knowledge of the country that a youth chooses to travel is helpful.

Each cultural exchange is approximately four to eight weeks long, depending on the country to be visited. Youths traveling on the program are responsible for their fees and fares but may write to local Lions clubs and organizations to request sponsorship. Youths traveling on the program stay with Lions approved families.

We are also looking for families who would like to host a youth for three to six weeks in the winter or summer months.

For more information on the Lions of Michigan Youth Exchange Program, please call Sherry Milligan at (515) 796-0348.



### Job Shadowing at Vandercook Lake High School

Mary Wood, Junior Achievement, and Patti Shafer, Career Prep Coordinator at VCL, coordinated efforts to place 10th and 11th graders interested in job shadowing this year. All of the students reported positive experiences. Job shadowing is a two-to-four hour, one-time visit, with an employer in the student's career interest area. The student "shadows" at the place of business, is given a tour, learns about requirements for the career, and many times experiences "hands-on" activities. If you would like to know more about job shadowing, or if you know an employer who would be a good placement for a student to job shadow with in the future, please contact Patti Shafer at 782-8167, Ext. 143.

#### Not Pictured:

Student:	Career Area:	Location:
Jamie Braithwaite	Physical Therapy	Orthopaedic Rehab Specialists
Kera Clemons Marine	Biology	Department of Natural Resources
Katherine Dunnuck	Photography	Crossing Photography
Katie Lindquist Elementary	Teacher	Townsend Elementary
Tara Long	Audiologist	Jackson Intermediate School District
Jessica Patrick	Probation Officer	Circuit Court Probation Department
Jill Phillippi	Veterinarian	Cascades Humane Society



## WHAT IS AN EDP?

Each year all students in Jackson County (and soon across the State of Michigan) update their "EDP." An EDP is a student's Educational Development Plan. Basically, there are two parts to the EDP. One part identifies the student's Interests, Abilities & Assessment, and Plans & Preparation. The other part identifies the student's planned high school Class Schedule.

Your student's EDP can be viewed from home if you have access to the Internet. The website address is [edp.jcisd.k12.mi.us](http://edp.jcisd.k12.mi.us). Each student is assigned his or her own EDP ID# and Password. All students at VCL (grades 8-11) have already been given this information when they recently updated their EDP. However, if they misplaced this information, simply ask Mrs. Shafer in Room 43 (782-8167, Ext. 143) or Ms. Koetsier in the counseling office (782-8167, Ext. 208), and we will be happy to give them the numbers again.

Another important "link" at the EDP website is MOIS (Michigan Occupational Information System). This link is filled with career-oriented information that is helpful to both students and adults. It is vitally important that parents take an active role in discussing their children's interests and abilities, as well as assisting them with planning their high school schedules and discussing future careers. Together - parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, support staff, community - we can lead students in a positive direction!

## ASSETS:

Promoting the development of positive behavior among our youth by increasing the number of assets they have is the philosophy of our District Asset Initiative. Following are upcoming spring activities regarding assets.

MAY 8: Jayhawk Asset Building Workshop  
8:30-12:30 ISD

MAY 14: Community-As-School Sponsor Appreciation Dinner 5:00 P.M.  
High School Cafeteria

MAY 15: Make-A-Difference Dessert Program Honoring Adult Role Models  
7:00 P.M.  
Middle School Gym

## MEIJER'S BECOMES INVOLVED

Meijer's has offered financial support for two programs in our school district. The first is called "Dignity and Respect", which will offer \$25.00 to one student per month and \$100.00 to a student selected at the year-end Honor Respect Assembly in May. The "Pledge" program will award our SADD organization \$250.00 if eighty percent of the entire student body grade 9-12 pledge to stay alcohol and drug free Prom Night, May 5, 2001. Should we acquire the highest percentage of signatures in our region, we would win a total of \$750.00. We thank Meijer's for their commitment and involvement with the Vandercook Lake Schools.

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## Women In Sports

### 5th and 6th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament

The weekend of February 3 and 4, the Vandercook Lake Athletic Boosters hosted 21 fifth and sixth grade basketball teams. The fifth grade played in the new middle school gym, while the sixth grade played in the high school gym. All proceeds go directly into uniforms and facilities for all of our athletes. A big thank you should go to the varsity girls and boys basketball players that helped out along with Randy Straub, Jeff McDaniels, and Dave Negus. The weekend was a huge success.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association designated the first week in February as "Women in Sports Week". High schools are encouraged to honor women who had been positively influenced by high school athletics. Vandercook Lake has had many outstanding women who are eligible for this award.

This year's award goes to Barb Boyt. Barb was a 1982 graduate. During high school she played basketball, volleyball and softball. After leaving Vandercook she attended Arizona State. Barb was an outfielder on the softball team that won the Class "C" State Championship in 1981.

We are both happy and proud to present this award to Ms. Boyt.

### HOOPS FOR HEART

About 80 middle school students collected over \$2,700 in donations for the American Heart Association for this year's Middle School Hoops for Heart tournament. The high school tournament will take place the end of March.

In the sixth grade division, the winning team was made up of Chelsea Ratliff, Spencer Myers, Dan Perdew and Joel Tallman. In the 7th and 8th grade division, the winning team was DeeDee Briggs, Ryan Crum and Ryan Ream. Each divisional winner then took on a faculty team to conclude the event.

Congratulations to the winners. A special congratulations to all students who worked hard to help fight this awful disease.

Ms. Barb Boyt

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 COMMUNITY-AS-SCHOOL SENIOR INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

This semester eight seniors are participating as interns in the Community-As-School Program. They are as follows:

Intern:	Career:	Location:	Community Teacher:
McKenzie Boyt	X-ray Technician	Foote Hosp. Imaging Dept.	Cathy Rayl, Education Coor.
Amanda Cowan	Legal Area	County Clerk's Office	Sandra Crowley, County Clerk
Jessica Fall	Tax Attorney	Willis & Jurasek, CPAs	Lori Adair, Accountant
Erica Gerding	X-ray Technician	Foote Hosp. Imaging Dept.	Cathy Rayl, Education Coor.
Kristyn Sprangel	Elementary Teacher	Allen Elementary School	Phyllis Sprangel, Teacher
Rebecca Weaver	Physical Therapist	Orthopaedic Rehab Spec.	David Krantz, Physical Therapist
Ken White	Attorney	Best, Heyns, Klaeren & Schroder	Robert Best, Attorney
Robynne Wilcox	Pediatric Nurse	Greenwood Pediatric Clinic	Colleen Chadderton, Nurse Pract.
Robynne Wilcox	Pediatric Nurse	Dr. Saeed Mian, M.D.	Diane McGaskey, Nurse

Community-As-School gives seniors who qualify an opportunity to explore a career on an in-depth level. Through working with professionals in their chosen career area, they discover if this is the career they want to pursue in the future. Finding out if the career is or isn't for them before attending college is an extremely valuable experience. If you would like to know more about the program, please contact Patti Shafer, Program Coordinator, at 782-8167, Ext. 143, or Sue Haney, Curriculum Director, at 782-0342.

If you know any of the above Community Teachers, please thank them for supporting Vandercook Lake High School by sponsoring a senior for a semester. They are wonderful mentors for our seniors!

Patti Shafer, CAS Resource Coordinator  
 Pictured below are participating CAS students:

## Easter Egg Hunt

The Third Annual Easter Egg Hunt is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2001. The high school Student Council is currently planning this exciting and fun event. It will be held at the high school with further details to follow.



## Kindergarten News

Kindergarten students in Mrs. Stapley, Mrs. Barrett and Mrs. Elzinga's classes recently completed an ocean unit. They learned a song to help them recall ocean names and songs about sharks and mammals. They were thrilled to touch a real shark's jaw, hold a sea star, examine a sand dollar, and see a sponge and coral piece up close. They learned that daddy seahorses have the babies, sharks have no bones and dolphins are very smart and gentle. Their enthusiasm was very apparent when watching a National Geographic movie about ocean creatures. Whether it was seeing an octopus, an orca whale, or penguins up close, you could sense their excitement and awe of nature.

This month, children in Mrs. Elzinga's classes will be learning about Egypt while Mrs. Stapley and Mrs. Barrett's classes will do an overview of the African continent. We will share our projects at our community exhibition at the end of the month.

Mrs. Leighton's Kindergarten class will be doing a Beatrix Potter author study.

Mrs. Bailey's class will be participating in lessons about a pond habitat with a field trip to MSU's nature center planned at the conclusion.

Our children are very excited they can choose a book to take home each evening for someone to read to them. As soon as they return it, they can choose a new one. We are so happy our families are reading to their children!.....Mrs. Elzinga

### First Grade News

The First Grade students just finished learning about the presidents. Some have also finished units on friendship. We are starting a unit on space. We will be learning about stars, the sun, the moon, planets and astronauts. We will conclude our unit with a field trip to the Ella Sharp Planetarium.....Miss Schedeler

### Townsend's Exhibition

Please join us at Townsend School on Tuesday, March 27 from 6:00-7:30 PM for Exhibition 2001: An Education Odyssey. Students will show what they've learned with a variety of projects and activities. Refreshments will be served in the Cafeteria during this event. We can't wait to show you what we know!.....Mrs. Warner

### Second Grade News

Second Graders had the opportunity to visit the Jackson Citizen Patriot newspaper. While on tour, the children learned the steps and jobs involved in putting together a newspaper. They viewed different parts of the building including the offices, the holding area for the paper and ink, and then were able to watch the printing press run a newspaper. This experience ties in with the classroom teaching of the five-step writing process and how a story or article is put into print.

This week the Second Grade will enjoy visiting the Jackson Community college Potter Center for "The Boxcar Children" performance. This is the second performance in a series of three plays ("A Christmas Carol" and "Footprints on the Moon"). We are glad to utilize our communities' resources to introduce our children to the performing arts.

As Townsend's annual Exhibition approaches, each classroom is focusing on a topic to present to the community. Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Castle's classes are studying our planet Earth. Mrs. Jones and Miss Kempf's classes are studying dinosaurs and Mrs. Siegrist's class is studying birds. We are looking forward to sharing our activities and projects with the community.....Mrs. Castle

### Third Grade News

March will be a busy month for Townsend Third Graders. We have begun practicing for our music program, "The Best I Can Be". We will be performing our program for our parents on Tuesday, March 20 at 7:00 PM. Then, on Tuesday, March 27, we will be holding our school exhibition. Each classroom is working on a special topic and will show off our hard work that evening. Please put these two dates on your calendar and join us for two evenings of entertainment and fun.....Mrs. Kinner

### Fourth Grade News

The Fourth Graders have a very busy March ahead of them. It started with our Pajama Day and short assembly for reading month. We will be doing some special activity each day to encourage more reading.

We have a program coming up called "Kids on the Block". It deals with puppets discussing different types of handicaps people can have.

Later in the month, we go to Dahlem Center to learn how maple sugar is made.

The biggest event is our Exhibition March 27. All classes are working on projects to show their parents. Hope you will be there.....Mrs. Hume

## Fifth Grade News

We have been very busy lately down in the 5th Grade wing. During the last part of January and early February, the students worked hard to complete the MEAP tests for science, social studies and writing. Also, during the month of February, the students gave a fabulous performance of "Freedom" under the direction of Mrs. Childs. We are currently preparing for the Community Exhibition on March 27. Mr. Myer's science class is studying bridges and will be building their own toothpick bridges to break that night. Mrs. French's reading class will be performing plays based on scenes from the novels they have read so far this year. Mr. Packer's reading class is likewise performing plays written by the students themselves. Mr. Van Epps's math classes will be using their skills while conducting math games and collecting data to chart on graphs. So be sure to stop in and see us on March 27 and let the students show you all they have been learning this year. We hope to see you there!.....Mrs. French

## Kindergarten Round-Up

Kindergarten Round-Up for Vandercook Lake Public Schools will be held at Townsend Elementary on May 7, 8 and 9. Children need to be 5 as of December 1, 2001 in order to attend Kindergarten in the fall. The new Kindergartners will be screened for speech, gross and fine motor, readiness and social skills. A parent will also be asked to speak to our school social worker during the time the child is here. Please call Townsend Elementary at 784-6133 to register for our round-up.

## Reading Month

Townsend students kicked off reading month with an assembly which included a reading by Bill Crooks of radio station WMMQ 94.9 of Dr. Seuss's Sleep Book. What an appropriate book to read to an audience dressed in their pajamas!

As our students "rocket into reading" by placing a rocket in the hall for each book they read, we hope they will be blasting into a lifelong journey with books.

The bookworm will be making calls to students between 7:00 and 7:30 PM in an effort to "catch students reading". We hope everyone is caught!.....Mrs. Allen

March  
is  
Reading  
Month

## Townsend Library/Media Center News

Everyone is enjoying the new library and media room facilities at Townsend Library/Media Center. We are working hard at getting used to where books and media are located and how to decide if materials are exactly right for our reading level and for assigned class projects.

Students in all grades have been talking about author/illustrators (or "picture writers" as we call them) meaning illustrators who also write their stories. These are books enjoyed by all ages. Some of the "picture writers" we have read and enjoyed video interviews with are Lois Ehlert, Eric Carle, Tomie DePaola and Leo Lionni.

During the month of March, we will be having an activity promoting public library cards. It is important for children to be reading outside of the school day. One way of doing this is to visit our Summit public library branch at 104 W. Bird Street on a regular basis. In March, students can bring their public library card into the Townsend School Library/Media Center to show it, have their name starred on our chart and receive a small surprise. Any classes that have 100% participation will also be rewarded.

In April, we are planning a book fair in the library. Please watch for more information about this later.

A "Book Swap" between students will be featured in May. Students may bring up to 5 of their own paperback books that they are finished reading and no longer want to keep, from home and receive a swap ticket for each one. Then they can "swap" each ticket for a different book from the "swap" table. This way everyone has something new to read! .....Helen Taylor, Library/Media Specialist

## Art News

In the Art Room, students have been very busy creating projects.

Basic Kindergarten, Kindergarten and First Graders finished a unit on color. They learned about the primary and secondary colors.

The Second Graders have been studying about light and dark colors.

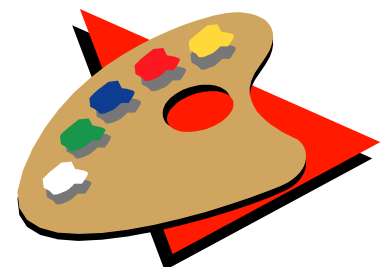
The Third Graders made self-portraits.

Fourth Graders created rhythm and visual movement.

Fifth Graders designed their own color wheel and painted an analogous color painting.

Many students will be demonstrating different projects at "The Celebration of Learning" on March 28. Come see what we have been doing.

The Fourth and Fifth Grades will be visiting the U of M Art Museum in April and May.....Mrs. Richardson, Art Teacher





## YEAR END CALENDAR - 1999-2000

March	2	Parent Teacher Conferences 1-4; 7-9:00 pm, 1/2 Day of School
	3	Parent Teacher Conferences 1-3; 1/2 Day of School
	13	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 p.m.
	14	Band/Choir Concert 7:00 p.m. - High School
	17	Blood Drive - High School
	24	Spring Festival - Townsend School
	28	Community Exhibition - Townsend School
April	3-7	Spring Break
	15	Cherry Pie Sale
	17	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 pm.
	21	Good Friday - No School
	22	Easter Egg Hunt
	27	Community Exhibition - High School
May	3	Prom
	8	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 pm.
	12	Cow Pie Bingo - McDevitt Memorial Stadium
	18	5th Grade Orientation
	18	Spring Band Concert
	19	6th Grade Student High School Tour
	24	Senior Dessert/Awards Night
	26	1/2 Day School
29	Memorial Day - No School	
June	4	Baccalaureate
	5	Commencement - Potter Center 8:00 pm
	6,7,8	Exams
		Last Day for Students

## VCL Bands Host Concert Band Clinic

The middle and high school bands hosted their second annual Concert Band Clinic on Saturday, February 24. Bands from Sexton, Dansville, Jackson Northwest, and East Jackson attended. All bands performed three judges, received a 25 minute clinic from one of the judges, and attended master classes for their instruments. Instructors included band directors from Jackson Community College, Chelsea Schools, Okemos High School, Portland Schools, Jackson Catholic Middle School, the University of Michigan and members of Jackson Symphony Orchestra and Albion Community Band. It was considered a great success, and our bands received "A"s and "B"s from all clinicians.

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