

## Low snowfall this winter easier to handle within the school district

What a difference a year makes! Last January we were struggling with 80 inches of snow which caused us to miss school, have our

*Message from Superintendent Mick Miller*



roofs shoveled and we had water damage in all of our buildings. As I write this newsletter it is 40 de-

grees outside and there is no snow at all! With apologies to snow lovers, I must say that this year is easier for me and for our schools!

Snow was not the only difference. Last year our high school remodel project had just gotten off the ground. We are now occupying more than 50% of the final project, including almost 25,000 square feet of new space that just opened up in January. The project is coming along incredibly well and we are pleased with both the quality of work being done and how the new spaces function. We are still shooting for full completion in the fall of 2010.

While some things are different, some things stay the same. Last year the state legislature opened its session with a huge budget deficit; that is the case again this year. Since the Deer Park School District receives most of its funding from the state, we are very anx-

ious to see how the supplemental budget plays out. The District relies on the state of Washington for over 80% of its revenue, so the state budget has a direct impact on the District's finances.

Another similarity is the good work that continues to go on in our schools. Daily, I have the opportunity to watch our students and staff engaged in learning and teaching. It is such a joy to walk the hallways of our buildings and see engagement. If any community member would like to spend time in our schools just to see what is happening, please contact me and I will give you a tour. You will be impressed.

Coming soon will be a telephone survey regarding parent



The library, front office and the student commons, music wing and theatre

impressions of technology in our District. This survey will be done by our SchoolMessenger system on Feb. 10 at 7:00 p.m. It should take less than five minutes to complete. Results of the parent survey will be posted on our website on Feb. 11. Also, if anyone would like to see the questions prior to the survey, the questions will be posted to our website on Feb. 7.

I hope your 2010 is off to a great start. Also, thank you for your ongoing support of our schools. Please contact me at 464-5507 or millerm@dpsd.org with any question, concern or comment.

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## Sheriff Deputy Davis Morris enjoys working with students and staff at Deer Park schools

"I really enjoy working with the kids," shared Spokane Sheriff Deputy Davis Morris. "I find it extremely rewarding." Deputy Morris has been working within the Deer Park schools for five years now. Deputy Morris maintains a presence in each of the schools, reserving Wednesdays for the middle school and the bulk of his time at the high school.

Before coming to work in the schools as a DARE officer, Deputy Morris had a different outlook on children in general. Those he typically came across weren't the most endearing. When Morris began educating children through the DARE program back in 2000, he came to see them entirely differently. "They are eager to learn, and they're eager to please," stated Deputy Morris. In the DARE program, he encourages students to think independently and to seek positive peer pressure.

Morris looks forward to working with the sixth graders at the middle school soon and will work with the eighth graders following spring break. DARE offers him the opportunity to "really build relationships." He began teaching DARE again within the district just last year. "Studies have shown that students who get DARE once have decreased drug usage," shared Deputy Morris.

At the high school, Deputy Morris tries to spend daily time in the halls and the classrooms. He solves a

variety of crimes from within the school district which might include theft, harassment, driving / vehicle issues, assault or drug possession. "One thing I'm able to do is take time to investigate thoroughly," said Morris.

Morris is also a part of the school crisis management planning team which oversees annual evacuation practices. He also oversees the Gaming Club within the high school. On average, 15 students are involved with this club.

In his spare time, Morris is involved in gaming

in a big way. He helped to bring a science fiction fantasy event to Spokane three years ago and is in the process of planning the Third Annual Gamecon Spokane for July 30-Aug. 1. The convention features artists, authors, masquerades, scientists, seminars, symposiums and vendors. Some of the proceeds from Gamecon Spokane have made their way back to Deer Park middle and high schools in the form of donations of books to the school libraries. Last year's donations went to St. Aloysius school. Morris is also a key organizer of Spocon which is a gaming event held at Gonzaga.

Morris and his wife have raised three girls. He also enjoys hunting.



Deputy David Morris in the new high school library

## Home-Link writing contest attracts several quality creative writers in grades 9-12

Several students submitted entries to Home-Link's annual 9-12 writing contest, and the panel of judges enjoyed the varied selection of creative writing. Students' stories were judged with a rubric that encompassed style and mechanics.

A special awards ceremony was held Jan. 20 to honor all of the students and to award the winners. It was also an opportunity for the students to share some of their writing with their peers.

Matana Kellogg took first place with *The Fall of Remaezenji*, Carter Bingham placed second with *Ilagard*,

Bob Vernon took third with *The Hunted*, and Tyler Wood came in fourth with *The Great Mission*. Great job students, and keep on writing!



Home-Link Principal Carol VanWormer, Tyler Wood, Bob Vernon, Carter Bingham, Matana Kellogg and Superintendent Mick Miller

Here is how Matana's winning story began. He ran through the carved passage ways, his agile feet carrying him over and under jutting rocks. It was important that Vizeni delivered the message to the council, so he quickened his pace. Out of the corner of his eye, he saw red eyes following his every move. Moving fast and agile, Vizeni soon came upon an ornate yet barred door. He slid a

leather glove from his hand and snapped his fingers. A small flicker of purple flame danced above his index finger. Finding a small whole inside . . .

# DEER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Bowling unit stresses teamwork, technique and recreational enjoyment

First and second grade students enjoy the interactive bowling unit in Sean O'Neal's P.E. class. Over the course of two-three weeks, students learn the fundamentals of bowling: proper bowling technique, scoring, teamwork, and individual enjoyment for a recreational type of game.

"I think that it is important to have exposure to several different types of sports skills at this young age and introduce lifetime fitness and recreational skills to our students," said O'Neal. One of his goals is that the bowling unit fosters the desire of children and their families to play and enjoy together this physical activity and others like it.



Elementary students enjoy all aspects of the bowling unit in Mr. O'Neal's P.E. class.

## Dyno-mite reading to take place at DPES during Celebrate Literacy Month

Deer Park Elementary School staff take very seriously their role in teaching their students to read. Part of the DPES School Improvement Plan includes a goal of having eighty-five percent of second grade students reading at or above grade level. Meeting this goal incorporates several different process and programs.

Celebrating Literacy is one way

staff and the community embraces reading. Throughout the month, in addition to reading daily at home and at school as part of the Annual Read A Thon, students will enjoy different reading opportunities and activities each Wednesday this month.

On Feb. 3, Celebrate Literacy is launched as each child receives a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Goody Bag featuring dinosaur

theme items. The following Wednesday, Feb. 10, several community members and business leaders visit individual classrooms and spend some time sharing their reading experiences and favorite book. On Feb. 17, students will whare their writing during the Celebrate Literacy Book Share. And finally, on Feb. 24, author Kelly Milner Halls will visit the school.

## Annual Read A Thon in progress; students set lofty goal

Students have put an extra effort into reading since the annual Read A Thon began last week on Jan. 25. The school goal is to collectively read 90,000 minutes during the four-week PTO-sponsored project that will conclude Feb. 19.

The primary goal of the Read A Thon is to encourage all elementary school children to read (or be read to) for 15 minutes with a parent at home every day. During the school day, children are also encouraged to read in their classrooms.

A bulletin board in the main foyer will record the progress of the

## Family Movie Night a success

With blankets and pillows in hand, many Deer Park Elementary School children and their families attended Family Movie Night on Jan. 22. *Bolt* was the main attraction while licorice, popcorn and water were also enjoyed. The Family Movie Night was a PTO event which brings school and families together.

## First graders bring the snow and its adventures to Deer Park



# ARCADIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## 'Awesome' Arcadia students win stamp design contest held in Dallas Park Cities!

By Principal Bonnie Bantis

For the past 22 years, the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society has sponsored its Stamp Design Contest. This year the nationwide entries included over 250 stamp designs. The annual contest invites youngsters ages 17 or less to design a winter holiday theme postage stamp. The contest is made possible by a grant from the British North American Philatelic Society. The grant money is provided to give prizes to the children and promote the next year's contest. There are six age groups and within each age group there is a first, second, and third place.

This year's overall winner was from West Bend, Wisconsin. He is 15 years old and his stamp was on the cover of The Texas Philatelist.

Under the direction of Mrs. Arlene Klotz, retired teacher and great guest teacher, several students submitted their 'stamps' to the contest to see if they would be recognized. The first foreign stamp and winning second place in her division was from Kelsey Simonson, fifth grader at 'Awesome' Arcadia in Deer Park, Washington. Her stamp is a detailed depiction of a Canadian Christmas, including a toy train traveling around a Christmas Tree. The third place was also from Deer Park, Washington. Justin Savage, also a fifth grader at 'Awesome' Arcadia, de-

signed a present wrapped in geometrically designed Christmas paper. Justin mentions that his stamp was drawn with colored pencils.

Congratulations to Kelsey and Justin for their accomplishments with their stamp designs. Other students sending in their designs included Cody Bollum, Kyra Burns, Tina Carlson, Moriah Duenich, Cole Gabriel, Hailey Herrell, Drew Lindh, Marielle Nelson



Cody Bollum, Moriah Duenich, Cole Gabriel, Mark Sharbono, Justin Savage, Tina Carlson, Kelcy Simonson, Drew Lindh, Makayla Gray, Marielle Nelson and Kyra Burns created designs for a winter holiday postage stamp contest.

and Mark Sharbono. Thank you to Mrs. Klotz for her willingness to go above and beyond to get all the works of art to Texas for the judging. Outstanding work Deer Park students.



Kelsey Simonson's stamp is a design of a Canadian Christmas.



Justin Savage created a geometrically designed Christmas present.

# DEER PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Middle School Spike wrestlers win All-League for the fourth consecutive year

The 2009-10 DPMS wrestling team concluded another successful season with a resounding victory in the league championship tournament hosted by DPMS on Dec. 10. When the wrestling concluded that evening, Deer Park had accumulated 319.5 points, followed by Lakeside (174.5), Colville (170), Riverside (135), Medical Lake (84), Cheney (75), Chewelah (50.5), Kettle Falls (43), and Newport (6). This marks the fourth consecutive year that DPMS has won the league championship tournament.

All 14 DPMS varsity wrestlers placed in the top 3 in their weight classification as the Spikes set a record for the number of points scored in the event. Leading the way for DPMS were first place winners Shawn Konzal (78 lbs.), Aaron Klauder (85 lbs.), Michael Leonard (90 lbs.), Matt Miller (120 lbs.), Joe Grable (130 lbs.), Brandon Straub (160 lbs.), Austin Roeder (180 lbs.), and Travis Pierce (210 lbs.).



Deer Park Middle School Spike wrestlers end the season winning the league championship tournament.

Second place winners for the Spikes were Jason Aebischer (105 lbs.), Jacob Boswell (135 lbs.), and Steven May (140 lbs.). Finishing third for Deer Park were Phoenix Collier (95 lbs.), Hunter Scott (100 lbs.), Nathon Moore (110 lbs.), Kevin Shepherd (115 lbs.), Tharon Taylor (125 lbs.), and Devin Bachman (150 lbs.). Coaching the Spikes were Dean Largent, Mike Frank, and John Harris. Congratulations "Spike" wrestlers and coaches for another outstanding season!

Most of these DPMS wrestlers gained valuable experience in the past few years competing with the Deer Park Wrestling Club's "Ironman Youth Wrestling Team." The coaches working with the "Ironman" wrestling program deserve much of the credit for the success of both the middle and high school programs. They have given young wrestlers in Deer Park a solid foundation to build upon. Thank you "Ironman" coaches.

## Ms. Hill's seventh grade writing classes host Whitworth students

Ms. Hill's seventh grade writing classes were given a great opportunity to host 24 Whitworth students interested in mentoring youth within the community. For their Jan-Term Theatre class, the Whitworth students volunteered their time to assist Ms. Hill's students with play writing and performance. This was a unique opportunity for our students to work one-on-

one with a mentor, develop friendships, and get a glimpse at the life of a college student. The Whitworth students were at Deer Park Middle School Jan. 11-15 and then returned to perform the student-written plays on Jan. 25 to the entire seventh grade class in the gymnasium. This was a wonderful experience for our seventh graders and the Whitworth students.

## GreenHouse Benefits from the Generosity of Students and Staff

Deer Park Middle School students were busy during the month of December helping to support our local GreenHouse. On Saturday, Dec. 5, approximately 50 students attended an activity day in which they stuffed Christmas stockings to donate to the GreenHouse. Over 35 Christmas stockings were filled with donated toys and goodies by our middle school students. This special event allowed 35 children to receive a Christmas stocking, who might have not received one at all.

Deer Park Middle School students also participated in a school wide ASB Canned Food Drive during the first two weeks of December, which also benefited the GreenHouse. This ASB Canned Food Drive is spon-

sored each year by Yoke's grocery store. We brought in a grand total of approximately 1,250 cans of food and other nonperishable food items. We appreciate everyone (students, parents, staff and Yoke's) for participating in this wonderful event. Thank you for supporting us and our local GreenHouse!

## Ways to encourage, support your child

There are many valuable ways to support and encourage your child to be successful at home and at school. Here are a few ideas:

- Make study or reading time a priority.
- Help your child with his/her homework.

Continued on page 8

# DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL

## Junior Stag Cheer Camp 2010 enjoyed by elementary and middle school students

Seniors Brittney Burton and Lexie Schultz organized the Junior Stag Cheer Camp 2010 held Jan. 12, 14 and 16 as their senior project. The camp was offered in two sections to girls in grades K-4 and 5-8. Participants were taught cheer and dance routines, received a Cheer Camp T-shirt and had a pizza party on Friday. All campers receive a T-shirt designed by Lexie and Brittney.

The Junior Stag Cheer Camp 2010 performed during half time at the home varsity boys' and girls' basketball games Jan. 16. Both Lexie and Brittney are passionate about



Brittney Burton and Lexie Schultz



Elementary girls get ready to perform.



Junior Stag girls in grades four through eight perform during halftime at the boys' basketball game Jan. 16.

## Several FFA members join the Trap team led by Bob Shrauger

One of the many fun activities the Deer Park FFA Chapter is involved in includes a Trap team. This seven-member team consists of Austin Bast, John Bloss, Tanya Losh, Logan Mawdsley, Darren Miller, Caleb Morgan (the current state Men's FFA Trap champ) and Rachel Shrauger. The team is funded through fundraisers such as selling wood. Members meet early in the fall to cut wood to sell to generate funds to pay for entry fees to the various shoots throughout the region. Sponsors are always welcomed.

Each member is responsible for providing their own shotgun, ammo, travel and miscellaneous expenses for each shoot. Many thanks to our supporters and parents who help make this happen.

The FFA trap team led by Bob Shrauger had their first shoot in October at the Spangle Gun Club hosted by the Cheney FFA Chapter. The Deer Park team plans to participate at several Saturday FFA shoots in the

coming months to include Colton, Kettle Falls, Rosalia, St. John, Ritzville, Colville, Gar-Pal and our own hosted event coming in April. The state shoot will be held in Wenatchee in mid-April.



Tanya Losh, Rob Losh (dad), Rachel Shrauger, and Darren Miller at a practice session.

In addition to the regular FFA trap events, the members shoot on Saturdays. Some members shoot for ten weeks and began in January. Tanya Losh, Darren Miller and Rachel Shrauger have added this to their schedule for extra practice and enjoy the challenge and satisfaction of breaking clays on a cold winter day.

## Valentine's Dance is Feb. 6 at Arcadia

The Freshmen Class is hosting a Valentine's Dance on Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Arcadia gym from 8:00-11:00 p.m. The Sadie Hawkins Dance (girls ask guys) is a casual attire event. Tickets are \$8 at the door. A DJ and photographer will be present.

# DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL

## DPHS Drama to present *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* Feb. 24, 26, 27

Deer Park High School Drama will present *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* Feb. 24, 26 and 27 (Wed., Fri. and Sat.) at 7 p.m. at Arcadia. Adapted by Ernest Zulia and based on the book of the same name by Robert Fulgum, this play features several small stories. It takes a funny, insightful and heartwarming look at what is profound in everyday life. The stories showcase colorful characters such as: a shy little boy who insists on playing the "pig" in his class production of "Cinderella" and steals the show; a "mother of the bride" who brilliantly orchestrates the perfect wedding until fate rolls down the aisle; and a quiet survivor of Auschwitz illustrat-

ing the difference between a problem and an inconvenience. The play also, while not a musical, is considered a play with music, having some songs in it.

Twenty-two students started rehearsals before winter break and have been busy memorizing lines and working on character portrayal under the direction of Cheryl Demke.

Due to construction at the high school, this will be the only play DPHS drama puts on this school year. The group is looking forward to opening the new theatre next fall with William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Cost for *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.



Students fine-tune their roles.

### Culminating project judges needed

Culminating Project Presentations are Wednesday, April 21. The seniors at DPHS have been working hard to finish their projects and are excited about sharing what they have learned. Community members interested in judging presentations may contact the high school at 468 3500.

### Spring Traffic Safety Education session to begin Feb. 22; sign-ups begin Feb. 8

The next traffic safety education session has been scheduled to begin Monday, Feb. 22 in portable 607 at the high school campus. Each session is approximately six weeks long. Information and sign-up sheets will be available in the main office beginning Feb. 8. Contact Tri-County Driving School at 998-0350 for additional information.

### Yearbook eShare program available on-line

We have a new feature for the yearbook that you can find on the new yearbook website (high school page under clubs and activities). If your club or sport has great photos that you think we could use in the yearbook, you can upload them to a site called eShare. There are two places on the website to access the eShare program - under links and under the eShare page. All you need to do is type in the code (2008360), fill out some basic information and then upload your pictures. For additional questions, contact yearbook advisor Lesley Hilts at 464-3585.

### FAFSA applications are available online

Applications for FAFSA are available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Visit the site for a copy of the worksheet to complete in advance to speed your application process. Also, apply for your PIN today. You must have a PIN before you can submit your information. It can take up to two weeks to receive your PIN.

## DEER PARK SCHOOLS

*where future needs are met today*

The Deer Park School District #414 publishes this newsletter during the school year to inform citizens about school programs and activities.

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### Superintendent

Mick Miller

### School Board

Carri Breckner

Joanne Greer

Lisa Jordan

Eric Keller

Jeff Whittle

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[www.dpsd.org](http://www.dpsd.org)  
509/464-5500

# DEER PARK SCHOOLS

## February 2010 Events

### *All Schools*

Feb. 12, 15 Winter Break, No School

### *Deer Park Elementary School*

Feb. 3 Celebrate Literacy, PTO Goody Bags  
 Feb. 5 Title I Practice, Praise and Popcorn  
 Feb. 8 Title I Fun Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
 Feb. 9 PTO Meeting, 3:30 p.m.  
 Feb. 10 Celebrity Read-In  
 Feb. 17 Celebrate Literacy Book Share  
 Feb. 19 Reading Marathon Ends  
 Feb. 24 Author Visit, Kelly Milner Halls  
 Feb. 25 Ranger Assembly  
 Feb. 26 Reading Marathon Celebration

### *Arcadia Elementary School*

Feb. 2 Arcadia Stepping Stone Valentine Party  
 Feb. 11 Sweetheart Breakfast  
 Feb. 18 PTCA Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
 Feb. 25 Family Math Night  
 Feb. 25 Stepping Stone Party, Second Grade Invited  
 Feb. 26 Pockets Day

### *Deer Park Middle School*

Feb. 2 Stepping Stone Family Night at Arcadia, 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
 Feb. 5 Academic Recognition Awards Assemblies  
 January Students of the Month Celebration  
 Feb. 10 Site Council Meeting, 3:15 p.m.  
 Feb. 11 ASB Activity Day and Dance  
 Feb. 16 Eighth Grade Boys' and Girls' Basketball Begins  
 Feb. 23 Mid Term for Third Quarter, Progress Reports Go Home With Students

### *Deer Park High School*

Feb. 4 Advisory Schedule  
 Feb. 5 Deadline for Senior Ads (Yearbook)  
 Feb. 5 Home-Link Dance Team Performing at Boys' and Girls' Basketball Game Half Time  
 Feb. 6 Valentine's Day Dance at Arcadia, 8:00-11:00 p.m.  
 Feb. 8 Knowledge Bowl at St. George's, 1:30 p.m.  
 Feb. 8 Spring Driver's Education Sign-ups Begin, Main Office  
 Feb. 22 Spring Driver's Education Begins  
 Feb. 24, 26 Drama Performance at Arcadia, 7:00 p.m. and 27

### **Help your child succeed,** *cont'd from page 5*

- Provide regular, healthy meals.
- Make certain your child gets adequate rest.
- Spend time with your child every day.
- Let your child know every day that he/she is loved and accepted for being who he/she is.
- Volunteer in your child's classroom.
- Attend parent teacher conferences and other school activities.

## CONTACTS

### **District Administration**

Mick Miller, Superintendent  
 Shauna Ferguson, Director of Fiscal and Human Services  
 Travis Hanson, Curriculum Director  
 Tami Meserve, Administrative Assistant  
 464-5500 • 428 N. Main Street



### **Deer Park Elementary School**

Principal Michele Miller  
 464-5600 • E. 1500 D Street



### **Arcadia Elementary School**

Principal Bonnie Bantis  
 464-5700 • E. 1120 D Street



### **Deer Park Middle School**

Principal Brent Seedall  
 464-5800 • 347 S. Colville



### **Deer Park High School**

Principal Joe Feist  
 468-3500 • 800 S. Weber Road



### **Alternative High School**

Principal Joe Feist  
 468-3624 • 800 S. Weber Road



### **Special Programs**

Trip Goodall, Director  
 464-5519 • 428 N. Main Street



### **Special Services**

Greg Swartz, Director  
 464-5521 • 428 N. Main Street



### **Home-Link Program**

Carol VanWormer, Principal  
 468-3350 • 428 N. Main Street



### **Transportation**

Sonja Rosenthal, Supervisor 464-5530



### **Nutrition Services**

Duane Smilden, Supervisor 464-5540



### **Maintenance**

Steve Howard, Facilities Mgr. 464-5541



### **Newsletter**

Debbie Trepanier, Editor 292-2117