



Albany Options
School
Greater Albany
Public School
District

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ROCKS

- * Respect
- * Ownership
- * Courage
- * Knowledge
- * Safety

AOS Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 7

April, 2013

A Word from the Principal

This school year has been a blur whizzing by so quickly getting us to where we are already in Spring Break and on to April! We have so much going on; sometimes I wonder how we do it with only 125 students. Cody Garrett was the School Board Reporter on March 11th. At that same board meeting we also had Ashley Eastman and Conner MacAuley honored as Student All-Stars. Corey Houser was honored by the Greater Albany Rotary Club as Student of the Month on March 18th. Corey received his award and spoke to the club at their luncheon.

We are improving our literary skills in many different ways here at Albany Options. In our ROCKS program we are writing children's stories to be given out to all of the elementary schools in our district. The theme for the book is based upon our ROCKS – Respect, Ownership, Courage, Knowledge, and Safety. Students are creating short stories, poems, and song lyrics in a bound book to present to the schools. This is an amazing endeavor and gift for our students and the elementary students in our district.

We have started up again

this year with the Jet Restoration project in conjunction with Historic Albany Restoration Project (HARP) and the Albany Municipal Airport. The students work at the airport on Saturdays with veteran pilots to restore Vietnam era jet planes that will go up on display in front of the airport along the I-5 corridor.



Students laying out the pavers.

Our Leadership class is coming up with some great projects this spring as well. They are working with Regency of Albany retirement home near the end of our block. They volunteer Fridays leading activities and visiting with the residents. This is a great experience for both the residents and our students. The Leadership Class has also done several fundraisers in the community. Thanks for your patronage at the Yo-

gurt Extreme and Burger-ville events. These two fundraisers were a great success for our students.



The Joys of Living Assistance Dogs came to the school right before Spring Break. These dogs are trained from infancy to work with people with disabilities. Miss Kozak brings these new puppies into her class and her students help to train them to work with people with disabilities. This first visit was with four-week-old puppies to work toward socializing them. We are looking forward to additional visits with their dogs at all different stages of their training.

Finally, if you haven't seen it, our paver project is complete and looks amazing! The Trades Academy from South Albany High School completed the project just before Spring Break and will be back to touch it up later in the spring with another coat of sand and a top coat of finish.

It looks like beginning in April the school district's Solar Panel project will begin at AOS!

Enjoy your Spring Break!

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
March 31  EASTER SUNDAY	1 Ecology Planting Day	2 Testing Schedule Ecology Planting Day	3 Early Release	4 Testing Schedule	5 Ecology Planting Day	6 Jet Restoration 10-2:00pm
7	8 Back-up Ecology Planting Day	9 Testing Schedule	10 Early Release Testing Schedule	11 Testing Schedule	12 NO SCHOOL	13 Jet Restoration 10-2:00pm
14	15	16	17 Early Release	18 ROCKS	19	20 SERVICE SATURDAY: TBA
21	22 <i>Earth Day</i> 	23 Testing Schedule	24 Early Release Testing Schedule	25 ROCKS	26 Last Day of Grading Period	27 Global Youth Service Day at AOS! 10-2pm
28 GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE WEEK	29 New grading period	30				

May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Early Release	2	3	4 Jet Restoration 10-2:00pm
5	6 Testing Schedule	7 Testing Schedule Construction Career Day	8 Early Release	9	10	11 Jet Restoration 10-2:00pm
12 <i>Mother's Day</i>	13	14	15 Early Release	16	17	18 SERVICE SATURDAY: City of Albany
19	20	21	22 Early Release Testing Schedule	23	24 NO SCHOOL	25
26	27 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day	28	29 Early Release Youth Special Olympics	30	31	

Important Information

SENIORS!

Make sure you are regularly checking with our counselor, Ms. Smith, to make sure you are completing everything you need for graduation.

Deadlines are approaching quickly and we want to make sure you have everything you need.

Make sure to ask her about anything you need for the actual graduation ceremony and if you have your career requirements done.



NEED ELECTIVES?

If you need Elective credits be sure to see Ms. Smith or Miss Sokolov for additional credit earning opportunities outside of the regular school day.

Want to be a CNA?

Leadership class students have been volunteering at Regency of Albany retirement home down the block from AOS. The volunteer coordinator wants AOS students to know that if they volunteer on the weekends or after school there may be room for them in their upcoming CNA class! See Miss Sokolov for more info. This is a great way to earn credits and work towards career goals.

What's Happening in Leadership Class...

The Leadership class has been doing some great things at AOS. Last month they began volunteering at Regency of Albany retirement home. The students are spending their class period every Friday with the seniors.

Students help out by spending time chatting with the seniors, setting up games and activities, and helping with their Friday afternoon BINGO games.

The students have also been working to coordinate a book drive, which will go to elementary school students.

The students understand the importance of reading and writing if you ever want to graduate, so they are trying to make a difference for the younger students in the community by providing them with books so that they may read at home.

Many families in our community cannot afford books to read to their children, so in an effort to promote literacy our students are bringing books to the students.

The students have set up drop-sites for members in the community to donate

books including one at AOS. Please support their efforts by bringing in lightly used or new children's books.

Central Willamette Community Credit Union is showing their support for our efforts by donating \$300 to the cause, and Goodwill is donating books as part of the effort. Drop-off sites will be announced on our school website and FaceBook page when we return from Spring Break.

Please support the efforts of our students in promoting literacy in our community.

Joys of Living Assistance Dogs Visit Lit Class

For a second year in a row the Joys of Living Assistance Dogs organization has returned to work with students in Ms. Kozak's Young Adult Lit class.

The organization works with dogs from the moment they are born to train them to

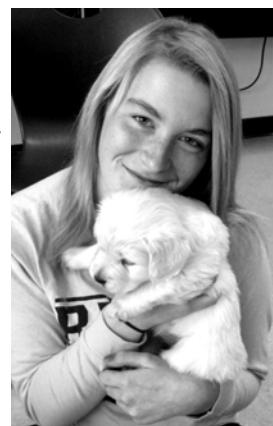


be service dogs for persons with physical disabilities.

The students spent their class period on Tuesday, March 19th working with 4-week-old puppies to help socialize them and work on positive association. Students also helped the puppies develop basic skills like sitting

on command and working to develop their hind leg coordination.

They will return two more times with service dogs at different ages and stages of training.



Jet Restoration Returns to AOS!

Jet Restoration has returned to Albany Options this Spring and students are once again spending their Saturdays gutting old Vietnam War jet planes and preparing them to go



up on display along the I-5 corridor in front of the Albany Municipal Airport.

For every 32 hours spent working on the jets the students are earning 0.25 Elective Credits through

the Cooperative Work Experience program as well as valuable work experience.

The students are working with veteran pilots who flew similar jets when they were in the service!

If you are interested see Miss Sokolov for how you can get involved and start earning credit.



National Service Learning Conference

Last month Miss Sokolov traveled to the city of Denver, Colorado for the National Service Learning Conference as an opportunity to gain more new and exciting ideas for continuing to incorporate Service Learning into the classrooms at AOS.

The conference was paid



for through the sponsorship of Habitat Humanity International and State

Farm as part of the Habitat for Humanity Service Learning grant the school received last Spring. Miss Sokolov gained many great new ideas to bring to AOS.

GED Grads!

Congratulations to the students who have recently earned their GED:

Tyler Norton

Kelsie Hoskins

Natalie Zambrano

Jonah Claypool

Congratulations!

Students Recognized for Service at AOS



In March we had several students recognized for their outstanding commitment to their schoolwork and to serving the community.

On March 11th Cody Garrett attended the

School Board meeting and shared his experience as a student, how he has overcome struggles and

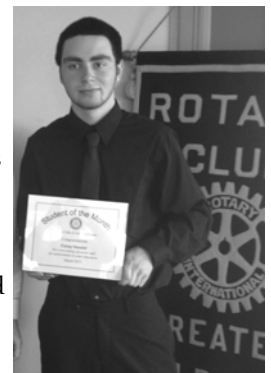
turned his life around, and all of the great things he has accomplished while at AOS.

At the same meeting Ashley Eastman and Connor MacAuley were recognized



as Student All-Stars for their dedication to their studies and to serving the community. Both are members of the Leadership class at AOS.

Corey Houser was given the opportunity to share his story and experience at the recent Greater Albany Rotary Club meeting where he received the Student of the Month award from the club for overcoming obstacles and being back on track to graduate on time and go on to college. We are very proud of all four students. Congratulations!



Ecology Starts Planting in the Bioswale!



Students Attend Blazers Game!

Students who earned a Perfect Attendance award earlier in the year were treated to dinner at Red Robin and tickets to a Trail Blazers basketball game up in Portland.

Eleven students went in addition to several staff from AOS.

Although the Blazers didn't win the game everyone had a fantastic time and enjoyed every minute of it.



Congratulations to the students who worked so hard to earn the award. We're looking forward to treating students with perfect attendance to another fun opportunity later this year.

Picture of the Month



Mrs. Mitchell rocking head-to-toe green with the Leadership class to show her St. Patrick's Day spirit!

Greater Albany Public School District

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AOS encourages students and families to take advantage of the many resources our community has to offer. Below is a list of services and organizations available throughout Linn County that are available to the public.

- **Family Connections:** The people to call for child care, parenting information, family activities and more.....(541)917-4899 or 1-800-845-1363
- **Comcast Internet Essentials:** Affordable internet may be available for families with a child receiving free school lunches.....1-855-846-8376
- **Oregon Health Plan (OHP):** Provides health insurance to qualified citizens, includes dental services.....1-800-359-9517
- **Families and Agencies Coming Together (FACT):** Community resources for families with children in the Albany School District541-924-3720
- **Albany Helping Hands:** Emergency shelter, phone, mail, three meals per day, laundry, and showers upon approval: 619 St. SE. Albany.....926-4036
- **FISH Clothes Closet:** Free clothing available; must bring name with current address. 1880 Hill St. SE. Albany.....928-4460
- Call **211** for free and confidential information regarding help with food, housing, employment, health care, counseling and more.

****For more community resources please visit the Albany Option School webpage:**
www.albany.k12.or.us/AOS/

Albany Options School Newsletter: April 2013
Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

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