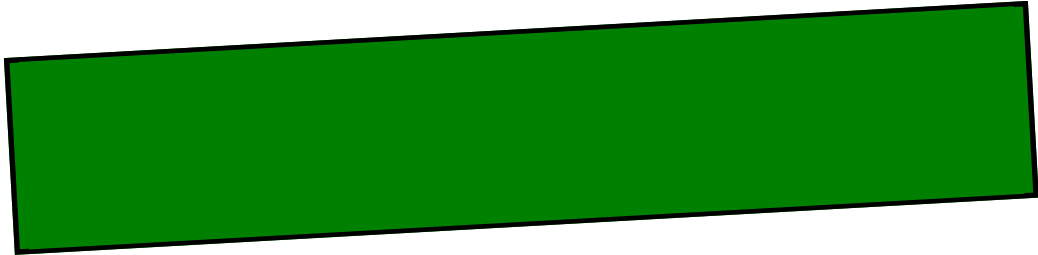




**Greater Albany
Public School
District**



June 2012

Issue 6

A Word from the Principal

Inside this issue:

AOS Calendar	2
AOS Internship/ Volunteer Info.	2
GED Graduates	3
Grant Awarded for Bioswale Project	4
Outstanding Student Awards	5
AOS Graduates	6-7
Community Re- sources	8

Special Points of Interest:

- **Students Learn with Joys of Living Assistance Dogs**
- **Character Education Poster Contest**
- **Students Shop at AOS**
- **Students Volunteer at Special Olympics**

What a wonderful journey this school year has been. We have added new staff members and they have brought new richness to our lives. We have had staff leave, and their memories continue to fill our hearts with joy.

How do we judge a successful school year? Is it from the 22 graduates that have completed the work towards their diplomas? Is it the 51 students that have earned their GEDs? While these are important, this is not how I judge our success.

I know that we are successful because students have

told me that they do not want summer to arrive because they enjoy school here so much.

I know that we are successful because students that had struggled at their own home school are now glowing with pride because of increased achievement .

I know that we are successful here because staff members that have left have cried tears of sorrow at the thought that they will no longer work here.

I know that we are successful because some of

the top teachers in our district are clamoring to work here. They want to be part of the school environment that we have cultivated here.

I know that it is a success because students and their parents continue to want to be part of the school. This is the most important thing for me!

I want to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for making AOS such a great place to be. I look forward to more "success" in the future.

Mike Ingman
Principal

Joys of Living Assistance Dogs

This six-week grading period Ms. Kozak's English class had a very special and unique opportunity to work with the Joys of Living Assistance Dogs organization, which trains service dogs. The students had three opportunities to work with the organization during the class.

The first visit was with a litter of four week old puppies who could hardly even walk yet. The students

helped to socialize the puppies and have them get used to human contact, smell and the heartbeat.

During the second visit the students helped to teach six month old service puppies how to follow orders such as "stand" and "sit," as well as how to push open doors and switch on lights.

The final visit was on June 7th with older and more experienced service dogs. The students were able to

experience being in a wheelchair and having the dogs pick things up for them, take off their socks, and help them along.

The students had a great time working with the volunteers and the service dogs. This Service Learning project was part of the ROCKS theme of Respect, Ownership, Courage, Knowledge and Safety that Ms. Kozak was teaching in her class.

June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Seniors Last Day of School!	2
3	4	5 Mandatory Grad. Practice 10 AM AOS Graduation @ 7PM!	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 I.H.S., PM Choices, & PM GED Last Day	14 MS, AM Choices, & AM GED Last Day	15	16
17	18 Summer School 8AM–4PM	19 Summer School 8AM–4PM	20 Summer School 8AM–4PM	21 Summer School 8AM–4PM	22	23
24	25 Summer School 8AM–4PM	26 Summer School 8AM–4PM	27 Summer School 8AM–4PM	28 Summer School 8AM–4PM	29	30

Summer School Schedule

Date: June 18– June 28 2012, Monday—
Thursday

Location: Albany Options School

Time: Classes: 8AM-12PM

Independent Study: 12PM –4PM

Classes: PE, Personal Finance, Independent
Study

Registration: Sign up forms available.

Additional Information: Breakfast and
lunch will be available each day.

Please talk to Mr. Ingman at (541)967-4563 if
you have any further questions regarding
Summer School at Albany Options School.

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Last Day of School

- The last day of school for **Innovative High School, PM Choices** and **PM GED** students is: **June 13, 2012.**
- The last day of school for **Middle School, AM Choices,** and **AM GED** students is: **June 14, 2012.**

Want to earn elective credits during the summer?

Students can earn up to **1.0 elective credit** during the summer through **Cooperative Work Experience**. This includes **jobs, internships** or **volunteer** activities.

Any students that are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity should see **Ms. Sokolov** in the Outreach Office at AOS or contact her by e-mail at **anna.sokolov@albany.k12.or.us**. Ms. Sokolov can also assist students in finding internship and volunteer opportunities.

GED Graduates

Over the course of the 2011-2012 academic year AOS has had 51 students successfully earn their GED. Each of these students passed the five necessary tests, Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies.

Congratulations to our most recent GED graduates. Their pictures will be added to the wall of fame in the GED classroom, where each GED graduate gets their picture framed

and put on the wall. The following students earned their GED since May 1st.

Chance Adkins
Autumn Calhoun
Austyn Clark
Ashley Demontigny
Iesha Durbin
Amelia Gonzales

Anna Hadley
Josh Johnston
Lila Morgan
Reyna Pimentel
Megan Ridley
Oscar Ruiz
Ellen Sandberg
Amanda Sayles
Damyan Volkens

Character Ed. Poster Contest

The annual Character Education Poster and Poetry contest results were released in early May. The theme for the contest this year was "Kindness...pass it on!" Students of all grade levels from throughout the Albany School District submitted their poster designs and poems to the District Office where the winning pieces were selected. Juniors, Debra

Leonor and Abigail Wilson were both runners-up for the high school level poster contest. Both Debra and Abby created posters portraying how they feel you can pass kindness along.

AOS congratulates both students on their wonderful artwork! Their posters will be put on display at AOS for everyone to see.

Yogurt Extreme

Thank you to everyone who helped support AOS by going to Yogurt Extreme on May 15th. 20% of all proceeds earned that day was donated to Albany Options School. The funds will go towards providing students with more hands-on, Service Learning opportunities.

Thank you Yogurt Extreme!

Sigma Delta Omega Hosts Clothing Swap at AOS

On May 23rd, the women of Sigma Delta Omega sorority at Oregon State University came to AOS and put on a clothing swap for students. Over the course of the previous two months members of the sorority gathered clothing from other Greek houses at OSU. Their combined efforts resulted in a huge donation of clothing that included both business and casual attire for students at AOS to choose from.

On May 23rd, three Sigma Delta Omega sorority members came to AOS and set up shop in two of the classrooms, one for boys and one for

girls. Students were then given the opportunity to go shopping. In groups of five, students were brought to the classroom and got to select clothing.

AOS is so appreciative of all who donated their time and resources to make this event possible. We would especially like to thank the women of Sigma Delta Omega for coordinating the clothing donations as well as Sigma Chi, Lamda Chi and Sigma Kappa fraternities of Oregon State University for their support. Additionally AOS thanks Old Navy, Ross and St. Vinnie's for their contributions.

Junior, Chris Williams, pictured below wearing a new shirt, tie and holding shoes from the swap, said "I thought today was awesome." It provided

students who do not have a lot of clothing a chance

get clothes they may not have been able to buy on their own.



AOS Students Volunteer at Special Olympics

Nine outstanding AOS students volunteered to assist with the 2012 Elementary School Special Olympics Track Meet on May 29th. The track meet was coordinated by Waverly and North Albany Elementary School PE teacher Rosie Zupan, who asked for students from AOS to assist her. Volunteers, Danica Alfter, Tahnee Ankarberg, Anysha Arizmendez, Kristen Bumgarner, Kacie Freeman, Cody Garrett, Angelica Garza, Josh Graves, and Debra Leonor helped make the meet the success that it

was.

The student volunteers ran the Broad Jump, Softball Throw, and all of the races. They demonstrated what to do for the kids participating, measured their jumping and throwing distances, timed the races, and handed out ribbons. Josh Graves ran side by side with kids who wanted a partner to run with in their races.

Every student volunteer walked away from the event with a smile on their face and an informational form

about how to be involved in future Special Olympic events. Pictured below are our student volunteers with coordinator Rosie Zupan and Oregon Special Olympics Field Director Mark Collinger.



Rotary Club Student of the Month

Junior, Josh Graves, was honored by the Rotary Club of Albany on May 15th, 2012 as Student of the Month. Josh was nominated by AOS staff members for his outstanding commitment to school and volunteer projects. Josh has been involved in many projects at school including the Historic Albany Restoration Project at Albany Municipal Airport restoring old Vietnam War jet planes, working to-

wards turning AOS into a Certified Green School, and actively helping start the first AOS school garden.

In his speech Josh said "I would not have made it to this point if it were not for the support of my community, school staff members, and my experiences giving back." Josh received a certificate from the Rotary Club as well as a Visa gift card for his dedication to making a difference for others.



AOS Turns Eco Grant into Bioswale Restoration Project

Approximately one month ago, Albany Options School was awarded an educational grant of \$500.00 by the Captain Planet Foundation, an international eco-foundation for youth based on the successful *Captain Planet* cartoon. The result of the funds was to develop the school bioswale.

"We are delighted to see the dream of Albany Options School become reality," says Christina Stevens, Executive Director (Interim) of the Foundation. "Each year, our grantees make

great strides in protecting and preserving our planet for the future generations and this is no exception. By educating, empowering, involving and investing in today's youth, we can all cultivate a better tomorrow. We commend Albany Options School for their work so far and challenge them to continue it."

Founded in 1991, The Captain Planet Foundation (CPF) was created to support hands-on, environmental projects for youth. CPF is committed to making a global impact with pro-

jects throughout the United States and around the world. For more information, visit online at www.captainplanetfdn.org.

The Bioswale Restoration Project is currently projected to begin next Fall. Students will research and study the impact of our school ground on the watershed, the influence of the bioswale, pollution rate in the water, and what they can do to minimize our impact on our water.

Outstanding Student Awards: March 15—May 3 2012

Innovative High School

100% Attendance: Angelica Garza

100% Attendance: Tyson Studier

100% Attendance: David Vera-Gonzales

100% Attendance: Abigail Wilson

International Foods Award: Cary Olson

Biggest Turn Around Student in Study Skills: James Cox

Biggest Turn Around Student in Young Adult Literature: Krystal Frame

Reading Essentials Benchmark Award: Kaitlyn Sollers

Outstanding Student in English Award: Brian Little

Stepping it Up and Getting it Done in English Award: James Cox

Algebra Fundamentals Award: Cameron Embree

Algebra I Award: Abby Wilson

Algebra II Award: Brian Little

Geometry Award: Alex Amador

American Music Traditions Award: Daniel Barnes

Most Enthusiastic Gardner in Ecology Award: Josh Graves

Most Improved Student in Earth Science Award: Shelby Lucero

Hardest Worker in Chemistry Award: Josie DeLacruz

Biggest Come Back in Post War Award: Alex Amador

Outstanding Mock Trial Student Award: Marcos Garcia

Character Education Poster Contest, Runner Up Winner: Debra Leonor

Character Education Poster Contest, Runner Up Winner: Abby Wilson

Doctor of Sociology Award: Cody Garrett

Thane of AOS, Language Arts Excellence Award: Abby Wilson

Enlightened Historian Award: Tahnee Ankarberg

Infectious Overall Learner Award: Angelica Garza

Positive Attitude and Great Work in English Award: Jeff Scherer

Secret Scholar Award: A.J. Ibarra

Outstanding Drawing I Student Award: Josie Delacruz

For Being so Polite and Respectful in Drawing Award: A.J. Ibarra

Outstanding Student in Drawing II Award: Tahnee Ankarberg

For Being so Polite and Respectful in Drawing Award: Enrique Ibarra

Outstanding Drawing II Student Award: Tyson Studier

Most Improved Student in Drawing I Award: Darin Meink

Middle School Awards

Best Effort Award: Timothy Howard

Fraction Master Award: David Renly

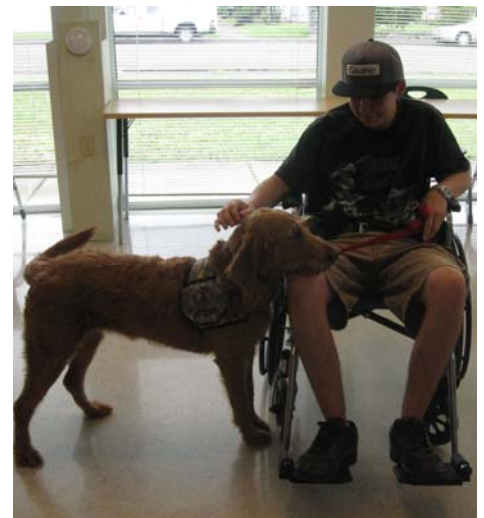
Joys of Living Assistance Dogs in Training



Pictured above: Anysha Arizmendez and Jeff Scherer hold four week old puppies, helping with the first stages of training service dogs.



Pictured above: Alan Ruiz and AJ Ibarra work to help train a 6 month old puppy how to turn on a light switch.



Pictured above Brian Little is getting the opportunity to work with one of the service dogs from the perspective of someone in a wheelchair.

Congratulations AOS Graduates!

AOS is proud to announce its 2012 graduating class. These students have all worked hard, overcoming obstacles both in and outside of school, to earn their High School Diploma. On June 5th, 17 students proudly walked across the stage to receive their diploma. An additional five students were not present at graduation but received their credentials just the same. The staff at AOS is extremely proud of each and every one of these students. Congratulations to:

Rafael Avila	Cody Kelly
Caitlynd Bishop	Kylee Landucci
Katie Brown	Ashlee Lathrop
Kristen Bumgarner	Flavio Lopez
Shannon Cooley	Aaron Meyer
Joe DeOlus	Ora Mowdy
Mark Ford	Daniel Naylor
Caleb Genco	Ismael Ramirez
Conner Hockett	Byron Roberts
Jose Enrique Ibarra	Ariel Robertson
Cory James	Layli Young



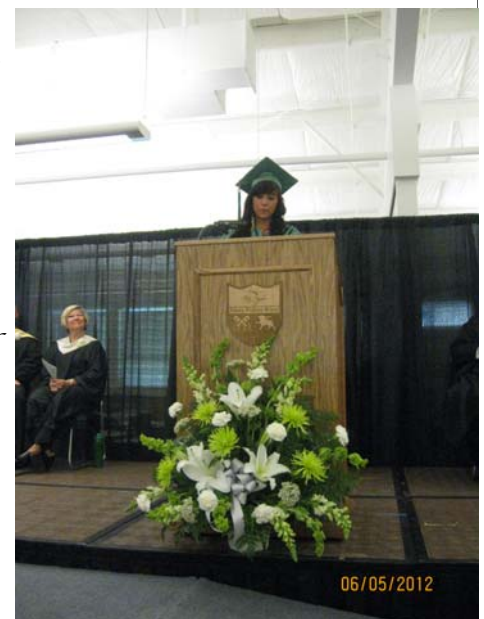
Caitlynd Bishop: 2012 Student Speaker

Caitlynd Bishop was selected to represent her class as the student speaker at the graduation ceremony. Below are a few of the words that she shared with her fellow classmates.

"Students are brought to Albany Options for many different reasons. Some later on go back to their home schools or finish the year out here. At first I really wanted to go back to my home school, but the more time I spent at Albany Options, the more I loved it. Albany Options opened many doors for my classmates and me. If I would not have ever attended Albany Options, I wouldn't be able to stand up there and tell you all about the amazing, eye opening experiences I have been a part of.

The seniors of 2012 have all worked very hard to be able to sit here tonight. Not only did we work hard, but Albany Options supported us all through our journey. No one once gave up on us when we were having a bad time; instead they made us focus on our future and making us realize that we all are very strong individuals. Not only are we getting our diplomas tonight, but we are leaving here tonight knowing that nothing is impossible if we just set our minds to it.

Thank you Albany Options staff and all of our family and friends for never once giving up on us. We could not have made it without the love and support."



Congratulations AOS Graduates!

"I think when you begin to think of yourself as having achieved something, then there's nothing left for you to work towards. I want to believe that there is a mountain so high that I will spend my entire life striving to reach the top of it."

Cicely Tyson



3rd Row Left: Mark Ford, Aaron Meyer. 2nd Row Left: Ora Mowdy, Kristen Bumgarner, Rafael Avila, Flavio Lopez, Ismael Ramirez, Ashlee Lathrop, Jose Enrique Ibarra, Daniel Naylor, Caitlynd Bishop, Kylee Landucci, Shannon Cooley. 1st Row Left: Caleb Genco, Ariel Robertson, Cory James, Kathryn Brown.

The Albany Options School graduation ceremony is truly one of a kind. For each of the seventeen graduates a staff member stood and shared stories, memories, and accomplishments of the students from their time spent at AOS. The pride and respect that was shared between the students and their teachers was felt by every person in attendance as the stories were shared. People often describe Albany Options School as being so much more than just a school. It is a family, a safe place where students can come and feel supported and comforted. It provides a healthy learning environment that fosters self growth and encourages students to strive to be the best they can be. At the graduation ceremony the success of Albany Options School was tangible.

The students who received their diplomas know that they will forever have the support of their AOS family. As Mr. Ingman said in his speech, "We will always be on your side. We will always be cheering for you. I know that all of you will find success. You will all reach your mountain peak!"

Congratulations class of 2012, you did it!

**Greater Albany Public
School District**

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Albany, OR 97322

Phone: 541-967-4563
Fax: 541-924-3780

Visit us online at:

www.albany.k12.or.us/AOS/

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.....7-855-846-8376
- **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 District.....541-924-3720
- **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: June 2012
Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

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