

## What's Up for April? Take a Look Inside...

### A2:

- Harvest of the Month

### A3:

- Technology Award
- South Canyon Track

### A4:

- Survival Corps
- Teen Up in Washington, DC

### A5:

- Wax Museum

### A6 & A7:

- Feature Photo Pages

## Tag-Along Bike Donated to Meadowbrook for Student Use

By Amanda Rombough  
Information Services Officer

Riding a bike, feeling the wind blow in their hair, is something akin to a rite of passage for a young child. For some children, however, that is not possible. That experience has been made possible for a student in Meadowbrook thanks to a donation from Scheels All Sports. A tag-along bike was donated from Scheels to the students at Meadowbrook. One student in particular will be able to benefit from the bike.

Liam, a student who became blind and deaf at age two after getting meningitis, will be able to utilize the bike in the annual Meadowbrook bike rodeo. The tag-along bike is a bike just like any other, with pedals and handlebars, except that it attaches to a regular bike so that an adult can still be the one steering.

"He's really excited" Liam's mom Sandra Kenrick said. "The school and Scheels were very thoughtful and now Liam can participate with all of the other kids."



Liam's infectious laughter fills the halls of the school and according to school counselor Dana Livermont, Liam has shaped the way that the school teaches and has stretched them.

"He has forced all of us to rethink how we teach and do things, which has been great," Livermont said.

Scheels has been a long time partner with Meadowbrook for their Character Counts program. The tag-along bike will be available for any student with special needs to use.

## Stevens Senior Named Finalist in Local Scholarship Contest

Stevens High School senior Noah Storm has been named a finalist in the Rising Star of the West Scholarship Contest sponsored by KEVN Black Hills Fox and Granite Automotive. The scholarship contest offers \$7,500 in scholarship money to the four winners.

Four Black Hills students were chosen from a pool of 20 contestants for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual scholarship contest. The four finalists will be presenting four one minute commentaries over the next four weeks. Students will each need to speak about what the qualities they'd like to see in a presidential candidate, what they think would accomplish the goal of keeping young people in South Dakota, how far

they think technology will go in their lifetime and will it make their life better or worse and who is their ultimate role model.

Commentaries will be aired on Black Hills Fox News at Nine and viewers will then be invited to rate each one on [www.blackhillsfox.com](http://www.blackhillsfox.com). Viewer ratings online and the ratings of a panel put together by Black Hills Fox will determine the winner.

"Winning this scholarship would mean a great deal to me. This scholarship will allow me to attend college at the University of Minnesota, which has always been one of my top choices," Storm said.

*Jump to A2: Scholarship*

# Harvest of the Month Teaches Students to Enjoy Fruits and Vegetables

By **Amanda Rombough**  
Information Services Officer

Teaching kids to like fruits and vegetables is not always the easiest task. But that is exactly what Stevens High School junior Hannah Riker has set out to do through Harvest of the Month. Once a month, Riker heads to a number of schools with a different vegetable or fruit and gives students the chance to taste it multiple different ways to see if they like it.

“The goal is to get the kids asking for vegetables,” Riker said. “If the kids ask for them, then parents would be way more likely to go out and buy them.”



Riker visits General Beadle, Horace Mann, and Knollwood on Early Release Wednesdays, in partnership with the Discovery program. So far she is working with second and third graders only, but is hoping to grow the program to expand to more students.

The pre-written curriculum was piloted in Pierre and Riker latched onto it. After growing up eating healthy foods, she said this type of thing is important to her and she wants other kids to enjoy eating healthy and they realize that eating that kind of food is important. She said some kids are hesitant to taste it at first.

“A lot of kids will make an icky face but they had never tried it before,” she said. “We want to introduce foods to kids that otherwise wouldn’t be able to have and they’ll tell their parents about it so they have it in their household. The best part is getting to bring in something exotic the kids haven’t had before.”

Riker first teaches the students about



the food, how it is grown and what type of food it is. They play games to learn better what the food is. Students then try the vegetable or fruit raw first, and then they usually make a recipe to try it a different way. Some of the favorites so far have been apples and broccoli. Their least favorites have been beets, but Riker said it’s still fun to introduce them to something new.

Riker said she is hoping to reach a lot more kids with the program and get more high school students involved leading the program so they can reach more kids at more schools.

# Stevens Issues Bike to School Day Challenge to Central

By **Amanda Rombough**  
Information Services Officer

It’s time to trade the car keys in for a bike helmet. Bike to School Day is on May 6<sup>th</sup> and a friendly competition between Central High School and Stevens High School is encouraging students to participate this year.

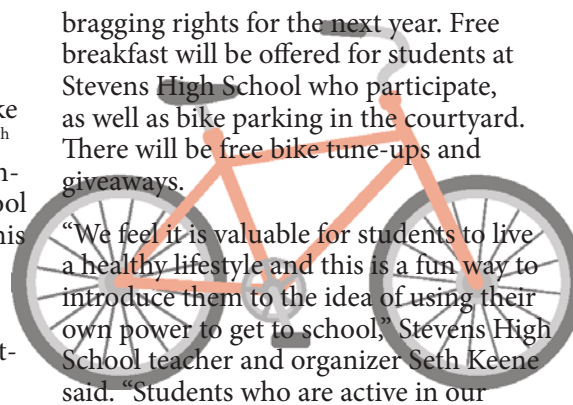
The school with the most students who bike to school on May 6<sup>th</sup> will be presented with a traveling trophy and will gain

bragging rights for the next year. Free breakfast will be offered for students at Stevens High School who participate, as well as bike parking in the courtyard. There will be free bike tune-ups and giveaways.

“We feel it is valuable for students to live a healthy lifestyle and this is a fun way to introduce them to the idea of using their own power to get to school,” Stevens High School teacher and organizer Seth Keene said. “Students who are active in our

Cycling Club comment frequently how good they feel on days when they bike in the morning.”

The first Bike to School Day event in the country took place on May 9, 2012 and has been growing ever since. It has grown off of the popular event, Walk to School Day, which is celebrated worldwide in October each year.



## Cont. from A1: Scholarship

“The Star of the West contest allows me to express my opinions on important topics, which is a rare privilege for youth to have the chance to do. I also like this unique scholarship opportunity because it is voted on by the public.”

The first place winner will receive a \$4,000 scholarship, second place will receive a \$2,000 scholarship, third place will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, and

fourth place will receive a \$500 scholarship. All scholarships are provided by Black Hills Fox and Granite Automotive. The winner will be announced on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Other finalists include homeschool senior Megan Wattenhofer, Little Wound High School Junior Chance Pettigrew, and Little Wound High School senior James Chief.



# South Canyon Elementary Commemorates New Track

By Amanda Rombough  
Information Services Officer

Students at South Canyon Elementary School can now participate in their annual Run/Walk with one added bonus that you don't realize is helpful until you have it: a track. South Canyon recently commemorated their new track with a ribbon cutting and a commemorative walk around the track with the whole school.

The track is 1/6 of a mile. Equipment and labor was donated by parent Andy Scull and Scull Construction. The funds from the prior years' run/walk went to not only math and reading supplements, but also went to help pay for the materials to

create the track.

"They're really excited about it," Principal Brad Jungworth said. "The hope is this will help with their physical fitness."

The new track isn't just for the school either, he said.

"It's a nice addition to the neighborhood so they can come and work on their physical fitness as well."



# Canyon Lake Principal Receives Award for Technology

Canyon Lake Elementary School Principal David Swank was honored with the Technology & Innovation in Education (TIE) Technology Leader Award and the Making IT Happen Award. Mr. Swank was recognized at the TIE Conference held in Rapid City on April 19-21, 2015. The award was presented on Sunday April 19, 2015 at the Opening Keynote Session at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center Theatre.

"This type of recognition demonstrates the things our staff and school community have outlined in our mission and vision," Swank said. "We have four core STAR values (Success, Teamwork, Adventure, and Reach) being recognized for innovating and being bold as a whole school community is a great reflection of how we've worked to embody our values. As the instructional leader of Canyon Lake, it's important for me to model these values for both our staff and students. My hope is that by receiving these awards it will provide continuous movement in our journey to become the school we believe we can be."

The Technology Leadership Award hon-

ors leaders in TIE Member Schools in two categories: K-12 Teacher and Technology Leader. District technology coordinators, principals, or superintendents that display certain qualities are eligible for the Technology Leader Award. Some qualities include having a significant positive impact on technology use in education, working to improve the quality of education, producing work that can be used as a model for others, improving student and teacher access to online resources, and supporting teachers to effectively use information technologies in the classroom. Mr. Swank was awarded a plaque as recognition for this achievement.

The International Society for Technology



in Education (ISTE) Making IT Happen Award honors outstanding educators and leaders who demonstrate extraordinary commitment, leadership, courage and persistence in improving digital learning opportunities for students. Since its inception in 1995 more than 500 educators from around the world have received the award. ISTE supplies the award package, including an embroidered jacket, a certificate, a one year membership and additional promotional materials.



Get online with us at all of our web and social media sites! Watch for school postings on Facebook, Twitter & Nixle; browse photos on Instagram; watch quick videos on Vine and longer videos on Vimeo!

## Teens Work to Help Homeless Teens in Area with Survival Corps



By Amanda Rombough  
Information Services Officer

With over 650 homeless teens in the Rapid City area, some high school students at Central High School felt a tugging to help out any way they can. Along with ARISE, the students formed Survival Corps, a program to assemble and hand out 50 backpacks filled with various school supplies and survival items. The English 11 and 12 class at Central wanted to do this project in order to give homeless teens hope and let them know that they are not

alone.

“Being homeless is very dark and lonely and I don’t like seeing lonely people,” student Cody Brede said. “I like helping people.”

Items included in the backpacks are water bottles, toilet paper, deodorant, toothpaste/toothbrush/floss, instant coffee and non-perishable food items, blankets, and clothing. They

would also like to include laundry soap, socks, school supplies, shampoo and conditioner, comb/brush, and hoodies.

“It’s been great watching these guys create something that really matters,” teacher Heather Hoeye said. “They will never forget that they helped someone get back on their feet.”

The students said a lot of them had experienced being homeless before, so they knew how difficult it was and how

hopeless it feels to be homeless.

“I’ve been homeless and it sucks,” student Courtney Moose said. “It’s something that no one can understand. We need to start helping because one day we’re going to look back and wish that we had helped. We want to give teens a little bit of hope and give them a second chance.”

Hoeye said working on this project has really touched the lives of a lot of the students.

“I wanted to help because of someone who helped me in the past,” student Jay Black Bear said.

The students will finish assembling the backpacks and then give them to ARISE, an organization that helps at-risk and homeless teens. There are only 16 beds available for kids 10 to 17. They have had 300 kids since October 2014 and it costs \$30-40,000 a month to run ARISE. They are funded by a grant that will last for three years and will end in 2017. ARISE will hand out the backpacks to teens that come through their doors needing help.

## Teens Present Teen Up Projects at Conference in Washington, DC

By Amanda Rombough  
Information Services Officer

Earning a good grade on a project is one accomplishment. But for some area high school students, the accomplishment didn’t stop there, as they presented their project at the National Youth Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. Students who represented Teen Up and Partnership Rapid City participated in the five day conference and presented projects they had been working on to conference attendees for possible application elsewhere.

“It was uplifting to see other people as passionate as we are about the work we do,” Stevens High School Erin Rezich said on her experience at the conference.

Four Teen Up projects were presented at the conference. The Teen Up Ambassadors presented a workshop, sharing the model they implement for their group, focusing on diversity and community service and leadership. The Take ACTION theater group also presented a workshop,

explaining how students use their creative talents and how they are causing social change in their schools through that. Working Against Violence, Inc. worked with the Take ACTION team to write and perform skits that affect students today, such as sexting, alcohol use, and cyberbullying.

Senior Snapshots, created and executed by Stevens senior Wyatt Osthus, was presented as part of the service learning showcase. Osthus offered senior pictures to area seniors who otherwise could not afford them. He held the shoots, edited the pictures, and printed them for 16 students so far. See the April 2015 Volume 1 edition of The Reporter for the full story.

Finally, the Black Hills Homeless Coalition’s Youth Task Force presented their short video they

created, bringing awareness to the issue of homeless youth in the area. Local filmmaker Randal Iverson assisted with the video, Homeless and Runaway – Truth from Youth. See the January 2015 issue of The Reporter for more information.

“New friendships were formed, memories made, and ideas created about the future of Teen Up,” Stevens High School senior Alex Fichter said.”



# Wax Museum Brings Historical Figures to Life in Middle School Halls

By **Amanda Rombough**  
Information Services Officer

History is alive and well with students at West Middle School, despite their wax and lifeless appearance at their Wax Museum event. The students chose a historical figure, dressed up as the figure, and waited, lifeless and still, until someone dropped some money into their jar. Then they sprung to life and told their story about who they were and what they did in their lifetime.

“It’s authentic learning at its finest,” teacher and organizer Travis Swartz said. “It was the key thing that kept them going without it being a report. It was hands on.”

The Wax Museum process started in December when students brainstormed deceased historical figures who made an impact on the world. Students researched their historical figure and learned everything they could about them. They learned how to use appropriate research techniques and methods, such as using library databases, complete with citing their sources to conduct their research.

Students then wrote a biography using their data. This taught students about plagiarism and using what information is important, versus what is fluff. Once they

had their biographies written, they turned them to autobiographies and condensed them into a speech that they could memorize and deliver.

“This final step has been a confidence builder as the students were able to accomplish a task that at first seemed unobtainable,” Swartz said.

Some of the historical figures represented included Neil Armstrong, Steve Jobs, Dr. Seuss, John Lennon, Susan B. Anthony, Walt Disney, Wild Bill Hickok, Audrey Hepburn, and Albert Einstein, among many others. Overall, 102 students participated in the event.

This is the second year the Wax Museum has been held at West Middle School. The idea was brought from Sioux Falls and implemented. All of the money raised at the event will be donated back to the school to purchase banners, etc. for the school to instill some school pride, per the students’ request.



**Teachers:** Have a student who wrote something awesome, took a great photo, or made an amazing art project? Share it with the rest of us by emailing it to [RapidCityDistrictCommunications@k12.sd.us](mailto:RapidCityDistrictCommunications@k12.sd.us) and it could be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Reporter!*

**Did You Know?**

**\$6 million opt out**

Per \$100,000 in assessed value	➔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$72 a year increase on a house</li> <li>\$30 a year increase on ag land</li> <li>\$150 a year increase on commercial property</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$144 a year increase on a house</li> <li>\$60 a year increase on ag land</li> <li>\$300 a year increase on commercial property</li> </ul>	➔	Per \$200,000 in assessed value

**Did You Know?**

**PSA History**

	*FY 2010 - \$4,804.60	
	FY 2011 - \$4,804.60	0% Increase
	FY 2012 - \$4,389.95	-8.6% Decrease
	FY 2013 - \$4,490.92	2.3% Increase
	FY 2014 - \$4,625.65	3.0% Increase
	*FY 2015 - \$4,781.14	3.36% Increase
	FY 2016 - \$4,876.76	2.0% Increase
		*Proposed

The Per Student Allocation is **less** for the 2014-2015 school year (\$4,781.14) than it was for the 2011-2012 school year (\$4,804.60). During the legislative session, the legislature will determine the PSA.

Check out the great things our staff & students are doing!

# Central - Stevens Prom 2015 - Photos by Sage Studios



Central High School Senior Rourke Massey was one of 70,000 applicants to be accepted into the United States Naval Academy.



(Left) Steve Trash visited area elementary schools to share with them the importance of recycling.



(Left) Corral Drive Principal Gregg McNabb got duct taped to the wall after students raised \$907 for Make-A-Wish by purchasing strips of tape for \$1.

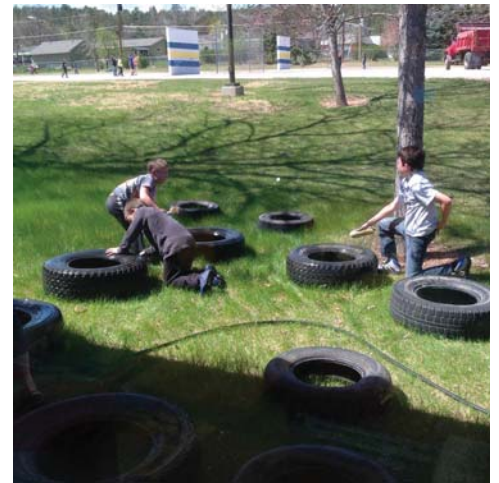
Want to see yourself,  
class or activity in  
*The Reporter?*  
Email your photo or idea to:  
[RapidCityDistrictCommunications@k12.sd.us](mailto:RapidCityDistrictCommunications@k12.sd.us)

Check out the great things our staff & students are doing!

## South Canyon Talent Show



## Earth Day at Pinedale Elementary School



## Pinocchio - Central High School

