



# GS Bulletin board

**November 21, 2008**

Internal Weekly Announcements  
for Grant Wood Area Education  
Agency Staff and Board

## Mark Your Calendars

- Nov. 26** Agency closes at 3 p.m.  
**Nov. 27** Thanksgiving Holiday  
**Nov. 28** Agency closed  
**Dec. 3** PRIME Benefit Systems  
Employee Info. Meeting  
4:00 p.m., Room 221, 33rd Ave.  
**Dec. 8** Flexible Spending Plan Election  
Forms for Year 2009 due into the  
Business Office  
**Dec. 10** Agency Potluck-Coralville Facility  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
**Dec. 17** Agency Breakfast Potluck  
33rd Avenue, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

## Announcements

•The **Bulletin Board** will not be published next week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

•Please make the following changes in the **2008-2009 Education Directory**:

Pg. 16-Trinity Lutheran School-Remove Mark Mueller and add Vern Piering, e-mail [piringv@trinitycr.org](mailto:piringv@trinitycr.org).

Pg. 17-Willowwind School-Remove Susan Smith and add Sandy Lawrence, e-mail [sandyl@willowwind.org](mailto:sandyl@willowwind.org)

## Grant Wood AEA Facilities Update

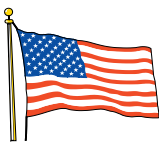
Final architectural drawings were completed for the first floor of the Sixth Street Facility and an announcement regarding the acceptance of bids for major elements of the reconstruction were issued on Tuesday, November 18, 2008.

Bids for the project will be opened on December 9 and recommendations will go to the Board for their approval on December 17.

### The projected, TENTATIVE schedule includes:

- January, 2009 – reconstruction commences
- January – April, 2009 – reconstruction of the media, technology, printing, and administrative areas of the building
- April, 2009 – media and teacher work centers move “home” and vacate the conference facility.
- May – June, 2009 – conference center is completed
- July 1, 2009 – project completion

While July 1 is our projected full move in-date, we will be working to get as many functions “back home” as we can as the areas become available. This includes re-opening the second floor of Sixth Street after primary construction work is complete on the space beneath the second floor. Recognizing that this is likely to be during the heart of the academic year for most, a return to the second floor space will likely be conducted during a window that extends into early August to accommodate as many people’s needs as possible.



**GRANT WOOD**  
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY



**John Nietupski**

**March 10, 1950 - November 19, 2008**

Wednesday, Nov. 19 was a sad day for Grant Wood AEA staff. One of our colleagues, John Nietupski, Resource Development Specialist, passed away.

You always knew when John was in the office. If someone was whistling in the hall, we knew that John was around. Then we'd hear him say, "Hey kids! I'm home!" John always carried a smile on his face. He was such a bright spot in our day and we will miss him very much. John's family includes his wife, Sue and son, Christopher.

Visitation will be this Sunday, Nov. 23 from 2-5 p.m. at the Gay-Ciha Funeral Home, 2720 Muscatine Ave., Iowa City. At 5 p.m. all are invited to stay and share their memories and stories in celebrating John's life or if you'd prefer you can put a message on the following website: [www.GayandCiha.com](http://www.GayandCiha.com).

Funeral services and burial will be held at a later date in Janesville, Wisconsin.

Cards may be sent to John's family at:

135 N. Westminster St.  
Iowa City, IA 52245

Below is a portion of the Grant Wood AEA 2008-09 calendar.

Please note the upcoming pay dates (shaded circles) and holidays.

NOVEMBER '08				
M	Tu	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

DECEMBER '08				
M	Tu	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

JANUARY '09				
M	Tu	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

Pay Dates ## Holidays ##

## Our Sympathy...

•to **Jan Scharnberg, Physical Therapist**, whose father, Robert Scharnberg from Spencer, IA, passed away Nov. 16.

## Thinking of You...

Don Claussen, retired GWAEA social worker, is at Manor Care. Cards would be appreciated and can be sent to Don at Manor Care, 1940 1st Avenue, NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

## Bouquets & Kudos...

•to the GWAEA **CISM Team**. On November 7, **The Daily Iowan** had an article about Grant Wood AEA and the services the CISM Team provided to Iowa City Regina Elementary students and staff.



## Blanket Drive

Blankets will be collected until Monday, December 22. The yellow collection box is located in the 33rd Avenue building at the West Entrance next to the stair well.

Blankets can be sent to Karen Michalec, Communications Office at 33rd Avenue.

## Professional Development Opportunities

- 11/24/08** Coping with Change in the Workplace
- 11/25/08** IEC Scholastic Iowa Tour
- 12/1/08** An Inside Look at Outlook
- 12/4/08** How to Get More Out of Your Core Reading Program
- 12/8/08** Schools Where Everyone Belongs
- 12/9/08** iLife 08 in the Classroom
- 12/9/08** Sexual Harassment
- 12/15/08** CISM Group Crisis Intervention
- 12/15/08** Fundamentals of Applied Behavior Analysis
- 12/16/08** Counselor Academy – “Building A Comprehensive School Counseling Program”

For location, more information, or to register, go to the Professional Development web page.

## 'Bowl For Kids' Sake' Update!

An organizational "Kick-Off" is being held Thursday, Dec. 4 from 5-6 p.m. at Mercy Medical Center for those helping to coordinate this event.

A staff member has indicated interest in being a *co-coordinator* for GWAEA. Is there anyone else out there that would like to be the other co-coordinator?

Please contact Karen Michalec at Ext. 6415 for more details.

## Chair Massage Schedule

Terri Nicol, a Licensed Massage Therapist, and former GWAEA employee, has been coming and doing chair massages for us.

Massages cost just \$10. Appointments will be made in 20 minute increments but your massage will be 15 minutes in length. Some staff may need to get approval from their supervisor to adjust their break times so they can participate.

33rd Avenue Facility  
 Tuesday, December 8  
 Tuesday, December 15

The first appointment time is 9:40 a.m. and the last is at 1:40 p.m.

To schedule, contact Karen Michalec at kmichalec@gwaea.org or at Ext. 6415

## You're Invited



GWAEA  
 Coralville Facility  
 Holiday Potluck  
 Wednesday, Dec. 10  
 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Stop by for a visit and lunch!



## Reminder to Staff

The Grant Wood AEA family has had their share of stressors and life-changing events during the past year. This is a reminder that GWAEA staff have the support of St. Luke's EAP services. The Employee Assistance Program is free and confidential and is available to all of us. Brigetta Lake, is one their EAP counselors who specializes in grief issues. You can reach Brigetta at 369-7952.

## Buy, Sell, Trade...

**FOR SALE:** Bowflex PowerPro with standard 210 lbs. rod set. Includes extra Leg Extension/Curl Attachment. Lightly used. \$400 --- Also for sale Martin Sigma DM2 Acoustic Guitar. Serial number 8806000751 Beautiful sound, great shape - \$200. Call Scott at 378-5580.

**WANTED:** Plastic Kraft Miracle Whip jars, 32 oz. size. Take or send to the VAST center on 33rd Avenue.

**WANTED:** Pink Yoplait yogurt lids to help find a cure for breast cancer. Please put in the containers in your building break room or van mail them to Stacy Murphy at 33rd Ave.

**Bulletin Board** is published and distributed weekly to all GWAEA staff and Board members. Buy, Sell or Trade items will be run for 2 weeks. Staff wishing to submit items should do so by Wed. of the week they wish the item to be printed. Send to Karen Michalec, Editor.

When submitting news, please remember that agency staff work in a variety of locations, and it may take two weeks to reach them with printed material.

Please note: the **Bulletin Board** is posted on the agency's Web site. We recommend you use your office or voice mail phone number instead of your home telephone number for any items listed in this newsletter.

Grant Wood Area Education Agency extends equal opportunities in its employment practices, educational programs and services, and does not discriminate on the basis of color, gender, race, national origin, religion, creed, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status or as otherwise prohibited by law. If you believe you or your child has been discriminated against or treated unjustly, please contact the Agency's Equity Coordinator, Maria Cashman, at 319-399-6847 or 1-800-332-8488 or TDD 319-399-6766, Grant Wood AEA, 4401 Sixth St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

**VACANCIES  
2009-2010  
ANTICIPATED CONTRACTED**

**Speech-Language Pathologist** (1.0)  
(Agency Center TBD/Region TBD)

**2008-2009  
CONTRACTED**

**Child Support Specialist** (Closing date: December 9, 2008) (1.0)  
(Southern Facility/Iowa City Region)

**Curriculum Consultant Science** (1.4)  
(33<sup>rd</sup> Ave/Northeast Region) (.4)  
(33<sup>rd</sup> Ave/Northeast Region) (1.0)

**Inclusion Resource Specialist** (Closing date: December 9, 2008) (1.0)  
(Southern Facility/Iowa City Region)

**Occupational Therapist** (.4)  
(Northern Facility/Cedar Rapids Region)

**School Social Worker** (1.6)  
(Northern Facility/Northeast Region) (.6)  
(Southern Facility/Iowa City Region) (Closing date: December 9, 2008) (1.0)

**Speech-Language Pathologist** (Recommendation Pending) (1.0)  
(Agency-wide/Southwest Region)

**SALARIED**

**Programmer** (1.0)  
(Northern Facility/IMS)

**CLASSIFIED**

**Paraeducator/Autism** (.5)  
(33<sup>rd</sup> Ave/Central Region)  
(20 hours/week; year round)

**Paraeducator**  
(Off-Site/AWARE) (Recommendation Pending) (.72)  
(Off-Site/AWARE) (Recommendation Pending) (.72)  
(Off-Site/BLC) (Recommendation Pending) (.72)  
(Off-Site/LIFESKILLS) (Recommendation Pending) (.72)  
(37.5 hours/week; school year)

**Superintendent, Building & Grounds** (Recommendation Pending) (1.0)  
(Northern Facility/Building & Grounds)

**Technology Systems Technician** (Recommendation Pending) (1.0)  
(Northern Facility/Technology Center)

**ASSIGNMENT OPENINGS**

In addition to the vacancy posting, assignment openings may also be available to contracted staff members for a period of five days. For a listing of those assignment openings, staff may call voicemail box x6302. (In-house: 6555, x6302; Cedar Rapids calling area: 399-6555, x6302; WATS line: 1-800-798-9771, x6302). Staffs wishing to be considered for a change in assignment are to submit the request in writing to both the identified Regional Administrator and the Associate Administrator. (For further information regarding assignment requests, please see Article 10, Paragraph D, of the Master Agreement for Contacted Staff)