



GS Bulletin board

September 26, 2008

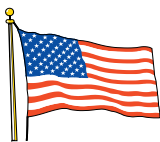
Internal Weekly Announcements
for Grant Wood Area Education
Agency Staff and Board

Mark Your Calendars

- Oct. 2** 403b Plan webcast - 3:30 p.m.
Room 221 at 33rd Ave. Facility
- Oct. 14** Deadline to register for flu shots
- Oct. 20** Flu shots at 33rd Avenue
7-9 a.m./Room 221
- Oct. 21** Flu shots at Coralville
7-9 a.m./Room A
- Oct. 28** 403b Plan Information session
4-5:30 p.m./33rd Ave./Room 214
Advisors from RIC 403b providers,
Room 215

Announcements

•An additional 403b Plan webcast has been scheduled for Thursday, October 2 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 221 at the 33rd Avenue Facility.



Live United!

The United Way has changed its slogan to “Live United,” and there’s never been a more important time in our communities to unite for helping others. Staff gave generously to help our own flood-affected co-workers, and they’re only a small portion of the many families throughout east central Iowa whose lives were dramatically changed by the flooding and events of 2008.

Leaders in the Cedar Rapids area had promoted this year as “The Year of the River,” but it quickly morphed into “The Year of Flood Recovery” in both Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. In addition, 2009 may be shaping up into becoming the year of financial recovery from a significant recession. As a result, **the needs for health and human services throughout the entire areas served by the United Way of Johnson County and United Way of East Central Iowa have hardly been greater.**

Following the flooding in this area in mid June, the United Way’s 2-1-1 hotline received more calls in the first six weeks following the flood than they usually receive in an entire year (over 22,000 calls for help in the height of the crisis).

In the next few weeks, Grant Wood AEA will conduct its annual United Way campaign. As we previously announced, employees were very generous in their support for the staff flood recovery fund. We hope that you might be able to support the United Way campaigns for 2009 with equally generous hearts. The Johnson County campaign increased its goal by 12 percent for next year. That’s no small, incremental increase. It’s a major jump due to the rising needs in the community.

Last year, 55 GWAEA employees contributed \$19,372 (approximately \$13.55 per person per pay period) toward the United Way of East Central Iowa campaign. The year before that, we had 72 employees contribute. In Johnson County, 18 staff members gave \$5716 or approximately \$12.21 per person per pay period. The number of contributors in Johnson County has remained somewhat consistent for several years now.

There are several key reasons why giving to the United Way is a smart way to handle your community giving:

- The percent of dollars spent on fund raising is one of the lowest of all charity organizations. (Some “charity” campaigns get less than 50 percent of every dollar raised, with the bulk of the money going to the telemarketers who call to ask for your contribution.)

- The United Way of East Central Iowa has reconfigured its funding distribution, based on community needs assessments.

(Continued on next page)

(Live United - Continued)

•A number of new organizations have been added including some with an educational focus.

•Last year, thousands of families received food assistance, transitional housing support and access to legal services. These services literally save lives and keep families together during very trying times.

•This year, people who never used this type of assistance before will need somewhere to turn. The number of cost-burdened households in our community will continue to rise dramatically, more people will need food and shelter, and there will be a significant increase in the need for mental health services. **Now, more than ever, they need your generosity.**

The agency has always made its United Way appeal a quiet campaign without a great deal of fanfare of hoopla, unlike some companies in the private sector that pressure all employees to give to the United Way. We will continue with that tradition. You will soon be receiving pledge cards from the campaigns based on where you live. If you need or want a pledge card for a different campaign, please contact George Held (399-6714 or gheld@gwaea.org).

This year, we ask you if you have never given to the United Way, would you please consider making a pledge of \$5 per paycheck? For those of you who have given and continue to give, THANK YOU! Every contribution makes a difference, and it all adds up. If every staff member at Grant Wood AEA gave just this \$5 per pay period, we would raise over \$66,000 for these very important community services!

That's what Living United is all about – when everyone chips in, we can make a big difference!

Arc Flood Relief Garage Sale

The Arc of East Central Iowa will be having a flood relief garage sale on Saturday, Oct. 11. It will be held at an Alliant building, 1300 Stoney Point Rd. SW, Cedar Rapids, next to Spielmans from 8:30-4:00.

If you would like to donate items, you may drop them off there on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 9 a.m.-noon. Tax receipts will be available. We are taking everything except clothing with the exception of coats, boots, hats and gloves.

If you are a flood victim or know of someone who is, we will discount items for them. We have furniture and lots of nice bedding as well as general household items.

Questions? Call Kris Larson at 540-3967. Thank you!

Our Sympathy...

•to **Mary Beth Ross, NE Region School Psychologist**, whose mother passed away this week.

•to **Beth Sewell, Occupational Therapist**, whose mother passed away September 21st in Connecticut.

•to **Heath Ayers, Tech. Support**, on the loss of his father, Russ Ayers. Russ is a former Grant Wood AEA employee, retiring after 33+ years of service. He started his career with the Joint County School Services, which became Grant Wood AEA. When he retired in 2001, Russ was a Support Technician in Media/Technology.

LOST

•Key w/key FOB at 33rd Avenue building. If found please give to Dawn Hrabak in room 217.

Congratulations!

•to **Kally DeYoung, Instructor**, VITAL Program, on the birth of her new granddaughter. Barrett Tallinn DeYoung, was born 9/15/08 to her son and his wife, Dirk and Suzie DeYoung, in Brentwood, Tennessee.

ELL Support Group Meetings

The first ELL Support Group meeting will be in the Coralville Facility on Oct. 23 from 4-5:15 p.m.

The second meeting will be in Room 221 at the 33rd Avenue Facility on Oct. 28 from 4-5:30 p.m.

Please, contact Lynn Tiemann at Ext. 6811, if you have any questions.

Brown Bag Lunch

Jenny Fitzpatrick, Physical Therapist and **Melanie Reese, School Social Worker**, both members of this year's Organizational Leadership Program, will be holding a brown bag lunch on October 8 from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in Room 103 at the 33rd Avenue Facility. This brown bag session will be an overview of the Association of Educational Service Agencies Educators' Call to Action: Federal Advocacy Conference.

Iowa Superintendent of the Year

•Lane Plugge, Superintendent of Iowa City Community Schools, has been named the 2008-09 Iowa Superintendent of Year by the School Administrators of Iowa. He has been the superintendent at Iowa City since 1999.

Professional Development Opportunities

- 9/27/08** Art Studio: Iowa Watercolor Weekend
- 9/29/08** Linking Science & Literacy
- 9/30/08** Choices Explorer
- 9/30/08** Instructional Practices Inventory: A Process for Analyzing & Improving Student Engaged Learning
- 9/30/08** What Really Matters: Effective Reading Instruction
- 10/1/08** Mild & Moderate Methods K-6
- 10/2/08** Making a Difference – Teaching Writing the Right Way
- 10/6/08** Introduction to Web Mail
- 10/9/08** Dealing with Difficult People
- 10/13/08** Working with Templates, Tables & Formatting
- 10/14/08** Integration Strategies for Math: Apple Learning Event
- 10/14/08** Integration Strategies for Reading: Apple Learning Event
- 10/15/08** Cognitive Strategies for High Functioning Autism & Asperger's Syndrome
- 10/15/08** Excel: Spreadsheet Basics
- 10/16/08** Habits of Mind: Preparing Students for Success
- 10/17/08** Algebra Progress Monitoring Training-Practitioners
- 10/20/08** Where the Boys Aren't: Re-Engaging Our Male Learners in School
- 10/21/08** Outlook for Beginners
- 10/22/08** Current Social Studies Topics
- 10/23/08** Crisis Prevention Intervention Recertification
- 10/23/08** Evaluator Approval Level II Renewal Training: Evaluation of Teachers
- 10/29/08** Data Tools for Autism Spectrum Disorders

10/30/08 Community Agency Resource Fair Community Partners

For location, more information, or to register, go to the [Professional Development](#) web page.

Flu Shots Scheduled in October

The Grant Wood AEA wellness program is offering flu shots to staff.



October 14 is the deadline to notify Nancy Lochner at the 33rd Avenue Facility, or Barb Aanonson at the Coralville Facility that you want to participate.

The cost for GWAEA employees is \$15. The cost for spouses of employees is \$20. Checks will be collected that day and need to be made payable to Grant Wood AEA.

33rd Avenue Facility - Room 221

October 20, 2008

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Contact: Nancy Lochner, Ext. 6737 or nlochner@aea10.k12.ia.us

Coralville Facility - Room A

October 21, 2008

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Contact: Barb Aanonson, Ext. 6211 or baanonson@aea10.k12.ia.us

Buy, Sell, Trade...

HOUSE FOR RENT: 4 bedroom, 1 bath house on SW side. All appliances included, fenced yard, garage, with off-street parking. No pets. \$690 a month, \$500 deposit. Call Jackie at 362-0019 or 573-0897.

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.

FOR SALE: Contact Steve at (319) 329 4716. Parts can be brought to the facility to be picked-up:

- 2 BF Goodrich Truck Tires 31 x 10.50 15RLT – About ½ tread depth; \$30 for the pair.
- Full size pick-up tool box with keys; \$25
- 4 15" x 10" wheels with chrome center caps fit older Ford full size pick-up with 4 wheel drive – 2 need re-paint; \$25 for all 4.

FOR SALE: 2001 Lincoln LS - Pearl White - 118,000 miles - \$6500. Call Carrie at Ext. 6790.

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 319-399-6647 or 1-800-332-8488 or TDD 319-399-6766, Grant Wood AEA, 4401 Sixth St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

**VACANCIES
2008-2009**

CONTRACTED

Curriculum Consultant Science 33 rd Ave/Northeast Region) (33 rd Ave/Northeast Region)		(1.4) (.4) (1.0)
Physical Therapist (Northern Facility/Northwest Region)		(.2)
Speech-Language Pathologist (Agency-wide/Southwest Region)		(1.0)

CLASSIFIED

Paraeducator (Off-Site/SEAD) (Off-Site/AWARE) (37.5 hours/week; school year)	(Recommendation Pending) (Recommendation Pending)	(.72) (.72)
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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 Contracted Staff)