

THE AMAZING NEWS PAPER



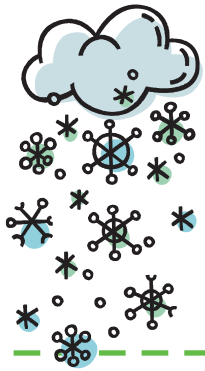
January 15, 2011 - Issue 9

Foundation Board Members: Leah Bennett - Craig Bennett - Jim Bartel - Bud Bennett - Ryan Spencer - Rob Fisher - Beth Ardisana

If this is your first issue of The Amazing Newspaper, this was created to help spread the mission of the Spirit of Alexandria Foundation, founded in January of 2006. The Spirit of Alexandria Foundation was created to carry on the legacy of Alexandria Bennett, a little girl whose passion for nature and generosity was evident to everyone around her. Through this foundation it is her family and friends mission to help children experience nature and all its wonderment. The Spirit of Alexandria Foundation will work in cooperation with partners in the places close to home and across the country in order to achieve our mission.

In 2003, Alexandria (6 at the time), decided she wanted to write a newspaper. Her first report was on our neighbors swing set that a tree fell on. Also in the same issue was a report on "weeds". Alexandria took her own pictures and wrote her own stories. Her newspaper ran for one year, an issue a month.

The Amazing Newspaper will become a source for contributors, big and small, to learn about the Foundation's latest accomplishments and our future plans. Though she is missed more than words can express, her legacy will continue as long as there are people like you who believe in our Foundation.



A HAPPY NEW YEAR

What will 2011 hold for the Foundation?

Story by Leah Bennett

The beginning of each year brings resolutions and goals, plans for the rest of the year. It is also a time to look back at the previous year to see the successes and all there is to be grateful for. The Spirit of Alexandria has a lot to be grateful for - the unending support of everyone around us.

We want to touch even more children to nature through other avenues in 2011. Our annual board

meeting will be occurring within the next few weeks, and at that time we hope to have a plan on how to do just that.

One way you can help us reach more children or young adults is to pass along this newspaper. Ask a child you know to write or draw about something in nature and then submit it to us for a future issue.

Best wishes to everyone in 2011.



At left: Various birds that have visited our yard this winter.

Sharp-shinned Hawk, Yellow Bellied Woodpecker and a pair of Red-tailed Hawks.



3rd Alexandria's Nature Bus Delivered to New Home.

Story by Leah Bennett

On December 26th, the third Alexandria's Nature Bus started its journey from Michigan to Jackson, Wyoming. Jim and Corrine Bartel along with Jim's sister Joyce Bartel, arrived in Jackson on December 29th to a warm welcome at the Teton Science Schools.

Jim and Corrine met with Jack Shea, TSS Executive Director and Shawn Remis, Property Director once they got settled in on campus. Shawn was impressed with the design, graphics and ease of use of the bus.

Jack discussed the programs that Alexandria's Nature Bus would be part of using the 19 passenger capacity or the non-CDL capacity of 14 passengers. One such program will be working with the Wyoming Land Trust by traveling to Gillet, Casper, Rock Springs and Pinedale, Wyoming. Teton Science Schools will be taking a total of 45

students (15 to each city) to educate the students in how to protect and maintain our natural world we live in. Prior to visiting the 4 cities (a week at each), a press release and story will be sent to each local paper so that The Spirit of Alexandria Foundation will be spotlighted along with TSS for the work each is doing with young stewards of the earth.

We look forward to sharing all future programs that this 3rd bus will be part of and to hear the adventures the bus participates in.

Below: Photos of bus already in use at Teton Science Schools.



Calling all Naturalists. Do you have a photo, a poem, story or a drawing relating to nature - we would like to include it in a future issue of The Amazing Newspaper. Whether you are 5 or 75, we want you to share the wonders around you with us and everyone who will read The Amazing Newspaper. Submit your nature experiences to spiritofalexandria@yahoo.com.

Thank you to everyone who has submitted artwork, stories or photos for this issue.

Artwork by students at Wildwood Elementary - Grant Awardee, 2010.

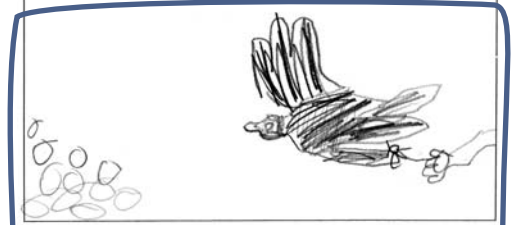


Dear Chad and Liz,

I really liked the things you taught us. I really liked the time you showed us the birds. The turkey vulture is total a show off! All the birds were awesome.



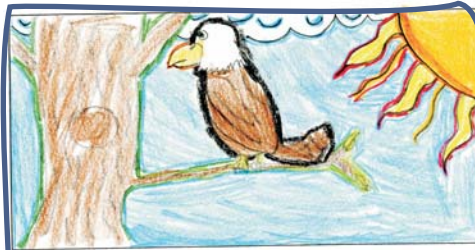
Today we had a assemble we saw a real live turkey vulture it was really big and they throw up to parts their self. or will fly away.



Something I learned was that vultures throw up the things they digested. They eat dead animals or thing, they have really good sense of smell. Has a bald head. It has wings so when it flies you can tell its a vulture because its wing have a V shape. Thank you for come and showing us the cool birds.



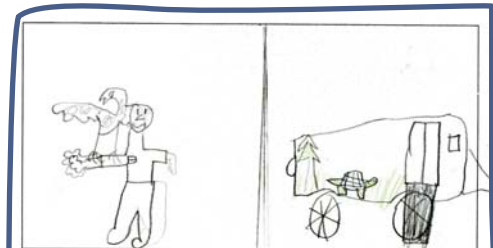
We learned about falcon. They can fly as fast as 200mph. They can fly 5 miles up. They nest on cliffs and tall buildings. And that is what I learned from the Howel nature center.



Today I learned that a falcon can go over 300 mph! They also have their prey and keep them on live bomb its wings. Howel Nature center also taught us that it had a super bite and a weak grip. Did you know the Broadwinged hawk can migrate from Canada to South America? Also a owl can turn its head 3/4 to a backward head position. I'd like to thank Howel Nature center for the info.



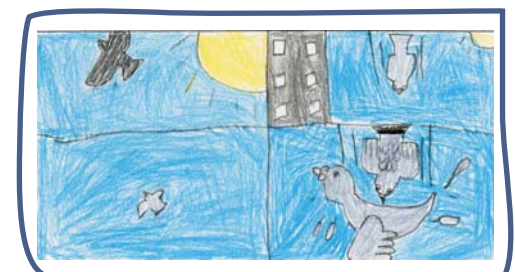
Today the Howel Nature center came to our school. This is what I learned about the Turkey vultures. They have a wing span of 6 feet! They also have a bald head for when they dig in to the dead animals. I also learned that Turkey vultures are not real birds of prey. When they fly they make a V shape with their wings. That's what I learned when the Howel Nature center came to my school on the 12-3-10.



Dear Chad and Liz, I really like the things you taught us. The owl, hawk, falcon, turkey vulture. I like the games, the BUS. I want you to come a gine wild wood this gra. Sincerely Jonathan, Holbrook.



when we saw the nature center it was cool we get to see a vultures, it had 6 wings and a owl it can get his head hat way around.



Artwork by students at Wildwood Elementary-continued.

I learned that after the vulture has a meal and then a predator is coming after it it has to skew the predator. Then the vulture can make a get away and they have bald heads so when they stick their head into a dead animal's they don't get germs in their feathers.

Dear Chad and Liz, I really liked the things you taught me.

Sincerely,
Tyler Stark

P.S. my favorite part was the birds.

Dear Chad and Liz,
I really liked the things you taught us. I liked the games like the owl and hawk sounds. I liked seeing the hawk. He was the coolest. I liked the the game hawk and mouse. I was fun, I won one.

Dear Chad and Liz,
I really enjoyed the things you taught us. I really liked the birds of prey. My favorite part about the birds of prey was the Turkey Vulture because to me it was the most interesting. Thank you for coming to Wildwood and the forth grade.

Dear Chad and Liz,
I really liked the things you taught us. My favorite part was the birds. I can name a few Turkey Vultures, Hawks and the Screeching owl. So the game so fun! Thank you for coming to Wildwood.

Dear Chad and Liz,
I really liked the the things you showed us, like the birds, the games and all of the other things that you guys show us. Thank you for coming. I liked everying you showed us.

Dear Chad and Liz,
I really liked the things you taught us. I also thank you for teaching me the birds of prey and showed me the birds.

It was interesting how much I learned in the mobile bus hunt.

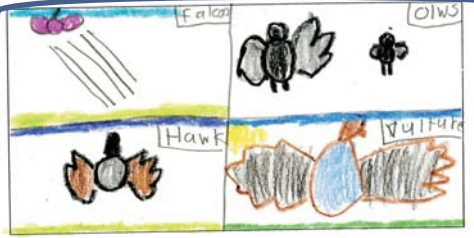
I learned like an Bald Eagle eat fish. I also learned all the birds facts in your mobile bus. The last thing is my most favorite part was everything except when the bird jumped all around it was so ax very.

Today, Chad from the Howell Nature Center, came to teach all of the 4th graders from Wildwood Elementary School, about birds of prey. We learned about the falcons, owls, hawks and vultures. I want to tell you about falcons. When falcons want a snack they fly up 5 miles. When they see there prey they fly down at 200 mph speed. He puts his claw in a fist and rakes his prey in the head. His prey falls to the ground and the falcon begins to eat his snacks.

Howell Nature Center

I had lots of fun with the Howell Nature Center group, but most importantly I learned about animals, mostly birds. Actually we learned all about birds. Me and my classmates had lots of fun! The owl was my favorite bird. The owl has huge eyes which make him or her very very cute! Did you know that the Turkey vulture is the only bird that can smell? These are some things I learned about with the Howell Nature Center group!

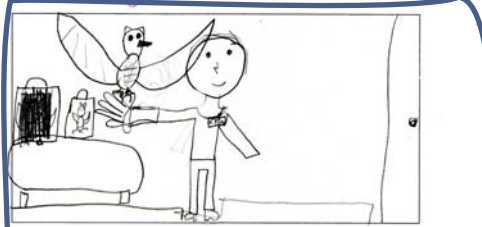
Artwork by students at Wildwood Elementary-continued.



We learned about birds of prey today, like falcons, owls, hawk and vultures. A falcon can fly 5 miles up in the air. A hawk migrate from Canada to south America. A vulture has a wing span 6 feet. The first owl was a small one eats insects. There was a big owl too it had large talons.



Dear Chad and Liz,
I really liked the things you taught us. I liked every thing but I liked the birds the most. My favorite bird was the screech owl.



Dear Chad and Liz, I really liked the thing you taught us. I liked when you showed us the hawk the screech owl, falcons, turkey vulture. It was very cool and my favorite part was when we played the run rabbit run and I like when we took the wing I really liked you coming to our school you made my day great. Thank you for coming to wildwood.



I learned that the falcon can fly 5 miles high. Then it goes and looks for food when it sees food it tucks its wings in and swoops down at a speed of 200 miles per hour. It either makes a fist and punches it out of the sky or goes right through the wing and goes and gets his meal.



“Great art picks up where nature ends.”



Happy Valentine's Day! - Heart drawn by Alexandria.