

The Laker Wave

News and Information About The Elkton - Pigeon - Bay Port "Laker" School District — Vol. 7, No. 2 — November, 1994

Laker School Board Distributes Elementary Survey

Within the next week, many residents within our communities will be asked to fill out an interest survey. This survey is the result of the Laker Board and Administration study of the feasibility of constructing a central elementary school.

During the 1993-94 school year, many citizens were asked to serve on various Target 2000 committees to study our current educational

curriculum, facilities, technology, and transportation. These committees made specific recommendations to the board of education during April and May of 1994. Four of the committees, Buildings and Grounds, Technology, Libraries, and Transportation recommended the study of a central elementary building to provide increased educational opportunities for our students.

As a result of these recommendations, our

board of education is studying the advantages, disadvantages, and changes a central elementary building would create. One of the initial areas of study is to survey various populations within the school district to get citizen feedback.

With the results of the survey, plus other information such as the cost of constructing a new building versus maintenance and repairs to four older buildings, and the effects of moving el-

ementary education out of our villages, our board will make a decision whether to pursue this idea or not.

Any school district resident who would like to receive and complete the survey should call 453-2097 and one will be mailed to them. The results of the survey will be published in a future Laker Wave article.

Superintendent's Report:

Our Students Are Smarter Than Ever!

By Robert Drury, Superintendent

It is true that students today know more than students at any other time in our history. Students are exposed to a wider range of knowledge at an earlier age than ever before, and schools have increased requirements and set higher expectations for students. Many changes have taken place.

This is the information age. There are more sources of information available to students than ever before. Television, video games, and computers have accelerated the learning process and brought the entire world to the students.

Students can experience events around the globe as they happen. Informational programs, cultural events, and educational segments are readily available. Information can be accessed from an infinite number of sources at great speed. Today's students have access to computers in schools, libraries, and even in their homes.

The schools of today are different. Field trips for elementary students provide the impetus for integrating learning across the curriculum. Parents and other resource speakers are regularly invited to visit today's classrooms to enrich and extend learning experiences for students.

Schools know more about how students learn. When today's adults were in school, intelligence was thought of as a command of facts, teaching was largely lecture by subject area, and learning was thought to be linear and sequential. It is now known that there are different learning styles. Students can learn randomly and absorb many things at once.

More and earlier schooling is now available to children. In addition to preschools, there are specific preventive programs designed to teach the disadvantaged, the poor, and other special populations. Today's students are monitored more closely and given more help. Learning problems are diagnosed at an early age and specific types of remediation are recommended. Moreover, today's parents are more involved in their child's education. Many of today's students have travelled widely and are enrolled in outside activities.

Employment today also requires that student be smarter. Computer literacy, technological knowledge, and the ability to access information quickly are basic requirements.

Today's students are learning in a different world from the one in which adults of today grew up. Schools have changed, families have changed, and the workplace that students will enter is continually changing. In order to keep up with today's world, and prepare for the future, today's students have to be smarter. And they are!

Science Students Meet "The Challenge"

Five Fantastic 7th-grade students and Five Fabulous 8th-grade students attended the CEPUP Challenge on November 10, 1994 at the Huron Mathematics, Science, and Technology Center which is located in Bad Axe.

CEPUP stands for Chemical Education for Public Understanding Program. The seventh grade students who attended were: Eric Clabue-sch, Pete Eichler, Brandon Elenbaum, Erin Gulash, and Jane Miller. The eighth grade students who attended were: Kristie Gehrs, Sharon Hebert, Kim Langley, Matt Schaefer, and Jeff Zarnke. They completed the challenge with 7th and 8th grade students from a variety of schools in Huron County.

The ten Laker Jr. High students were selected by Mr. Dean, 7th grade Science teacher and Mrs. Tereck, 8th grade Science teacher. The selection process was difficult since each teacher could only take five students. Both teachers had been instructed to select 7th and 8th grade students who were gifted, talented, and/or highly motivated in science, mathematics, and social studies.

The CEPUP Challenge featured the module, "Island Factory". The students were lead through a series of hands-on activities, where they explored chemical and other math and science concepts and processes. CEPUP highlights



Above, Laker Junior High Seventh Graders.

At left, Laker Junior High Eighth Graders.



chemicals and their uses by our society. four industries were discussed - computers, food processing, chemical manufacturing, and oil refining. these industries were examined as a basis for discussions and their impact on the business community.

The students were asked to rank the industries from least desired to most desired. Students overwhelmingly selected computers as their most desired industry and oil refining as their least desired industry. They based their decisions upon the environmental damage that an oil refinery can cause - either by accidental spillage or the environmental problems encountered when trying to deal with products and by-products produced by oil refineries.

Mr. Dean and Mrs. Tereck are extremely proud of their students! Again, this is proof that the "Green Machine" is on the move! Congratulations to all students who attended, we are all very proud of you!

Sharpen Sports Skills Saturday Mornings...

Laker students in grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to sharpen their basketball and volleyball skills on Saturday mornings throughout the winter months.

On the Saturdays listed below the Laker Jr. High and Senior High School gyms will be open

from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.: Coach Lyn Stahl will be monitoring the Jr. High Gym while Coach Paul Beachy will be covering the high

school gym. This is an excellent opportunity of our students to have some fun while practicing two favorite sports. Parents are reminded to pick

up students at 11:00 a.m. sharp!

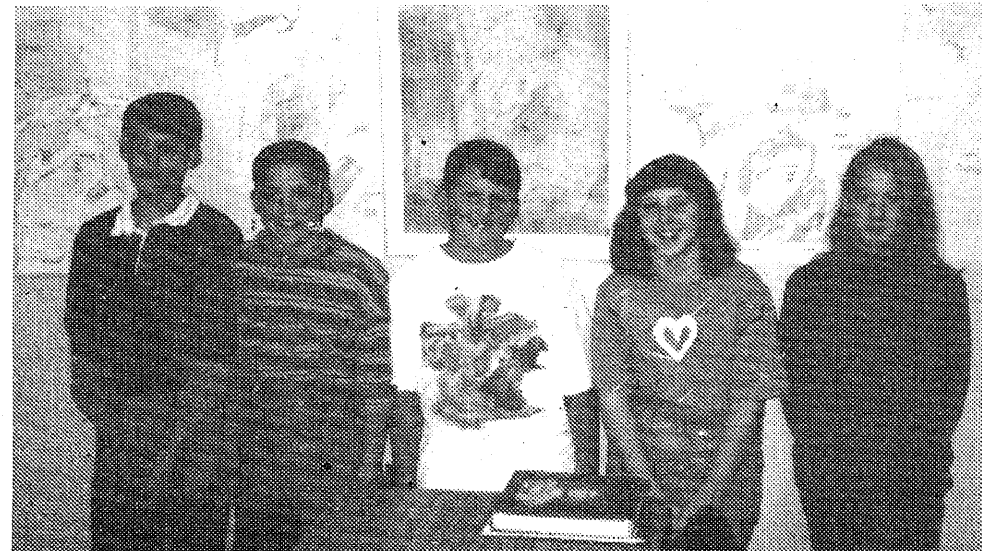
The gyms will be open on the following dates:
November 5, 12, 19, 26
December 3, 10, 24, 31
January 28
February 11, 18
March 4, 11, 18

Sixth Graders Are Mapping Michigan

For the first seven weeks in Mrs. Ehrlich's Social Studies classes, the sixth grade has been working on map skills. They have been locating cities, rivers, lakes, bays, islands, finding distances between places, and understanding the elevation of Michigan. These activities have helped them become better acquainted with Michigan.

The last part of this unit was to draw their own map of Michigan and place certain rivers, islands, lakes, and show the elevation of Michigan on their maps. The students came up with their own ideas on what to use for materials to make their maps. Some students chose wood, posterboard, drawing paper, and cardboard.

They did a nice job. Some of the drawings are on display in the room on the walls.



By L.J.H. Counselor Kathy Dickens

Career Information for 21st Century

There are four normal stages in developing ideas about careers. Children are in the **FANTASY STAGE** when they dream about having a career that does not necessarily match their talents, skills, or abilities. A good example of this is a child who dreams of being an NBA player, but does not fully understand what it takes to be a professional basketball player.

When youngsters begin to look at careers more realistically, they are said to be in the **TENTATIVE STAGE**. In this stage, they begin to examine their interests, values, and capabilities and how they match with different careers.

In the **REALISTIC STAGE** children begin to learn about the different career fields. They begin to narrow down their choices and eventually decide on what direction they are going in.

In the **IMPLEMENTATION STAGE**, people begin to act upon their decisions by taking required courses in school or gaining work experience.

As parents, you have an important role in helping your child through these four stages of career decisions. Without your interest or guidance, it will be a very difficult and confusing process for your child. Below you will find information that will help you help your child.

MICHIGAN EMPLOYER EXPECTATIONS

1. Be free from substance abuse.
2. Demonstrate honesty and integrity.
3. Meet requirements for punctuality and attendance.
4. Follow directions given verbally.
5. Pay attention to the person speaking.
6. Show respect for others.
7. Show pride in one's work.
8. Follow organizational rules, procedures, and policies.
9. Show enthusiasm for work to be done.
10. Recognize and understand enough words to read simple instructions.
11. Ask questions to clarify understanding.
12. Demonstrate self control.
13. Cooperate with others to get the job done.
14. Work productively with minimum supervision.
15. Represent organization in a positive manner.
16. Meet or exceed requirements for work quality.
17. Complete tasks in the face of job pressures and stresses.
18. Answer questions accurately.
19. Communicate effectively with all members of the work team.
20. Be adaptable, flexible and open to change.

CAREERS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

1. **HEALTH AND HOSPITALS** - Athletic Trainer; Radiologic Technologist; Mammographer; Ultrasonographer; Histologist; Cytotechnologist; Phlebotomist; Dental Assistant; Dental Technician; Respiratory Therapist; Office and Support Staff.
2. **CRIMINOLOGY** - Emergency Dispatcher; SWAT Team; Criminalist.
3. **CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT** - Forest Management Technician; Wildlife Management Biologist; Fisheries Management Biologist; Hatcheries Resource Assistant; Metropolitan Conservation Coordinator.
4. **HOTELS AND TOURISM** - Travel Agent; Cruise Operations and Logistics; Cruise Director; Air Operations; reservationist; Reservation Agent

Supervisor; Marketing Assistant; Visitor Information Representative; Tourism Sales Manager; Convention Sales Manager

5. **ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION** - Alternative Energy Technician; Instrument and Calibration Technician; Test Facility Manager; Clean Air Vehicle Technician; Alternative Transportation; Bullet Train Lead Tickets Agent

6. **INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA** - Computer Programmer; Multimedia Producer; Creative Services Manager; Art Director; Technical Support; Quality Assurance Technician; Customer Service Representative; Knowledge Engineer; Technical Analyst;

System Analyst; IBM Computer Programmer; Engineering Services; Computer Graphics Trainer; 3-D Designer; Database Developer; Test Engineer.

7. **OTHER MODERN CAREER CHOICES WITH VERY GOOD EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOKS:**

- Business Manager
- Casino Workers
- Coroner
- Environmental Epidemiologist
- Marine Biologist
- Medical or Legal Transcriptionist
- Office Manager
- Paralegal Assistant

Resource Room Students Clean Up Sleeper State Park

By Sue Frederiksen

This past Wednesday, November 9, 1994, I had the pleasure of working with Linda Brown, Tim Blakeney, and Tim's resource room students. We traveled up to Sleeper State Park to help "clean-up" the hiking and skiing trails.

The "clean-up" included cutting back all of the branches that were hanging over the trails, cleaning the debris that hikers and skiers could trip over, and cutting down the long weeds at the sides of the trail so the path was made wider. All tree limbs and garbage were then taken to a designated area where Roy Elie, the manager of Sleeper State Park, could dispose of them. The students worked hard for several hours helping to maintain the trails.

This project was used as a fund raiser for the resource room students. The students received pledges to clean the trails and will be using this money for their Experiential Education Program.

Freshmen and sophomore students will be attending a Ropes Course Challenge Program.

This program includes a group wall, which must be scaled by all team members, group beam, trust fall, rope fence, and wild woosie. These tasks require cooperation, communication and creative problem solving techniques by all group members. The Ropes Challenge helps to build mutual support among team members and develops self-confidence within individuals as each task is mastered.

Juniors and seniors will be experiencing a 3 day-2 night trip to Manistique. There, they will spend time challenging the wall, mountain biking, and canoeing. Students will learn cooperation in preparing their own outdoor meals.

They will be expected to work together as a group, be individual leaders and later, to follow another leader, and will learn to make decisions with the cooperation of others. The group is looking forward to this trip in May of 1995.

They will be performing other community services in the future to help fund these projects. Please give them your support!!

Laker High School

Counselor's Corner

By Sue Frederiksen, Counselor
It seems incredible that the first marking period has ended and we are already approaching the holidays. In the counseling office the time has been flying by. With testing finally being over, I have been concentrating on meeting with all of our seniors to discuss a variety of issues.

As I met with each senior, we went over each transcript to determine if everyone was on track for graduating on time. Each student now knows exactly what they need to pass in order to receive their diplomas in May. This includes not only passing their classes, but all three MEAP tests that need to be passed to receive a state endorsed diploma. The MEAP test is given in the areas of math, reading, and science. These results will be in during the first part of December, and for those seniors that have not passed a portion of the MEAP, they will have the opportunity to retake the test in the spring of the year.

I discussed with each senior what their

plans were upon graduation. Over 95% of our Laker seniors are looking into trade schools or college.

A few students have decided to join the work force and earn some money before they continue their education.

Financial aid was another key topic of conversation. On Thursday, December 8, 1994 from 7-8:30 p.m. we will be meeting in the Jr. High School library for a financial aid information night for parents and students. Bruce Goodman, a financial aid advisor at Delta College will be here to inform parents about how to fill out the FAFSA.

Parents will receive the FAFSA form, and also additional booklets regarding financial aid information. If you have any questions regarding financial aid, bring them to this meeting.

On December 1, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a National Honor Society induction ceremony for its newest members. The National

Laker Junior High Principal's Corner

By Richard Pauly, L.J.H. Principal

Laker Jr. High School held its annual Walk-a-thon on October 21st. It was a tremendous success. Our students certainly enjoyed this very much. This was our main fund raiser for the year. As always, our community supported us tremendously.

The money earned from this project will help fund our three class trips. Many of our students won valuable prizes for collecting the most pledged money. The winners and prizes for each grade level were: 6th grade: Laurence Gaines - insulated sleeping bag, Carrie Bulla - big igloo cooler, Michelle Chiotti - flashlight set with batteries; 7th grade: Jane Miller - \$60.00 gift certificate to spend on Mackinaw Island, Stephanie Stewart - \$40.00 gift certificate for shoes at Bay House Sports, Krissi Sears - scientific calculator, 8th grade: Mike Prich - graphic calculator, Josh King - scientific calculator, Jeff Zarnke - Laker duffle bag.

The Jr. High students enjoyed their first "Fun-Night" of the year on October 15th. With Halloween as our theme, many students dressed in costume. A good time was had by all!

Our first Parent-Teacher Conference was held on Monday, November 14th. We had excellent attendance from our parents. These conferences are so important. This was a great opportunity for parents to talk to teachers. Over 70% of our parents attended these conferences. It was a very successful evening for everyone involved.

Many of our winter activities are starting to take shape. Mr. Robinson is working hard preparing our band for the Christmas Concert. Mrs. Stahl and Mr. LePage will be coaching our 8th and 7th grade boys basketball teams. Mr. Weidman will be coaching our 6th grade girls basketball team. Mrs. Dickens is beginning to organize our popular Academic Track program.

We are now in the third week of the second marking period. The students have settled into a very academic routine. Parents, please remember your expectations are more important than almost any factor in determining your child's school success.

As always, you are invited to visit our school. I'm sure you would enjoy it. Feel free to contact me for any reason at school 453-3131 or at home 453-3858. I'm always interested in your questions or concerns.

IMPORTANT DATES

- November 23 1/2 day of school, students will be dismissed at 11:12 a.m.
- November 24, 25 Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 26 No school
- November 28 School resumes

Around the Elementary Centers

Students of Month in Bay Port, Pigeon Elementary Schools



Bay Port and Pigeon teachers have made their selections for the second group of Students of the Month. In October the following students set themselves apart from the rest of their class by their actions, politeness, willingness to help, extra effort, or academic work.

Kindergarten: Michelle Thiel, Sara Smith, Ricky Beckwith

1st Grade: Charlie McCormick, Nicki Shivley

2nd Grade: Jesse Turner, Briana Gascho

3rd Grade: Troy Leipprandt, Kendra Gnagay, Adam Damm

4th Grade: Chase Webber, Matthew Sneller

5th Grade: Jody McKenzie, Ryan Radtke, Kayla Gnagay

Congratulations, and keep up the good work!!!!



Guess Who...

Try to guess these Elkton Halloween costume-wearers...

Bay Port & Pigeon Elementary Schools' Principal's Report

By Peter Batzer, Principal

PIGEON & BAY PORT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

The fall parent-teacher conferences for Pigeon and Bay Port Elementaries were held on Thursday and Friday, November 10th and 11th. It was a pleasure to see so many parents coming to these conferences and showing their support and commitment to education and their children.

It is our hope that this time spent with your child's teacher proved both informative and enjoyable. By working together school and parents can provide all of the support and encouragement that will enable each student to reach their full potential.

At Bay Port Elementary, 90% of all parents were able to attend. At Pigeon Elementary, 94% of all parents were able to attend.

For those parents who were unable to make these scheduled conferences, please contact your child's teacher and make arrangements for a conference. As the school year continues, please keep in contact with school personnel, especially at the first sign of any problem.

FOUR WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH SPELLING

Learning to spell new words and weekly spelling tests are a part of elementary school. However, some students have more difficulty than others. Parents may be able to help their children who are having difficulty by trying different, more motivating methods of study. Here are four

possibilities:
1. Write each spelling word on a separate card (3" X 5"). Index cards work well. Then, any member of the family or a friend can quiz the student.

2. Focus on the improvement a student makes rather than the total test score. Celebrate each time they get more words correct.

3. Study in short sessions during the week...not just the night before the test. You can practice while in the car, doing dishes, just about any time.

4. Use all senses...hear it, say it, write it, see it. During study time you can make up silly sayings or songs, write the words in the air, on a chalkboard, or take turns spelling words.

BUILDING SELF-ESTEEM

Children who are mentally healthy feel good about themselves. This allows them to achieve both in and out of school to the best of their ability. There are several ways parents can help children build their self-esteem.

1. Reward children for their efforts.
2. Be enthusiastic about small accomplishments.
3. Do not compare children's abilities.
4. Accept children based on their uniqueness.
5. Listen to children and be sensitive to their needs.

6. Focus on children's strengths.
7. Treat children with respect.
8. Show an interest in what your children do.
9. Display children's work.
10. Encourage children to learn new skills.

Remember, children need to know that they are worthwhile and loved. Being accepted by others prepares children to face the challenges of the future with confidence.

Elkton Elementary School Principal's Report

By Ben Phillips, Principal

K-2 ELKTON FAMILY MATH NIGHT

Elkton Elementary Family Math Night will be Tuesday, November 29, 1994. The program will be open to kindergarten thru second grade families. The activities for the night will focus primarily on K-2 math activities.

The evening will begin with supper being served at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The family fun starts at 6:30 p.m. and concludes at 7:30 p.m. Because of the nature of activities, baby-sitting will be provided for children ages 3-5 years of age.

ELKTON CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The annual Elkton Elementary Christmas program is scheduled for December 15th at 7:00 p.m. Please plan on attending this wonderful event which is directed by Mrs. Witczak.

KINDERGARTEN PROBES

Last year, we began periodically checking our kindergarten students on letter recognition and sound awareness. Students having difficulty received some special small group help. In October, we did our first check of this year's kindergarten group. Much like last year, we had a wide range between students. Students are timed for one minute and read as many letters as

they can from a sheet. The range ran from two students who read 54 letters and three students who were unable to read any letters. The rest of the students fell somewhere between 0 and 54.

HONOR ROLL AND A-TEAM

Honor roll students receive a special honor roll pin. A-Team members received an honor roll pin, an A-Team shirt and lunch with Mr. Phillips. The following students have made the honor roll and/or A-Team for the first nine week marking period this year. The * denotes A-Team members.

Gordon Beadle, David Bismack, Kayleigh Champagne, *Kayla Clark, Chris Creguer, Jeff Dubs, Elizabeth Ertman, Charles Fagon, Brian Forster, *Kelly Fritz, Chad Gardner, Ashley Gotta, *Margan Gottschalk, *David Gross, Clayton Haney, Chris Haidan, *Luka Harford, *Tara Harford, Troy Hildreth, Katie Ignash, Kellee Ignash, Sara Jimkoski, *Quinn Kilgus, Troy Kilgus, *Kristen Krah, Rusty Krohn, Angel Kula, Crystal Kula, *Brandi Langley, Adam Lewis, Ryan Manial, *Chris Mauch, *Robbie McFarland, Krista Miller, Jennifer Neldon, Ryan Santoski, Natalie Reynolds, Kyle Russell, Matthew Santos, Anthony Schambar, Jason Shaw, Malissa Sweeney, Jessica Talarek, *Nicole Thompson, *Danielle Tibbits, Rebecca Tibbits, Tarce Tyler, Adrian Walden, Michael Weidnerhold, *Dan Weidman, Kim Wiederhold, Eric Wissner, John Zaleski, *Ashley Ziel.

School Personnel's Responsibility To Report

By David Wojcicki

Under the Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974, school officials are among some of the people required to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

Under the Act "child abuse and neglect means the physical or mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, negligent treatment, or maltreatment of a child...under circumstances which indicate that the child's health or welfare is harmed or threatened thereby".

In order to report suspected child abuse or neglect, there needs to be sufficient cause to believe that the child's "welfare or health" are in danger. This limitation is meant to protect the

rights of parents in regard to raising their child. The following list contains examples of reportable child abuse and neglect instances: (List taken from) Besharov, Douglas J. Recognizing Child Abuse: A Guide for the Concerned.

1. **PHYSICAL ABUSE:** Physical assaults (such as striking, kicking, biting, throwing, burning or poisoning) that caused, or could have caused, serious physical injury to the child.
2. **SEXUAL ABUSE:** intercourse or any other types of inappropriate touching or exhibitionism.
3. **PHYSICAL DEPRIVATION:** failure to provide basic necessities (such as food, clothing, hygiene and shelter) that caused, or over time would cause, serious physical injury, sickness, or disability.
4. **MEDICAL NEGLECT:** failure to provide the

medical, dental or psychiatric care needed to prevent or treat serious physical or psychological injuries or illnesses.

5. **PHYSICAL ENDANGERMENT:** reckless behavior toward a child (such as leaving a young child alone or placing a child in a hazardous environment) that caused or could have caused serious physical injury.

6. **ABANDONMENT:** leaving a child alone or in the care of another under circumstances that suggest an intentional abdication of parental responsibility.

7. **EMOTIONAL ABUSE:** physical or emotional assaults (such as torture and closed confinement) that caused or could have caused serious psychological injury.

8. **EMOTIONAL NEGLECT:** failure to provide the emotional nurturing and physical and cognitive stimulation needed to prevent serious developmental deficits.

9. **EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT:** chronic failure to send a child to school.

It seems as though one can only go a short period of time without hearing of the above atrocities in our society. I thought it might be useful to know the role the school plays in relation to the above situations. I believe all people have an ethical obligation to report suspected child abuse or neglect to the proper authorities.

Laker High School Principal's Report

By Lisa DiCamillo, High School Principal

The past month has been eventful at Laker High. The student council sponsored a community blood drive. The goal established by the Red Cross, Elkton and Pigeon communities and the student council was for 100 blood donors. We were fortunate to have 95 people presenting themselves at the drive.

Eighty-three people gave donations and 24 people were first time donors. We appreciate the students and the community members who came together to support a worthwhile project. Special thanks goes to Lindsay Krueger for handling the coordination of the program, to the student council members who contributed their time and expertise to the project and to community members Eleanor Trost, Virginia Thiel and John Champagne.

Laker High School hosted Parent/Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, November 8th. The Laker staff met with 231 parents on Monday. We appreciated the parent involvement on this special day. We find this time is important to bring parents up-to-date on the progress of our young people.

In addition to meeting with teachers, parents were also able to meet with Ms. Frederiksen, the high school guidance counselor and with me as principal. Ms. Fred and I appreciate contact time with parents too. We enjoy the opportunity for communication between our offices and parents. Parents offer us another perspective on Laker students which helps us plan programs and activities for our students.

Super job and congratulations to several groups of students. Laker Cross Country members, the football team and jazz band members were busy on the weekend of November 4th and 5th. Each group of students were representing themselves, Laker High and the communities of Elkton, Pigeon and Bay Port at state level competitions and at the Michigan Association of School Boards.

The faculty and administration appreciate the hard work and dedication that these young people put forth when they commit to the cross country team, the football team and to the band. We are proud of them for taking on these additional responsibilities and for performing so well.

Congratulations are also in order to Mr. Wheeler and the FFA team that traveled to Kansas City this past week. The students learned a great deal over the course of the week. In addition to their delegate work our poultry team competed against teams from across the nation. The FFA team placed 18th in the nation. Super job students.

As principal of Laker High School, I would like to invite you to attend the theatre season opening play "Our Town". We will have a number of students performing on November 25th, 26th, 27, and December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. I'm sure you will appreciate the theatre performances and you are welcome to purchase a season pass for \$20.00. These passes will allow you to see 11 performances over the course of the year. Please contact Mr. Terrill for ticket information.

We are looking forward to future events such as girls basketball district tournaments, the start of boys basketball, girls volleyball, wrestling, and the mock trial program.

SIRS Researcher Puts Information At Your Fingertips

The Laker High School Library now puts a world of information within reach through a new, easy-to-use computer reference system.

SIRS Researcher allows Laker High Students to access up-to-date articles on a variety of subjects. The system is flexible, allowing everyone from the novice to the most experienced researcher to gain access to the information they choose.

This cutting-edge system consists of a database stored on a read-only compact disc (CD-ROM) and a computer workstation, making information readily available by allowing a patron to use a keyword search function.

The students simply type one or several

words into the computer. The system then compiles a list of articles containing those key words. Students then choose to view the full text — or in a few instances, a detailed abstract — of any articles on the list. If the student wants to print the entire article or excerpts of the article, or they may download the text to a floppy diskette. Articles can be found through use of a title search or a search heading search.

SIRS CD-ROM Researcher is updated twice a year with thousands of new articles. As the database grows, so will its value to students and researchers.

The SIRS database includes articles on a wide range of social issues, plus developments and

issues in science, economics, government and international affairs — from over 800 publications in the U.S. and abroad. Many of these sources are not readily available in other formats, such as periodicals obtained from China, Switzerland, Taiwan, Japan, and Botswana.

SIRS, Inc. is a 20-year publisher of educational reference materials for schools and public libraries. SIRS materials, available in print and CD-ROM formats, are used in over 30,000 institutions worldwide.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Eileen Gayari at the Laker High School Library by calling 517/453-2348.

Magazines Wanted!

If you or anyone in your community has occasion to travel to the Detroit area, SIR (the Detroit Public Library's Service to Shut-Ins and Retirees) is always in need of magazines for its readers, so even those old National Geographics will be welcome!

Call Carol Harrison, Coordinator of SIR about pick-up of the magazines from a Detroit location. The number to call is; 1-3-3-833-5686.

Elem. Counselor's Corner

By Dave Wojcicki, Elementary Counselor

During the past week, the 4th and 5th graders started a unit on careers. It will take 7-9 weeks and consists of three components.

The first thing the students do are resumes. We discuss what a resume is and talk of its importance in relation to getting a job. The resume which is done, consists of significant activities or events that have occurred in their life thus far.

When we are finished with the resume, we move on to an activity in which students write an advertisement regarding themselves. They tell about their qualities, in advertisement form, as if they were trying to find a job. Students, gener-

ally, have a lot of fun with this activity.

We will end the unit by playing a bingo format game that explores careers. The questions the game will raise promotes good discussion in regards to careers and what certain careers are really about.

As one notices, the unit is just as much about the process in getting a job as it is studying specific careers. Studying careers is great, but not useful if preparation skills, decision-making skills and job acquisition skills are not in place.

Children learn in a variety of ways. therefore, try several methods until you find one that most benefits your child.

Elkton Elementary in Photos...



Above, The Kids on the Block puppet show was recently presented to Elkton 4th graders. This show makes kids aware of different types of handicaps students may have. Posing here with the puppets are 4th graders Ashley Cregeur and Luke Herford.

At left, Elkton 2nd graders Billy Chappel and Justin Kuhl were painting pumpkins for Halloween.