

Rural Revitalization Initiative Newsletter

Des Moines Municipal Schools...Spring 2011



Get Ready for Kid' s Academy 2011!

Mark your calendars for July 12th through the 14th. That's the date for the third annual Kid's Academy. Participants will experience 3 days of science, sports, and fun! Lunch and snacks will be provided. The day will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. Students enrolled in Des Moines schools, grades K-5, are invited to participate.

We are excited that Amaris Newkirk and Rachel Hoyle will be our guest teachers this year. Amaris is a recent Des Moines graduate, currently playing basketball for Eastern Arizona College. Amaris is eager to work with young people in the Des Moines community, encouraging cooperation and effective team membership as well as participation in physical activity, while building basketball skills. Rachel Hoyle is a chemistry teacher at The Bronx High School of Science, a prestigious, competitive school for which thousands of students from the five boroughs of

New York City compete to attend. Rachel's expertise is in guiding students to inquire and explore, to think and to reason, as they develop understanding of scientific concepts and processes. Rachel is excited about the role she can play in the Kid's Academy.

Would you like to be part of this great program? The Education Workgroup welcomes volunteers for the Kid's Academy or any of the other educational programs we provide. We are always looking for ideas for future programs. Please contact us at revitalize@bacavalley.com or call the school at 278-2611.

Prevention and Preparedness

Des Moines Municipal Schools are committed to the health and wellbeing of our community's children and to a positive environment that ensures a safe, nurturing place to work and learn. We hold steadfast to the vision of *Creating Success Together...One Student at a Time*. We work hard to reduce barriers to learning and promote the positive engagement of every student. We encourage each individual to take responsibility for their own learning and behavior while carrying out our responsibility to them, providing an education that prepares them for life. We value the partnership with families and the community in accomplishing this vision for our children.

While school safety plans and regularly-scheduled drills have been in place for a number of years, we have recently renewed efforts to collaborate more closely with fire, emergency management and law enforcement personnel. We have participated in a series of meetings to review our prevention and emergency preparedness policies, procedures and practices to make sure that we are ready to jointly and appropriately respond should actual crisis situations threaten health and safety. We appreciate the ongoing commitment of community partners in helping us increase our capacity to respond effectively. Fire and EMS personnel, as well as the Union County Emergency Manager, NM Homeland Security, State Police, and Union County Sheriff's Office, have given time and shared their expertise, helping the schools to be better prepared in any type of emergency. Please help us to thank those who risk their lives to keep our children and community safe.

Thank You!

Folsom Garden Club

For their donation to the Beautification workgroup

Baca Valley Telephone

For their continued support in the publication and distribution of this newsletter

High School Graduation

Saturday, May 21...7:00 PM

May 12 6:00 PM Jr. Class Play/Dinner Theater

May 24 2:00 PM Elementary Spring Program/Art show

May 25 8:30 AM HS Awards Assembly 2:00 PM Kindergarten Graduation

May 26 Last day of school

Get Involved...Join a Workgroup!

Here are some of our current projects:



Beautification Workgroup

- Planters for main street
- The workgroup will be decorating for July 4th
- **July 9th**... Community Clean Up Day...watch for more details!

Communications Workgroup

- Working with all workgroups to develop a marketing packet for the community
- Exploring the idea of a community wide web site
- Seeking funding for communications projects

Cultural Development Workgroup

- **May is Heritage Preservation Month!** To recognize our heritage The Folsom Museum is organizing a **Dry Cimarron History Tour on May 14, 2011**. Meet at the Museum at 8:00 am. The caravan will head down the Dry Cimarron River with numerous stops at historical locations along Route 456. A western style lunch will be furnished by the Folsom Museum (donations graciously accept). Tour will conclude at the Kenton Museum in Kenton, OK.
- The Folsom Museum will have the privilege of opening the **Folsom Man Site** for an educational visit on **June 18, 2011**. Dr. David Meltzer, Professor of Prehistory at Southern Methodist University will educate us on these tours and David Eck, trust land archaeologist with the *New Mexico* State Land Office will join us for these informative tours. First of two tours will begin at 8:00 am; lunch will be provided at the Folsom Museum at noon (donations graciously accepted). Second tour starts at 1:00 pm. Limit 25 per tour. Call the Museum at 575-278-2122 to reserve a spot. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing to match our changing New Mexico weather. *"The Folsom Man discovery site is the most important historic archaeological site in North America. With its acceptance, for the first time in the New World, by the profession of placing humans with extinct animals it changed the thought of the scientific community forever."*
- The Folsom Museum's annual July program, **Western Night Under the Stars**, will be Saturday, **July 9th beginning at 4:00 pm**. Chili Cook-off, western meal, live auction and entertainment... an evening of camaraderie, good food and entertainment. Donations of \$10.00 will help support improvements in the Folsom Museum.



For more information about any of these events please call the Folsom Museum at 575-278-2122.

Education Workgroup

- Currently working on the Kid's Academy to be held **July 12th—14th**. For more information please contact Kodi Sumpter or Jaynee Burchard at the school (278-2611).



Economic Development Workgroup

- This group is working on environmental issues dealing with septic tank regulations and how they affect the value of homes and properties. An informational meeting with the Village Councils and the Environmental Department was the first step in looking for solutions.

We are looking for community members who would like to see our community grow and prosper! If you are interested in serving on a workgroup, or have ideas on how to improve our community, please email revitalize@bacavalley.com or call the school... 278-2611.

A Special Thanks to all the Volunteers!