

News from Ar-We-Va Middle School



AWV 2017-18 Junior High Boys' Basketball Team members are (from, from left) Jonathan Dose, Conner Kirsch, Timothy Dose, Andres Cruz, Jonathon Hugeback, (back) Braeden Kirsch, Cooper Kock, Bret Hinners, Damon Ehlers, and Will Ragaller. Photo courtesy of InFocus by Jean Linde.



AWV 2017-18 Junior High Girls' Basketball Team members are (sitting, from left) Maci Ruch, Elizabeth Brunner, (kneeling) Jamie Hausman, Kallie Bromert, Maggie Ragaller, (standing) Kora Obrecht, Samantha Hinners, Sophie Jackson, Olyvia Charlot, and Jordan Hanson. Photo courtesy of InFocus by Jean Linde.

JH Girls ready for action

By Jordan Hanson, Grade 8
The Ar-We-Va jr. high girls basketball has just began and have many motivated girls who are ready to start the season off! The team consists of Sophie Jackson, Olyvia Charlot, Maci Ruch, Jordan Hanson, Jamie Hausman, Kora Obrecht, Maggie Ragaller, Kallie Bromert, Elizabeth Brunner, and Samantha Hinners. The girls are coached by Kenzie Fitch.

The girls' first game was on Monday, November 27 at Lake View. In the first game, the team won, 30-24, and in the second game, they lost, 62-8.

Coach Fitch says, "I'm excited to see how this season will go." Jamie Hausman says, "It helps me stay in shape for the holiday season," while Maggie Ragaller adds, "I like to have fun with the team and stay in shape."

Kora Obrecht added, "I'm excited for games because our team has done well in practice."

The team does a lot of drills in their practices to help them get conditioned for games and to help learn new plays so they will be motivated and ready to play their games!

8th graders study friction

By Jonathan Dose, Grade 8
The eighth grade students from Ar-We-Va are studying static friction in science class. The students' science teacher is Ms. Kerry Schoessler.

The students are doing static friction experiments that they have searched for online or come up with on their own. The students are working in groups. They have to come up with and make their projects within two days, and on the third day, they will present their experiments in front of the class.

All of the kids are enjoying it very much. Braeden Kirsch exclaimed, "It a lot of fun so far, and we're learning a lot!"

Students comment on football

By Will Ragaller, Grade 8
This NCAA College Football year has had many upsets. Many of these upsets have people wondering who will make the College Football Playoffs. With the season coming to an end, many hope their team will make it to the playoffs or a bowl game. Ar-We-Va Middle school students guess who will make it to the top four. They also guess if Iowa and Iowa State will win their bowl games.

Cooper Kock said, "I think Wisconsin will be number one, then Ohio State, then Auburn, and then Penn State. I also think Iowa will win their bowl but Iowa State won't."

Damon Ehlers said, "I think Wisconsin is one, then Clemson, then Alabama, and then Auburn. I think both Iowa and Iowa State will win."

Conner Kirsch replied, "I think it will be Clemson, Alabama, Wisconsin, and then Oklahoma. I think Iowa State will win and Iowa won't."

The start of the playoffs will be on January 1, and the College Football National Championship will be on January 8.

Featured Student: Cooper Kock

By Jokow Tugor, Grade 8
This week's featured student, Cooper John Kock, was born on April, 19, 2004. Cooper's favorite things are playing sports with his friends and watching movies. Cooper's favorite color is blue and his favorite animals are chickens.

Cooper's favorite sport is baseball and his favorite movie is Little Giant. Cooper recently became an uncle to his little nephew named Oakley Richard Kock.

Cooper also recently broke his foot playing volleyball at the school gym.

Cooper lives in the country outside of Westside, where he lives with his mom Lanice and dad Gerard and his dogs. Cooper also has three siblings - Annie, age 28, Reggie, age 26, and Elliott, age 22.

Featured Student: Jessica Willis

By Maci Ruch, Grade 8
Jessica Willis is a new/old face to the school. Jessica used to attend Ar-We-Va in her early years of elementary school. She likes being a part of the eighth grade class. Before Jessica came here, she lived in Omaha. She went to Bennington. She misses her old school. One of the things she liked the best about her old school was the teachers.

Jessica's birthday is October 4. She is 14. Her favorite animal is the snow leopard. Her favorite sport is track. She is thinking about going out for track this year.

Her favorite subject is history and she likes the teachers here. She likes history because she likes learning about the past. Jessica also likes reading and her favorite book is *Sad Perfect*.

Jessica lives with her grandparents in Vail. Her mother's name is Amy. She has two older brothers Johnny and Chris. Johnny is 28 years old and lives in Ankeny. Her other brother Chris is 22 years old and lives in Japan.

Jessica likes to draw. The 8th graders are now in the exploratory art; she is drawing a snow leopard. She is artistic and draws what she loves. Jessica is becoming part of the 8th grade class again. She might be a little quiet but hopefully the Ar-We-Va students will make her feel welcome.

Small squad for JH boys BB

By Bret Hinners, Grade 8
The Ar-We-Va junior high boys' basketball team doesn't have many kids out, as there are seven 8th graders and three 7th graders on this year.

They have 12 games this year, and so far this year they have lost three close games.

Braeden Kirsch, an eighth grade member of the team, said that the team is getting better each practice. Will Ragaller said, "Our record isn't as good as we would like it to be, but there is a lot of season left and we hope to improve."

Jokow Tugor thinks that the 7th grade team is doing well in practice and there can be improvement.

Coach Craig Ragaller agreed that the junior high is lacking numbers this year.

Eighth grade studying Mayans

By Sophie Jackson, Grade 8
In Social Studies with Mrs. Kerry Schoessler, the eighth grade class is learning about the Mayans. They have done a WebQuest, which is a packet for researching. They are now working on making a Mayan headdress. With the headdresses, they are going to perform an ancient Mayan ceremony for an elementary class.

The students will also be decorating the classroom to look like a Mayan city and making a presentation to share with one another. Jordan Hanson said, "I enjoy making the headdresses and learning about how different their culture is from ours."

"Learning about the Mayans is enjoyable because we get to learn about what happened in the past before we got here," stated Cooper Kock.

Mrs. Schoessler said, "When we study different cultures, such as the Mesoamericans, we realize how much geography influences the structure of their civilizations."

Winter
Music Concert
Thursday, Dec. 7
featuring
Ar-We-Va K-12th grades
Performances begin at 6:30 p.m.

The staff of The Observer and the students of Ar-We-Va wish to thank all the area businesses who sponsor the Rappin' Rocket throughout the school year!

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Dave Says

By Dave Ramsey

Budgeting for holiday happiness

Dear Dave,
My wife and I are trying to improve our finances by living on a budget and following your plan. We're in the middle of Baby Step 2, so we're working to pay off everything but our house using the debt snowball. We only bring home about \$40,000 a year combined right now, so how should we handle Christmas budgeting in the middle of working our debt snowball?

Scot

Dear Scot,

Working to get out of debt can cause stress within a relationship. That stress is sometimes magnified if you're serious about getting out of debt during the holidays. I'm glad you two are on the same page where your finances are concerned. The fact that you're committed to becoming debt-free as a couple will go a long way toward ensuring a merrier Christmas.

Just sit down together, have a look at your budget, and ask what she thinks is a reasonable amount to spend on gifts and things while you're trying to get out of debt. If you think her suggestion is a manageable figure, just give her a hug, tell her you agree, and move on. If you've been trying to get out of debt for a while, you might even propose using last year's Christmas budget.

The important thing is to make sure you listen to each other, and approach this together. On the off chance one of you wants to spend what the other considers

to be too much, talk about how and why you arrived at that figure. Then, using your budget as a guide, gently and lovingly talk things out.

Honestly, I don't think you're going to have problems if you've already been working together to get your finances in order. And remember, you don't have to spend a lot of money to make people happy. Delicious homemade treats and thoughtful, handcrafted gifts can put a smile on anyone's face.

Dave

'Gotchas' to Budget for this Holiday Season

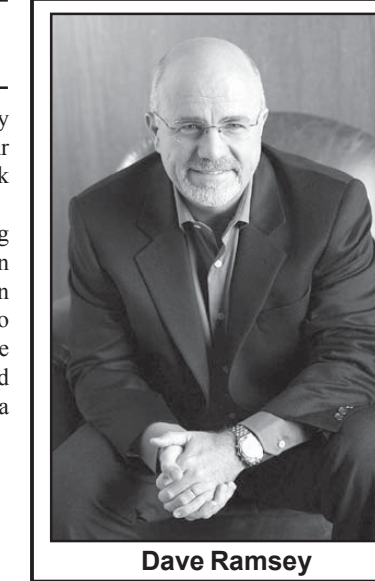
One of the biggest problems with Christmas is how it moves around on the schedule every year. You never know when it's going to be, when it might be coming, and then BOOM! There it is at your front door saying, "Hey, I'm Christmas. Buy stuff!"

But, wait a minute ... Christmas is on the same day every year! December 25th. Who knew?

Somehow, too many of us are caught off guard year after year by Christmas. You already know you need to save throughout the year for holiday festivities. But we all have little things that, no matter what, sneak up on us.

Here's a list of "gotcha" items to include in your holiday budget:

Stamps: Uncle Billy is waiting on his Christmas card. Unless you plan on driving to Toledo to deliver it in person, you're going to need a stamp — plus about 30 more for the rest of your family and



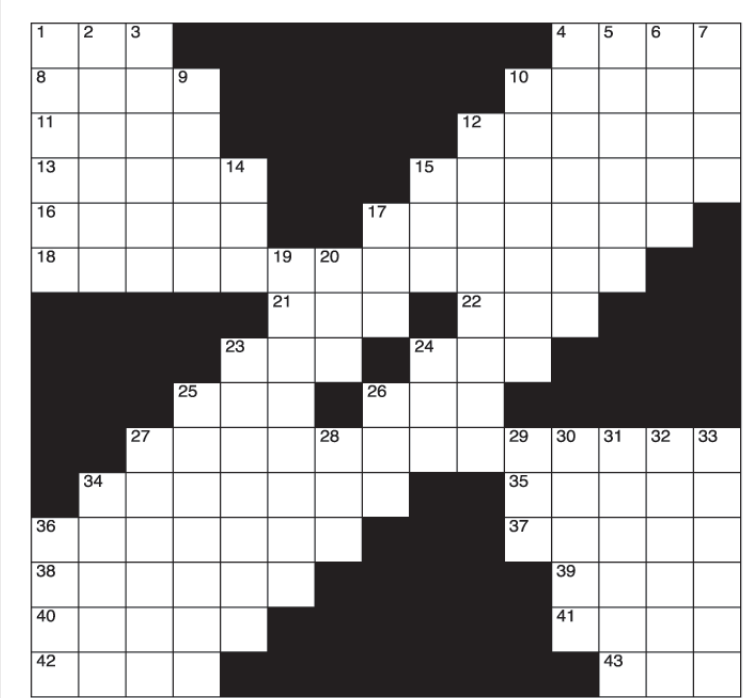
Dave Ramsey

friends. Even though they're inexpensive individually, the cost can add up quickly.

Parties: There's your work party, your wife's work party, your kid's school party, your church party, the neighborhood party ... During the holiday season, you probably need a project manager just to keep track of all the events. And whether you're bringing cookies, decorations, drinks, or gifts, you'll still need to plan ahead.

Food: You can't possibly forget to budget for food, can you? Let's hope not. But while you might not forget the bread, milk, and cereal, you also need to think about the seasonal food you'll be buying, like egg nog, ham, turkey, and fruit cake. It's time to make a vow. Let's promise ourselves we won't wait until the last minute to take care of the stuff we know is coming. Keep these things in mind while you're out shopping this holiday season!

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CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Female deer | 24. Criticize |
| 4. Unfashionable people | 25. Snake-like fish |
| 8. Entranceway | 26. Cooling mechanism |
| 10. Courteous | 27. Inquiry |
| 11. Level | 34. Engage in political activity |
| 12. Deli meat | 35. The lowest adult male singing voice |
| 13. Details | 36. Endings |
| 15. Stole | 37. Irises |
| 16. A genus of bee | 38. The highest parts |
| 17. Expressed as digits | 39. Kimono sashes |
| 18. Your child's daughter | 40. Bewilders |
| 21. ___ and flow | 41. Mentally healthy |
| 22. Small amount | 42. Used to traverse snow |
| 23. Revolutions per minute | 43. Inflamed |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Adventurous | 20. Type of missile (abbr.) |
| 2. Deliverer of speeches | 23. Criticizes |
| 3. Skin condition | 24. Midwife |
| 4. Widened | 25. Entwined |
| 5. James Cameron film | 26. Supervises interstate commerce |
| 6. The 3rd letter of the Hebrew alphabet | 27. A way to convert |
| 7. Moved along a surface | 28. Female sibling |
| 9. Pharmacological agent | 29. TV network |
| 10. Charity | 30. Tropical Asian plant |
| 12. Seeing someone famous | 31. Line on a map |
| 14. Not happy | 32. Denotes songbirds |
| 15. Farm animal | 33. Made publicly known |
| 17. Give a nickname to | 34. He devised mud cleats for football |
| 19. Uses up | 36. Trends |

SUDOKU

	4			7	9			
	5	2						
	1			5		8	3	
				6				1
	9	5						
		5	3					
3			7		5	6		
2								4
			2	9				

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear using the numerical clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve

Level: Intermediate

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Again Thank You!! Al Hunter

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