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Your Weather



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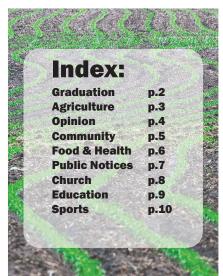
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Mac Vold, son of Matt and Maggie Vold, was one of the young performers at the DPS talent show May 14. Photo by Christine Jensen



Kilaynah Smith's talent was deadlifting weights at the DPS talent show Photo by Christine Jensen





Alyssa Hoyles, Greta Burrell, Reese Fering, and Elizabeth Fedje set a new school record of 1:51.40 in the girls 4x200 relay in Grafton May 14

Annual talent show merits rewards

By Christine Jensen

Everyone has special gifts. For Drayton Public School (DPS), showcasing those talents at their annual Talent Show has been rewarding on many levels for both students and teachers alike.

Katie Dahl, fourth grade teacher at DPS, headed this year's talent show. She said as of Monday last week, there were only five entries signed up. She said she went around to different classrooms to encourage people to enter and by Wednesday afternoon when the talent show took place, they had 30 entries.

As students of all ages gathered in the gymnasium on May 14, everyone was excited to see students and teachers alike share their various talents. Rachel Lee, Title one reading teacher at DPS, acted as MC for the event which included a variety of talents including singing, dancing, comedy, musical selections, weight lifting, gymnastics as well as a pop chugging event, a bottle flip, arm wresting, a volleyball circle, and a rousing game of lightening put on by several teachers.

Ezra Adkins started out the show with a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem with all the students standing and facing the flag with their hands over their hearts. The opening song was followed by several amazing acts. One by one, brave young students got up in front of their peers to show off their talents. There were even a few students who were able to draw and color various images like rainbows and butterflies in record time showing their progression on a large screen.

Mac Vold, son of Matt and Maggie Vold, was one of the young performers. He did a combination of playing the guitar and telling jokes which was a hit with the crowd. Throughout the entire show, one of the most endearing parts was witnessing how everyone in the crowd was so supportive and cheered on their fellow peers as they bravely shared their gifts. At one point, one young student drove his scooter and attempted a few acrobatic skills. From the audience you could hear someone yell, "You can do it. I believe in you."

DPS Preschool teacher Maggie Vold said she loves the elementary talent show because it gives all the students the opportunity

to step into the spotlight and share their unique talents.

"It's also great for building confidence and celebrating many ways students shine," Vold said. "I was so excited that even my preschool class wanted to participate. It was brave of them to go up there by themselves and perform."

She said her son Mac thought the best part was the arm wrestling challenge but he said all of the talent show was "really cool," and he was happy everyone liked his jokes.

According to Dahl, the talent show was started before she began her teaching duties at DPS. Last year they didn't have one but she was determined to bring it back this year.

"We are back and improved this year," Dahl said. "It was great to see so many entries come forward."

Dahl said having the talent show is extremely good for the students. She said they absolutely love it.

"It's good for them to be in front of people and to see other students and teachers support them," Dahl said. "They all have positive attitudes and get to express themselves and watch others do the same."

According to Dahl, her fourth grade students practiced a line dance every day for a few weeks during snack time. Donning cowboy hats and performing a synchronized dance to the song, "Cotton-Eyed Jo."

Dahl said she would like to thank all the students and teachers who participated as well as Interim Principle Shari Bilden for letting them have the talent show and for attending to watch the students share their gifts. She would also like to thank Victoria Stevens for help in organizing and Rachel Lee for standing in as MC for the event.

To close out the talent show, the preschool danced to a familiar song, "Baby Shark," which was followed by a rousing singing duo by special education and athletic director Raven Smith and Ag Teacher Adam Riddle.

"I really want to thank all the students for encouraging each other," Dahl said. "I hope we continue doing this every year. As long as I'm a teacher, it will happen."



Submitted photo

Region Champions and new North East Regional record holders, Carter Johnson, Jack Langerud, Carter Oberg, and Brady Reilly win with a time of 1:33:93 in the boys 4x200 relay in Grafton May 14.

TGTECH opens office in Drayton

By Christine Jensen

Technology can sometimes feel like a puzzle but for one area resident, putting the pieces back together is part of the thrill of what started out as a hobby and has turned into a small business which recently found a new location in Drayton.

Tracy Giles has been fixing phones and computers for the past five years in a corner of his living room. Recently, he opened up a small office located at 604 North Main Street in Drayton in the former Ardis' Bookkeeping office. His business name is TGTECH and his focus is on cell phones and home computer repair.

"I like the challenge of it," Giles said. "I watched a friend of mine fix my computer several years ago and just started getting interested so I began learning more about it because it was so fascinating to me."

Giles started out fixing and setting up computers as well as hooking up printers. People would often bring him their computers and he would be able to put the pieces back together and get them working again. With each new job, he learned more and with the increase in cell phone and IPad use and technology, he started to learn how to fix those as well.

"Their computers were either slow or locked up and they needed them to work again," Giles said. "I was successful at it so I just started getting more and more interested."

He has also worked on rescuing clients data like their photos as well as installing various programs for people. Giles said there are so many different things he has worked on, it is hard to describe the extent of what he has accomplished.

"It's funny to me how much I

have learned," Giles said. "I have fixed so many screens and IPads over the years. I started fixing IPad screens and IPad minis and then cell phones."

He said he learned everything from experience and working on so many different projects. He has fixed many screens, charge ports, batteries and a variety of different things and hopes business will increase as he now has a location in town.

"I like the challenge of it and the putting the puzzle pieces back together," Giles said. "I like to know how things work."

Giles said he has never bought a computer. Most of the computers he has used through the years are ones people have thrown away and he was able to fix and reset them.

"I want to provide a reasonable service for people and have a more organized and efficient place to work instead of in my living room," Giles said.

Giles hopes to eventually have a small inventory of parts available so he can fix phones at a faster rate and is also glad he has a location where people can drop off and pick up their items conveniently.

Customers can call his phone at 701-520-0378 or can send a message to his email at tgtechrepair@gmail. com to set up an appointment for drop off. Eventually he will have set office hours but as of now, he said people can call and he can meet them at the Drayton office.

According to Giles it may take a few days to order and receive the parts until he can build a small inventory. At some point he hopes to have various accessories available like cell phone cases and chargers.

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Giles, who has been operating TGTECH out of his home has moved into a downtown Drayton location. Photo by Christine Jensen