

PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Alden Elementary second grade teacher Wendy Cooper (back left), and multiple students met at Walmart to select gifts with the money they raised. The gifts will go to a 6-year-old.

► ALDEN STUDENTS to purchase gifts for others. CONTINUED FROM A1

During the WIN class time, those enrichment students have been cutting the paper bulbs and hanging them in the cafeteria.

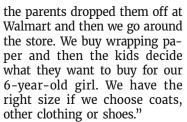
They are also learning how to

manage the money, and see how

much that cash can be utilized

"We have all that money but

it is good for them to go and see what we spend it on. We can't have everything we want but how far does \$280 go in a store and how far does that go when you buy gifts?" Cooper said. "The kids like shopping for a younger person, so



This past Monday, the students utilized class time to wrap the gifts. Cooper said other adults in the store have donated money to the students to assist them with their project. That is another lesson they can take to heart.

Alden Elementary students display some of the gifts that were selected with the money

"Every time we do something similar to this, someone in Walmart will walk over and hand my kids money. It helps show the students that when

you put good vibes and acts out, that is reciprocated," Cooper said. "We are lighting up someone else's holiday, but we are also lighting up our own."

Once the gifts were wrapped on Monday, Alden Elementary School Nurse Kari McCraken was scheduled to take the gifts to the recipient.

RED ROOSTER

CONTINUED FROM A1

While he explained, the breathe-easy diner on the corner of Rocksylavnia and Oak had already been a hub for local camaraderie. Several men of a certain age were scattered to different booths or tables, sipping on cups of joe while others waited for plates of pancakes and breakfast meat.

Dark and dreary on a December morning might have made for a lighter Tuesday crowd, but there were still several local characters dispersed throughout the Rooster. Either way, and as is expected in a diner, small

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talk was consistently going on in the background, and the dividing line between interview and casual conversation didn't exist.

While there are plenty of menu favorites and rotating specials, the cuisine is exactly what many would expect. Breakfast foods (especially the Rooster omelets) and sandwiches are heavy hitters on the Rooster's menu, but some other bigger choices include hamburger steaks, meatloaf, and biscuits and gravy.

Moreso, Lathrop makes numerous types of homemade pies that help keep people coming in the doors. They listed lemon meringue, sour cream raisin, banana cream, coco-

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that was raised from their paper light bulb sales.

Beth Ites, who's been at the Red Rooster for 39 years, is pictured working at the register.

nut cream and chocolate as some of the popular choices. In fact, Lathrop stated that if she doesn't concoct a chocolate pie frequently enough, she'll get an earful from some of the restaurant-goers.

Many locals might wonder where such a unique restaurant came from, and well, Goodale was bluntly honest on its origins: "The name, I don't know where that came from." Neither Lathrop nor Ites knew either. "It's been the Rooster forever," though, Goodale mentioned.

The restaurant has been in Iowa Falls for decades and has remained cash only the whole time, and simply put, Goodale doesn't envision that changing. He doesn't want to pay out to credit card companies when they

Coach

from:

librarian

receive a cut of profits every month. What's a small percentage on paper would ultimately mean hundreds of dollars per month in service charges. So as far as using credit cards in the future, "If it's not broke, don't fix it," he stated, in what might make a suiting slogan for the Rooster.

You don't have to overcomplicate the Red Rooster's formula. And the owner's laid-back persona was indicative of the diner's atmosphere as a whole. "Well, it's the local breakfast place that's been here, I think, since 1955," Goodale explained.

It's an easygoing setting with "hometown comfort food" in a 1950s diner and a place where everybody knows everybody. The Red Rooster is aware of what it is and opens and closes unconcerned about changing the recipe. After all, if it's not broke, don't fix it.

IF school board holds organizational meeting

he Iowa Falls Commu- the concession stand at as the IASB District #5 held

The board discussed nity School Board met Cadet Field, as one had candidate Monday, Dec. 12 and previously been kicked • Approved a certificate

electric hand dryers replacing three doors on • Approved Mary Poulter

SHAWN DIGITY / TIMES CITIZEN

their annual organiza- in. The board approved of completion for the

• Eric Hoffman as Girls

Wrestling volunteer

retirements requests

school business teacher

• Lori Lyman, high school

• Karen Varrelman, mid-

dle school custodian

• Nicki Smith, district

special education teacher

• Steve Ritter, high

Accepted early

- Accepted resignations from: • Kylee Clouse, middle
- school associate Jason Smuck, high school
- assistant softball coach





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tional meeting. Todd Bicknese the doors, which will was voted to another term swing out so then can't as board president and Chris be as easily damaged, at Stauffer was voted to another a cost of \$10,920. term as vice-president.

In other business the board approved:

- Approved a bid from Carstens for the main boys locker room and the basement girls and boys locker room shower project at a cost of \$33,820.00
- A change order for the team shed, which eliminates LED light fixtures and adds

team shed • A contract for Andy

- Approved contracts for: • Kendra Odom, 50 percent Raisch, Girls Wrestling split high school cheer
 - Grace Viktora, 50 percent split high school cheer
 - Lance Keller, 7-12 throws coach
 - Jon Nederhoff, high school science teacher (2023-24 school year with \$5,000 signing bonus over 3 years)
 - Molly Gillespie, middle school associate
 - Emily Banken, high school assistant track
 - Nicole Miller, FMLA, PV teacher.



PDE

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