### THE APA TIMES



#### Josh Rolling & Mark Sampson

For the month of October Mark was selected as employee of the month. Mark has gone above and beyond by picking up a ton of shifts in the evening to fill in holes. He also has been coming in early and cleaning parts of the school that he sees are busy. Thank you Mark! If you see Mark please congratulate him of employee of the month!

### Chili Cook Off of 2023

During our October All-Staff meeting we had an Aflac representative come and talk about different insurance plans and coverage. After the presentation our staff got to judge and try 8 different chili's that were brought in for random staff. Voting was done anonymously with a scale of 1-10. Our 2023 Chili Cook Off winners were, Coming in 1st – Briana Jacobs, 2nd – John Trunkey, and 3rd – Hayden Dinger! Thank you to everyone who participated. Can not wait for the 2024 Chili Cook Off!! Also huge shout out to the Kitchen for the delicious

cinnamon rolls.





Executive Director:

John Trunkey



The Holidays are a time for family, food, and fun. I believe the holidays are also a time for being thankful and giving back. During the Holiday season, Americans spend countless hours fundraising and volunteering their time for those in need. Did you know that the United States has been the most generous country in the world over the past decade? At APA we also encourage our employees to give back. Research shows that companies prioritizing giving back tend to see higher employee engagement and loyalty levels. Being happy at work isn't just a win for employees; it's also a win for employers. If you want to volunteer during the holiday season, please let your supervisor know we would love to support you.

At APA our residents are also encouraged to give back. This month our Dakota Reach boys got the opportunity to give back to the community by volunteering their time for people in need. They had a blast and asked to help again next year. This demonstrates that giving may be the secret to happiness. During this holiday season, I encourage you to find ways to give back. You won't regret it!

# A Helping Hand

On Friday November 17th Rushmore and some of our employees went and volunteered to help fill holiday baskets at the Aurora County Ag Building. The baskets went to 82 families that would be in need of a holiday dinner in Aurora County. With the fast paced line that was created the Rushmore boys were able to get 82 baskets filled in just a little over an hour! With lots of smiles and laughter shared Aurora Plains was able to assist in the filling of the baskets.









# Toby the Turkey

Toby the Turkey was a visual we used in the school to show everyone all of the many things we have to be thankful for. Students and staff were encouraged to write on Toby's feathers all of their blessings. The residents enjoyed giving compliments to staff, our comfort dogs, and the teachers.

## **ALL-STAFF MEETING**

12:30 PM

Did someone say TACOS?



### 7 days of CHRISTMAS!

Dec 12th-Feliz Navidad All Staff

Dec 13th-Lottery Tickets

Dec 14th- Coffee & Donuts

Dec 15th- Snackleboxes

Dec 16th- Fruit & Veggie Trays

Dec 17th– Meat & Cheese Trays

Dec 18th- Goodie Trays & Cookies



#### **Secret Santa**

If you plan on participating in secret Santa please get your information to M. Fischer! Secret Santa will start Dec 4th ending on Dec 20th.



Jeanson Pata— 3 Years
Rita Brandt— 6 Years
John Trunkey— 2 Years
Josh Wieger— 1 Year
Kathy Guindon— 8 Years



Jason Scott
Jeanson Pata
Celia Zaeringer
Dennis Krell
Zane Vaverka
Jada Clark
Rodney Rorex
Kristi Allen

### The Night Before Christmas

ERTSAMTS WCSDCWEOCRC S S В J T A X M O F Z A E R L Ε SANTAUXNNAE ZWEYRQXDSKNPN SCBKYECAS Z D EKECLATAI N RMAURIMYPBYQI MNPNQCVTMSCE Ε K M XSL AUK R C G Z RMC R 0 X F W MXYRU TOUZT Ε AQHDSOTPS B F D N C O DUU K D 0 C Ε IGHQHOL N GL E E J E H C S B H Y A O M L C D F D Y V J

turkey
christmas pudding
Jinglebells
nativity
Stocking
tinsel
holly

milk christmas tree candycane presents rudolph sleigh santa

cookies
Christmas pie
crackers
reindeer
snowman
bells
Snow