

# EAGLE PROFILE

Official Newsletter of USD 303 - Ness City Schools

## Kids Eat Free

KIDS EAT FREE This Summer (18 years old and younger) Ness City Courthouse Lawn, 202 W. Sycamore, Ness City. June 1st through June 29th. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays

## NHS Induction Ceremony

On March 13, the Ness City Chapter of the National Honor Society had the pleasure of inducting 10 new members into our ranks. Membership in the NHS is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a student. Membership is determined by a panel of Ness City faculty and rewards students that have demonstrated exceptional achievement in the areas of academics, extracurricular activities, and community service. The new members are Clay Beutler, Abby Cardenas, Jennifer Cardenas, Tiana Epperson, Ashley Foos, Milton Guzman, Iran Mesta, Taylor Murray, Jaiden Pavlu, and Virginia Schaben. All members of NHS are challenged to set an excellent example for fellow classmates, maintain integrity in their studies, and demonstrate maturity and respect toward others. Congratulations to all our new inductees!



## 2nd Grade Focuses on Kindness

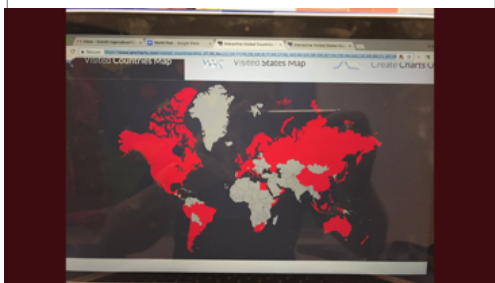
This year in second grade, we started the year off by delivering “kindness” rocks around the town of Ness City for others to find and then pass the act of kindness on. Random acts of kindness towards others, even though they might have not done anything nice specifically to you yet, was a big thing we focused on. One of the highlights from this year involved some of the Ness City firefighters stopping by and giving the students a tour of the fire truck and an insight into all of the equipment they have to wear. All of the students were so excited about the tour and it was the





## Mr. Roger's 4th Graders Explore the Benefits and Hazards of Social Media

This year, Mr. Rogers' 4th graders did a social media project that received views on every continent in the world and multiple states in the U.S. The students didn't believe me when I said that social media is one of the most powerful tools in existence (see pictures below). The students are still talking about this experiment at the end of the year. My hope was that the students would realize the benefits and hazards of posting things on social media in the future!



“talk” of second grade for weeks! We finished the year off by taking a trip to Great Bend with the 3rd and 4th graders to Up’N Rollin Skate Center where they got to go roller skating and play laser tag. The kids had an absolute blast learning how to roller skate and getting to play laser tag, but it was so impressive watching their determination and grit when they would fall during skating and get back right back up and keep trying! We also had to finish the year off by stopping by Frigid Creme to grab some of our favorite ice cream!



## HOW TO PROMOTE YOUR CHILD'S SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND MATH SKILLS By Kim McNinch

STEAM or STEM activities are being promoted and encouraged across the State of Kansas. This is due to the fact that the State of Kansas has a deficit of trained workers in the areas of technology, engineering, mathematics and sciences. With these deficits among workers many companies are relocating or recruiting out of state workers. Many people are intimidated by these fields of study. However, as parents there are many things you can do cheaply and inexpensively at home to develop the skills your child will need to find a productive and profitable job in the future. Many of these things are free or have minimal cost. They are found in dollar stores near you. These include things like car launchers, airplane models, 3D puzzles, whirling helicopters, anything you can launch, anything solar powered, expandable foam creatures, etc. Whenever children engage in play that they can see and feel they are developing skills they can apply to STEM concepts. I watched a documentary on the comparison of Aboriginal

children and educated white children of Australia. The Aboriginal children far exceeded the educated white children in spatial relationships. Spatial relationships are essential in developing mathematical skills. These Aboriginal children who were uneducated possessed these skills while the educated white children lagged behind. The reason for this was because the Aboriginal children were constantly outside playing in nature. They were experiencing science phenomena all around them. They watched projectile motions from the weapons they used. They saw insects and birds in flight. They played with rocks and sticks and learned to build with them. They developed crucial skills simply by playing.

Video games, social media and TV will never exceed the developmental skills needed by future generations as well as activities which engage children with real life good ole fashion playing! Kids need to climb trees, go fishing, catch insects, build a fort, go hiking, shoot baskets and play with fire (adult supervision of course). All these activities are promoting skills Skills your child will need to have before they can truly excel in STEM. Encourage your child to play. The best tool for your child's education is right outside your door.

### **Mrs. Marcus Leaves Her Mark on USD 303**

It has been my privilege to have been contracted by USD 303 for 53 years. During those years, I started by teaching fifth grade, then I was employed to establish an Elementary School Library and teach library skills to students for the next thirty years. From 1996 to 2003, I taught Kindergarten as well as maintaining the High School and Elementary School libraries. For the remainder of my career, I have worked part time in the High School Library.

I have worked with many administrators, board members, teachers and students during my tenure at Ness City. Needless to say as in any career, there have been many challenges, but I look back with pride over the things we have achieved together and some of the programs that have been adopted.

Someone asked me what have been the greatest changes I have seen. Personally, I have to say the evolution of technology especially having the libraries automated and the Accelerated Reading program which lets students choose books they want to read and then take a quiz on the computer to check how well they read.

One of my most memorable experiences was having to move the Elementary School Library four times over a period of four years when the old building was condemned. Another was when a student who had just taken an AR quiz told me, "Mrs. Marcus, that was the first time that I read the whole book!" How rewarding !!!!

I would be remiss not to mention the great help I have had by my paras and fellow teachers over the years. When establishing the Elementary School Library, Janice Fisher helped with typing and filing all the cards for the card catalog which is now obsolete. I also had Jeannie Reinert for a few years followed by Jean Schlegel who then became the City Library Director, and finally, Jo Pfannenstiel who continues to follow in my footsteps.

In the High School Library, Angela Muhurri, Michele Winter and Tammy Langer have all served as library paras and helped with getting the library automated and kept up to date. I truly appreciate all of the excellent help that I have received from these ladies.

In closing, I would like to thank all those who have been my friends and mentors through this journey in life. We can never take all the credit for our accomplishments because there is always someone behind us “who is the wind beneath our wings.”

**It has been a great privilege to have great educators such as Mrs. Marcus, Mrs. Schaub, and Mrs. Kepple in our school district. Thank you all for the many things you have done for our students, staff, school, and community. We wish you all well in retirement!**



### **NCHS to Offer New Science Elective**

Starting in the 2018-19 school year, juniors and seniors at NCHS will have the option to take a new science elective titled Environmental Science taught by Matthew Clay. The class will consist of field work where students will explore topics related to soil and water quality, environmental technologies, and ecological aspects of earth systems. During the class, students will learn skills that will be useful in environmental science and agriculture related careers, as well as to gain field experience that will be useful for students pursuing a variety of post-secondary options. The class was recently awarded a 2018 Grant for Excellence from the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation which will allow for purchasing equipment that will enable the students to establish a GIS-based soil quality monitoring program. Local landowners who are interested and willing to have students collect small soil samples for testing and monitoring please email Mr. Clay at [matt.clay@usd303.org](mailto:matt.clay@usd303.org) or call the school. Several incoming Juniors and Seniors will also participate in this summer’s Field Geology course which will again travel to Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park. The students will spend four nights tent camping in the Estes Valley. The plan is for the class to hike to the glacial Mills Lake as well as follow the 2017 class in climbing the 12,324’ Flattop Mountain. Prior to the trip at the end of July, the students will complete 8 weeks of online coursework taught by Mr. Clay. Ms. Bernbeck will be attending this year as an additional sponsor. Overall, there are many exciting opportunities in the future of USD #303 to get students outside and exploring.

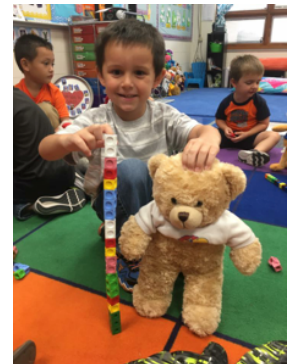
### 1st Graders Host a Tea Party for Moms

During the month of May, the First Grade class showed their appreciation to their moms by hosting a Mother's Day tea party. The First Graders planted flowers, filled out questionnaires and practiced songs to present to their moms. This was a great opportunity for the students to feel the positive impact of giving back. A big thank you to all of the moms that go above and beyond.



### Pre-School Finishes Another Successful Year

The end of the year is here and we graduated 16 preschoolers from my classroom. Most of these kiddos have had me for two years now and they have spent that time learning the skills needed to feel successful in Kindergarten! Every week we discussed a different letter and did activities that pertained to that letter. The activities we did each week were a lot fun and hands on. Not only did we work on things such as gluing, numbers, patterns, but we also worked in all different developmental areas. We worked on fine motor skills while cutting and gluing. Our gross motor skills when we did things like jumping, and pedaling trikes. When we played each day we worked on our social and emotional development. We talked about feelings with Mrs. Beutler every week as well. She taught us how to talk nicely to our friends and how to handle different situations that may not be easy for us to handle. We practice all of these when playing with our friends in the sand, with the baby dolls, and even blocks. I have truly enjoyed spending the day with each all of these little eagles and I can't wait to watch them continue to soar.



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Goes to Goodman State Fishing Lake

Mr. Schulte's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class went on their end of the year field trip on May 14<sup>th</sup> to Goodman State Fishing Lake. Students got to spend the day having a picnic, playing games outside, and fishing. There were many different species of fish caught as well as many different sizes. The class had enough success fishing that they went through 8 dozen worms. This was the first time fishing in the great outdoors for many of the students. Everyone, including staff, enjoyed being outside in the beautiful weather and taking in a local attraction like Goodman Dam. After spending the afternoon at the lake, the students cooled off with a slush and returned to school just in time to be dismissed. Mr. Schulte would like to thank those people that helped make this field day possible.

## Exploring with Ms. Cramer's 4th Grade

What a year in Ms. Cramer's 4th grade! There were 13 awesome kids that I had the privilege to teach every week! Time flies when you are having fun because this school year went by fast. We had done several PBLs (project base learning), explored things in and out of the classroom, and of course had tons of fun along the way. This group of kids was a blast to be around and I had so much fun being able to explore the wonders of learning with them. Throughout the year, I had the honor of seeing each and every student learn and develop into some awesome individuals. Not only did they grow academically, but they also realized that they were going to be some of the upperclassmen next year and stepped up to be solid role models for the younger kids. Some of the pictures from our year are below. They include trips that we took around the community as well as some of the activities that we did in class.



## Ness City High School Awards Banquet

The Ness City High School Awards Banquet was held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in the high school cafeteria followed by the Awards Ceremony in the high school auditorium. Many students, families, and community members were on hand as we celebrated the many accomplishments of our high school students. Students were recognized for participation in KAYS, Scholars Bowl, Band, Vocal, Art, Industrial Art, Drama/Forensics, as well as academic and athletics accomplishments. Many local scholarships and local and state recognitions were awarded. We would especially like to thank the community for their dedication to helping make these scholarships possible.



## Seniors

### **Kerri Bruntz**

**Scholarship** – Frank Stull Post American Legion Auxiliary, Olin Cole American Legion, Ness City Rotary Club, Ness County Farm Bureau, Thomas & Roberta Harkness Endowed, Matt Kraft Gun Rights, Wet Walnut Creek Watershed District, Knights of Columbus

**Awards** - President's Education

### **Jake Byrd**

**Awards** - President's Education, Principal's Honor Roll

### **Brennan Chacon**

**Awards** – Kansas Scholar Curriculum Completer, Craig Horchem Courage

### **Angelena Copeland**

**Scholarship** - Ness City Rotary Club, Matt Kraft Gun Rights, Knights of Columbus

**Awards** - President's Education, Principal's Honor Roll, Lyle C. Goff

### **Levi Crosswhite**

**Scholarship** – NCK Educator Day

### **Kelly Durham**

**Scholarship** - Olin Cole American Legion

### **Trey Freel**

**Scholarship** -Thomas & Roberta Harkness Endowed, Orville & Beulah Klitzke Memorial, Wild West Catbacker

**Awards** – President's Education, Kansas Honor Scholar, Principal's Honor Roll

### **Miriam Guzman**

**Scholarship** - Ness City Rotary Club, Helen Foster Ward, Knights of Columbus

### **Baylee Holecek**

**Scholarship** – Orville & Beulah Klitzke Memorial

**Awards** - President's Education, Kansas Scholar Curriculum Completer

### **Lucas Kjellberg**

**Scholarship** – NCK Educator Day

### **Mario Luna**

**Awards** - President's Education, Kansas Honor Scholar, Kansas Scholar Curriculum Completer, Principal's Leadership

### **Cicely Moody**

**Scholarship** - American Legion Auxiliary, Ness County Healthcare Foundation, Matt Kraft Gun Rights, Leslie & Irene Murdock Memorial, Knights of Columbus

**Awards** - President's Education

### **Christian Scheopner**

**Awards** - President's Education

### **Madison Seery**

**Scholarship** - Thomas & Roberta Harkness Endowed, Orville & Beulah Klitzke Memorial

**Awards** - President's Education, Kansas Honor Scholar, Kansas Scholar Curriculum Completer, Governor's Scholar

**Westin Slagle**

**Scholarship** - Thomas & Roberta Harkness Endowed, Good Shepherd  
**Awards** - President's Education

**Kyla Stephen**

**Awards** - President's Education, Kansas Scholar Curriculum Completer, Principal's Honor Roll

**Trevor VanDegrift**

**Scholarship** – American Red Cross

**Jocelyn Walker**

**Scholarship** – Wild West Catbacker  
**Award** - President's Education, Dale M. Dennis Excellence in Education

**Juniors**

**Tianna Epperson** - Principal's Honor Roll

**Iran Mesta** - Principal's Honor Roll

**Landon Reinhardt** - Principal's Honor Roll, American Legion Boys State, Gradatim Club Essay Contest Scholarship

**Sophomores**

**Sebastian Araiza-Bejarano** - Principal's Honor Roll

**Abby Cardenas** - Principal's Honor Roll

**Ashley Foos** - Principal's Honor Roll

**Kassidy McGranahan** - Principal's Honor Roll

**Joe Stewart** - Principal's Honor Roll

**Freshmen**

**Dylan Bruntz** - Principal's Honor Roll

**2018 Ness City Junior High Track**

Another track season has come to an end, and this year blew by quite literally. Our first few track meets were canceled due to high winds and cold temperatures. When we finally got the chance to compete these kids didn't disappoint! They are all great at displaying all of their hard work.

Our eighth graders battled a few injuries and illnesses this season but came around to have a great showing during the league meet. At league, our eighth grade boys missed winning the meet by 1 point to LaCrosse.

Top Three 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Finishers from the League Meet in Kinsley:

Boys-

**400m**

2<sup>nd</sup> Gavin Schreiber 58.10

**800m**

1<sup>st</sup> Gavin Schreiber 2:22.15

**100m Hurdles**

1<sup>st</sup> Jackson Seib 17.78

**4x1 Relay**



1<sup>st</sup> Jackson Seib, Alex Pavlu, Taylor Cable and Gavin Schreiber 53.11

**4x2 Relay**

2<sup>nd</sup> Brycen Mitchell, Taylor Cable, Jay Cupp and Dallin Walter 1:57.78

**Shot Put**

2<sup>nd</sup> Dallin Walter 33'3"

**High Jump**

1<sup>st</sup> Taylor Cable 5'4"

3<sup>rd</sup> Gavin Schreiber 4'10"

**Long Jump**

2<sup>nd</sup> Jackson Seib 16'1.75"

**Triple Jump**

3<sup>rd</sup> Taylor Cable 33'1"

Girls-

**100m**

1<sup>st</sup> Taylor Starr 13.91

**200m**

2<sup>nd</sup> Caidyn Horton 30.72

**400m**

3<sup>rd</sup> Taylor Starr 1:07.55

**Mile**

2<sup>nd</sup> Caidyn Horton 6:30.7

**200m Hurdles**

1<sup>st</sup> Taylor Starr 32.37

**4x1 Relay**

1<sup>st</sup> Taylor Starr, Ava Reis, Alexa Reinhardt and Caidyn Horton 58.72

**Discus**

3<sup>rd</sup> Amy Foss 75'

The seventh graders also had a great learning season. Being new to track and the whole meet experience can sometimes be daunting. These kids did great at showing up, working hard and being ready to compete! I cannot wait to see the things they will accomplish next year as eighth graders!

Top Three 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Finishers from the League Meet in Kinsley:

Boys-

**4x1**

1<sup>st</sup> Raul Lopez, Reyes Tavarez, Alfonso Luna and Bryce Flax 54.79

Girls-

**400m**

Mackenzy Tillitson 1:07.52

**4x1**

2<sup>nd</sup> Hannah Delaney, Vanessa Guzman, Aneth Reyes and Mackenzy Tillitson 1:00.56

Huge thank you to all of our coaches and athletes, I am looking forward to the great things that will come for these kids next year!

**2017-2018 Forensics**

By Jennifer Foos

During the 2017-2018 Forensics Season NCHS had a small but mighty team of competitors. Those who participated in at least one meet included; Abby Cardenas, Angelena Copeland, Alysson Foos, Cicely Moody, Savannah Moore, Landon Reinhardt, Magdiel Rivera, Kyla Stephen and Jaymi Stewart.

We had at least one person from our team break into finals at every meet. Jaymi Stewart, Angelena Copeland, Landon Reinhardt, Cicely Moody and Kyla Stephen all qualified to participate at State Champs on Saturday, May 5th in Wichita. In order to qualify for this event their performance had to be ranked 1st or 2nd at a qualifying meet. This is not an easy task, so those who qualified for State Champs should be very proud.

Landon Reinhardt and Cicely Moody participated in Impromptu Duet Acting and made it into the Semi Final Round which included the top twelve IDA teams in 2A. Kyla Stephen competed in the Prose Division. I am very proud of all three for making it to State Champs. It was a very long competitive day. Also thanks to Amanda Buethe for Volunteering to help judge at the State Competition.

The team would also like to thank Amanda Buethe, Dawn Flax, and Jeanette Moore for volunteering to drive us to meets and volunteering to judge when needed throughout the season. Without them, we could not have been able to compete.

If you are interested in helping work at a Forensics Meet or would be willing to Judge please let Mrs. Foos know. Ness City will be hosting the CPL League Forensics Meet next spring, so we will be in search of volunteers to help make the meet run smoothly.

**NCHS Golf Qualifies Two for State Tournament**

The Ness City Eagle Golfers completed a successful 2018 campaign with 2 of our golfers advancing to the 2A state meet in Pittsburg. I want to personally thank Carrie Beutler for



Kyla Stephen, Landon Reinhardt, and Cicely Moody at 2A State Forensics.

helping me transport the kids and keep me organized, and Weston Vogel for teaching the kids the finer points of the game. On to the individual efforts for the year.

Kade Stoecklein: Finished 5th at Hoisington, 5th at Grinnell, and 7th at Montezuma, 3rd at CPL, 7th at Kinsley, and 5th at Trego JV. Finished 9th at the Oberlin Regional and is a State Qualifier!

Clay Beutler: Finished 9th at Hoisington, 9th at Claflin, 2nd at Hill City JV, 7th at Montezuma JV meet, 14th at the CPL meet, and 6th at Trego JV. Finished 7th at the Oberlin Regional and is a State Qualifier!

Dayton Copeland: Finished 6th at Hill City JV Meet.

Ryan Gabel: Finished 7th at the Hill City JV meet, 12th at Montezuma JV meet.

Our other golfers are Brayden Vogel, Janate Kerr and Brendon Reed. I look forward to having all of our golfers back in future seasons!

### **NCHS Track Qualifies Seven for State Track Meet**

The 2018 High School Track and Field team kicked off practice on Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. The Junior High team, coached by Kendra Pfannenstiel, had 36 participants and the High School team, coached by Patrick Younger, had 40 participants. This is Kendra's 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Head coach of the junior high squad and Patrick's 12<sup>th</sup> year as head coach. Assistant coaches this year were Jarrett Schulte, Shelby Heim, Case Beckman, Shawn Starr and Marc Cowles. I was very pleased with the work and effort all of our kids put in for the past 5 weeks of the season before we attended our 1<sup>st</sup> meet. We had great numbers during our spring break practices which has helped lead to being one of my hardest working teams I've ever coached. We do have 4 seniors and good junior class group but overall we are young and inexperienced but that is what keeps me excited because we are improving everyday!

We return 7 state qualifiers in Seniors Baylee Holecek, Brennan Chacon, Trevor VanDeGrift; Juniors Tiana Epperson, John Pfannenstiel; and Sophomores Nate Gabel, Wyatt Rupp. Nate, however, severely injured his knee during basketball season so he was unable to compete this track season. Wyatt severely injured his foot/ankle/lower leg the first week of practice, and unfortunately, the injury kept him out for most of the season.

Our 4 Seniors (Baylee, Brennan, Westin and Trevor) have done a great job of stepping up and leading the team all season. Not only have their teammates looked up to them, but these 4 have also scored a lot of points at our meets.

We have needed our Freshman and Sophomores to learn and develop fast and they have all answered the call. They are a big part of our team and they are doing a great job. I really like the balance of our team with the 4 seniors, a good core Junior group and the Freshmen and Sophomores I just mentioned.

We have had an excellent schedule of meets so far that has helped in developing our kids fast and preparing us for very competitive League and Regional meets. We were able to attend the Pre-State Challenge at Wichita State University so hopefully that will pay dividends when we get to the championship portion of our schedule.

I appreciate all these 4 seniors have done for the program and they have earned every bit of their success. I will miss all 4 of these student athletes. I am excited for the future of the program and these 4 seniors have had a huge part in keeping the program going strong! At League, we had 7 girls/relays that finished as All-Central Prairie League (top 6), Rylee Starr, Jayme Tillitson, Cynthia Guzman, Baylee Holecek, Kinzi Cox, Summer Pfannenstiel, Ashley Foos. On the boys side, Wesitn Slagle, Landon Reinhardt, Easton Seib, Angel Guzman, Trevor VanDegrift, Matt Delaney, John Pfannenstiel, Brennan Chacon, Alex Rodriguez, Edwin Rodriguez, Skyler Woods, Andres Rios.

At Regionals we had 7 individuals qualify for state: Baylee Holecek in both hurdle races, Rylee Starr 200, Tiana Epperson in all throws, Trevor VanDegrift in shot and discus, Brennan Chacon and John Pfannenstiel in javelin and Landon Reinhardt in triple Jump. At State Trevor placed 6<sup>th</sup> in Shot, John placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Javelin, Tiana placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Shot, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Javelin and 8<sup>th</sup> in Discus. These individuals earned All-State accolades!

We will return 4 of the 7 state qualifiers and the development the whole team made throughout the season gets me excited for next season! I believe we will have a strong Freshman class coming in as well so hopefully we can keep building from this season!

I would like to thank my wife and family for putting up with me all season as I can get a little crazy this time of year. Thank you to my awesome coaching staff for all of the time and energy you put and accepting my craziness. I would like to thank all 40 student-athletes that have dedicated their time to being the best that they can be. And I would like to thank USD 303 and the parents of these 40 student athletes for the opportunity to coach these fine young men and women. Everyone should be proud of their hard work all season!

### **USD 303 Board of Education Approves Girls' Softball Program**

Excitement was felt by many girls after the May Board Meeting when the Board approved a softball program for the 2018-2019 school year! Ness City High School is now working to set a spring softball schedule for the high school girls and get equipment ordered.

Over the past six months a group of students, parents and supporters have been raising the \$12,000 projected to cover the costs associated with having a program. There have been multiple fundraisers including meals, concessions, cake raffles, and free throw shooting contests.

Even though a schedule is being set for next spring, the fundraising efforts of this group are far from over. In order to have the program continue for the following season this group must also continue to raise a similar amount. They are also hoping to be able to raise enough to start the baseball program as well.

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, the High School Girls hosted a softball clinic behind the grade school for any girls who have completed grades kindergarten through sixth grades to help with their basic softball skills and to prepare them for their upcoming recreation softball season.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a garage sale and possible car wash held to raise funds. If you have items you would like to donate for the garage sale please contact Tonya Fenley 798-0545. Also be watching for the Girls softball team at the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Community Fireworks as they are hoping to be able to serve a free will donation meal for the community. Watch for more information about this in the future.

If you would like to support the NCHS Softball team by making a donation please contact Tonya Fenley at Ness City High School.

# Party favors

*Allowing minors to drink on your property  
can cost you:*

**A \$1,000 fine**

**365 days in jail**

**Legal liability**

If these facts don't grab you, maybe the thought of smiling for your very own mug shot will. Be a responsible host. *It Matters.*



Ness County Coalition  
785-798-3388  
nchc2@gbta.net