



For More Information Contact:
Jenny Van Soelen, Marketing Director
Phone: (712) 329-9000
Fax: (712) 328-0228
vansoelenj@saintalbertschools.org

For Immediate Release

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Saint Albert Benefit Auction is “A Knight for the Kids”

“A Knight for the Kids” is the theme of the 29th Annual Saint Albert Benefit Auction, held this year on Saturday, April 24, at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs. More than 750 people are expected to attend the event.

According to Mary Clouse and Lesa Socha, co-chairpeople for the event this year, the auction is one of the school’s largest annual fund-raising efforts. The event will showcase the school’s proud tradition of excellence in academics and extracurricular activities.

“The auction is a great way for the Council Bluffs community to come together in support of Catholic education in this area,” Mary Clouse said. “It also allows us to say thank you to the many people who have given so much to Saint Albert Schools.”

Tickets for the auction are available now at the Saint Albert Business Office at 400 Gleason Avenue. The cost is \$50 each.

The festivities begin with Mass at 4 p.m. at Queen of Apostles Church (3304 4th Avenue). At 5 p.m., doors open at the Mid-America Center and bidding begins on hundreds of silent auction items. Auction favorites like personalized class gifts and autographed sports memorabilia will be available, as well as a large selection from Steven’s Jewelers. The silent auction also will feature a variety of sculptures from Isabel Bloom.

The auction dinner of Whiskey Steak, Chicken Nona, wild rice, seasonal vegetables, salad and rolls will be served at 6:30 p.m. Boston cream pie and carrot cake will top off the meal.

The oral auction follows dinner at 7:30 p.m. and features about 90 items that will be sold to the highest bidder. Featured items include trips to Chicago, Disney World and Manzanilla,

Mexico, a 40" TV, home sound system, iPad with Wi-Fi, patio furniture and fire pit, and one-of-a-kind handmade quilts.

In addition to the auctions, another highlight of the evening will be the drawing for the "Go Green" cash raffle. The grand prize is \$25,000 in cash, 2nd prize is \$5,000 and 3rd-5th prizes are \$1,000 each. The drawing will take place at approximately 10:30 p.m. Tickets for the "Go Green" raffle cost \$50 each or 3 for \$100 and will be sold until 9 p.m. the night of the auction.

"The Saint Albert Auction is the largest of its kind in Council Bluffs," Clouse said. "Proceeds from the auction allow Saint Albert to offer high quality educational programs for our students and helps the school keep tuition affordable for families in southwest Iowa. We know we can count on the generosity of the people of the Council Bluffs metro area to support this endeavor."

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Photo/video opportunities are available: If you would like to attend the auction and/or raffle drawing, please call Jenny Van Soelen at (712) 329-9000.

Saint Albert Schools is the only Catholic grade school and K-12 system in the State of Iowa or Nebraska that is both state and regionally accredited. Committed to the teachings of the Catholic church, the mission of Saint Albert Schools is to foster spiritual, moral, physical and intellectual growth for all students.