

THE MESSENGER

A publication of the Hillsboro R-3 School District

Fishback is awarded Teacher of the Year

By **Tiffany Langley**
Staff Writer

Each year parents, students, faculty and staff in each building nominate a candidate to be considered for the Hillsboro R-3 Teacher of the Year. Candidates are honored at the annual Staff Recognition Dinner, held at the Hillsboro Community Civic Club Grounds. This year's winner, Carolyn Fishback, was announced at the dinner March 18.

Carolyn Fishback has

been teaching kindergarten at the Primary school for 10 years. She also teaches in the multi-age program in the afternoon. Fishback graduated from Hillsboro in 1979. Two of her daughters have since graduated; her son is in the second grade. Fishback said she especially enjoys tutoring students before school.

"It was an honor to be nominated by my peers. It is a great honor just to work with the gifted staff in my building," Fishback said. "Everyone is very friendly and eager to share his or her

ideas with one another."

"It was the most wonderful feeling," Fishback said of the moment when her name was announced at the dinner.

Janis Jehle has been teaching at the Elementary for 31 years as a reading specialist. Jehle has received the Teacher of the Year award for the Elementary.

During Jehle's time teaching for Hillsboro, she has taught fourth grade, fifth grade, and remedial reading.

"I was very proud to receive an award from my peers. I work with a lot of



Carolyn Fishback, shown with Dr. Smith, looks at her plaque after being announced as R-3 Teacher of the Year.

See TEACHER, Page 6

Proposition Survival, Proposition Hawk on April 6 ballot

By **Shelton Smith**
Superintendent

During the past few weeks, a few of us have been invited to speak to various organizations, civic clubs, and neighborhood groups on behalf of Proposition Survival and Proposition Hawk. We produced a sheet that contained the answers to the most often asked questions.

The previous question and answer sheet addressed several issues: that passage of the levy means maintaining smaller class sizes; that the tax increase will be less than \$100 per year in addi-

tional taxes for most people; that the lottery money has never been earmarked for public schools; that the district has already cut over two million dollars over the past three years; that the district ranks tenth out of eleven school districts in local taxes per pupil; that the district will have to eliminate student activities and employees if the levy fails; and that if the Governor released the money he's holding, it is not nearly the amount that the district is projected to lose next year in state funding.

However, other questions have arisen:

1. *Will the number of nurses that we have (one per building) be reduced even if the tax increase passes?*

NO. The board is committed to keeping one nurse per building if the tax levy passes.

2. *Will the sixth grade band program be eliminated even if the tax passes?*

NO. All activities, programs, and services will be retained if the levy passes.

3. *Will the board roll back the tax levy if the Governor releases the money he's holding and if the tax increase passes?*

See SMITH, Page 3



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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Labels, box tops can earn schools money

By Mallory Dodson
Staff Writer

Campbells Labels for Education is a program that has been going on for almost 30 years. Its purpose is for schools around the country to receive new school supplies at little or no cost. Such merchandise includes computers, sports equipment, musical instruments and much more.

For as long as this program has been around, Hillsboro has been taking advantage of it.

Kathleen Smith, Hillsboro Primary librarian, has been collecting labels since she began working at Hillsboro 14 years ago. Smith organizes and monitors how many labels are being collected through the primary building.

"We have collected as many coupons as possible, and then we attach them to the labels that we have already collected," Smith said. "Our goal this year is to finish saving approximately 4500 labels and bonus points to purchase an additional digital camera for classroom use, along with maps."

Smith's secretary, Paula Schweitzer, and her grandson participate in the program by cutting and sorting labels.

Smith said her duties include doing the final bundling, packaging, and ordering.

"We have collected approximately

2500 labels so far this year and earned 1500 bonus points," Smith said.

The Campbells Labels for Education program lasts year round, so it's never too late to contribute labels. It is also a great opportunity for school districts to purchase additional school materials.

In addition to soup labels, box tops are also being accepted. Each box top saved and collected is worth 10 cents. So far, the Primary's grand total of box tops is 8,205.

"We still need 6,775 to reach our goal," Smith said. "So please keep them coming!"

Along with the Primary, the Elementary, Intermediate and Junior High Schools are also participating in collecting labels and box tops.

Elementary librarian Diane Behlke has been participating with the program for 8 years and coordinates the program for the elementary building.

Intermediate librarian Tina Clark has been a participant for the last two years and has a goal of reaching 29,450 labels.

"As the budget gets tighter, we will become more dependent on other sources to help us to purchase books," Clark said.

According to the Campbells catalog, it takes 2,500 labels just to receive an average book; a science video requires



Kathy Smith, Primary building librarian, coordinates the collection of labels and box tops in her building.

3,900 labels. Last year the Elementary collected enough labels to receive one science video for the school.

Lisa Welker and Joan Sebaugh's classes trim and prepare the labels and box tops for shipping in the Intermediate.

At the Junior High, the main office coordinates the program.

This is the first year the Junior High has collected labels and box tops. They began in mid-January. Secretary Mary Felhker said that because of the budget crunch, the Junior High is looking for different ways to raise money for their school.

Since the Junior High has only recently registered, they still need a lot of support and labels.

Labels can be donated to any building office or library.

P.E. classes raise money for American Heart Association

By Melissa Bennett
Staff Writer

There was a lot of jumping around in the elementary, even more than usual, when the third graders participated in Jump Rope for Heart.

The event took place for three days in March and benefitted the American Heart Association. The students raised \$3,686.46 total.

Ms. Shannon Murray's class raised the most of all

the third grade classes. Murray's class raised \$904. Tyler Welker, a student in Murray's class, raised more than any other third grader. Welker raised \$525.

Every year Ms. Joyce Marshall, the elementary gym teacher, has her third grade gym classes raise money for the American Heart Association through Jump Rope for Heart.

"I want the kids to understand the importance of ex-

ercise, healthy eating habits, not smoking, and hopefully give them a healthy life style when they get older," Marshall said.

During the 40 minute gym classes, the students go through five different stations for the event, things like jump roping, badminton, pull-ups, horse shoes, peg board, and a climbing wall ladder. And it's not just for the students.

Parents are invited to participate in Jump Rope for Heart.



Ms. Shannon Murray's class raised more than \$3,000 for the event.

The parents get to do whatever their students are doing.

"It is heartwarming when a parent is enjoying this special time with their child," Marshall said.

Continued from Page 1

YES, if the levy passes, and assuming that there are no cuts in other revenue. We have to be careful when the legislature says that they are funding the foundation formula that is used to determine what school districts receive from the state.

They may give us state aid money only to take it away from transportation, gifted education, at-risk programs, and so forth. The local school board has stated publicly that they will reduce the levy to the amount that is needed to keep current staffing levels, the same activities, the same programs, and the same services.

Of course, the board has to maintain minimum balances in order to operate through the summer and fall until they get local tax

money.

4. *How much do board members get paid to serve on the board of education?*

NOTHING. Board members in the state of Missouri do not get paid. They serve the public without compensation. They meet once a month, but occasionally they also have special board meetings. They attend a variety of legislative and school board association meetings, conferences, and workshops on matters related to public schools. Their primary responsibility is to set policies that govern the school district.

5. *What is the difference between Proposition Survival and Proposition Hawk?*

Proposition Survival is the 54-cent tax increase that will allow the district to keep many classified staff (aides,

nurses, custodians, food service personnel, a bus mechanic) and teachers (classroom, at-risk, alternative school, gifted).

If it passes, it will also allow the district to keep all student activities programs (sports, music, drama, clubs, organizations).

Proposition Hawk is the no-tax increase bond issue that will allow the district to transfer 28 cents to the general fund, and added to the 54 cents, will make up state revenue losses.

It will also allow us to make several building renovations, site improvements, roof and tuck pointing repairs, add a parking area at the Primary, add a handicapped accessibility elevator and replace the old boiler at the Elementary, replace

HVAC at the Junior High, build a walkway between buildings at the Intermediate, and make play field upgrades at all campuses. There are also door, ceiling tile, floor tile, and fixture replacements needed throughout the campuses.

Both issues must pass in order for the district to preserve all staff, programs, and services.

PROPOSITION SURVIVAL VOTE APRIL 6 PROPOSITION HAWK

If you have questions about anything related to these issues, please call the superintendent or your child's principal.

SURVIVAL of HAWK pride depends on one vote ... YOURS.

PROPOSITION SURVIVAL		Hillsboro R-3 School District	PROPOSITION HAWK																								
54¢ Tax Increase			No Tax Increase Bond Issue																								
IF PASSES, WE WILL KEEP	IF FAILS, THEN	Please Vote	BOTTOM LINE - WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR OUR KIDS?																								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	on April 6th!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility Repairs • A/C & Heating Replacement • Additional Parking at Primary • Remove Prefabs • Safety/Security Improvements • Roof Repair • Boiler Replacement • Asphalt Repair • Raze Oldest Building • Cafeteria Improvements • Improvements to Physical Education and Athletic Fields • Sheltered Walkway for Intermediate Buildings 																								
<table border="1"> <tr><td>Sports</td><td>Eliminated</td></tr> <tr><td>Class Sizes (Smaller)</td><td>Larger</td></tr> <tr><td>Student Activities</td><td>Eliminated</td></tr> <tr><td>Gifted Education</td><td>Reduced</td></tr> <tr><td>Alternative School</td><td>Reduced</td></tr> <tr><td>At-Risk Education</td><td>Reduced</td></tr> <tr><td>Vocational School</td><td>Reduced</td></tr> <tr><td>Jazz Band</td><td>Eliminated</td></tr> <tr><td>Intermediate Band</td><td>Eliminated</td></tr> <tr><td>Faculty & Staff</td><td>Reduced</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2"><small>(Includes teachers, nurses, aides, para-professionals, library staff, & secretaries)</small></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2"><small>(36-51 positions)</small></td></tr> </table>	Sports	Eliminated			Class Sizes (Smaller)	Larger	Student Activities	Eliminated	Gifted Education	Reduced	Alternative School	Reduced	At-Risk Education	Reduced	Vocational School	Reduced	Jazz Band	Eliminated	Intermediate Band	Eliminated	Faculty & Staff	Reduced	<small>(Includes teachers, nurses, aides, para-professionals, library staff, & secretaries)</small>		<small>(36-51 positions)</small>		<p>District has cut 1.8 million dollars and eight faculty & staff over the past two years!</p> <p>Please check the district's website for additional information:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">http://www.hillsboro.k12.mo.us</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Paid for by "Blue and White Pride" Steering Committee Keith Woodland, Treasurer</small></p>
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Elementary students celebrate books

By Sarah Porter
Staff Writer

The Read Across America Day, created by NEA, is a day to celebrate reading. The goal is to get students excited about books; it is held annually on Dr. Seuss's birthday, March 2. Each child in every community is encouraged to read or celebrate Dr. Seuss's Day in some way.

"The ultimate goal was to get the children familiar with the Dr. Seuss collection of books and to want to read," Ms. Janis Jehle, a teacher in the elementary reading room said.

Hillsboro Elementary turned NEA's Read Across America Day into a week-long event from March 1-5. They called the celebration Dr. Seuss Week. "The children really get into activi-



Chris Clark and Ethan Morris celebrated Dr. Seuss Week with Ms. Hanewinkel. Students wore Dr. Seuss hats and began the day with a green eggs and ham breakfast.



Students in Ms. Jeanette Hanewinkel's class were introduced to a variety of books in the Dr. Seuss collection throughout the week.

ties when they are more than one day and it gave the classrooms the opportunity to incorporate writing activities as well," Jehle said.

During the week, students took part in days such as Dr. Seuss Tie Day on Tuesday, where students were encouraged to wear a tie of a Seuss-like nature. On Wednesday, the students celebrated hat day and wore hats from the world of Dr. Seuss. Special incen-

tives were also offered for normal classroom activities, such as the Accelerated Reader program. If a student passed an Accelerated Reader test with an 80 percent or above, the child received a Seuss sticker or tattoo and was entered in the end of the week drawing for a Cat in the Hat hat.

Friday was DEAR, Drop Everything and Read Day. The hour from 2-3 p.m. was reserved for reading.

On March 2, a

Green Eggs and Ham breakfast was held in Ms. Jeannette Hanewinkel's fifth-grade class, where the students had a morning meal of green eggs and bacon, milk, bread, and jelly.

After breakfast, Hanewinkel read a few Dr. Seuss books aloud to the class, and the students also read their own favorite Seuss stories. "Students were [also] allowed to wear their P.J.'s to be comfortable

if they wanted," Hanewinkel said.

Why the cause for such celebration this year? Theodore Seuss Geisel's 100th birthday would have been on March 2, 2004.

"The best part of the week was that the library could hardly keep up with the demand for books, not just Seuss, but everything," Jehle said. "The library could hardly keep up with the reshelving process."

Team Impact encourages kids to make good choices

By Josh McCullough
Staff Writer

At the Elementary, a group called Team Impact performed at an assembly about how to be a positive dream maker and not a dream breaker.

"The kids were drawn to them; I didn't see one kid not drawn to them. They were amazing. They talked about not doing drugs, and to make your own choices and not to let anyone make them for you," said Jan Torrence, the library aide.

Team Impact not only showed off their strengths mentally and physically but demonstrated to students that be-

ing cool includes the way they present themselves and respect others. Their message was how to encourage one another and that dreams are reachable.

Their stunts included ripping telephone books in half with their bare hands, bending one-inch solid steal bars, and going head-to-head with a carpenter in a nailing contest--the carpenter used a hammer; a member of Team Im-



A member of Team Impact.



Students in the elementary raise their hands to answer in response to the presentation by Team Impact. The group talked about making positive choices.

pact used his fists to hammer. The carpenter lost.

Magician performs to benefit Project Prom

By Mallory Dodson
Staff Writer

There was magic in the air Friday, March 12 as Josh McVicar, a professional magician known as McVicar the Trickster, visited Hillsboro High School to perform a magic show.

It was a show for all ages and was held in the theater. The show began at 7 p.m. Adults were admitted for \$5 and children and students were \$3.

All proceeds from that night help benefit Project Prom, organized by parents and staff members like Junior High teacher Tina Thebeau and High School secretary Debbie Roberts.

Thebeau said that McVicar had been practicing magic for eight years and hypnosis for two.

Approximately 300 seats were sold; the committee brought in \$380 from the show.

"He was a student at Central Missouri State Univer-

sity, and is now working as a comedian magician and hypnotist," Thebeau said of McVicar. "He has performed for kids with cancer at St. Joseph's West, and other events hosted by TGI Fridays, Red Robin, Applebees, Visa, Mizzou, and even at Six Flags."

"I thought the magic show was very entertaining," Thebeau said.

"The magician was funny, cute, and very professional. I got to watch him set up, and I still couldn't figure out how he pulled off some of his tricks. He got the audience involved with his tricks; it was more than just magic. It was like a comedy show and magic rolled into one."

Thebeau said that she hoped the magic show would start a new tradition for Hillsboro High School.

The Project Prom Committee will also host a dinner, pageant and auction in April. See related story on page 11.

DEAR Drop everything and read



Sara Webb, along with classmates Andrew Gerstner (middle) and Collin Ijames, all read books for DEAR.



Bradley Warden gets into his book during Drop Everything and Read at the Elementary.

Geography bee finalists chosen

The sixth grade classes participated again this year in the National Geographic Geography Bee.

The 10 finalists chosen from the 6th grade were Matt Gallion, D.J. Woods, Shawnah Stephane, Nick Harris, Deven Merritt, Robert McKelvey, Alex Ray and Elice Hall; John Hahler won first place and D.J. Gilliam was runner-up.

Mothers' Club is grateful for help

The Hillsboro Mother's Club would like to give a big thanks to all of the help we have received for all of our events so far this school year; we couldn't have been so successful without all of the parents, teachers, librarians, students, principals, and maintenance workers.

The book fairs this past fall were a success and the librarians really appreciated the money that was raised to help fund the libraries.

The Santa's Shop that we hold for the Elementary and Intermediate Buildings was wonderful; selling gifts at our cost to the students was equally great. We really appreciate the parents and teachers participation-the kids just love it.

The Fall Fundraiser was a huge success this year. We thank everybody who participated in this big event: students, parents, and teachers. Thanks also to the parents who couldn't participate, but

donated money instead.

The Hillsboro Mothers' Club will use the money wisely, helping in every way that we can during this time of budget cuts and monetary problems. It has been a busy year so far. We are looking forward to the rest of this great school year.

Thanks again to all who work to make our schools great.

Sincerely,

Members of the Hillsboro Mothers' Club

Projects make Pioneer history 3-D

By Eric Rains
Staff Writer

In March, the fourth grade students at the Elementary studied Missouri Pioneer history.

This was no ordinary assignment; the students had to build either a dwelling or some form transportation from the pioneer era of history.

Students had to make their projects as authentic as possible, explain who used the item, how it was made, and how it was helpful to people during that time.

Projects ranged from a canoe totally carved from a single piece of wood to a house held together only by wooden pegs. Other projects depicted people rowing down a stream in a flat-bottom boat.

The classes doing these projects included those taught by Ms. Karen Paruch and Ms. Denise Sanford.

"Parents and relatives were invited to join the students in making their projects because this project is great for students and parents to learn and have fun at the same time," Paruch said.



Courtney Ubben built a home.



Austin Damkroger made a homestead.

The projects were put on display for two weeks during their study. Other classes participated in this project as well, later in the month.

"I think this is great; parents and students working together. It shows that parents are willing to help with their child's education," Paruch said.

Art and science fair encourages kids' creativity at Elementary

By Tiffany Langley
Staff Writer

On January 22, the Elementary held their annual Art and Science Fair. The fair was from 7-8:30 p.m. Students participated in the art fair by showing off their art work from first semester.

The first display that greeted fair guests was the fourth grade "Under the Sea" presentation. Near the cafeteria, the fourth graders displayed their still life drawings.

Third graders held their part of the art fair in the cafeteria, where there were water color dragons, candid sky portraits, and paper masché fish.

"It makes me feel good that students can see differently when it comes to artwork and that it is individual ex-



Students displayed projects for the annual Elementary Art and Science Fair; this was part of the "Under the Sea" exhibit.

pression," said Robyn Smelser, who helped coordinate the fair.

The science fair was held in the gymnasium. Chemistry and physics were two categories.

Tables were set up with demonstrations such as: The Water Cycle, Get Recharged at the Electric Center, Estimation Station, and Calculate Your Weight on the Moon.

Victoria Fricke, a fourth grade teacher, said her favorite part of the science fair was "seeing the new and interesting projects, the quality, and the work the kids put into the project."

Several of the science projects were chosen to be presented at the Mastodon Regional Art and Science Fair that was held at Jefferson College March 19-21.

TEACHER

Continued from Page 1

wonderful teachers, all deserving of the honor," Jehle said. "I love the children and enjoy working with them, and helping them be successful students with positive attitudes."

Stephanie Ashley has been teaching at the Intermediate for 12 years as the art teacher. Ashley is the Intermediate nominee for Teacher of the Year.

"I felt it was a great honor to receive this nomination, and I am proud of it," Ashley said.

Jackie Marz has been teaching at the Junior High for six years. She is the Junior High choice for Teacher of the Year.

"I love several aspects of teaching. First of all, I love interacting with the students each day," Marz said. "I love the challenge of motivating them to learn. The building I work in is fantastic, and a good working environment always makes it easy to get up in the morning. The best part about teaching is that I am able to laugh each day."

Cindy Rugraff has been a teacher at the high school for 15 years. Rugraff received the Teacher of the Year Award for the high school.

"I think it is an honor because there are a lot of good teachers, so I was surprised and pleased," Rugraff said.

Mothers' Club, PTSA help schools

By Kristi Carrico
Staff Writer

The Parent Teacher Student Association (P.T.S.A.) and Mother's Club have worked to help the Hillsboro R-3 School District raise money and host fun events that get parents, teachers and students involved.

"Some of the events that we do include pumpkin carvings, pictures with Santa, beach parties and teacher and staff appreciation dinners," said Brenda Feldsien, the president of the P.T.S.A. "Also in February, kids can come in and create their own Valentine's Day boxes for their school parties, which is also a lot of fun. We also split fundraisers and bookfairs that we do with the Mother's Club to help raise money for the school."

Debbie Erzinger, vice president of the Mother's Club, said fundraisers are the most successful for their group.

"The Mother's Club has just one fundraiser, so we only have to bug parents and children once a year," said Debbie Erzinger, who is now taking

over the presidential duties. "The Mother's Club also does the Lip Sync, Santa workshops, Santa visits, appreciation breakfasts for the bus drivers, and staff appreciation dinners."

This year the P.T.S.A. has raised \$16,000 for the Hillsboro School District, and the Mother's Club just gave the Primary \$2,500, the Elementary \$2,000, the Intermediate \$2,000, the Jr. High \$1,500, the High School \$1,500, the Administration Building \$500 and the Alternative school \$250.

"The P.T.S.A. divides the money among the buildings for any educational items the teachers might need. It depends how many students there are and which buildings need it most," Feldsien said.

"The fundraiser the Mother's Club held earlier in the year also goes for field trips, assemblies and scholarships," Erzinger said.

The Mother's Club recently created a new scholarship committee; any student who will attend Jefferson College can apply. The Mother's Club has also donated money and time to the Blue and White Committee and the

Steering Committee to assist in educating the community about the bond issue and the tax increase for the Hillsboro School District.

There will also be a Scholastic Bookfair for grades K-8 in April and May. The Primary and Elementary book fair will be May 3-7; the Intermediate book fair will be April 19-23; and the Jr. High book fair will be April 22-23.

The P.T.S.A. will have a general meeting in March to select the new officers.

"At this point, we are just trying to build our P.T.S.A.," Feldsien said.

Feldsien said that at the moment there are only seven students in the P.T.S.A. and for being such a big district, a much bigger P.T.S.A. is needed.

"We would really like to grow. We are trying to get some fun and interesting family events to do. If we had more people, we would be able to get new ideas," Feldsien said. "We would really appreciate more parents, students and teachers getting involved so we could do much more for the school district."

Intermediate honors students for January



January Citizens of the Month

Front row: Katie Allen, Hannah Holman, Jessica Coleman, Brad Edmonds, Samantha Spangler, Megan Polietto. Second row: Jessie Lewis, Ashley, Reed, Taylor, Burroughs, Tyler Wood, Zachary Herberts, Steven Jackson, Samantha Moellinger, Candace Reynolds. Back row: Katy Toothaker, Nate Harris, Robbie Stewart, Rebecca Earls, Ashley Diestel, Andrew Theiss, Melissa Howard.



January Hard Working Hawks

Front row: Melissa Thebeau, David Garaham, Bobby Korte, Ian Stewart, Kirsten Burton, Christina Collier. Middle row: Ethan Moris, Gabi Schroeder, Aaron Carroll, Lilleah Bryan, Michael Miederhoff, Jordan King, Amanda Braswell. Back row: Nick Dwinell, John Epple, Emily Lay, Megan McComas, Micaela Smith, Josh Merklin.

Summer school offered for all grades

By Heather Timmerman
Staff Writer

This summer kids may be begging to go to school. This year's summer school program, "Summer Safari," which is June 1-30, will include more than just classes needed for credit. Instead, enrichment classes will be offered for all grades.

All summer school classes for students currently in Pre-kindergarten through fourth grade will take place in the Primary Building from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For students currently in grades 5-8, classes will be held in the Junior High building from 8:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Classes for all current high school students will be held in the High School from 7:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. All classes currently

being offered are in the charts on this page. All classes are subject to change depending on how many students enroll in each class.

For high school students, a total of one-half credit can be earned per session, for a total of one full credit.

Lunch will be served and transportation will be provided for all grades.

Parents enrolling students into summer school, should enroll them for the grade the student is in for the 2003-2004 school year.

For all schools, classes will be divided into two sessions; one before lunch and one after. Students are not required to attend both sessions.

A high number of students attending summer school means more state aid during the regular school year.

"Currently, we receive double the fund-

ing amount for a summer school student [from the state]" said Dr. Shelton Smith, superintendent of Hillsboro R-3. "It helps us tremendously."

If enough students enroll, "Summer Safari" will not only benefit the school financially, but it is sure to be quite an adventure for the students who attend.

GRADES 1-4

Grades 1-4 Enrichment:

Laura Ingalls Wilder Mania
Art of Puzzling
Arts & Crafts
Game Room
Computer Games
3-2-1 Blast Off
Outdoor Games
Space Exploration Camp
Let's Make Music
Rainforest
Dinosaurs
Let's Get Messy
Lifetime Sports

Grades 1-2 Enrichment:

Exploring Nature
Crafts & Cultures of Many Lands
The Cooking Club
Library Safari
Charlotte's Web

Grades 3-4 Enrichment:

A Summer With Native Americans
Cooking Across America
Hola
Lewis and Clark in Missouri
Art Smart, Exploring Nature
The Cooking Club
Library Safari
Incredible Insects

GRADES 5-8

Grades 5-8 Enrichment:

Encore! Encore!
Computer Adventure
Extraordinary Experiments
Science and Nature Discovery
Summer Safari "Survival"
Let's Get Moving
Money Hungry
Cook Your Way
 Around The World
The Art Of Science
Safari Arts & Crafts
An Inside View

Grades 7-8 Enrichment:

Communication Arts
Remediation Storytelling
Big Game Room
Attention Shutterbugs
Book Clubs
Be A Web Page Designer
Future Freshmen Class
Science Projects Galore
Practical Skills For Survival
Communication Arts Remediation
Film As Literature
Athletic Conditioning/Practice
Outdoor Education
Math Remediation

GRADES 9-12

Classes for "catching up":

American History
World History
Social Studies A: Civics
Social Studies B: Geography
English 1A, English 1B
English 2A, English 2B
Novels of Today
Language Arts for Special Needs
Algebra I
Geometry
Concepts of Algebra A
Concepts of Algebra B
Physical Science
Independent Learning Program

Classes for "getting ahead":

Computer Graphics
Painting or Drawing
Set Design for Theatre
Technical Musical Theatre
Musical Theatre Performance
Vocal Music for Theatre
Instrumental Music for Theatre
Guitar I, Guitar II
Creative Arts
Elements of Children's Literature
Legends, Myths, and Fables
The World's Fair
Are You Related to Elvis?
Community Service
Food and Films
Hollywood Hosts
Earth Science
World of Work
Service Learning
Life Skills
Health and Fitness
A+ Tutoring and Mentoring
Home Maintenance and Repair
ACT Preparation

Timmerman wins playwright contest

By Sarah Porter
Staff Writer

Heather Timmerman was one of only three students honored through the "Page to Stage" program in January; Timmerman competed with other students from across the state who wrote and submitted an original play to be judged.

Timmerman and the other two playwrights who won the contest were acknowledged at the annual Missouri State Thespian Conference in Warrensburg. The conference was held Thursday Jan. 8 to Saturday Jan. 10, at the Central Missouri State University.

Fifteen thousand thespians were present at the state conference, but Timmerman and the other two winning playwrights had the privilege

to meet a professional director, professional playwright, and professional dramaturge (writing coach).

"The director, playwright, and dramaturge made me aware of all the little things that improved my script tremendously," Timmerman said. "They taught me a lot in three days."

Timmerman and the other playwrights then began the process to direct the plays each had written.

Auditions were held that day for parts in the three plays. Any thespian who attended the conference could audition.

"We auditioned 56 people in 20 minutes. Since we had a limited number who auditioned, we basically went on their acting ability. The actors in my play were perfect

in their parts. They did a fantastic job," Timmerman said.

Friday of the conference, Timmerman worked all day with the cast of her play. They only had one day to rehearse.

Saturday morning, each play was read on stage. Because the cast only had one day to rehearse, the plays were read with blocking (where the actors don't move, they just read the play).

"My imagination and my thoughts were on stage for all to see and it was nerve wracking," Timmerman said.

Timmerman's play, entitled "5 Seconds," is about five high school students and how each responded when one of them was killed.

Timmerman received first place, a standing ovation from the audience, and



Heather Timmerman.

signed an autograph.

Timmerman said the most exciting part of the conference was actually getting to see her play read on stage.

"Seeing your play on stage and seeing your play on paper are two completely different things," Timmerman said. "It was such a great experience to improve myself overall as a performer."

The Messenger Staff

Student writers:

Melissa Bennett
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Nichole Butler
Kristina Carrico
Mallory Dodson
Brooke Epple
Tiffany Langley
Josh McCullough
Sarah Porter
Eric Rains
Heather
Timmerman

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Terry Barton

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Stephanie Gillespie
Dr. Shelton Smith

Proofreading:

Michael Huskey

Intermediate recognizes students for November, December awards



November/December Hard Working Hawks

From the bottom row up: Hayley Penning, Chuck Barnes, Michael Dempsey, Elisha Holman, Ralieggh Jaggie, Christian Hallows, Heather Morfeld, Kristin Ranker, Gabi Schroeder, Amber Crow, Elise Hall, Lauren Sutton, Stephanie Schuler, Samantha Smith, Zach Mooney, Michael Lamping, Shane Basham, Josh Lake, Tim Edwards, Ryan Bubulka, Calvin DeRousse.



November/December Citizens of the Month

From the bottom row up: Lydia Berwick, Taylor Allen, Dillon Huddleston, Drew Frasca, Kelsey Steffen, Derick Heinzman, Jon Johnson, Leo Shaffer, Jessica Talbert, Kristin Bradley, Sadye Ducheck, Ann Pettibone, Taylor Ketchum, Kelly Smith, Victoria Theiss, Carolyn Vail, Katie Nichols, Alexandria Wantland, Deven Merritt, Steven Kauch, Taylor Hankins, Alex Jacobs.

Junior high teacher's book is published

By Lindsay Bouska
Staff Writer

A new book has hit bookstores and if you want to meet the author, you don't have to go far. Brenda Miller, a special education teacher at the Junior High, has recently had one of her manuscripts published.

Miller wrote *Ocean's Anger* in 1993. It took 16 hours for her to write the novel and two years to rewrite it.

Miller was involved in all aspects of getting her book published. Not only did she write the book and the seg-

ments of poetry in it, but she also created and drew the cover.

Ocean's Anger is a nonfiction manuscript with pieces of poetry throughout it. Miller, 53, said she chose to use poetry in her writing because it seemed to keep the story alive.

The book takes place on the beaches of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, where two women are vacationing as Hurricane Hugo strikes Myrtle Beach. The story is about a woman named Candy, who is struggling to overpower memories of her abusive father.

"It is a metaphor between the oceans natural anger and women's natural anger set free," Miller said.

Ocean's Anger was printed by Ingram Publishing Company and published by 1st Book. 1st Book is the company that published *Legally Blonde*.

Miller has won several contests with her poetry and short stories. *Ocean's Anger* is her first finished manuscript. She also has belonged to the Missouri Writers Guild for several years.

She said she loves to write about her feelings

and the true nature of the world around her.

"When my thoughts surface, it is hard to hold back what seems to be a natural gift to me, writing," Miller said.

"The encouragement of God, friends, and family have been my courage to write and move on to finish my education."

Miller has finished her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and will soon be finishing her Masters Degree in Special Education.

Miller has two sons and two grandchildren. She also enjoys read-



Miller with copies of her book, *Ocean's Anger*.

ing, collecting antiques and decorating in her spare time.

Miller has written two other manuscripts: *Shadows of Darkness* and *Gabriel*. *Gabriel* is scheduled to be available to the public this summer.

Students will perform *Dearly Departed* April 1-4



A spring production of the comedy *Dearly Departed* will be performed April 1-3 at 7:30 p.m. and April 4 at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$6 and went on sale March 24 at the high school box office. Call 789-0010 ext. 1310 for more information.

The cast includes 16 students. Front row: Devon Norris,

Blair Mayher, Sarah Graves, Malerie Love. Second row: Assistant Director Lindsay Bouska, Tony Howell, Heather Timmerman, Laren Loveless, Eric Rains. Back row: Mike Stone, Amanda Beattie, Sarah Kilpela, Max Klapp, Shawnda Hall. Not pictured: Holly Pfeiffer and Nathan Kitchen.

Senior high honors students of the month



December

Senior Eleanor Krautmann, Junior Deanna Dees, Sophomore Tarah Schroeter, and Freshman Karrie Evens.



January

Freshman Caroline Paillou, Sophomore Paul Flo, Junior Kelly Roberts, and Senior Heather Timmerman.

Second chances

Alternative school student pays it forward

By Nichole Butler
Staff Writer

When a tragedy unfolded in Edith Stewart's family, a young woman by the name of Brandi Kaiser brought a little happiness and provided a lot of support as Stewart's 86-year-old aunt, Mary Schultz, neared the end of her life.

Kaiser, a senior student at the Hillsboro Alternative School, works at Fountainbleau Nursing Center, and when Schultz was transferred from Jefferson Memorial Hospital to Fountainbleau, Kaiser was assigned the task of getting Schultz settled and trying to help her adjust to the final stage of her life. Schultz had just been diagnosed with end-stage lung cancer.

"Brandi was just so pleasant and kind, and she was so gentle with the elderly ... she made quite an impression on us," said Stewart, who was raised by Schultz.

In January of 2004, Kaiser received her Certified Nurses Aide (CNA) certificate. This certificate allows Kaiser to interact more with the patients, but does not allow her to perform certain nurse duties such as taking blood pressures. Having a CNA certificate provides Kaiser with more experience with

such tasks as bathing a patient properly and moving a patient more assertively.

Kaiser and Schultz bonded immediately.

"My aunt had a love for young adults. She (Schultz) liked to see them succeed and liked to interact with young people," Stewart said.

On January 24, Schultz reached a point in her illness where she was given morphine and put into a drug-induced coma. Kaiser was not working that day.

Kaiser's sister Mattie also works at Fountainbleau and called to tell her about Schultz's condition.

"I spent two hours with her (Schultz's) family. When more family showed up, I said my good-byes and I left to give the family time with her," Kaiser said.

After a total two and a half weeks at Fountainbleau, Schultz died the morning after being put in the drug-induced coma.

During the two hours that Kaiser spent with Schultz and her family, Kaiser and Stewart talked about the opportunities that were given to Kaiser by the Hillsboro Alternative School.

"I think that if I wasn't at the alternative school, I wouldn't be graduating," Kaiser said. "I'm really thankful that they gave me a second chance ...

they actually gave me a chance to get my certification in nursing completed," Kaiser said.

Stewart said she feels that the alternative school is extremely important.

"Children in the alternative school are not necessarily troublemakers, although some of them I'm sure are, but they are kids who do not necessarily learn in the the same typical classroom setting," Stewart said. "The alternative school provides them with a little different learning style ... I just feel that if we don't keep the alternative school, we will lose those young people in society."

Kaiser said she is thankful for the chance to be a part of the alternative school program.

"The alternative school provides a place where you feel like you have a second chance in being able to make a difference," Kaiser said.

Staff and services provided by the Hillsboro Alternative School are in danger of being cut due to the reduction in state monies given to schools.

The R-3 School Board has placed a tax increase and no-tax increase bond issue on the April 6 ballot to avoid the cuts.



Brandi Kaiser.

Project Prom is an entertaining after-party

By Josh McCullough
Staff Writer

Project Prom is a fun, safe way to enjoy a prom "after party."

Project Prom will be held at Riverchase in Fenton; last year it was held at Jefferson College.

"It's definitely worth going," said Senior Dom Minella, who attended in 2003. "Everyone there walked out with at least a hundred bucks worth of stuff; heck, a few people won five hundred dollars. It was awesome."

This year's activities at Project

Prom include several inflatable games such as Inflatable Twister, the XOC Obstacle Course and Bouncy Boxing.

The recreation center at Riverchase has a pool with water slide and a large gym for volleyball and basketball.

There will be a magician/hypnotist performing, as well as several other entertaining and competitive events.

Project Prom is free to any junior or senior who wants to attend. Thanks to the recent hockey ticket raffle sponsored by the Project Prom Committee, \$1,495 worth of awards have been purchased so far to give away at Project Prom.

The committee relies heavily on donations from parents, businesses and local organizations.

The next fundraiser to benefit Project Prom is the Little Prince and Princess Pageant and Royal Gala scheduled for Saturday, April 17 in the high school commons and theatre. The dinner and auction will begin at 5 p.m.; the pageant will begin at 6:30 p.m.

If you need more information, log on to www.hillsboro.k12.mo.us/HS/Projectprom. Those interested in the events can also call Darla Ferguson at 797-4471 or Cathy Ringo at 797-3816.

Nurses care for sick, keep kids healthy

We, the Hillsboro R-III nurses, would like to share some information with you about the services that are provided to the students and staff of the district.

From September 2003 to December 2003, the nursing staff had more than 6,500 students with various medical needs visit their offices.

The nurses dispensed an average of 420 medications a day in the month of December alone. This number included daily, short-term medications.

Having these medications readily available to the students enables a student to continue through the day, which increases our daily attendance.

The nursing department conducts various health screenings on the students throughout the year. Screenings include vision, scoliosis, height and weight, blood pressure and head lice. This amount averaged to 1900 students. This number does not include the students who are re-checked during the year for Special Ser-

vices evaluations.

As defined by the Missouri State Law, all immunization records must be on file and up-to-date for each student enrolled. This requires the nurses to send letters, call parents, conference with students, and make calls to doctors' offices and/or the Jefferson County Health Department to acquire the needed information.

In some cases, even with the nurses diligence, students are excluded from school. Student noncompliance is reported annually to the Missouri Department of Health.

In addition, the nurses provide several wellness programs that are available to students and staff.

A list of programs include: Hadassah Group, St. Luke's Mammogram, Jefferson County Health Department, Stroke Prevention, Smoking Cessation Classes, Teens as Parents, Diabetes Walk, Drug Awareness Fair, Jump Rope For Heart, "Blow, Throw, Wash and Go!"

(Puff's Program), Crest Dental Health Program, and finally, BMI Awareness and Obesity Prevention Program.

This compilation is only a fraction of the duties and responsibilities of each school nurse. There are numerous other situations that the nurses deal with on a daily basis that cannot be itemized or mentioned here.

At Hillsboro R-3, children come first. The nurses truly believe in Jocelyn Elders' saying: "You cannot educate a child who is not healthy and you cannot keep a child healthy who is not educated."

If you need any additional information, or if you have questions, please feel free to contact your nurse.

Yours In Good Health,
Karen Ziegler, RN, Jr.
Tobie Lammert, RN
Sabrina Hurgten RN, BS
Dawn Bryan, RN
Kathy Woodham, LPN
Angela Mehrtens, MA-1

Caitlin Martin honored

Senior Caitlin Martin has been selected an "Honorable Mention" student in the 2004 Missouri Scholars 100, a statewide program that honors 100 of Missouri's top academic students in the class of 2004.

The program is sponsored by the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals. Schools across Missouri were invited to nominate candidates for this statewide recognition.

Each student nominated had to first meet criteria of an "Academic Decathlon," which included ten "events" designed to assure the academic strength of the student. Requirements included a minimum GPA of 3.750, an ACT score of 29, an upper 10 percent class rank and upper level courses in math, science, English and foreign language. Attendance, citizenship and activities are also factors.

Check it out

TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT

e-mail to hr3_co@mail.hillsboro.k12.mo.us

Check out Hillsboro's web site at
www.hillsboro.k12.mo.us

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R-3 Board of Education

The Hillsboro R-3 Board of Education meets on a regular basis at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Meetings are held in the Board of Education office, located at 20 Hawk Drive on campus. The meetings are open to the public.

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