

Our · Village · Voice

Volume 13, Issue 1

September, 2011

MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

While We Were Gone . . .

(photos of MSB's Store renovation). On one of the hottest days of one of the hottest summers on record Cliff Eckhoff and his team of helpers from WalMart remodeled MsB's Store. Aply assisted by Michael Deheer the group first removed all the old fixtures and mopped and painted the store. They then installed new shelving, decorative backing, coolers, counters and lunch booths. It looks fabulous - check it out!

We'd like to thank the WalMart makeover team (most of whom are posed at left): George, Scott, Terry, Shelly, Samantha, Chrissy, Todd, Joe, Andre, Michael, Doug, Rhonda, Chris, Frank, Richard, James and Cliff. *Thank You - You're the Best!*

Access Library Catalogue Online

Users of the Missouri School for the Blind Library Media Center can now access the online catalogue through the internet.

To access go to:

https://msb.follettdestiny.com/common/welcome.jsp?site=100&context=saas15_2482499.

In the catalogue you can search by keyword, title, author, subject and series. This year the Library Media Center also has a subscription to "Titlepeek," in which the cover of the book is shown next to its record.

If you need help using the online catalogue, contact librarian Mary Dingus at 314-776-4320, ext. 3257 or Mary.Dingus@msb.dese.mo.gov.

Welcome to MSB!

(Photos: Sandra Baker, Cynthia Bradley-Sias, Kimberly Campbell, Marilyn Casimere, Patricia Crowder, Barbara Griffin, Teresa Johnson, Marla Muhammad, Shelly Williams.

Missouri School for the Blind extends a warm welcome to several new (and returning) staff members this year, along with congratulations to personnel who were promoted or moved to full time status.

Sandra Baker recently transferred from the Health Center to the Residential Division as a Residential Advisor II. Sandra has been an LPN at MSB since 2009. She received her certification from O'Fallon Technical School and has 20-plus years experience.

Cynthia Bradley-Sias is a new full-time Residential Advisor I. Cynthia is a graduate of Central High School and first joined MSB as a substitute in 1993. She has nearly 20 years' experience at MSB.

LaFonda Brown (photo not available) joins MSB as a Residential Advisor II. LaFonda attended Forest Park Community College and has held various supervisory positions in the St. Louis area.

MSB's new Guidance Counselor is *Kimberly Campbell*. Kim has a masters degree in school and professional counseling from Lindenwood University, and several years experience with local social service agencies.

Congratulations are extended to *Marilyn Casimere*, who was recently promoted to Residential Advisor III. Marilyn's tenure at MSB began in 1984. She is a graduate of Beaumont High School and attended Forest Park Community College.

Patricia Crowder returns to MSB this fall as Residential Advisor I. Pat had been evening front desk receptionist since 1990. She is a graduate of Soldan High School and a long-time employee of AT&T.

Barbara Griffin also returns to MSB this fall as Elementary Resource Teacher. Barb taught at MSB from 1975-2005 and 2007-2010 and served as teacher-in-charge for several years. She holds bachelors and masters degrees in education and received her VI certification from Lindenwood University.

Teresa Johnson is a new Residential Advisor I. Teresa has been a substitute advisor at MSB since 2009. She is a graduate of Soldan High School.

The new Food Service Manager at Missouri School for the Blind is *Marla Muhammad*. Marla is a professional chef and has worked for the St. Louis public school system as well as in restaurants and nursing homes. She is a graduate of L'Ecole Culinaire.

Shelly Williams joins MSB this fall as Residential Advisor I. Shelly worked at MSB from 1989-1992 and returned as a substitute in 2008. She is a graduate of Sumner High School and Missouri College.

Vision Walk Sept. 24

The fifth annual St. Louis Vision Walk, sponsored by the Foundation Fighting Blindness, will take place Saturday, Sept. 24, in Tower Grove Park.

Vision Walk is the signature fundraising event of the Foundation, and, since its inception in 2006, has raised more than \$17 million to fund sight-saving research.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. on Sept. 24 and the 5K walk starts at 10:30 a.m. All activities will be held at the Sons of Rest Pavilion near Grand Avenue at the East Gate.

Walk co-chairs are Leslie Morris and Laura Abrams. Honorary MC is Maurice Drummond, Sports Anchor, FOX News.

If you are interested you may walk as an individual, join a team or form your own team.

For more information go to www.blindness.org.

September Birthdays

Sept. 2	Shaojun Chen Melissa Moore
Sept. 6	Lynnie McElwee
Sept. 11	Priscilla Andrews
Sept. 12	Marsha Bryant Sue Burlison
Sept. 13	Jim Baker
Sept. 14	Cynthia Bradley-Sias

Sept. 17 LaRachel Carson
 Sept. 18 Bernie Humphrey
 Jonette Parker
 Sept. 20 Linda Ross
 Sept. 21 Sandra Baker
 Sept. 23 Ophelia Wood
 Sept. 24 Tonnette Ford
 Farrah Starks
 Sept. 26 Yvonne Ali
 Eric Givans
 Sept. 29 Linda Havlik
 Sept. 30 Marilyn Casimere
 Carl McElvaine

Have a Great Day!

Years of Service Awards

25 Years: Marilyn Casimere, Christina Klevorn

20 Years: Alfreda Burton, Carla Howard-Owens. Denise Lowe, Carl McElvaine, Melissa Moore, Garrett Thurman

15 Years: Troy Brown, Sandra Hall

10 Years: Shaughn Doyel, William Peeples, Robin Pointer, Margaret Winston

5 Years: Kathleen Kroon

Congratulations!

Calendar	
Labor Day Holiday	Sept. 5
Classes Resume	Sept. 6
<i>“Welcoming Students With VI to Your School”</i> Outreach Training	Sept. 15
Track Meet at Tennessee	Sept. 16-18
Track Meet at Illinois	Sept. 22
INSITE Training	Sept. 30-Oct. 2
NCASB Track Championship-Indiana	Sept. 30-Oct. 2

Honor Roll

4th Quarter, 2010-2011

Grades K-6: Zyshaun Cross-Williams, Cody Grissom, Tiondra Pollard, James Rodgers, Dionna Townes
Grades 7-12 : Amber Attaway, Michael Babusa, Courtney Baty, David Brown, Breck Campbel, Alecia Ceaser, Kenia Cazares, Jade Grantham, Kathryn Hurd, Tabitha Jenkins, Amber Lacey, Jill McBroom, Carolyn McGhee, Sah'Mara Perry-Luckett, Alex Richardson, Josh Starner, Ellaun Williams
Congratulations!

Deafblind Awareness Day

The St. Louis Deafblind Task Force presents Deafblind Awareness Day Thursday, Sept. 29 at St. Louis Society for the Blind, 8770 Manchester.

The program will last from 3-5 p.m. and will include the presentation of the Velazquez Service Award to David Ekin and a presentation by Susan Bonner and Mary Hale.

Dr. Sucharski Honored as Pioneer in Education

(Photo Dr. James Sucharski)

James W. Sucharski, Ph.D., superintendent of Missouri School for the Blind from 2003-2010, was honored in July as one of five Pioneers in Education by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Dr. Sucharski, who now lives in Hillsboro, had a 39-year career in education, including service as superintendent of the Bismarck, Hillsboro and Bayless school districts. He helped pass bond issues and spearheaded school renovations for his districts and led Bayless from near-unaccredited status to accreditation with distinction from 1996 to 2001. He continues to teach graduate education classes at Missouri Baptist University.

Family Festival Sept. 17

St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired and Delta Gamma Center for Children present Family Festival Saturday, Sept. 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Shaw Park in Clayton.

Activities will include beep ball, magicians, music, interactive games, Fredbird and free food.

For more information go to: <http://slsbvi.org/100/FamilyFestival.aspx> or call Delta Gamma at 314-776-1300.

Free Kids Braille Books

Seedlings' "Book Angel Program" is open to all visually impaired children. To participate simply list four books from the Seedlings catalogue and you will receive two of them. To register fill out the online form found at www.seedlings.org/special.php. Click on "2011 Book Angel Program for V-I Children."

Both Print-Braille-&-Picture books and "Braille Only" books are available. For more information contact Debra Bonde, 800-777-8552.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of

race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or Relay Missouri 800-735-2966.