



INSIDE

the School District of University City

A publication for and about the staff of the School District of University City

March 2010

Census coming April 1, 2010

Every ten years the United States Census Bureau does its best to count every person living in the U.S. The results help to decide how citizens are represented in the federal government and how federal money is spent in local communities, including schools. In March, the U.S. Census Bureau will be sending a form to every home in America asking simple questions about age, race and number of people living in a household. Families who do not return a completed form will be visited by a census worker in May or June. Superintendent Joylynn Wilson strongly encourages all residents to participate and be counted. If you have any questions about the process, visit <http://2010.census.gov>.

COCA exhibit opens March 2

Amanda Verbeck, curator of the "Interface" exhibit in COCA's Millstone gallery, has been working with printmaking students at UCHS. An exhibition opening of student work and Verbeck residency culmination reception will be held on Tuesday, March 2 from 6-7:30 p.m. in COCA's student gallery, 524 Trinity Ave. (63130).

For more information, contact Eileen Manganaro, COCA director of school and community programs, at 314/725.1834, ext. 127.

"Young Brains," March 3

Due to a snow day in January, the Young Brains: What Are They Thinking? parent workshop was rescheduled for Wednesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the McNair board room, 8136 Groby Road (63130). Free child care will be provided. A dessert reception will follow the program.

For details, contact Nichole Dawsey at 314/664-7550 or ndawsey@ncada-stl.org.

Snow make-up days

The 2009-2010 school calendar has been adjusted to make up for the Feb. 9 snow day. May 24, 25 and 26 are now regular school days; May 27 is an early release for high school exams and May 28 is the last day of school and an early release for PreK-8 record day and high school exams. Tuesday, June 1, is the last contract day for teachers. Please note that the calendar is subject to further weather-related changes.

RSVP extension and price cut for UCEF Progressive Dinner & Silent Auction fundraiser on March 6

You now have until March 3 to reserve tickets for the University City Education Foundation's (UCEF) Progressive Dinner and Silent Auction. The event is scheduled for Saturday, March 6. Cocktails and dinner begin at 6:30 p.m. A dessert reception, which includes a silent auction, follows at 8:30 p.m. at the Regional Arts Commission, 6128 Delmar (63112).

All events are included in the ticket price of \$50 per person and only \$35 for District employees. Please make checks payable to UCEF and send along with your contact information. Please include the names of those attending, mailing address, phone number, email address and any special dietary needs and mail to the UCEF, c/o Kim Deitzler, 8160 Stanford Avenue, University City MO, 63130.

Need assistance?

If you, or someone you know, requires special assistance or accommodations in order to attend a district function, contact Erie Gonzalez-Rubio, operations supervisor, at 314/290-4004 to discuss specific needs.



Photo by Bonita Jamison



Photo by Alison Cien Fuegos



Photo by Heather Erwine



Photo by Kimberly Westrich

Would you like to see your students featured in PRIDE or on the website?

Email your favorite photo and information to ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us. Be sure to only send photos of students who have not been exempt. Check with your school secretary to verify.



Music in Our Schools, March 8 & 11

The 2010 theme for Music In Our Schools Month is "Music: Just Imagine." The first performance is at 7 p.m. in the UCHS Auditorium, 7401 Balson Avenue (63130) and include Instrumental Music Celebration on Monday, March 8, and Vocal Music Celebration on Thursday, March 11. Admission is FREE and open to the public.

Conversations with the Superintendent features Kinesis dancers on March 9

Superintendent Wilson invites you to an informal "Conversations with the Superintendent" opportunity at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, in the UCHS Auditorium. The event features a performance by the UCHS Kinesis dance troupe under the direction of Heidi Morgan.

For details, call 314/290-4002.

Districtwide Arts Night, March 10

A districtwide visual and performing art show featuring student dance and musical performances will be held on Wednesday, March 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at UCHS, 7401 Balson Avenue (63130). Admission is free.

For details, call 314/290-4100 and ask for Kimberly Westrich.

Preschoolers "Fired Up for Kindergarten"?

Do you know someone who missed the fall opportunity to learn more about University City's kindergarten program? If so, the spring date has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in all six public elementary schools.

School Board Candidates' Night, March 21

The District PTO Council is sponsoring a School Board Candidates' Night, on Sunday, March 21, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the McNair Board Room, 8136 Groby Road (63130). Linda Sumlin will moderate and take questions from the audience.

For more information, call 314/290-4019. Don't forget to vote Election Day April 6.

Tour renovated UCHS science labs, April 1

See some of your bond issue funds at work making U. City Schools a destination for the 21st Century. Visit UCHS for an open house on Thursday, April 1, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. to tour the newly renovated science labs and classrooms. At 7 p.m., Principal Timothy Wernentin will discuss academic reform including program and schedule changes for the upcoming school year.

BW Book Fair, March 22-25

Expand your home library and support Brittany Woods PTO by visiting and purchasing items from the annual Scholastic Book Fair being held during the spring parent/teacher conferences in the Brittany Woods gymnasium. The public is invited to visit from 4 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23 or 4 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24. The fair will be open for students during school hours from 8 a.m. on March 22 through 8:20 a.m. on March 25 with special grade-level walk throughs for seventh graders on Tuesday and eighth graders on Wednesday.

Green Center's "Nature Play," Spring 2010

Connecting children to nature has beneficial effects on a child's health and development. As children continue to spend less time outdoors, they lose touch with the natural world. "Nature play" programs reconnect children to nature and give them an opportunity to learn while making new discoveries, observations and adventures!

The Green Center is one of the school district's partners in education, and hosts "Nature Play" programs for children in prekindergarten through second grade. The program runs from 3:45 to 5 p.m. and costs \$7 per student (including materials and snack). This spring's schedule includes:

Tuesday, March 30 - **Lil' Planters:** Learn how plants grow and plant a seed of your own in our Greenhouse!

Tuesday, April 6 - **Camouflage Detective:** Explore the outdoors by investigating critters that blend in with their surroundings!

Tuesday, April 13 - **I Spy...A Mystery!** Follow clues to figure out where to find nature's hidden treasure! Use a journal that you will create to "record" clues and treasures that you find.

Tuesday, April 20 - **Nature's Crayons:** Nature is full of different colors! Discover these colors by "coloring" your own nature bag.

Tuesday, April 27 - **Spring Sprouts:** April showers bring May flowers! Explore nature to find flowers and other plants that "bloom" in the spring. Plant your own flower too!

Tuesday, May 4 - **Using Your Senses:** Use all of your senses in our herb garden! Discover different herbs and use them to create your own sensory bag.

Pre-registration is require. Space is limited! To register for a class, contact Kathleen Evans at 314/725-8314 ext. 105 or kevans@thegreencenter.org

Are you getting tweets from UCitySchools through Twitter?



U. City Day at the Ball Park

U. Citians will be heading to Busch Stadium on Sunday, May 2, for "U City Day at the Ball Park." The St. Louis Cardinals will take on the Cincinnati Reds at 1:15 p.m. A limited number of discounted tickets are available. The cost of \$18 includes a voucher for a free hot dog and a soda. Tickets may be purchased through the school's PTO through April 2. All proceeds from ticket sales ordered through the school go directly to the PTO.

Questions: Call 314/290-4019.

BEYOND OUR WALLS

Margaret Williams, 2009 University City and Missouri Teacher of the Year, brings greetings from retirement and shares that a special story of hers has been published on pages 155-157 of the recently released *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Teacher Tales*. She also shared that she is beginning work on her Doctor in Education degree from Walden University.



Seventh grade communication arts teacher **Allison Rabbitt's** own creation of earth-friendly housewares will be featured at the Indie Craft Revolution fair on March 13 and 14. Details are available at www.revolutioncraftshow.com and www.squaresville.etsy.com.



In February, UCHS senior DeMarco Kemp became the 2010 Class 3 Missouri High School State Wrestling Champ with the support of UCHS coaches **Pat Oligschaeger** and **Eric Morgan**, along with **Frank Kelton**, Brittany Woods Middle School coach and UCHS alum, and **Kimberly Loomis**, District athletic director.



UCHS music teacher **Stan Coleman** and his students were awarded all five outstanding soloist awards along with the Outstanding Musician Award for the Big Band and the Jazz Combo during the February 5-6 UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance's George Salisbury Jazz Festival.



UCHS Latin students, under the supervision of Latin teacher Jennifer Ice, took the newly-established Classical Literacy Exam in February. Three students earned the gold certificate, five earned silver, seven earned bronze and nine received honorable mention.



C. Edwin Murray and **Ilene Kanfer Murray**, retired Brittany Woods teachers, recently published a book, *University City, Missouri: Its People and Events, 1906-1931*. It is available for only \$35 (plus \$5 shipping and handling) through the Historical Society of University City, 6701 Delmar Blvd., University City, MO 63130; or directly from the University City Public Library. For more information, contact Ilene Murray at ilenemurray@att.net.



Brittany Woods' Soaring Eagles, FIRST (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League robotics team's double-decker bus concept is on its way to becoming reality. In February, community members toured double-decker buses in the Loop. The team is coached by **Barry Williams** and **LaVerne Ford-Williams**. The City Council adopted a resolution supporting the students' project, but has not made a commitment toward getting the bus.

If you have something to share "Beyond Our Walls," email ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us.

Riddle for the Month

The "official" answer to the February's 2010 riddle was Atascadero is our "Sister City" founded by E.G. Lewis in California. Raffle winners for a trip to the "Prize Box" are **Clint Christensen** and **Kelly Werthmueller**.

Solve this riddle and submit your correct answer to ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us by email or print by 12 noon on March 8 and enter a drawing to receive a pick from the Communications "Prize Box." Winners will be announced in the next issue of INSIDE.

Please do not ruin the fun of these riddles by web-searching the answer.

Here is March's riddle:

Study this paragraph and all things in it. What is vitally wrong with it? Actually nothing in it is wrong but you must admit it is most unusual. Don't just zip through it quickly but study it scrupulously. With luck you will spot what is particular about it and all words in it. Can you say what it is?

Are you a fan of the School District of University City through Facebook?

If not, go to www.ucityschools.org for a link to get your updates!

Calendar of Events for March 2010

*To have YOUR information included in the Calendar of Events,
be sure to submit it to your school's key communicator prior to the 15th of the preceding month.*

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| <p>1 Early Release for PreK-12 Professional Development
6:30 p.m., FP Family Reading Night</p> <p>2 Read Across America Day
8 p.m., Dr. Seuss's Birthday Breakfast, DH Cafeteria
5:30 p.m., GED Orientation, AEL
6 p.m., Playspace Design Meeting, FP Library</p> <p>3 10 a.m., GED Orientation, AEL
2 p.m., Shakespeare, DH Cafeteria
4 p.m., Deadline for UCEF Progressive Dinner and Silent Auction reservations
6:30 p.m., Young Brains: What Are they Thinking parent workshop, McNair Board Room</p> <p>4 8 a.m., 10 a.m., GED Orientation, AEL
7 p.m. Board of Education Meeting, McNair</p> <p>5 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Free Immunization Clinic, JGEC</p> <p>6 6:30 p.m., UCEF Progressive Dinner and Silent Auction</p> <p>8 7 p.m., Music In Our Schools - Instrumental Music Celebration, UCHS Auditorium</p> <p>9 9 a.m., JP 2nd grade to GRC Creative Convention Competition at Washington University
6 p.m., Pershing PTO Meeting
6 p.m., Nathaniel Hawthorne PTO Meeting
6 p.m., Brittany Woods PTO Meeting
6:30 p.m., Conversations with the Superintendent, UCHS Auditorium
6:30 p.m., Barbara C. Jordan PTO Meeting
7 p.m., Flynn Park PTO Business Meeting
7 p.m., Jackson Park PTO Meeting
UCHS Band Boosters Meetings</p> <p>10 6:30 p.m., Districtwide Fired-Up for Kindergarten
7 p.m., UCHS PTO Meeting</p> <p>11 3rd Quarter Ends
9 a.m., JP 3rd and 4th grade to GRC Creative Convention Competition at Washington University
7 p.m., Music In Our Schools - Districtwide Vocal Music Celebration, UCHS Auditorium</p> <p>12 Schools Closed for PreK-12 Professional Development/Record Day</p> <p>13 9 a.m., Board of Education Workshop, McNair</p> | <p>14 Daylight-Savings Time Begins</p> <p>15-19 Schools Closed - Spring Break</p> <p>17 7 p.m., UCEF board meeting, McNair Board Room</p> <p>18 6 p.m., UCHS AA monthly meeting, McNair</p> <p>19 Schools and Offices Closed - Spring Break</p> <p>21 6:30 p.m., School Board Candidates' Night, McNair Board Room</p> <p>22 Classes Resume: 4th Quarter begins
4 p.m., PACEsetter nomination deadline
4-6:30 p.m., Delmar-Harvard Book Fair, Large Gym</p> <p>23 Early Release Day
8 a.m., Grandparents' Breakfast, DH Cafeteria
8-9 am & 4-8 p.m., DH Book Fair, Large Gym
4-8 p.m., PreK-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences
4-7:30 p.m., DH Science Fair Project Display
4-8 p.m., Flynn Park Book Fair</p> <p>24 Early Release Day
1 p.m., OASIS Meeting, McNair Board Room
4-7:30 p.m., PreK-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences
4-7:30 p.m., DH Book Fair, Large Gym
4-7 p.m., DH Science Fair Project Display
4-7:30 p.m., Flynn Park Book Fair</p> <p>25 7 p.m., Board of Education Meeting, McNair</p> <p>26 Schools Closed, Offices Open</p> <p>29 Map Testing Window begins</p> <p>30 10 a.m., U-City Birders Club - Birds of Prey, World Bird Sanctuary</p> <p>April 6 - Election Day</p> <p>May 5 - Celebration of Learning</p> <p>May 20 - Honorees/Retirees Reception</p> |
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INSIDE the School District of University City is published 11 times per school year during the first week of each month except July. The August issue is mailed to all staff homes. Subsequent issues are emailed to all staff with District e-mail addresses. Building secretaries are asked to post the current issue for all staff to read. If you have any information to contribute to this publication, contact CarolAnn Cole at ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us, phone 314/290-4019, fax 314/725-7846 or inner-office mail to McNair Administration Building.