

Local Schools



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Class Earns Reading Rewards

DECEMBER 22ND 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Class Earns Reading Rewards

The number 738 was the magic number for the second quarter at Central Elementary. That's the number of points earned by the students in Jennifer Bolin's fifth grade class in the Accelerated Reader program during the second quarter. The 738 points was the highest and earned the class a popcorn party for their outstanding efforts. Congratulations!!!! (Photo submitted by teacher April Aldridge; thanks so much!)

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Student Honored For Reaching AR Goal

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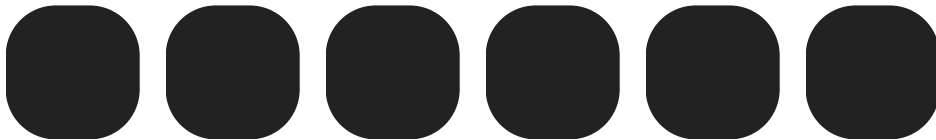
Student Honored For Reaching AR Goal

Jaron Ritter is a lucky guy! Jaron reached 100 percent of his Accelerated Reader goal, at Central Elementary School and had his name entered into a drawing. He won the drawing and received a goody basket full of treats, a book, and McDonald's coupons. Congratulations, Jaron! Keep reading!!! (Photo by April Aldridge, Central School)

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Mizzou, TRC Offer Occupational Therapy

Mizzou, TRC Offer Occupational Therapy

POPLAR BLUFF, MO – Two Missouri high education institutions are working together to introduce a new health services program in Southeast Missouri.

Three Rivers College is working with the University of Missouri to implement an occupational therapy assistant training program in Poplar Bluff. Students enrolled in the program will take courses from both institutions with the goal of earning an associates degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant.

Those interested in studying under the program are encouraged to enroll at Three Rivers now to begin earning the general education courses required for entry.

“The American Association of Occupational Therapy Assistants projects that demand for OTAs will increase 40% by the year 2016,” said Kim Shackleford, Division Chair for Allied Health and Human Services at Three Rivers. “This program is the first opportunity that students in rural Southeast Missouri have had to get this kind of professional training.”

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant (or OTA) prepares students to practice as a certified occupational therapy assistant after meeting certification and state licensure standards.

The OTA option allows students to take general education courses from Three Rivers for the first year, followed by OTA coursework delivered by MU at Three Rivers’ interactive TV-equipped classrooms during the second year. Hands-on work will be completed at centralized learning labs in Union, Moberly, and Sedalia, which students will travel to one day every other week.

The first class of eligible students are scheduled to begin the OTA-intensive coursework in January 2013, leaving two semesters for them to earn required general education requirements.

Based on data from the American Association of Occupational Therapy Assistants, Shackleford estimates that OTAs earn a starting salary between \$40,000 and \$45, 000 a year.

Admission to the OTA program is competitive. Students are required to submit application materials by May 31, 2012. The application packet outlines the submission procedure, and packets are available at the Three Rivers Nursing and Allied Health Center in downtown Poplar Bluff.

Three Rivers College is one of five colleges in the Missouri Health Professions Consortium (MHPC) approved to offer the program coordinated through the University of Missouri, School of Health Professions.

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Bernie Students Honored By Elks

DECEMBER 19TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Bernie Students Honored By Elks

Larry White, Dexter Elks Lodge member, presents certificates and \$50 checks for Savings Bonds to Bernie seniors Jacob Clayton, son of Mark & Rita Clayton and Rachel Tilmon, daughter of Terry & Linda Tilmon. Jacob and Rachel are competing with honorees from the other county schools for the Dexter Elks Students of the Year. Both students, along with their parents and counselor, Mindy Jackson, will be honored with a banquet to be held at the Dexter Elks Lodge later next spring. The Elks Students of the Year will be announced at the spring banquet. (Photo by Carol & Larry White on behalf of the Dexter Elks)

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SEMO Regents Approve Bond Issue

DECEMBER 16TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

SEMO Regents Approve Bond Issue

CAPE GIRARDEAU - The Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents Tuesday approved \$29 million in System Facilities Revenue Bonds Series 2011B, the proceeds of which will be used to help fund construction of a new residence hall on the north end of campus and a new chiller and boiler plant at the Show Me Center complex.

Total cost of the entire project is estimated at \$30.9 million. The net bond proceeds will cover \$27 million of the project. The remaining funds will come from one-time dollars released after previous bond reserve requirements changed, existing reserves the University has from changing its power plant operations, maintenance and repair general fees and incidental fee revenue generated from enrollment increases, said Kathy Mangels, vice president for finance and administration.

In October, the Board approved a contract for architectural and engineering services to design a 262-bed residence hall on the north end of campus. The Regents also authorized the University to arrange for structuring and issuing bonds to finance the project.

Dr. Bruce Skinner, director of Residence Life, said the building will provide a suite-style residence hall on the north end of campus and will be very convenient for students taking classes in the science complex and business classes in Robert A. Dempster Hall. The new residence hall also will offer convenient access for residents wishing to use the Student Recreation Center-North.

The new residence hall is expected to open in fall 2013 on an existing parking lot on the east side of Greek Drive, adjacent to the football practice field. The site will include tiered surface parking spaces directly north of the new hall and on the east side of Greek Drive, and will result in about 75 new parking spaces.

The new residence hall will feature common recreation and laundry facilities, an outdoor patio area and suite style learning communities. Site work is expected to begin next spring, Mangels said.

The new residence hall will be served by the north chiller plant which provides chilled water for air conditioning for about 1.1 million square feet of academic, administrative and residence hall space on the north end of campus. Mangels says the north chiller plant does not have capacity, though, to absorb the load of the new residence hall without major modifications.

To this end, the Board approved building a new 1,000-ton chiller and boiler plant at the Show Me Center complex, which includes the Show Me Center, Student Recreation Center-North and the Student Aquatic Center. The new plant will provide cooling redundancy for both the north loop and the Show Me Center complex and eliminate inefficiencies in delivering steam to the Show Me Center complex, Mangels said.

By separating the Show Me Center complex from the north loop, the north chiller plant can serve the new residence hall without upgrades and have excess capacity to provide redundancy for the north loop, she said.

Natural gas hot water heaters will be installed, as well, to serve the Show Me Center complex. These will eliminate the need to pipe steam across New Madrid Street and should result in annual utility savings.

Mangels said the new chiller plant building footprint will allow for the addition of another chiller to accommodate potential future construction north of New Madrid Street. Construction of a new chiller and boiler plant at the Show Me Center complex is estimated at \$6.2 million, which is included in the \$30.9 total project cost.

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