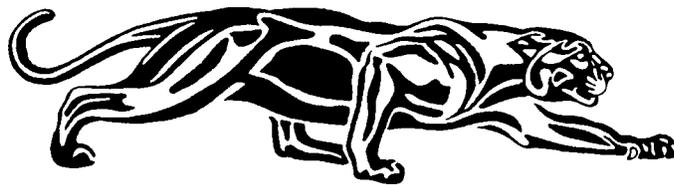




Raymore-Peculiar School News



Published for patrons and friends of the Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District
Dec. 6, 2010



'Keeping it Real Challenge'

On Dec. 2 and 3, eighth graders at Ray-Pec East Middle School took part in a program designed to stop teen violence and alienation. The goal of the "Keeping it Real Challenge" program was to build empathy and community in the school. School Resource Officer Audra Ayers coordinated the program. Along with Officer Ayers, 12 Ray-Pec high school juniors and seniors helped with facilitating each of the sessions.



High School Senior **Erika Howard** was one of 12 Ray-Pec High School students who assisted with facilitating the Challenge program on Dec. 3.



Following the training, each eighth grade student will receive a "Be The Change" T-shirt. This is the front and back of the T-shirt. The Ray-Pec Sunrise Optimist Club donated \$1,200 to pay for nearly the entire cost of the T-shirts.



High School students helped middle school students move around on the bleachers so that students were sitting by people they did not know very well.

.....
"Through collaboration among parents, students, staff and the community, the Raymore-Peculiar School District will ensure that each student masters specific and challenging learning objectives that maximize achievement and lead to lifelong productivity."

News Briefs

School board meeting

The December Board of Education meeting has been re-scheduled for Monday, Dec. 20. The open session will begin at 6 p.m.

(The meeting was originally scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21.)

School board action

To review action from the Nov. 23 Board of Education meeting, go to: www.raypec.k12.mo.us/boarddocs

The board of education approved a list of students for early graduation from Ray-Pec High School.

The board also heard a review of the curriculum, instruction and assessment programs.

School board election

Filing begins at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, for three school board seats up for election on April 5, 2011. The seats are currently held by **Ryan Wescoat, Kim Williams and Kyle Gillespie**.

Persons interested in running for election to the school board should contact **Pam Steele**, board of education secretary, at 816-892-1311 or by email at: psteele@raypec.k12.mo.us.

The filing period continues through 5 p.m. Jan. 18, 2011. School board members serve three-year terms. Each year, two or three of the seven seats are up for election.

Winter break

All Ray-Pec schools will dismiss three hours early on Wednesday, Dec. 22, to end the first semester of the 2010-2011 school year.

School will not be in session the week of Dec. 27. Classes resume for students on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2011.

Non-discrimination notice

The Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Terri Jamison, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Raymore-Peculiar School District, P.O. Box 789, Peculiar, MO 64078. 816-892-1300.



Ray-Pec Student Success Council

Dr. Kevin Daniel, assistant superintendent for instructional services, speaks about the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act at the Nov. 4 meeting of the Ray-Pec Student Success Council. The federal act requires that 100 percent of students be advanced or proficient in communication arts and math by 2014. He explained about Adequate Yearly Progress, which measures progress toward this goal. Despite the challenges of meeting this target, Dr. Daniel pointed out that in the state of Missouri, Ray-Pec is accredited with Distinction, which is the highest accreditation level.



Meeting for student success

Ray-Pec staff and administrators joined with parents and students for the Nov. 4 meeting of the Ray-Pec Student Success Council. The Student Success Council was created during the 2006-2007 school year as a way to expand the district's focus on student success and becoming a Professional Learning Community. The group provides feedback and offers suggestions on district-wide efforts that focus on improving student performance and success.

News Briefs

Sympathy notice

The district extends sympathy to friends and family of **Jason Kennedy**, a sophomore at Ray-Pec High School, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 5, after a lengthy illness.

Visitation is scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at Rock Brook Church, 1715 E. 173rd St., Belton. The funeral service is scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at Rock Brook Church.

Theatre Department to present one-act play: *'The Brothers Grimm'*

The Ray-Pec High School Theatre Department will present two public performances of the one-act play *"The Brothers Grimm."*

Theatre students have been preparing the comedy for entry in the State Thespian Festival.

You are invited to attend the performances at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, or Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Academy Theatre at Ray-Pec High School south building.

Tickets are \$4 for students and \$5 for adults. You may make reservations by calling the box office at 892-3999, ext. 2400.



Festive vest

You either love 'em or hate 'em, but it's the season for holiday sweaters. **Eric Arnold**, assistant principal at Ray-Pec East Middle School, shows off the embellished vest he wore on Friday, Dec. 3, for Bad Christmas Sweater Day. Middle school staff modeled a variety of holiday sweaters during the day.



Honoring Veterans

Ray-Pec graduate **Travis Hille** participated in the Veterans Day ceremony last month at Raymore City Hall. In the photo above left, Travis is pictured with his mother, School Board Member **Dana Hille**, and Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**, left. In the photo above right, Travis is in the center.

Anti-Defamation League presents club at RPHS with 'No Place for Hate' banner

A representative from the Anti-Defamation League presented a banner at Ray-Pec High School to recognize the school's efforts to raise awareness about diversity and promote acceptance and tolerance.

Tabari Coleman, a regional representative with the Anti-Defamation League, visited the high school on Tuesday, Nov. 16, to present a banner promoting the school's participation in the No Place for Hate program.

Last year, the high school started a new club called No Place for Hate. The club implements the program by the same name from the Anti-Defamation League. The purpose of the club is to teach students about diversity and how to embrace all students to create a safe, friendly atmosphere.

The club formed as an offshoot of Common Ground, another club at RPHS that promotes diversity awareness. Last year the club participated in several events to promote diversity awareness at the school.

News Briefs

Eagle Glen students picked for national choir

Two Eagle Glen students were selected for the American Choral Directors Association National Children's Honor Choir to be held March 9-12, 2011, in Chicago. **Song Waltz**, a fifth grader, and **Derek Fields**, a sixth grader, were selected for the choir. They will join singers from around the country to perform a concert in March. Students auditioned through a recorded CD in September and competed against more than 800 singers. The Eagle Glen music teacher is **Stephen Rew**.



No Place for Hate

Members of the No Place for Hate club at Ray-Pec High School pose with a banner presented Nov. 16 by Tabari Coleman with the Anti-Defamation League. Coleman presented the banner to Ray-Pec for implementing programs to raise awareness about diversity. Principal **Dr. Sherri Miller** is at far right. Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle** is at center.

News Briefs

RPHS band performs at City Lights ceremony

The Ray-Pec Panther Pride Marching Band performed at the city lights ceremony on Nov. 18 at Barney Allis Plaza, Kansas City. The annual event kicks off the Salvation Army's Christmas Campaign. The event was emceed by KUDL morning show host Tanna Guthrie. To see event pictures, including photos of Ray-Pec band students, go to: <http://www.kansascity.com/2010/11/18/2451809/salvation-army-city-lights.html>

Winter band concerts announced for Eagle Glen and Bridle Ridge

The winter band concert for Bridle Ridge Intermediate School is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, in the school gymnasium. Students are to arrive at 6:30 p.m.

The winter band concert for Eagle Glen Intermediate School is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, in the school gymnasium. Students are to arrive at 6:30 p.m.

Friends and family are welcome to attend.

Prowlers place first at competition

Congratulations to the Prowlers varsity dance team for placing first at the Fort Osage dance competition. The Prowlers placed first in all three categories: pom, mix and kick.

Cross Country at state

Congratulations to the boys and girls cross country teams on their performances at the state championship race Nov. 6 in Jefferson City.

Senior **Devon Young** finished second overall just a few seconds off first place. The boys team was ranked 13th, but finished an impressive eighth place overall.



Missouri Teacher of the Year banquet

Rebecca Gooding, center, was honored Nov. 15 at the Missouri Teacher of the Year banquet in Jefferson City. She was one of six finalists for the award. She is pictured here with Chris Nicastro, Missouri Commissioner of Education, left, and David Liechti, president of the Missouri State Board of Education.



Missouri Teacher of the Year banquet

Rebecca Gooding, third from left, was honored Nov. 15 at the Missouri Teacher of the Year banquet in Jefferson City. She was one of six finalists for the award. The statewide winner was Robert Becker, chemistry teacher at Kirkwood High School. Each of the finalists was recognized and gave a speech during the banquet. Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle** and these colleagues from Eagle Glen Intermediate School also attended the banquet. At left is Principal **Lisa Hatfield**. Also pictured is the 2009-2010 Eagle Glen Math Collaboration Team, which included: **Leah Sapp**, Rebecca, **Kim Shaul**, **Jeannette Braden**, and **Diane Burke**.



Peculiar Elementary recognizes students for virtue of gratitude

Peculiar Elementary School honored students who exhibited the virtue of gratitude during November. In the back row, from left, are: **Britini Bronson, Ashton Paith, Tyler Wagner, Tyler Brundage, Owen Ellis, Micah Novak** and **Sami Crow**. In the front row are: **Connor Boyd, Madison Boyd, Geneva Arthurs, Lacey Walker, Mia Abnos,** and **Madison McKinley**. Not pictured are **Jessica Wilson** and **T.J. Sharp**.



Peculiar Elementary recognizes students for virtue of responsibility

Peculiar Elementary School honored students who exhibited the virtue of responsibility during the month of October. In the back row, from left: **Caleb Norman, Grace Crabtree, Micah Floyd, Hollie Williams,** and **Marissa Dick**. In the middle row, from left, are: **Brennan Shea, Alex Davis, Makenna Hilbers, Aubree Patterson, Bailey Myrick,** and **Laura Heffernon**. In the front row are: **Mackynzie Jones, Sarah Freidline,** and **Jaden McClellan**. Not pictured is **Brianna Arnold**.



November 7th grade Students of the Month

Here are the seventh grade Students of the Month for November at Ray-Pec East Middle School. In the front row, from left: **Toni Martin** and **Cassie Allen**. In the second row: **Noah Elliott**, **Abbi Brown**, and **Andrea Shaw**. In the third row: **Mason Fox**, **A.J. Cook**, and **Reice Brown**. In the top row are: **Sierra Davis**, **Nathan Halterman**, and **Reed Heinrich**. Not pictured is **Cameron Schultheis**.



November 8th grade Students of the Month

Here are the eighth grade Students of the Month for November at Ray-Pec East Middle School. In the front row, from left: **Emily Argotsinger**, **Josh Toler**, and **Taylor Byrnes**. In the second row are: **Aaron King**, **Maddy Meehan**, and **Andrew Roth**. In the third row are: **Hannah Wilson**, **Kim Lancaster**, and **Kyle Anderson**. In the top row are: **Jason Chambers**, **Bailey Carlson**, and **Michelle Covey**.

News Briefs

Post-season awards for softball players

Congratulations to Ray-Pec softball players on their post-season awards.

- **All-Conference First Team:**

McKenzie Rynard, Jordan Bradshaw and Rachel McKinzie.

- **All-Conference Honorable**

Mention Team: Erin Duewel and Bridgette Sappington.

- **All-District First Team:** Jordan

Bradshaw, Erin Duewel, Rachel McKinzie, Bridgette Sappington and McKenzie Rynard.

- **All-District Second Team:** Bekah

Mueller, second team.

- **All-District tournament team:**

Erin Duewel and Bridgette Sappington.

- **All-Region First Team:** McKenzie

Rynard, first team; Jordan Bradshaw.

- **All-Region Second Team:**

Rachel McKinzie, second team.

- **Team Offensive Player of the**

Year: Rachel McKinzie.

- **Team Defensive Player of the**

Year: McKenzie Rynard.

- **Team Panther Award:** McKenzie

Rynard.

- **Team Most Valuable Player:** Erin

Duewel.



Middle School seventh grade Students of Month

Here are the seventh grade Students of the Month for October at Ray-Pec East Middle School. In the front row, from left, are: **Laura Fambrough** and **Andy Hille**. In the second row, from left, are: **Maddie Reihs**, **Jeana Scott** and **Alex Holsman**. In the third row are: **Emily Tribolet**, **Stacie Smith** and **Blake Smith**. In the back row are: **Sarah Morrison**, **Race Shepherd**, and **Colin Rohach**. Not pictured is **Gage Hutchens**.

Ray-Pec grad to have Dec. 11 book signing

Ray-Pec High School graduate **Aric Henderson** will sign copies of his book "Social Inspiration" from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Christian Campus House, 704 S. College Ave., Columbia, Mo.

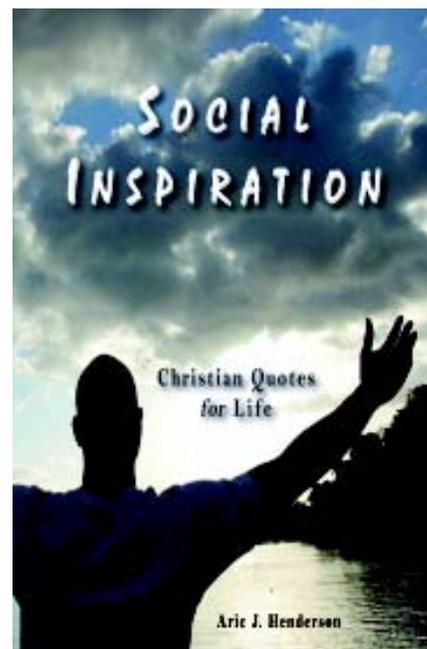


Aric Henderson

Aric is a graduate of Ray-Pec High School. He will graduate on Dec. 18, 2010, from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

"Social Inspiration" is a compilation of original quotes written by Aric during his four years in college. The words of wisdom are designed to encourage college students who desire to live for God and who are seeking strength to maintain spiritual growth during their college years.

During college, Aric lived in the Christian Campus House, went on mission trips and worked with youth.



News Briefs

Post-season awards for volleyball players

Congratulations to high school volleyball players for receiving post-season awards. All-Conference honorees included Cheyanne Lyons, second team; Kylie Bain, honorable mention; and Molly Goulding, honorable mention. All-District honorees included Cheyanne Lyons, first team; Kylie Bain, second team; and Molly Goulding, honorable mention. Cheyanne was also named All-Region first team and All-State honorable mention.

Ray-Pec grad receives scholarship at KU

The University of Kansas School of Business recently recognized some of its most academically exceptional students with scholarships.

The 25 freshmen, who were surprised with the scholarships at the reception welcoming them to the School of Business on Sept. 30, are in the Business Scholars Program because they scored higher than 30 on the ACT in high school and were directly admitted to the School of Business as freshmen. The students include **Lawrence Flanagan**, a graduate of Ray-Pec High School, and son of **Jolynne Flanagan**, counselor at Stonegate Elementary School.



Middle School eighth grade Students of Month

Here are the eighth grade Students of the Month for October at Ray-Pec East Middle School. In the front row, from left, are: **Grace Anderson** and **Derek Walkingstick**. In the second row are: **Dallas Hille**, **Shelby Bates** and **Sawyer Henkle**. In the third row are: **Alex Lady**, **Marissa Lang** and **Dustin Pruitt**. In the back row are: **Kaitlyn Hansen**, **Benjamin Brenizer** and **Jayden Page**. Not pictured is **Abby Beck**.

Ray-Pec students selected for All-District Bands

Congratulations to the Ray-Pec students who auditioned and qualified for All-District Band. The students will perform Jan. 8 at the University of Central Missouri.

These students made the top All-District Honor Band and qualified to audition for the All-State Band:

- Katie Heenan, fifth chair clarinet;
- Alexzis Thomson, 13th chair clarinet;
- Rachel Lehman, 20th chair clarinet;
- Rebekah Wratney, sixth chair alto saxophone;
- Mike Ortbals, second chair trumpet;
- Luke Balsiger, eighth chair trumpet;
- Tim Boos, second chair French Horn;
- Nic Wilson, fourth chair French Horn;
- Seth Worden, sixth chair tuba;
- Kit Leonard, first chair percussion Opt. 2; and
- Daichi Tadokoro, second chair percussion Opt. 3.

These students made honorable mention band and qualified to audition for All-State Band:

- Jack Renfro, first chair tenor saxophone;

- Morgan Elliott, second chair percussion Opt 1;
- Tyler Turner, first chair percussion Opt. 2;
- Will Whelan, second chair percussion Opt 2; and
- Austin Coop, first chair percussion Opt. 3.

Those 16 students will travel Dec. 4 to Columbia to audition for All-State Band.

In addition, these students also were selected for the All-District Honorable Mention Band:

- Ashley Parker, sixth chair flute;
- Jackie Couturier, second chair clarinet;
- Taylor Daniel, ninth chair clarinet;
- Ethan Morgan, third chair trumpet;
- Tyler Trusk, fourth chair French Horn;
- Brandon Jungling, second chair trombone;
- Evan Sanders, sixth chair trombone;
- T.J. Stephens, eighth chair trombone;
- Travis Hopkins, third chair euphonium;
- Logan Jungman, fourth chair tuba; and
- Mallory Pearson, second alt. percussion Opt. 3.

News Briefs

Inclement weather procedures outlined

The Raymore-Peculiar School District may delay the opening of school by two hours when it appears transportation conditions will improve after the more congested rush-hour traffic has passed. The decision to close school or to delay the opening of school by two hours will be made by 5:30 a.m. to allow time for media to broadcast this decision prior to most students preparing for the school day.

School closing information will be available on television stations 4, 5, 9, and 41 and most major radio stations. The information will appear on the Ray-Pec website: www.raypec.k12.mo.us. You may also call the school district cancellation information line at 892-3988 to hear a recorded message. An e-mail message will be sent to subscribers of "RP Update." Subscribers to the text messaging service will receive a text. (To subscribe to RP-Update, visit www.raypec.k12.mo.us and use the RP-Update link.)

It is a good idea to listen to a radio or television station any time weather conditions are changing or in question. The district phone line and website will carry early school dismissal information as soon as decisions are made.

It is important to have plans for younger children when school is dismissed early. In the event a parent cannot be home, arrangements should be made for the child to stay with a friend or relative. Parents should insist their children dress for protection against prolonged exposure to the weather as a safety precaution.

The decision to close school is always a difficult one. Every effort will be made to consider the safety of the students, the safety of the faculty, and the convenience to parents. Your cooperation and assistance is appreciated. It is always the parent or guardian's decision to determine the safety for their child during inclement weather. If you have questions regarding school dismissal, call the building in which your child attends or the district office at 892-1300.

When school is delayed by two hours, the High School will begin at 9:25 a.m., the Middle School at 9:35 a.m., the intermediate schools at 10:40 a.m., and the elementary schools at 10:45 a.m. Regular school closing time will be observed on delayed opening days.



Award-winning reader

In less than three months, **Megan Russell**, a fourth grader at Stonegate Elementary School, read all 12 of the books nominated for the Mark Twain award. She took quizzes on the books and passed with flying colors. **Brenda Sehorn**, the Stonegate librarian, presented Megan with a certificate of accomplishment. Megan also received a \$50 gift certificate to spend at the school book fair.



Helping with hats

These students at Shull Elementary School donated money to United Way to participate in Hat Day. The school was filled with fun and crazy hats.

News Briefs

Shull fourth grade celebrates Missouri Day

The fourth grade at Shull Elementary celebrated Missouri Day on the third Wednesday in October by inviting in Carol Bohl from the Cass County Historical Society.

Mrs. Bohl talked to students about Order Number 11, The Burnt District, and how the Civil War separated people in our state. She talked about how the first settlers came from the south, such as from Kentucky and Virginia.

She also talked about a couple of famous Missourians that came from Cass County. She told about Carrie Nation and also how Ewing Kaufmann bought land in Cass County.

The Live Wires Square Dance Club also visited and performed square dancing as the Missouri State dance. (See picture on page 17.)



Ready, aim . . .

Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle** helped serve hot rolls during the Thanksgiving luncheon at Stonegate Elementary School.



For United Way

Shull Elementary School Principal **Jerrod Fellhauer** helped the United Way fundraising effort by allowing students to tape him to the wall if the school met its fundraising goal. The school exceeded the goal by raising \$615.74. In addition, Jerrod let fourth grade students and teachers throw pies in his face. The picture above shows Jerrod taped to the wall. The picture at right shows Jerrod after the pies. As a district, Ray-Pec raised \$6,408 for United Way. The top fundraising building was Raymore Elementary School, which raised \$1,188; followed by Ray-Pec High School, which raised \$1,106; and the Administrative Services Center, which raised \$1,080.



News Briefs

Counseling department plans to honor alumni

The Ray-Pec High School Counseling Department wants to celebrate the accomplishments of Ray-Pec grads. The department plans to decorate its walls with photos and short bios of Ray-Pec alumni. They are seeking photos and information of people of all ages and professions. Please share the graduation year, any additional training (apprenticeship or college), and what they are doing now. For more information, call the counseling office at 816-892-1422 or send an email to Counselor **Rachel Hagelin** at: rhagelin@raypec.k12.mo.us.

Local organization plans gift drive and Santa sale

A Child's Path Back is having a Christmas present drive and Santa Sale. The non-profit organization is seeking donations of cash and new gifts for children and adults. Used items will be accepted if in new condition.

Donated gifts may be dropped off at the West Peculiar Fire Protection District, Peculiar Elementary School, and Peculiar Police Department. The items will be used to set up a Santa Sale from 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Peculiar Elementary School. Families can come and purchase gifts priced from \$1 to \$10, with a limit of \$100 per family, depending upon the volume of donations.

Children who have been directly involved with the organization, with the assistance of their parents, will use the cash to purchase presents. Thanks to donations from Cass County Meats and the Price Chopper Store in Paola, Kan., there will be drinks and hotdogs available during the Santa Sale.

A Child's Path Back was formed to assist injured children with their re-entry into school and community. The organization was founded by Dennis and Kristina Downey of Louisburg, Kan. Dennis Downey is a fire captain with the West Peculiar Fire Protection District.

For more information, or to help with the Santa Sale, please contact Dennis at 816-813-5053 or 913-837-5544 or achildspathback@live.com. For more information about A Child's Path Back, go to www.achildspathback.com.

Who will take the Polar Plunge?

Once again, the Ray-Pec High School Student Council is searching for brave souls to take the Polar Plunge, which is a fundraiser for Special Olympics. For the past two years, the Ray-Pec School District has had at least one person from each building plunge into Longview Lake on the last weekend in January. The date for the next plunge is Jan. 29, 2011.

Ray-Pec raised more money than any other school district in the state over the past two years (averaging about \$15,000 over those two years). Last year, Ray-Pec had more than 100 students and staff plunge for Special Olympics.

Student Council sponsor and Teacher **Jeff Moore** said, "Belton is once again bragging that they are going to beat us this year. We need your help! I will admit that I am a little crazy, but honestly it is a great deal of fun, last year especially with over 100 people singing the fight song and shouting RayPec." If you are interested in participating, contact Jeff Moore at: jmoore@raypec.k12.mo.us.

Here are the participants to date:

- Academy: **Adam Krohn**
- Bridle Ridge: **Dan Garrison, Melissa Darby**
- Eagle Glen: **Andrew Perkins**
- High School: **Cara Hornbeck, Rebecca Justesen, Brett Johnson, Jason Watermann, Macey England, Mike Williams, Tiesa Smith, Joe O'Neal, Scott Jermain, John Wilson, Heidi Lanksbury**
- Peculiar Elementary: **Emily Gartman, Michelle Proctor, Missy Lucas**
- Raymore Elementary: **Amy Leizer, Samantha Allen, Gina Grossman**
- Stonegate Elementary: **Erica Stock, Jacqueline Lair**
- Timber Creek Elementary: **Jon Books**

If you cannot plunge on Jan. 29, you can still help by supporting the fundraising efforts of Ray-Pec team members.



Storyteller at Stonegate

Storyteller Gary Kuntz entertains students Nov. 4 in the library media center at Stonegate Elementary School. Kuntz's visit was part of a large storytelling celebration. The Metropolitan Community College of Maple Woods organizes this annual event to bring the art of storytelling to people throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area.

News Briefs

Ray-Pec defeats Belton in faculty basketball

Ray-Pec faculty defeated Belton faculty, 40-39 in overtime, during the faculty basketball game on Nov. 9. This was the fifth consecutive year for the Ray-Pec faculty to win.

Ray-Pec was led by teachers **Brett Schmitt** and **Scott Jermain** with 9 points each. Other contributing faculty members were: **Macey England, Kim Kruse, Parisa Saravi, Tracie Terry, Paul Carvan, Mark Cook, Mark Copeland, Brad Gaines, Clayton Hockett, Dallas Lybarger** and **Everett Sheppard**.

Thanks to Pizza Hut, Jimmy Johns, Sonic and Dean's Trophies for sponsoring the event. Ray-Pec's portion of the proceeds will support DECA.

Panther Market

Are you interested in some Ray-Pec or Panther apparel or gift items? Check out the Ray-Pec High School Panther Market. See the latest offerings, plus some clearance items, at: www.raypec.k12.mo.us/panthermarket.

Mobile recycling units to return Dec. 11-12 to Freshman Center

Mobile recycling collection units will be available on the second weekend of each month at the Freshman Center parking lot.

The units will be available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each scheduled day. The units will return on Nov. 13 and 14 to the Ray-Pec Freshman Center.

These items will be accepted: aluminum and steel (tin) cans, newspaper, office paper and junk mail, shredded paper in paper bags, paperboard, cardboard, magazines, catalogs, telephone books, paperback and hardback books, and plastics.

You do not need to sort the materials; the items will be commingled in one container.



Storyteller at Stonegate

Storyteller Deb Swanegan entertains students Nov. 4 in the library media center at Stonegate Elementary School. Swanegan's visit was part of a large storytelling celebration. The Metropolitan Community College of Maple Woods organizes this annual event to bring the art of storytelling to people throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area.



Stonegate stories

Storyteller Nancy Shelton entertains students Nov. 4 at Stonegate Elementary School. Shelton's visit was part of a large storytelling celebration. The Metropolitan Community College of Maple Woods organizes this annual event to bring the art of the spoken word to people throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area.

News Briefs

Follow-up of 2010 class

Attention parents of the Ray-Pec High School Class of 2010: The Ray-Pec High School Business Department is required to conduct a 180-day follow-up of the 2010 senior class. Please use this link to complete a survey to let us know what your child is doing after graduation:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YTPHHR8>

Haircuts for Huskies

House of Heavilin Beauty College announces Haircuts for Huskies. From Dec. 14-18, 50 percent of all proceeds from haircuts will be donated to Ray-Pec East Middle School.

House of Heavilin Beauty College, located at 800 W. Foxwood Dr. in Raymore, near Cosentino's Price Chopper, offers a full-service student salon. Students, teachers, friends and families are welcome to have a haircut to help raise money for the middle school. Hours are: 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, through Saturday, Dec. 18. The cost is \$6 at the Performance Student Salon or \$8 at the Master Student Salon.

Call 229-9000, ext. 230, to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome. All services are performed by supervised students.

Superintendent's Blog

Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle** has a blog. A blog is an online journal, or "web log." To read Dr. Kyle's blog, go to the district web site: www.raypec.k12.mo.us. There is a link on the left side of the home page for "Superintendent's Blog."

Special Olympics in the Ray-Pec School District

You can help support the new Special Olympics program at Ray-Pec by volunteering, raising money or buying a T-shirt.

You can purchase a T-shirt for \$10. They are available in adult sizes S, M, L, and XL. Contact Teacher and Special Olympics Sponsor **Cara Hornbeck** (chornbeck@raypec.k12.mo.us) to order.

You can also become a volunteer or a unified partner. Contact Cara Hornbeck for more information about volunteer opportunities.



Stonegate superheroes

Stonegate Elementary School held its annual Boo Fest on Oct. 22. Students wore costumes and participated in trick-or-treating, a costume contest, cookie decorating, a pumpkin carving contest and more. Pictured are two of Stonegate's Superheroes: Principal Doug Becker and student Ayana Richard.

Parents as Teachers offers free screenings

The Ray-Pec Parents as Teachers program offers free screenings to all families in the Raymore-Peculiar School District with children ages 6 months to 3 years. Children will receive the Denver II screening, which is designed to give parents a clear picture of their child's strengths, weaknesses and emerging skills in the areas of language, social-emotional, intellectual and motor development.

Screening is a quick and effective way to look at your child in comparison to other children his or her age. Call the Parents as Teachers program at 816-892-1938 to schedule a time for screening.

News Briefs

Mentors needed

Do you have an extra hour during your week? How about spending it with a Ray-Pec student? Ray-Pec has a mentoring program called Together We Can YouthFriends. This program is fun for both young people and adults. Mentors can participate in a wide range of in-school activities, including sharing lunch with a student, reading to a student, sharing special talents or career interests, tutoring, or just being a good friend who listens. For more information, contact School Social Worker **Janet James** at jjames@raypec.k12.mo.us or 892-1459.



Entertainment reporter visits class

Shawn Edwards, entertainment reporter and film critic for Fox 4 Kansas City TV, visited **Julie Vannatter's** Life Skills class on Nov. 3 at the north Ray-Pec High School building. Edwards is fourth from left in the back row. Vannatter is pictured at right. Edwards and partner, Russ Simmons, view all major motion pictures released and report on them weekly for the local Fox affiliate. Edwards has been with the station since 2000 and began his career with The Pitch, a local newspaper, prior to joining the television station. He holds a degree in live broadcasting and a minor in journalism. He explained to the students that every show on television has been scripted in some way and how important it is to have good writing skills. He also talked about his average week at the station, regular trips to Los Angeles and New York to interview stars in the movies he is critiquing and the differences between live and taped broadcasts. He also shared the names of many stars he has met during his career.

Panther Cub Academy offers day care

The Panther Cub Academy offers year-round educational experiences for children ages 3 to 5 who are potty trained. Panther Cub Academy is located on the lower level of Raymore Elementary School at 500 S. Madison St., Raymore.

Panther Cub Academy is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Panther Cub Academy is closed for inclement weather if Ray-Pec schools are closed. It is also closed on specific holidays and Ray-Pec winter break and spring break. Tuition is \$110 per week for full-time status, or \$30 per day with a two-day minimum. A non-refundable enrollment fee of \$40 is required.

Panther Cub Academy provides snacks, but does not provide breakfast or lunch. Children may bring breakfast or lunch, or they can open a lunch account with the school district. When school is not in session, Panther Cub children must bring breakfast and/or lunch.

For more information, contact Director **Marie Davis** at 892-1943 or mdavis@raypec.k12.mo.us.

Recycling program

Recycling bins are now available throughout the school district. Items for recycling may be commingled in the containers. The bins may be used for paper, cardboard, and plastic. Glass is not accepted at this time. Smaller bins are placed in classrooms and offices, and larger bins are available in cafeterias and other locations.



Missouri State Dance

Juline Norman, a fourth grade teacher at Shull Elementary School, at left in pink, is a member of the Live Wires Square Dance Club, which recently performed at Shull Elementary School. Square dancing is the official Missouri State Dance. The dancers performed a combination of reels and patter calls for the Shull students. The students yee-hawed and clapped along to the music.

News Briefs

Job openings

Employment opportunities in the School District are posted at the Administrative Services Center and on the district web site at: www.raypec.k12.mo.us.

If interested in a position, obtain an application in person or on-line, complete it, and submit it to: Ray-Pec Schools Human Resources, 21005 S. School Rd., P.O. Box 789, Peculiar, Mo. 64078.

You may also sign up via the web site to be notified when job openings are posted.

Find us on Facebook

Find us on Facebook! You can now become a fan of the Raymore-Peculiar School District on Facebook.



It's free to create an account at www.facebook.com. Search "pages" for the Raymore-Peculiar School District.

You can follow Ray-Pec, RP boys basketball and Project Grad on Twitter

You can also view Ray-Pec information and become a follower of Ray-Pec School District news updates by clicking on "join today" at <http://twitter.com/raypec>.

You can follow Ray-Pec boys basketball on Twitter. Go to: <http://twitter.com/rpbasketball>. You can view the basketball information at that web site, and you can sign up to receive "tweets" on your cell phone.

You can also follow Ray-Pec Project Graduation on Twitter. Go to: <http://twitter.com/rpprojectgrad>. You can view the Project Graduation information and sign up to follow Project Grad.

To learn more about Twitter, visit www.twitter.com. You can create an account and view a video. Twitter is a free online service. Through Twitter, users may update family, friends or professional peers in 140-character messages delivered to cell phones or through the Internet.



Rotary Club November Student of the Month

Todd Goffoy, president of the Belton-Raymore Rotary Club congratulates Senior **Jason Fultz**, who was honored as the club's Ray-Pec High School Student of the Month for November. Each month, the club honors a student from Belton High School and a student from Ray-Pec High School.



Bridle Ridge Chili Cook-off winners

Bridle Ridge Intermediate School had its annual chili cook-off on Nov. 17. Eight Bridle Ridge staff members brought in pots of chili for the contest. Local firefighters came to the school to select the winners. First place went to Computer Teacher **Don Novak**, center. Second place was awarded to Literacy Coach **Calee McElwain**, left. Third place went to Fifth Grade Teacher **Dan Garrison**, at right.

Standard Complaint Resolution Procedure for Improving America's Schools Act Programs

This complaint resolution procedure applies to all programs administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

A complaint is a formal allegation that a specific federal or state law or regulation has been violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted by school district personnel or by Department of Education personnel.

Any parent or guardian, surrogate parent, teacher, administrator, school board member, or other person directly involved with an activity, program, or project operated under the general supervision of the Department may file a complaint. Such a complaint must be in writing and signed; it will provide specific details of the situation and indicate the law or regulation that is allegedly being violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted.

The written, signed complaint must be filed and the resolution pursued in accordance with local district policy: The Board recognizes that situations of concern to parents/guardians or the public may arise in the operation of the district. Such concerns are best resolved through communication with the appropriate staff members and officers of the school district, such as the faculty, the principals, the Superintendent or the Board.

The following steps are proper procedures to be followed by persons with questions or complaints regarding the operation of the school district:

Matters concerning individual students should first be addressed to the teacher.

Unsettled matters from (1) above, or problems and questions concerning individual schools, should be directed to the principal of the school.

Unsettled matters from (2) above, or problems and questions concerning individual schools, should be directed to the Assistant Superintendent.

Unsettled matters from (3) above, or problems and questions concerning the school district, should be directed to the Superintendent.

If the matter cannot be settled satisfactorily by the Superintendent, it should be brought to the Board of Education. Questions and comments submitted to the secretary of the Board in letter form will be brought to the attention of the entire Board. If necessary, a Board hearing will be scheduled to resolve the complaint. However, the decision of the Board shall be final.

The Board considers it the obligation of the professional and support staff of the district to field the questions of parents/guardians or the public.

If the issue cannot be resolved at the local level, the complainant may file a complaint with the Missouri Department of Education. If there is no evidence that the parties have attempted in good faith to resolve the complaint at the local level, the Department may require the parties to do so and may provide technical assistance to facilitate such resolution.

Any persons directly affected by the actions of the Department may file a similarly written complaint if they believe state or federal laws or regulations have been violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted by the Department itself.

Anyone wishing more information about this procedure or how complaints are resolved may contact local district or Department personnel.

News Briefs

Activity telephone line

Call 892-3988 for daily activities and sports information updates and cancellations. Call after 1 p.m. for weather-related cancellations.



Text messages

To sign up for text message alerts from the School District, visit the district web site at: www.raypec.k12.mo.us

There is a link on the left side.

Each subscriber must self-enroll and submit an authorization code that will be provided during the enrollment process. Allen Bank and Trust of Raymore is sponsoring the service.

RP Update

To receive e-mail news from the school district, send a message to: rpupdate@raypec.k12.mo.us. In the body of the message, type "Subscribe RP Update." You may enroll yourself by following a link at: www.raypec.k12.mo.us

Safe and Drug Free Schools Federal Grants Title IV Annual Report

School districts in Missouri are required to present an annual report to the public describing school programs that were funded with Title IV, Safe and Drug Free dollars, and to identify how these programs support the district's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) objectives.

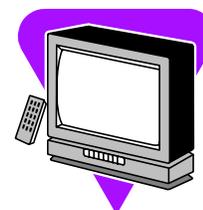
The Ray-Pec School District provided the following programs and activities, which were selected and designed to address district CSIP objectives for student achievement and safe and productive learning environments.

Stop Violence Now programs on bully prevention, prevention of violence in school, prevention of substance, alcohol and tobacco abuse and anger management skills were presented throughout the school year.

Funds also supported instructional supplies and materials for classroom and small group guidance lessons with students. Small groups and some after-school groups focused on such topics as: stress management, friendships, diversity, tolerance, peer pressure, conflict resolution and building social skills.

At the secondary level, funds also helped support an online alcohol education program to help tutor students to make good decisions regarding social pressures dealing with alcohol use or experimentation.

Title IV funds also helped support the mentoring program "Together We Can," which provides adult mentors for elementary students. Adult volunteers meet with students on a weekly basis to offer assistance with school work, or just be a friend to a student identified at-risk socially or academically.



*For more news and information
about the
Raymore-Peculiar School District,
check out:*

Comcast Cable Channel 15

*and our web site at:
www.raypec.k12.mo.us*



Raymore-Peculiar School District Public Notices

Children with Disabilities

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include: autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness, and young child with a developmental delay.

Raymore-Peculiar School District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State of Missouri in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program. Raymore-Peculiar School District assures personally identifiable information collected, used or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Raymore-Peculiar School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed at Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District, Administrative Services Center, 21005 School Road, Peculiar, Missouri, 816-892-1300, during business hours.

This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

Americans with Disabilities Act

It is the policy of the Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District to make our services, facilities, programs and accommodations accessible to all individuals, including individuals with disabilities. The District continues to upgrade its facilities in accordance with its ADA Transition Plans.

If a disability prevents you from fully using our facilities or enjoying our services and programs, we would like your input and ideas on how we can better serve you.

Please direct your input in writing to:

ADA Coordinator, Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District
P.O. Box 789, Peculiar, MO 64078

Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title XI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended), Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, P.L. 93-112, and Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the regulations hereunder, it is the policy of the Ray-Pec School District that no person shall, because of age, sex, race, disability or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any district education program or activity, including employment. Written policies about the rights and responsibilities of employees and students are available for inspection at the district's administrative offices. Inquiries about protection against discrimination under the above-named acts may be directed in writing to: Dr. Terri Jamison, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Raymore-Peculiar School District, P.O. Box 789, Peculiar, MO 64078.

Notification of Asbestos Plans

Asbestos Management Plans for the Raymore-Peculiar School District include two components: a general plan for the entire district and a specific plan for each school. The entire plan is located at the Administrative Services Center, 21005 S. School Rd., Peculiar, MO 64078. Each school office has a copy of plans for that school. Plans may be viewed during regular business hours. To view plans, make an appointment with the Asbestos Program Manager at least one (1) working day in advance. Any request to view the plan must be honored by the Asbestos Program Manager within five (5) working days of the receipt of such request. Document copies are available from the Administrative Services Center at a cost of 25 cents per page.



Raymore-Peculiar School News

Raymore-Peculiar School District
21005 S. School Rd., P.O. Box 789
Peculiar, MO 64078

