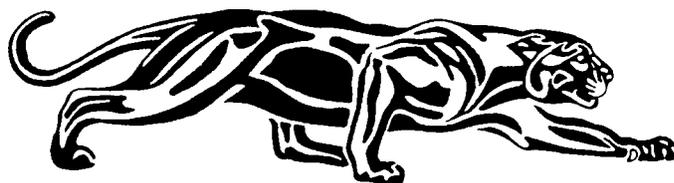


Raymore-Peculiar School News



Published for patrons and friends of the
 Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District
 May 11, 2011



Gina Johnson, at far right, is the 2011 Teacher of the Year for the Ray-Pec School District. She teaches seventh grade science at Ray-Pec East Middle School. Also pictured, from left, is: Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**; 2010 Teacher of the Year **Rebecca Gooding**; and School Board President **Kyle Gillespie**.

Gina Johnson is 2011 Teacher of the Year

Gina Johnson, a seventh grade science teacher at Ray-Pec East Middle School, is the 2011 Teacher of the Year for the school district.

The announcement came during the May 4 dinner to honor 10 finalists for Teacher of the Year and 10 finalists for Support Staff Employee of the Year. At the conclusion of the event, a banner was unrolled to reveal the winners.

Johnson has been teaching seventh grade at Ray-Pec since 2007. Before coming to Ray-Pec, she taught from 1996 to 2007 in Sedalia, Mo., where she taught grades 1-5 and taught middle school science for grades 6, 7 and 8.

The other finalists for 2011 Teacher of the Year were: **Emily Dahmer**, Middle School; **Tricia Elmore**, Timber Creek Elementary; **Jessica Farrell**, Timber Creek Elementary; **Dawn Fellhauer**, Peculiar Elementary; **Angie LaSala**, Raymore Elementary; **Kay Miller**, Timber Creek Elementary; **Rebecca Oshel**, Creekmoor Elementary; **Leah Sapp**, Eagle Glen Intermediate School; and **Todd Schnake**, High School.

School board schedules work session on May 12

The Ray-Pec school board is scheduled to meet in a work session at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12, in the board room at the Administrative Services Center, 21005 S. School Rd. It is open to the public. The agenda includes discussion about finances and the 2011-2012 budget.

Summer School enrollment deadline

The Summer School enrollment deadline for students entering grades 1-6 next fall has been extended to May 13. You can read more about summer school from a link on the Ray-Pec web site: www.raypec.k12.mo.us

Last day of school

The last day of school is Friday, May 27. All schools will dismiss three hours early.

Special Olympics banquet is May 16

The Special Olympics sports banquet is from 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, May 16, at the north high school commons. Cake and punch will be provided. Athletes, parents, volunteers and fans are invited to come and honor the athletes. Please enter in the back of the school. Athletes are asked to turn in their sweats and jerseys.

This is the second year for Ray-Pec to have Special Olympics teams in bowling, basketball and track and field.

To volunteer next year, contact **Catie Howlett** at mhowlett@raypec.k12.mo.us or **Cara Hornbeck** at chornbeck@raypec.k12.mo.us.

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"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

Ray-Pec volleyball team to carhop at Sonic

You are invited to support your Ray-Pec volleyball team members, who will be car hopping from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at the Raymore Sonic. Proceeds will help pay for summer leagues and camps.

Over the summer, the players will participate in the Lee's Summit West team camp, Lee's Summit North Monday and Tuesday night leagues and Thursday night Ray-Pec league in June.

Incoming 5th grade parent orientation is May 17 at Eagle Glen

Eagle Glen will have incoming 5th Grade Parent Orientation at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 17. Parents will have a chance to learn about and tour your child's new school.

Incoming 5th graders are welcome to attend. There will be an activity for them while parents attend the orientation. If you have any questions, please call Eagle Glen at 816-892-1750.

Incoming 5th grade parent orientation is May 17 at Bridle Ridge

Bridle Ridge will also have incoming 5th Grade Parent Orientation at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 17. Parents will have a chance to learn about and tour your child's new school.

Incoming 5th graders are welcome to attend. There will be an activity for them while parents attend the orientation. If you have any questions, please call Bridle Ridge at 816-892-1700.

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: Director of Human Resources, Raymore-Peculiar School District, P.O. Box 789, Peculiar, MO 64078. 816-892-1300.



Allison Scott, at far right, is the 2011 Support Staff Employee of the Year for the Ray-Pec School District. She is the Focus Facilitator at Raymore Elementary School. Also pictured, from left, is: Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**; Foundation Board Member **Becky Klein**; and 2007 Support Staff Employee of the Year **Debbie Wescoat**.

Allison Scott is Support Staff honoree

Allison Scott, the Focus Facilitator at Raymore Elementary School, is the 2011 Support Staff Employee of the Year for the school district.

The announcement came at the conclusion of the May 4 banquet to honor finalists for Teacher of the Year and Support Staff Employee of the Year.

This is Allison's first year in this position. She also worked from 2008-2010 as a substitute teacher in the school district. Before coming to Ray-Pec, she was a seventh grade math teacher and gifted math teacher in the Liberty School District from 2000-2003. She was an eighth grade math teacher in the Rockwood School District from 1998-2000. She is co-coordinator of the Raymore Elementary After-School Science Club.

The other finalists for 2011 Support Staff Employee of the Year were: **Lawrence Curry**, lunch monitor, Creekmoor Elementary; **Larry Dial**, custodian, Raymore Elementary; **Patty Dimarco**, nurse, Bridle Ridge Intermediate; **Gale Garten**, secretary, north high school building; **Jaime Maxwell**, secretary, middle school; **Michelle Moore**, Special Services Department; **Shelley Presley**, Technology Department; **Brandon Romero**, custodian, Eagle Glen Intermediate; and **Gail Schmidt**, para-professional, Early Childhood.

The Teacher of the Year and Support Staff Employee of the Year process began in February when the district asked people to submit letters of nomination. From the nominations, 10 finalists were selected for each award. Each finalist had an interview with three judges from outside the district. The judges reviewed resumes and nomination letters, and at the conclusion of the interviews, selected the winners.

The major sponsor for the recognition event is the Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation.

Class of 2011 prepares for graduation; Academy also sets celebration ceremony

It's graduation season, and the district is proud of all of its graduates. You might not know that there are two Ray-Pec graduation ceremonies

The Ray-Pec High School commencement ceremony is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday, May 20, at the Community of Christ Auditorium, Independence. The Ray-Pec Academy, formerly known as the alternative school, has a separate graduation celebration, scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, in the former freshman center.

Each year, students who have completed coursework through the Academy are awarded a Ray-Pec diploma and have the choice of participating in both ceremonies. This year, the Ray-Pec Academy is excited to share the news that one of its graduates has been accepted into a four-year university. **Katie Pattison** will attend Northwest Missouri State University in the fall. What makes this story even more special is that Katie is a 20-year-old senior. She had been a drop out, but returned to school this year. She has completed her high school education and is now looking forward to college.

Katie encourages other students who have dropped out to consider returning to school. She learned that public school districts provide services to students through age 21, and found that the Academy offered her a way to re-enter and complete high school.

The Academy is a non-traditional school setting located in the former freshman center building on the district's main campus. The Academy was created to provide support for students who might be at risk of dropping out. The Academy features smaller class sizes, and some small group or self-paced learning to help meet the individual educational, social and emotional needs of these students.

Graduation information and tickets

Did you know that Gov. Jay Nixon is the scheduled guest speaker at this year's Ray-Pec High School commencement? The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2011 is at 7 p.m. Friday, May 20, at the Community of Christ Auditorium, 1001 W. Walnut, Independence. Here is some important information about graduation:

- Doors to the auditorium will open at 6 p.m.
- Seniors should be in the downstairs hallway of the auditorium at 6:15 p.m.
- Spectators are asked to not use noise makers during the ceremony.
- Laser pointers and balloons are not allowed in the auditorium.
- Seniors will take finals on May 13, 16 and 17, and are required to be in school all day. All books must be returned and charges paid before a diploma will be issued.
- Tickets are required for admittance. All graduates will receive 10 tickets during graduation rehearsal on May 18. Families may request additional tickets through the front office at the south high school by calling 892-1404 or sending an email to ddragoo@raypec.k12.mo.us by Tuesday, May 17. Please note: District employees, retired teachers, current and former students also need tickets. High school teachers will not need a ticket to attend.
- A photographer from Pearce Photographics will take each senior's picture as he/she receives a diploma. Pearce mailed an order form to each senior. Pearce also plans to send specific price information with a proof after graduation. You may also call 331-8586 for information.
- You may order a DVD of the graduation ceremony from Picture This Video, Inc. of Belton. An order form was mailed to each senior with graduation information. The cost of the DVD is \$25. You may also contact the business at 331-4212 to obtain an order form.

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Baccalaureate set for May 15 for Class of 2011

The baccalaureate for the Class of 2011 is scheduled for 7 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, located at M-58 and Johnston Parkway, Raymore. Baccalaureate is a religious ceremony honoring the graduates. The ceremony typically includes an address to the senior class. There will be a reception following the ceremony. For more information, contact **Pam Hecker** at 816-510-7085 or 816-892-1750.

Cap, gown donations

The high school welcomes donations of previously worn graduation caps and gowns and stoles. They can be donated at the front office; just ask for **Dianne Harmon**.

Senior Awards assembly

The Ray-Pec High School Senior Awards Assembly is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, in the gymnasium at the Ray-Pec High School south building. Family members and friends are invited and welcome to attend.

Project Grad party

Attention seniors: It's not too later to turn in your release form for the Project Grad trip to Power Play. Drop off your parent-signed release form with the applicable fee to the high school front office. The cost is \$5 per senior. If your parents participated in the buy-out by donating \$100 or more, your ticket is paid. Seniors bringing a guest must provide a signed release form for the guest and pay an additional fee of \$35. For more information, contact Donna Wellman at 816-719-6276,

Project Grad turnover

Attention parents of juniors: A Project Grad turnover meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 23, in the south high school library. There is a need for volunteers to serve as chair, co-chair, secretary and treasurer. If you are interested, please attend. For more information about Project Grad, contact Donna Wellman at 816-719-6276 or Brad Swanson at 816-651-8640.

News Briefs

State champions!

RPHS places first in Readers Theatre

Congratulations to Ray-Pec theatre students for winning the State Championship in Readers Theatre with the piece "The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza."

Ray-Pec theatre students also finished second in the state in the One-Act Play competition.

In individual events, **Hayley Farrell** placed fourth in dramatic interpretation, and **Dane Schnake** finished eighth in Storytelling.

Stonegate student receives award

Congratulations to **Tammy Yang**, a fourth grader in Mary Besse's class at Stonegate Elementary School, for being awarded honorable mention in the Missouri State Poetry Contest. Her poem, "The World of Magic," has been published in the 2011 Annual Young Writers of America Book.

RPHS students take end-of-course exams

End of course (EOC) exams took place the weeks of May 2 and May 9 at the high school. These exams, in eight courses, continue through May 13.

EOC exams have replaced Missouri Assessment Program tests at the high school level. Results on the EOC tests are important as they are considered during the district's accreditation process. This year, the EOC exams are all taking place online. With the support of the Technology Department, this process is going smoothly.

A representative from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education visited the south high school, monitored a Biology testing session, and reported to the district that we are in compliance with our testing procedures. She was impressed that the entire process was taking place online (something that will be mandated for all districts in the future). She also complimented the district on the organization for the testing and the usage of privacy measures.



Back in time

Amy Beck's fourth grade class from Creekmoor Elementary School on May 4 visited Lanesfield One-Room School House in Edgerton, Kan. The students dressed up and spent the day as if it were 1904, with Mr. Davis as a teacher. Parent Tom Pietchmann took this photo of Amy Beck's class. He then altered the photo to make it look "old." The Lanesfield School Historic Site includes a restored one-room schoolhouse, outbuildings and a visitor's center featuring an exhibit on Kansas' one-room schools. Visitors to the site are able to meet at costumed schoolteachers, dip a pen into an inkwell and use a slate and slate pencil. Built in 1869, the Lanesfield school is the only building that remains on the town site of Lanesfield, Kan., which was once a mail stop on the Santa Fe Trail.



Book characters

Students at Creekmoor Elementary School celebrated Children's Book Week with a spirit week. On one day, the theme was "Books Develop Great Character" and students dressed as their favorite book character. These two students were voted as the winners. At left is **Chandler Brenneke** as King Leonidas from "300 March to Glory," and at right is **Avery Jones** as Captain Underpants.

Program honors excellence

Ray-Pec's musical, 'Crazy for You,' nominated for nine Blue Star awards

Ray-Pec's musical, "Crazy for You," was nominated for nine awards through the Starlight Theatre Blue Star program to honor excellence in high school theatre.

"Crazy for You" was nominated for:

- Outstanding Overall Production;
- Lead Actor in a Musical, **Seth Jones**;
- Lead Actress in a Musical, **Nellie Maple**;
- Outstanding Male Ensemble Member, **Josh Wagner**;
- Outstanding Ensemble;
- Outstanding Hair and Makeup Design;
- Outstanding Technical Crew – Deck/Set Crew;
- Outstanding Costume Design; and
- Outstanding Scenic Design.

The Blue Star Awards Ceremony is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 26, at Starlight Theatre. The awards ceremony is open to the public and features song medleys and production numbers.

Each of the six shows nominated for Outstanding Overall Production get to perform a song on the stage during the ceremony. A total of 51 musicals from high schools in the Greater Kansas City metro area participated in the program this year. This is the third consecutive year that Ray-Pec has had the honor of performing at the Blue Star awards.

Ray-Pec presented the show in February. "Crazy for You" is a musical comedy set in the 1930s. "Crazy for You" was the winner of the 1992 Tony Award for Best Musical and features a book by Ken Ludwig and lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin.

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Elementary students to participate in show

Two Peculiar Elementary School students are among area children participating in the production of the musical "Annie" this weekend.

Fifth grader **Ellie Lucas**, daughter of Teacher **Missy Lucas**, and fourth grader **Taylor Bates**, are part of the cast of the show.

Public shows are scheduled Thursday, May 12, through Sunday, May 13, at the Rose Theater at Rockhurst High School, 9301 State Line Rd., Kansas City. For ticket information, go to cytkc.org or call 913-681-3318.

Academic recognition

Congratulations to these groups for achieving the Missouri State High School Activities Association scholastic achievement award:

- Girls junior varsity/varsity basketball team, with a grade point average of 3.07; and
- Girls junior varsity/varsity swimming and diving team, with a grade point average of 3.19.



'Crazy for You' cast and crew

Cast and crew members from the Ray-Pec High School musical "Crazy for You" are pictured on May 5, when they learned that the show has received nominations in nine categories for the Blue Star awards program. Blue Star is a program through Starlight Theatre to honor excellence in high school theatre. The awards ceremony is scheduled for May 26 at Starlight Theatre.

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Sympathy notice

We are sorry to inform you of the death of a Ray-Pec graduate. **Patrick Beasley**, 2004 graduate of Ray-Pec High School, died April 29, at home after a long battle with cancer. A memorial ceremony was May 7, at Our Lady of Presentation Church, Lee's Summit. Patrick was a cousin of **Thomas "Jake" Nicholas**, who was also a former student of Ray-Pec and died in 2006 in a motor vehicle accident.

Student selected to cheer at Mid-America

Congratulations to Senior **Megan Maulsby**, who signed a letter of intent to cheer at Mid-America University. She signed with head cheer coaches Josh and Jess Magaha. While a member of the Ray-Pec cheer program from 2008-2011, Megan also earned honors as an NCA All-American cheerleader and was invited to join the NCA Cheer Staff.

Some RPHS yearbooks available to purchase

There are a limited number of 2010-2011 Ray-Pec High School yearbooks available. The books are \$70 and will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. Books may be purchased in south high school room 202 before or after school.

Additional questions should be addressed to Teacher **Stefani Russ** at sruss@raypec.k12.mo.us. Seniors will receive their yearbooks at the senior picnic on May 18. Students in grades 9-11 will receive their yearbooks on the last day of school.

Walk for Health is June 4

The Ray-Pec School District is forming teams of walkers to participate in the Walk for Health, a benefit for the Research Belton Foundation.

The proceeds help fund scholarships for high school seniors at Ray-Pec, Belton and Grandview high schools. The foundation also funds dental care for children without dental insurance.

The walk is scheduled for Saturday, June 4, at Research Belton Hospital. For information, contact **Michele Donahoe** at mdonahoe@raypec.k12.mo.us.



Oath of office

Kyle Gillespie, **Ruth Johnson** and **Kim York** took the oath of office on Tuesday, April 19, to begin three-year terms on the board of education. In its reorganization meeting, the board elected **Kyle Gillespie** to serve as president and **David Crabtree** to serve as vice president. At right is **Pam Steele**, Board of Education secretary.

Randy Randolph will be new principal for Eagle Glen Intermediate School

Randy Randolph of Joplin will be the new principal for Eagle Glen Intermediate School. Randolph will replace **Lisa Hatfield**, who will become the new Director of Human Resources for the school district, effective July 1.

Randolph is coming to Ray-Pec from the Joplin School District, where he has been an elementary school principal since 2001. He has been principal of Jefferson Elementary School since 2003. He was principal of Emerson Elementary School in Joplin from 2001-2003. He was also Summer School principal in 2003, 2004 and 2010.

He was a fifth grade teacher in the Joplin School District for the 2000-2001 school year. From 1995 to 2000, he was a teacher in Montana, teaching grades 2-5. Earlier, he was a K-3 teacher at Benton Lake Elementary in Couteaug County from 1993-1995. He also served in the U.S. Air Force from 1986-1990.

He received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from College of Great Falls, Great Falls, Mont. He received a master's degree in elementary school administration from Montana State University in Bozeman. He received an educational specialist degree in school administration from Missouri State University, Springfield.



Randy Randolph

News Briefs



Eighth grade Students of the Month for April

Here are the eighth grade Students of the Month for April at Ray-Pec East Middle School. In the front row, from left, **Ryan Butler**, **Melissa Becker** and **Brenden Lang**. In the second row are: **Cullen Sickler**, **Hope Pennington** and **Gavin Bates**. In the third row: **Carli Thurman**, **Allison Koder** and **Tyler Putney**. In the top row are: **Shawn Russell**, **Mara Beedle** and **Stephanie Krass**.



Seventh grade Students of the Month for April

Here are the seventh grade Students of the Month for April at Ray-Pec East Middle School. In the front row, from left, are: **Mercedes Willis**, **Lance Bradley**, and **Mariah Paarman**. In the second row are: **Guinevere Wright**, **Kaylee Cunningham**, **Youxing Yang** and **Nick Lanza**. In the top row: **Jesse Gibson**, **Brendan Knight** and **Marissa Presler**. Not pictured is **Alyssa Shaffer** and **Jacob Lillig**.

Choir students perform well at state; 3 entries receive highest rating

Congratulations to the Ray-Pec choir students on a great day April 29 at the state music contest in Columbia.

These entries received the highest state rating of 1 (Superior): Senior Quartet - **Connor Branson**, **Taylor Lininger**, **Seth Jones**, and **Amanda Allen**; **Taylor Lininger**, vocal solo; and **Josh Wagner**, vocal solo.

These entries received the rating of 2 (Excellent): **Connor Branson**, vocal solo; **Tim Evans**, vocal solo; **Brenna Sanders**, vocal solo; Concert Choir Girls Sextet, **Abby Hockett**, **McKenzie Clements**, **Bracie Bradford**, **Mallory Misemer**, **Julia Craig**, and **Emma Howlett**.

Ray-Pec students sign letters of intent to play sports at college level

These RPHS students have signed letters of intent to play at the college level:

- Caleb Wagner, soccer, Westminster College;
- Austin Prindle, soccer, Blue River Community College;
- Adam Wetsch, soccer, Avila University;
- Jacob Sapp, football, William Penn University (Iowa);
- Austin Hill, football, Missouri Southern State University;
- Misty Olsen, soccer, Mid-America Nazarene;
- Hannah Brown, soccer, Avila University;
- Nick Roth, baseball, Kansas City (Kan.) Community College;
- Andrew Kreiling, baseball, Kansas City (Kan.) Community College;
- Dylan Donley, baseball, Kansas City (Kan.) Community College;
- Kody Pruitt, baseball, Kansas City (Kan.) Community College;
- Bryan Hill, men's volleyball - Missouri Baptist University;
- Alexandra Miller, dance, North-west Missouri State University.

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2011-2012 Color Guard members announced

These students were selected for the 2011-2012 Color Guard. Here are the students (by current grade level).

- Juniors: **Angie Bird, Samantha Stock** and **Kayla Tomosieski**;
- Sophomores: **Natalie Bradshaw, Kelsey Emry, Kaitlyn Heard, Alexis Nelson** and **Anna Wilson**;
- Freshmen: **Kaleigh Allen, Heidi Oswalt, Megan Simmons** and **Katelynn Young**; and
- Eighth graders: **Emma Allen, Genny Eckerle, Ashly Weight, Shelby Weight** and **Jenna Wellman**.

Teacher **Courtenay Spain** is the color guard director.

Freshmen dominate at conference track meet

Congratulations to the freshman track teams for their dominating performances at the April 27 freshman conference meet. The girls won the first team championship in school history.

Freshman conference individual champions were: **Jason Fambrough**, mile and 2-mile; **Jordan Hill**, pole vault; **Morgan Smith**, 300 hurdles and high jump; **Gabby Anderson**, long jump; **Donatta Young**, 800; **Natalie Fenaroli**, mile; and **Crystin Wilson**, 2-mile.

Software discounts

You may purchase software at special prices through the Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation.

Go to www.raypec.k12.mo.us/foundation, and click on the software purchase link on the left. Select the sign-in link at the top. If you previously registered, you should still be registered. If not,

click on the "register" tab. If you have questions, contact **Pam Steele** at psteele@raypec.k12.mo.us or 892-1311. Students, parents and patrons may also order the software, but they should send an e-mail to Pam Steele to obtain a registration code.



Work to continue through 2011-2012

District continues process to revise CSIP

Work is continuing to revise the district's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). A CSIP is like a strategic plan for a school district.

During March and April, a specially-trained assessment team conducted interviews with district leaders. The assessment team also conducted brief interviews during "walk-arounds" at all district facilities. Questions covered processes, customer service, use of data, measurement and other topics. A summary of these interview results will be shared with the assessment team and the leadership team in June.

Meetings have also been taking place across the district to review the district's mission statement and to gather input for creation of a vision statement and a list of collective commitments.

Beginning in fall 2011, more people will be involved in the revision process. Students, teachers, parents, community members, principals, district leaders and members of the board of education. If you are interested in assisting the district in the CSIP revision process, please contact **Dr. Kevin Daniel**, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, at: kdaniel@raypec.k12.mo.us.



'A Widow's Walk'

On April 27, three Ray-Pec High School students performed forensics pieces that have qualified for national competition with the National Forensics League. In this picture, Junior **Hayley Farrell** performs her dramatic interpretation piece, "A Widow's Walk."

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Best in Show!

RPHS wins award at Supermileage contest

Ray-Pec won Best in Show at the Missouri Supermileage competition April 19 at the Safety Center in Warrensburg. Students compete by designing and building a safe vehicle that can achieve the highest fuel mileage possible. Final mileage placement will be announced in about two weeks.

Ray-Pec team members are: **Mark Ruth, Richard Cook, Adam Ellis, Jordan Sianez, Heather Cobbs, Colin Peter, Michael Sansom, Derrick Overman, and Steven Howie.**

The team's sponsor is Technology Education Teacher **Everett Sheppard.** Learn more about this event at:

www.missourisupermileage.org



'Greek Mythology Olympiaganza'

On April 27, three students from Ray-Pec High School performed forensics pieces that have qualified for national competition with the National Forensics League. In this picture, Sophomore **Dane Schnake** and Senior **Bridget Hoffman** perform their humorous duo interpretation piece "The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza."



Peculiar Elementary recognizes students for ability to persevere

These students at Peculiar Elementary were honored for exhibiting the virtue of perseverance during the month of April. In the back row, from left, are: Marshall Gicante, Savanna Link, Connor Bradford and Zander Snow. In the middle row are: Dakota Winchel; Jady Knoll, Debrah Totten, Mylene Casey, and Miranda Dick. In the front row are: Gabrielle Watley, Libby MacLean, Alyssa Speer, Autumn Quick, and Javen Fogle. Not pictured is Josilin Kerr.

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Ray-Pec brings home awards from art show

At the Harrisonville Fine Art Show, RPHS Art Teacher **Jackie Garcia** was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Receiving a Special Merit ribbons and \$25 were: **Brenna Sanders**, 9th grade; **Kyle Bain** and **Shelly McClendon**, sophomores; and **Stephanie O'Day**, senior.

Receiving Judge Merit Award ribbons were: **Brenna Sanders** and **Maci Hodges**, 9th grade; **Kyle Bain**, sophomore; and **Rachel McKenzie**, junior.

Receiving third place ribbons were: **Collin Fager**, 9th grade; and **Yui Tadokor**, senior. Receiving a second place ribbon was **Mallory Misemer**, junior.

Receiving first place ribbons were: **Shelly McClendon**, sophomore; **Emily Amerson**, junior; and **Stephanie O'Day**, senior.

Danica Hammonds, seventh grade, received a first place ribbon and savings bond. **Shelby Rutland**, eighth grade, received a third place ribbon. **Andrea Shaw**, seventh grade, received a Judge's Merit Award ribbon.

Ray-Pec grad speaks about newly published book about editing

Cheryl Klein, a 1996 Ray-Pec High School graduate and senior editor at Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, has published a book titled "Second Sight: An Editor's Talks on Writing, Revising and Publishing Books for Children and Youth Adults." Klein was the special guest at a celebration sponsored by the Cass County Public Library Foundation May 5 at the Northern Resource Center Library, Belton. Klein is making a donation to the Cass County Library Foundation for each book purchased at the event.

Memorial fund created to benefit Baer family

The Bobby Baer memorial fund has been established at UMB Bank for the family of Timber Creek student **Nathan Baer**. Nathan is a third grader. His father died last month. The fund will help the family with expenses.

RPHS band students compete at state

Congratulations to the Ray-Pec band students on performances April 29 at the state music contest in Columbia.

These entries received the highest state rating of 1 (Superior):

Austin Coop, mallet solo; **Daichi Tadokoro**, mallet solo; **Tim Boos**, French horn solo; **Tyler Turner**, timpani solo; **Marie Whelan**, alto sax solo; Percussion Quartet - **Daichi Tadokoro**, **Austin Coop**, **Morgan Elliott** and **Makayla Maslanka**; **Mike Ortvals**, trumpet solo; **Mallory Pearson**, timpani solo; **Austin Coop**, timpani solo; **Morgan Elliott**, snare solo; **Emily Jordan**, flute solo; and **Jack Renfro**, tenor sax solo.

These entries received the rating of 2 (Excellent):

Jacklyn Couturier, clarinet solo; **Daichi Tadokoro**, Timpani solo; Sax Quartet - **Jack Renfro**, **Marie Whelan**, **Katie Donahoe**, **Rebekah Wratney**; **Angela Bradford**, flute solo; Clarinet Trio - **Aaron Patterson**, **Patricia Pollard**, **Cody Hass**; **Evan Sanders**, trombone solo; **Taylor Daniel**, snare solo; **Seth Worden**, tuba solo; Clarinet Trio - **Tamara Bradshaw**, **Alexzis Thomson**, **Jacklyn Couturier**; **Nicolas Wilson**, French Horn solo; Horn Trio - **Tim Boos**, **Tyler Trusk**, **Nicolas Wilson**; **Kit Leonard**, mallet solo; **Katie Heenan**, clarinet solo; Brass Quintet - **Mike Ortvals**, **Luke Balsiger**, **Tim Boos**, **Evan Sanders**, **Seth Worden**; and **Brandon Jungling**, trombone solo.



Fishing at Peculiar Elementary

Peculiar Elementary students have an opportunity to acquire the basics of fishing in a unit taught by Physical Education Teacher **Chris Roller**. Students are required to stay in their "boat" and must learn to get their fishing line out far enough to where the fish are. They must pay close attention to their line and try to "catch" a fish. For many students this is the only opportunity they get to go fishing, and they are very excited when they pull in a big one.

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Major Saver card sale generates \$13,030 for Foundation and \$13,030 for district's K-6 schools

Thanks to everyone who supported the Major Saver discount card fundraiser. Students at the elementary and intermediate schools sold the cards, which offered discounts at area restaurants and businesses. Proceeds were split between the Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation and the schools.

Major Saver presented \$13,030 to the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation. Major Saver contributed the same amount to the participating schools, based on the numbers of cards sold. Here are the amounts received by each school:

- Creekmoor Elementary, \$1,880;
- Raymore Elementary, \$3,022.50;
- Stonegate, \$1,732.50;
- Shull Elementary, \$1,507.50;
- Timber Creek, \$1,332.50;
- Peculiar Elementary, \$1,137.50;
- Eagle Glen, \$1,405; and
- Bridle Ridge, \$1,012.50.

RPHS Class of 1981 sets 30-year reunion

The RPHS Class of 1981 will hold its 30-year class reunion the weekend of Sept. 9-10, 2011.

Friday night, Sept. 9, will be a Tailgate Party and football game at Panther Stadium, with a gathering following the game for those interested at Frankie and Johnny's Back Room in Belton.

Saturday, Sept. 10, will be an adult only, casual BBQ meal at the Peculiar Lions Club. The cost is \$15 per person, and reservations are required by Aug. 1.

Please contact Ginger Greene Hart at kinkystink@aol.com or Cheryl Sanford Aston at caston217@yahoo.com for more information. We have a class page on Facebook and Classmates.com as well.

Please pass this along to anyone you might know from the Ray-Pec High School Class of 1981.

Ray-Pec nominated for Cappies awards

The Ray-Pec theatre program is nominated for many awards through the Kansas City Chapter of the Cappies, a critics and awards program for high school theatre. Ray-Pec has nominations for the musical "Crazy for You" and the play "Hamlet." Each participating school may enter two shows. Ray-Pec is nominated for these awards:

- **Sound**, Marie Whelan, "Crazy for You," and Marie Whelan, "Hamlet;,"
- **Costumes**, Hayley Farrell, Bridget Hoffman, Nellie Maple and Megan Settle, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Make-up**, Hayley Farrell and Megan Settle, "Hamlet;," and Megan Settle, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Props and Effects**, Logan Schoessel and Jacob Trumbo, "Hamlet;,"
- **Stage Crew**, Katie Donahoe and Michaela Wiehe, "Hamlet;," and Katie Donahoe and Michaela Wiehe, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Ensemble in the Play**, The Guards, "Hamlet;,"
- **Ensemble in a Musical**, The Fodors, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Featured Actor**, Bobby Turnbough, "Hamlet;,"
- **Female Dancer**, Sara Lancaster, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Female Vocalist**, Taylor Lininger, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Comic Actor in a Play**, Connor Branson, "Hamlet;,"
- **Comic Actress in a Musical**, Elle Fowler, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Comic Actor in a Musical**, Dane Schnake, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Supporting Actress in a Play**, Nellie Maple, "Hamlet;,"
- **Supporting Actor in a Play**, Alden Stockam, "Hamlet;,"
- **Supporting Actress in a Musical**, Hayley Farrell, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Supporting Actor in a Musical**, Connor Branson, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Lead Actress in a Play**, Hayley Farrell, "Hamlet;,"
- **Lead Actor in a Play**, Seth Jones, "Hamlet;,"
- **Lead Actress in a Musical**, Nellie Maple, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Lead Actor in a Musical**, Seth Jones, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Song**, Slap that Bass, "Crazy for You;,"
- **Play**, "Hamlet;,"
- **Musical**, "Crazy for You;," and
- **Female Critic**, Michaela Wiehe.



State FBLA competitors

Four Ray-Pec High School students competed April 17-19 at the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Columbia. FBLA stands for Future Business Leaders of America. Congratulations to **Paul Sappington**, second from left, and **Keton Schroeder**, second from right, who placed second as a team in the Computer Game Simulation and Programming event and qualified for nationals. **Johnell Coleman-Hill**, at right, placed fourth in Website Design. **Paige Smith**, left, placed eighth in Client Services.

News Briefs

Student plans dance for Special Olympians

Kudos to student **Alex Scavuzzo** for her efforts in arranging, publicizing, and hosting a dance for area Special Olympic Athletes on the evening of Saturday, April 16, in the Ray-Pec High School gym. The event included Special Olympic athletes from the Ray-Pec School District and all over the metro area.

Special thanks to the RPHS student council members, who, along with Alex, attended the dance and made it a special evening for all of the Special Olympians.

District to offer before/after school child care program in 2011-2012

The district will offer its own before- and after-school child care program for students, beginning Aug. 1.

Currently, the YMCA provides this service at Ray-Pec elementary schools. The YMCA will continue to offer child care through July.

The district's Budget Reduction Process included the suggestion of operating the child care program in-house, rather than through an outside agency. The budget reduction executive committee recommended operation of the child care program as a revenue enhancement item.

A task force has been meeting to research and plan a before- and after-school care program. The district is preparing to hire a child care program administrator. The district believes that the program will generate more than enough revenue to pay employees, purchase supplies and expenses, and also help contribute to the district's general fund.

Find us on Facebook

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

More than 2,500 people are fans of the district on

Facebook. Go to: www.facebook.com/raypec. It's free to create your own account at www.facebook.com.



Trap Shooting Team

Saturday, April 23, was the first competition this season for the Ray-Pec Trap Shooting Team. Seven students participated in the competition at the Smithville Shooting Park. Participants included Freshmen **Dalton Barnes**, **Garrett Davis**, **Sal Nuccio**, **Kelley Repschleger**, and **Cole Yoakum**; and Juniors **Josh Dorrell** and **Andrew Taylor**. Dalton Barnes shot 90/100 targets and ranked in the top 15 of 100 shooters. The coach is Teacher **Nick Tebbe**.



Librarian recognition

The Raymore-Peculiar Sunrise Optimist Club celebrated April as School Library Media Month by recognizing Ray-Pec school librarians at the club's April 26 dinner meeting. Seven of the district's library media specialists were at the dinner. From left: **Paula McMillin** (Bridle Ridge), **Genese Wright** (High School), **Joyce Webb** (Peculiar Elementary), **Sherri Mullen** (Raymore Elementary), **Theresa Kientz** (north High School), **Heather Poland** (Timber Creek Elementary) and **Debbie Walker** (Middle School).

News Briefs

Summer athletic camp schedule on web site

Ray-Pec students in grades kindergarten through high school have opportunities to participate in summer athletic camps offered by Ray-Pec coaches. The camps include boys basketball, girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, softball, football and volleyball.

A link to the 2011 Summer Camp Enrollment Form for sports is now posted on the RP Athletics webpage. <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenterii.aspx?FID=154>.

2011-2012 calendar is posted on web site

The board of education has approved the 2011-2012 calendar. It is posted on the district web site at: www.raypec.k12.mo.us.

The first day of school is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 17.



Scholarship recipients

The Raymore-Peculiar Sunrise Optimist Club honored five RPHS seniors at a dinner on April 26. The club is awarding each of these students a \$1,000 scholarship. Pictured, from left, are: **Taylor Schaffner**, **Katie Donahoe**, **Connor Branson**, **Ethan Morgan** and **Keton Schroeder**.



Quilt fundraiser to benefit Bev Gaddy

The Buildings and Grounds department is having a quilt raffle to benefit **Bev Gaddy**, the day lead custodian from Timber Creek Elementary School who is battling cancer. A parent from Timber Creek has donated a king-size, American flag quilt. It will be traveling around to each of the schools through the next month, and a drawing will be on May 27. Tickets are available for a donation of \$1 each or six for \$5. All monies raised will go to Bev to help defray expenses of traveling up to the Cancer Treatment Centers of America near Chicago.

News Briefs

Birthday greetings

You can now have happy birthday greetings placed on the large lighted marquee sign in front of the Ray-Pec High School south building. The cost is \$5, and payment must be received at least one week before the birthday.

The \$5 payment may be sent to **Dianne Harmon** at the high school. Names will be listed on the actual birthday only. Proceeds will help support student activities. For more information, you may contact Dianne Harmon at: dharmon@raypec.k12.mo.us.

Parent Portal

Attention parents: You can electronically update information on file with the school district using Parent Portal.

After logging into Parent Portal, the screen that appears lists the current information and allows you to enter any needed changes. Once you have entered the changes, click the "Submit changes" button to send the changes to the district for approval.

You can enter phone numbers, emergency contacts, and other information for students. If you don't yet have access to Parent Portal, contact your child's school to complete a sign-up form.

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."

You can follow Ray-Pec news on Twitter

You can 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>.

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 short messages delivered to cell phones or through the Internet.



Special Olympics track meet

Ray-Pec Special Olympics athletes participate in the procession before the April 16 track meet at Lee's Summit North High School.



Rotary Student of the Month - April

Matt Hocker, president-elect of the Belton-Raymore Rotary Club, left, congratulates Senior **Anastasia Berkovich**, who was honored as the club's Ray-Pec High School Student of the Month for April. Each month, the club honors a student from Belton High School and a student from Ray-Pec High School.

Panther Cub Academy offers summer child care for children ages 3-5

Now is the time to enroll children ages 3-5 for summer and fall sessions. 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 is closed for inclement weather if Ray-Pec schools are closed. It is also closed on specific holidays, 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.

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. Each subscriber must self-enroll and submit an authorization code that will be provided during the enrollment process. Country Club Bank of Raymore sponsors 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

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.

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.



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

