

Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 20, Issue 6

February 2005



Corner...

You never know what to expect with the weather in January. Should we cancel? Reschedule? I apologize to those that didn't get the message we were canceling the meeting. We will always put it on KQ2 and if possible notify Principals by e-mail. Thanks to Deb Conrad for helping to make phone calls for the second cancellation.

The meeting in February is scheduled to be an Executive meeting but is changed to a General. We need to get our Nominating Committee voted on so they can get busy and find officers to replace those of us that are going off. We vote in March. I hope everyone is busy finding new officers, if needed. Remember the new officer list needs to be sent to the State office and Council by March 31st.

PTA Memberships is not over yet. Make one final push to get 100%. We are still way under last years figures. Send out an invitation to join today. Dr. Colgan and I would like to be members of your unit. JUST ASK!

We celebrated Salute to Schools Month in January. Thanks goes out to all of you that recognized the support staff that keep the schools running and the bus drivers for safely getting our kids to school. Laura Caton took care of all the different buildings/offices associated to the school district that don't have a PTA unit of their own. Thank you, Laura!

Thank you for all you do for PTA and the students!
Kerry Funck

Plan of Work for School of Information

I am going to organize a School of Information to be held in April of 2005. The School will be the first Monday of April, the 4th at the Hillyard Tech School at 7 PM. We will have workshops for Presidents, Treasurers, and Secretaries.

Submitted by Joyce Clibon, Chairman of School of Information

The School of Information will be earlier this year because May is such a busy month!! **Units elect your officers early** plan to bring them to the April meeting. We are going to have informative, fun sessions with lots of door prizes! Hope to see you there!!



Council Clippings Article Assignments for March 2005

Articles are due February 10, 2005

| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Presidents Report</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Character & Spiritual</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Regional Director article</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Spelling Bee</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Reflections</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Ways and means</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Nominating committee report</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>School of Information</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Council Award</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>PTA Legislative Day Report</u> |

All articles must be emailed to Lori Prussman at aokmom@hotmail.com, subject: CLIPPING ARTICLE . Thank you for getting your articles to me in a timely manner.

DAVIS-LANGEMACH PTA COUNCIL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

Due to weather PTA Council has been unable to present our November and December winners with their awards. We present to you via Council Clippings these award winners. Along with their certificates the PTA Council will donate \$25.00 to the library of the recipients choice. This donation is to be used to purchase a book in the honor of the award winner. Libraries chosen are Webster, Bode and Skaith. Congratulations to these outstanding people and their dedication to the St. Joseph School District.

November Winners

Sue Wagner and Janet Fite

Here's what the nominator had to say....

MY NOMINEE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE BY

Over the teaching careers of these two truly outstanding retired educators, they have made a difference in thousands of students' lives. They have made such a difference, that each of them has had the distinction of being selected as St. Joseph School District Teacher of the Year. They also share the similarity of having taught in the St. Joseph School District Gifted Program. Sue Wagner taught primarily at Skaith School, where she coordinated the gifted program and originated Rainbows. Janet Fite taught Odyssey at Bode Middle School. Sue and Janet continue to assist in a variety of ways in the District. They are being honored with the Davis-Langemach Award for their offering such a highly unique and a very successful summer school class. This class not only provided a rewarding opportunity for its participants, but also needed historical information for our community.

During the St. Joseph School District Summer School session of 2004, students enrolled in Bode Middle School's "Cemetery Capers." This highly popular class was filled with fourth through eighth grade students who deciphered the stories of some of the oldest tombstones in Mount Mora Cemetery. In their research, they had to rely on their cryptic skills, working as a team to piece together the letters they could see. Several of the students had the pleasure of locating some of their own ancestors in their search. The Internet and library research aided the students. Results of the findings were given to Mount Mora Cemetery for its historical information base in hopes of assisting others in researching family history. The "Cemetery Capers" class was so popular with the students that Sue and Janet have been asked to teach the class again in this summer. The *St. Joseph News-Press* headlined a story about the class on June 17.

Mount Mora Cemetery is located a few blocks off of Frederick Avenue and east of City Hall, on Mount Mora Road and is the oldest operating cemetery in St. Joseph. The cemetery is the home of three Missouri Governors, Unionists, pioneers, Englishmen, Generals, Southern sympathizers, Pony Express Riders, and a US Ambassador.

Ms. Wagner and Mrs. Fite hope more than anything that the students now have ownership in their community and that this experience will encourage them to be involved in more service projects.

December's winner

**Nicholas Saccaro, Executive Director,
America's Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater St. Joseph**

Here's what the nominator had to say....

MY NOMINEE MANDE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE BY

As the recently hired Executive Director for America's Second Harvest of Greater St. Joseph, Nicholas Saccaro gives tirelessly of himself and is overflowing with new ideas to help "end hunger" in our community. Nicholas truly cares.

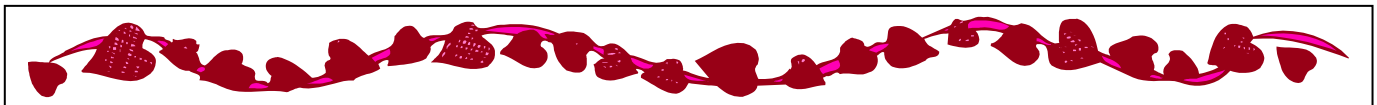
At a time when Federal foodstuffs have greatly decreased and St. Joseph residents have met hard times by losing their jobs and they need more food, Nicholas continues to seek out new avenues for individuals to contribute so others will not have to go hungry. Nicholas particularly tries to help feed the hungry children. He knows there is an increasing demand for food and that many children go to bed hungry.

Nicholas has brought much positive publicity to the Food Bank, and handles himself as a gentle man of great maturity and integrity. The Food Bank has expanded in many areas including a new Kids Cafe, increasing awareness for Backpack Buddies, expanding service in outlying areas, and built better communications in our city with other local agencies, as well as worked to develop new food drives such as "Scouting for Hunger."

Nicholas had big shoes to fill when Jason Clark left the Food Bank Executive Director's position. He has filled them well.

While a student at Missouri Western State College, Nicholas interned at America's Second Harvest Food Bank. His heart had found its niche—helping to serve the hungry and end hunger in our area.

Again, congratulations to these outstanding people. Many continued successes.



Davis-Langemach PTA Council Award of Excellence

Background

The “Davis-Langemach PTA Council Award of Excellence” is named after Mrs. True Davis, Sr., and Mrs. Vernon Langemach, both highly admired St. Joseph ladies, who are past State PTA Presidents.

Determination of Winner

The administrator, teacher, or staff member, who has been nominated, must have made a major difference in the life of a student of the St. Joseph School District. It should be something that will be of major impact in the child’s life and must have taken place between the first day of school and the last day of school.

A nomination may be made by a parent/family member, administrator, teacher, staff person, or other adult community member. (No self nominations please.)

The administrator of the nominee as well as the nominating party must sign the form to assure validity.

Each month one winner will be selected and recognized by the St. Joseph PTA Council. The winner will be awarded a certificate of recognition. In addition, a book valued at \$25 will be given in honor of the winner to the school where they are employed. If they are not employed at a school, then they may select which school will receive the book.

An impartial panel of three individuals will determine the winners. The panel will include a school district official, a PTA Council representative, and a local parent.

Nominations submitted will be kept for consideration for that school year unless they are chosen as a winner.

The child’s name will not be released to the public.

In order to be considered as the next month’s award recipient, three copies of the nomination must be received by the 20th of the previous month. The first award will be in September.

Nominations should be sent to:

Bea Dobyen
PTA Council Awards
4603 S. Lakewood Drive
St. Joseph, MO 64506



Thank you for your interest!

DAVIS-LANGEMACH PTA COUNCIL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

NAME OF NOMINEE _____

SCHOOL / ASSIGNMENT _____ WORK PHONE _____

WORK ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

NAME OF NOMINATOR _____

ADDRESS / SCHOOL _____ PHONE _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

MY NOMINEE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE BY

(Please use back of page if necessary.)

ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE _____

NOMINATOR'S SIGNATURE _____



National PTA

Virtual Lobby Day



Thursday, February 17, 2005

**Join National PTA's 6 million members
in lobbying your federal legislators
by visiting their state offices, making phone calls, and
sending emails.**

Just think what an impact we can make together!

Sharon Kosek, PTA Council Legislative Chair

National PTA

Virtual Lobby Day

Federal PTA Issues include:

- **Provide a quality public school education for all children**
- **Increase education funding – 5 cents out of every federal budget dollar for public education makes sense.**
- **Opposes vouchers - PTA supports public funds for public schools only and opposes using tax dollars to finance education vouchers for private and religious schools. National PTA opposes tax credits and deductions for elementary and secondary school tuition and other education-related expenses for public and nonpublic school students. Vouchers, tax credits, deductions, and other such funding sources do not provide the means for bringing about improvements in our public schools**
- **Before and After School Care - PTA believes that child-care programs and facilities are important in addressing the education, nutritional, recreational, developmental, and safety needs of school-age and preschool children.**

For additional PTA-supported issues, see

<http://www.pta.org/ptawashington/issues/index.asp>

Your may go to <http://www.pta.org/ptawashington/vld/index.asp>

click on *Contact your Congress Member*

Type in your zip code, and President Bush, Senator Talent and Senator Bond, and Representative Graves will appear. Click on five cents makes sense for education. Complete the information.

Then, complete the information for the President.

OR

Call Senator Bond's Washington office at 202-224-5721

Call Senator Talent's office at 202-224-6154 and

Call Congressman Graves' office at 202-224-3121

or Call his local St. Joseph office at 233-9818

at 201 South Eighth Street, Room 330

**St. Joseph PTA Council
Request/confirmation Form
For Button Machine**

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____

Telephone # Home _____

Organization _____

Work _____

Project or function _____

Email _____

Date & Time Requested _____

Number of Components Needed _____

(Plastic Cover, Shell, Pin Back=1 Component)

Send request to: Maria Reynolds

1115 E. Highland Ave.

St. Joseph, MO 64505

816-364-2848

rama@magiccablepc.com

Signature _____

Title _____

Send Bill To:

Make Checks Payable to: *ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL*
Send Payment to: St. Joseph PTA Council
PO Box 1271
St. Joseph, MO 64501

For Council Use Only

Button Machine reserved for
Date _____
Confirmation Sent _____

Check out date _____
Signature _____
Check in date _____
Signature _____

Number of Components Issued _____
Number Returned _____
Number Used _____ @ _____

Date _____
Total Due _____

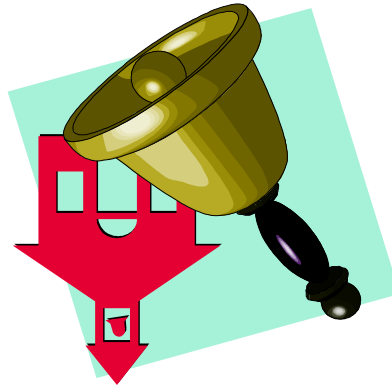
Confirmation

Your Request for the Button Machine is Confirmed for _____

Signature _____ Date _____

ADDRESS ONLY

COMMUNITY CENTER



ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

St. Joseph PTA Council
PO Box 1271
St. Joseph, MO 64501

