

**MurrENEWS – February 20, 2009**  
**Murray City School District, Murray, UT**  
***Educating Murray since 1906!***

**MurrE-QUOTE**

“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty.  
Anyone who keeps learning stays young.”  
– Henry Ford, 1863-1947, founder of the Ford Motor Company

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**PINNACLE AWARD WINNERS**

Five educators, one classified employee and one volunteer will each receive a cash award of \$500.00, a statuette and gift basket from the Murray Education Foundation (MEF) and partners. They will all also be honored guests at the yearly Pinnacle Awards Dinner on March 5, 2009 as community, business and education leaders gather to recognize the exemplary educational efforts of these recipients. The dinner will be held in the Commons Area at Murray High School. Here are this year’s awardees:

- Janet Anderson – 2nd Grade Gifted & Talented, Parkside Elementary
- Rebecca Elder – 4th Grade Teacher, McMillan Elementary
- Carmen Fiori – 4th Grade Teacher, Grant Elementary
- Carrie Hartman – Science Teacher, Murray High
- Kay Lee Schatten – 3rd Grade Teacher, Longview Elementary
- Margaret Lewis – Classified Winner, Administrative Secretary to Murray High Principal
- Coco James – Volunteer Winner, Murray High PTA Co-President and many other volunteer activities

**FUN PLAY AT MHS RUNNING NOW**

The Murray High Theatre Department presents the popular British farce “See How They Run” tonight

(Fri.), Sat. and Mon., Feb, 20, 21 and 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the Murray High Little Theatre. Tickets prices are \$4 for students; \$5 for adults and \$6 at the door. Seating is limited, so come early!

**“REPLAY” MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DRIVE** (*\*please use this information in school or home newsletters*)

From March 15 to April 15 of this year, the Murray School District will once again be participating in the “Replay” Musical Instrument Drive. Replay is a campaign to collect useable, used musical instruments for Utah public school children throughout the State. This year’s goal is to collect \$100,000 worth of musical instruments. Several school districts are combining in this effort and instruments collected in each district will be designated for use in that district. If, for example, a district should receive 10 tubas and has the need for only one, the Utah Music Educators Association will help place instruments in districts where there is a need. Should a donor wish to donate a piano, their name and phone number will be taken and the information passed on to local schools where there may be a need.

This is a great way to share music with others while clearing out items that are not being used. All donations received are tax deductible and forms for documenting and recording donations are available at the Murray School City District Offices. Darlene Evans is the district office contact and may be reached at 801-264-7400, email [devans1@murrayschools.org](mailto:devans1@murrayschools.org).

**PRESCHOOL READING NIGHTS IN THE MURRAY DISTRICT**

Preschoolers who are three, four and five years old, along with their parents or guardians, are invited to join us in some fun activities centered on the book, *Five Green and Speckled Frog*. Participants may choose the night that is most convenient and register at that school. Please share this information with neighbors and friends. Here are the dates and locations, all beginning at 6:30 PM:

April 14 – Viewmont Elementary

April 15 – Longview Elementary

April 16 – McMillan Elementary

April 21 – Liberty Elementary

April 22 – Grant Elementary

April 23 – Parkside Elementary & Horizon Elementary

**DISTRICT JAPANESE STUDENTS WIN AWARDS**

Snow College Japanese Language Program sponsored the first annual “Nengajo” or New Year’s Day card contest in December. MHS students Arthur Diaz (10th grade) was awarded the first place for high school level artwork, with Kristine Balay (10th grade) taking second place; Ana Victoria Belmonte (10th grade) took the first place in the high school calligraphy division. Mr. Jeff Lamb of Snow College delivered the prizes to Murray High School on February 13 and shared that over 130 Utah students participated in this competition, so having such a great showing from Murray is a very nice honor.

**MHS Japanese teacher Ms. Tomoko Moses** compliments these outstanding students:

**Arthur Diaz** is a Spanish-English bilingual student becoming trilingual; he participates in Mr. Saxon’s theater classes, dances, sings, and is a very good artist and excellent student in Japanese.

**Kristina Balay** is a high achieving student in Japanese class; a very thoughtful person who is loved by her classmates.

**Ana Victoria** is an ESL student from Mexico taking Japanese for her third language.

### **RJH VOLUNTEER RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY**

Sarah Taylor, an outstanding volunteer contributor at Riverview JH, was recently named as a recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award, a Prudential Spirit of Community Award. This award recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to service their communities and their country.

### **MHS LEADERSHIP CLUB RECEIVES AWARD**

Murray High English teacher Christy Waite and the MHS Peer Leadership Team (PLT) received an Outstanding Recognition Award at a reception in the Utah State Capitol Rotunda in early February. The commendation was specifically for the groups work regarding teen dating violence awareness.

### **MCMILLAN READING EVENT**

A "Parents & Pastries" event was held before school on Friday, February 20 at McMillan Elementary. The purpose of the event was to reinforce the importance and love of reading. Deseret First Credit Union is sponsoring the event and paying for the pastries. We are encouraging students to come with a parent and their favorite book and read.

### **HARMONY 4 HUMANITY MUSIC PROGRAM AT RJH**

The Riverview JH Choral Department, under the leadership of choral teacher Becky Ivory is participating in an international activity called "Harmony 4 Humanity Project." It is based on the concept that music is the universal language and that it helps to bring people together regardless of difference. The RJH mission through music is:

1. To help our students realize the impact of music in their own lives
2. To recognize the contribution they can make to the local community through music
3. To reach out and literally change the world with music.

Through the Harmony 4 Humanity program, students from around the world share their respective music cultures with each other through the ongoing exchange of student-created videos. It has been added to the official projects at [iearn.org](http://iearn.org), <http://media.iearn.org/projects/h4h>.

Riverview JH music students have already exchanged video with Indonesia and are now working on exchanges with Mexico, Peru, India, Ghana and Pakistan, as well as other classrooms around the world. Videos that have been finished may be viewed at [www.myuen.org/204134](http://www.myuen.org/204134). To find out more about Harmony 4 Humanity, contact Ms. Ivory at [bivory@murrayschools.org](mailto:bivory@murrayschools.org)

Students from each country involved with share their music in the upcoming months:

- March 2009 – Any song you are currently working on, teach us about your SCHOOL. Where is it located? What does it look like? What do the students do throughout the day?
- June 2009 – A song in your native language; tell us about your HOMES. What do they look like? How close are they to your school? Show us some examples.
- September 2009 – Your National Anthem, teach us about your FOOD. What is traditional food in your country? Do the students like this food? What are your favorite foods? Show examples.
- December 2009 – A traditional holiday song in your country; teach us about your favorite HOLIDAY in your country? Why is it your favorite? What traditions do you observe on this day?

## **MURRAY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN HEALTHCARE CAREER FAIR**

[http://www.sltrib.com/education/ci\\_11735333](http://www.sltrib.com/education/ci_11735333)

Take a look at this great article in the Salt Lake Tribune to see an event that had about 100 students from MHS in attendance. Murray High's Joan Anderson did an outstanding job in helping to organize this huge event which featured 17 sessions presented by medical professionals.

## **MHS HOSTS CONFERENCE FOR PARENTS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

The Utah Parent Center sponsored 2009 Utah's Family Links Conference is being held at Murray High, March 13-14 (Fri & Sat). This is a statewide conference for parents of individuals with disabilities with featured presenter Dr. Robert Brooks from Harvard Medical School, one of today's leading speakers on the themes of resilience, self-esteem, motivation and family relationships. The registration deadline is Friday, Feb 27. Find out more about the Conference at [www.utahparentcenter.org](http://www.utahparentcenter.org)

## **UPCOMING "GET FIT" EVENTS:**

Skate Night at the Murray Ice Center – March 10, 7-9 PM

Swim Night at the Park Center Pool – April 22, 7-9 PM

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE UTAH PTA:**

Utah PTA is requesting its members and supporters immediate action on SB199 Equal Recognition of School Parent Groups by Senator Curtis Bramble. They are asking everyone to email or call their Senator and ask them to oppose this bill. The bill has been portrayed as a bill to allow equal access of our public schools to all parent groups. The actual purpose of the bill is to put Utah PTA out of business. It disallows the schools, school districts, and Utah State Office of Education to work with any parent group who collect dues, unless they will waive those dues upon request. This is not possible from the Utah PTA organization because dues are required by the bylaws of the organization and provide the funding for the programs of the organization. Utah PTA has no problem with other parent groups working in the schools, but is concerned about being denied access to public schools because PTA member pay dues to be part of a local, state, national organization. Contact school PTA leaders for more information.

## **CONCERNED ABOUT EDUCATION? CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS**

Our Murray Legislators have worked very hard to try to preserve education dollars. If you would like to speak to them or any Utah state legislators, here is contact information:

**Senator Pat Jones**, Minority Leader (D) [pjones@utahsenate.org](mailto:pjones@utahsenate.org)

Office (801) 322-5722; Home (801) 278-7667

**Senator Gene Davis** (D) [gdavis@utahsenate.org](mailto:gdavis@utahsenate.org)

Home (801) 484-9428

**Representative Tim Cosgrove** (D) [tcosgrove@utah.gov](mailto:tcosgrove@utah.gov)

Home 685-0673

**Representative Lynn Hemingway** (D) [lhemingway@utah.gov](mailto:lhemingway@utah.gov)

Cell 231-2153

**Representative Mark Wheatley** (D) [markwheatley@utah.gov](mailto:markwheatley@utah.gov)

Home 264-8844

**For a list of all Utah State Legislators**, go to the Utah State Legislature website to see all email addresses and phone numbers: <http://www.le.state.ut.us/>

**Branch specific sites: Utah State Senate** – <http://www.utahsenate.org/perl/roster2009.pl>

**Utah State House of Representatives** –

<http://www.le.state.ut.us/house/members2005/membertable1add.asp>

**DISTRICT CALENDAR REMINDERS:**

**2 /20** MHS Boys Basketball @Home vs Cyprus; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM

**2/20** MHS Boys Soccer @Olympus; 3:30 PM

**2/20-21** Debate Region Competition

**2/20-21 & 23** MHS Play "See How They Run", \$4 students, \$5 adults, \$6 at door, 7 PM

**2/24-28** Girls Basketball State Playoffs

**2/24** MHS Boys Basketball @Cottonwood; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM

**2/24** MHS Boys Soccer @Cottonwood; 3:30 PM

**2/24 & 25** (Tues & Wed) High School SEOP Conference

**2/25** Prevention Dimension Elementary Teacher Training, Granite Schools DO, 8 AM-4 PM

**2/25 & 26** (Wed & Thurs) Jr. High SEOP Conference

**2/26** Murray Idol Junior Division, MHS

**2/27** (Fri) Secondary Compensatory Day – No School/ Secondary

**2/27** Utah PTA Advocacy Day at the Capitol

**2/27** MHS Boys Soccer @Highland; 3:30 PM

**2/27-28** Murray Idol Competition, MHS

**2/27** Registration deadline for 3/13-14 Utah's Family Links 2009 Conference at MHS; See

[www.utahparentcenter.org](http://www.utahparentcenter.org)

**See the entire calendar online at**

**[http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/spotlight\\_upcomingdistrictevents.shtml](http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/spotlight_upcomingdistrictevents.shtml)**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MURRAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Contact Denise McDougal at the DO for more info, 264-7487; [dmcdougal@murrayschools.org](mailto:dmcdougal@murrayschools.org)

Check online at [http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/humanresources\\_employment.shtml](http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/humanresources_employment.shtml)

**NO LICENSED OR SPECIFIC CLASSIFIED OPENINGS**

Murray City School District accepts applications on an on-going basis for the following classified positions: Education Aide, Teaching Assistants I, II, and III, Cook I and Cook II and Custodians.

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS** – At the present time we have a surplus of substitute teachers and are not accepting applications.

*The Murray School District MurrENEWS electronic newsletter is a Murray School District publication designed to share news and information. Please forward this email to anyone you think may be interested. To submit an item for MurrENEWS or to have parents, community members or other names added to the mailing list, contact D. Wright, Public Relations Specialist at the Murray City School District Offices, 801-264-7400, or email [dwright@murrayschools.org](mailto:dwright@murrayschools.org).*