

MurrENEWS – April 19, 2010 “Your Murray Schools” Edition
Murray City School District, Murray, UT
Meeting the Needs of All Kids!

MurrE-QUOTE

“The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want,
drink what you don't like, and do what you'd rather not.”
– Mark Twain

“Your Murray Schools” DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

“Your Murray Schools” District newsletter is published in the Murray Journal newspaper and is a Murray City School District communication written & edited by District Public Information Specialist D. Wright, under the direction of Superintendent Richard R. Tranter.

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- **Kennecott Utah Copper Donation to Murray District**
- **Murray Spanish Dual Immersion Program**
- **Murray Board of Education Meeting Visitors (pictures)**
- **Hillcrest Junior High students in spring musical**
- **MHS Spartan House**

FULL STORIES WITH PICTURES MAY BE SEEN IN THE COLOR EDITION OF “YOUR MURRAY SCHOOLS” (published in the Murray Journal) by going to this link:

http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/pdf/communityrelations/yms/2010_apr_yms_journal.pdf

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REBECCA IVORY – GOLDEN APPLE RECIPIENT

Each May, the Utah PTA presents the Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Education to six of Utah's top educators and two exceptional volunteers. Rebecca Ivory, choral teacher at Riverview JH, was nominated and named this year for one of these prestigious awards. She will be honored during televised awards ceremony and dinner, with the awards presented by the Governor and First Lady of Utah. This is a great tribute to Ms. Ivory and we all send her well-deserved congratulations!

SUPPORT OUR MURRAY TEACHERS!!!

We have four teachers from the Murray City School District in the final round for the “Teacher Who Does it Better” competition. There are 45 educators at this level and the finalists will be determined by online voting, so WE ALL NEED TO VOTE for our Murray colleagues! Voting must be completed by April 30, 2010. Just follow the link and vote for your favorite or favorites. **Be aware that firewalls in our District email setups may prohibit you from voting while at work. You can adjust your settings, if you know how.*) Information on the prizes, etc. is listed on the website. <http://saltlakeradiocontest.com/>

Congratulations to the following outstanding educators for advancing to this level:

Ginger Brakke, Grant Elementary 4th grade

Jill Horne, Longview Elementary 4th grade – nominated by Bridgette Stowell, PTA

Chantel Thackeray Olsen, MHS English – nominated by Laura DeShazo, MHS

Jake Shewmake, MHS Special Ed – nominated by Lisa Adair, DO

If you have a second, be sure to take time to vote. We would love to see a cute little wrapped car tooling around Murray with one of our great teachers in the driver’s seat!

ANNUAL SERVICE DAY AT MURRAY HIGH

Murray High School’s 5th annual Service Day will be held Thursday, April 22, in conjunction with Global Youth Service Week. From 9:10 to around 10:30 AM, all 1500 high school students will engage in service projects that will benefit the local community as well as many people abroad. This year, each TEAM class designed and planned their own project depending on the interests of its students. Some of the projects that students and community volunteers will be working on include:

- making care packages for the military
- helping Mayor Snarr landscape a stretch of 53rd South
- tutoring elementary students at Parkside Elementary
- preparing English language materials for an orphanage in Uganda
- creating care packages for the Humane Society
- cleaning donated stuffed animals to give to local shelters
- painting picnic tables at MHS
- creating medical kits for Haiti

MURRAY HIGH HAPPENINGS

It has been a great year for Murray High Theatre. Please congratulate these students for the following outstanding efforts at State Theatre Festival last weekend:

- MHS Festival Play, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, received a plaque for getting straight superior ratings and earned each student in the cast a State Theatre Superior Medal
- These students received Superior Ratings in Individual Events: Jillian Bryant, Alex Clawson (featured in the showcase performing Humorous Monologue), Ben Davis (straight superior medal for Classical Scene), Jordan Dunn (straight superior medal for Dramatic Monologue), Josh Durfey (straight superior medal/featured in showcase performing Musical Theatre piece), Corbin Edginton (straight superior medal for musical theatre performance), Gary Jorgensen (straight superior medal for Classical Scene), Wes Long, Harmony Nipper, Abbey Smiley, Alexa Steed, Caity Swanagan, Steven Wellington (straight superior medal for Dramatic Monologue)

- These students received overall ratings of Excellent: Jesse Atkinson, Becca Baldrige, Alyssa Chamberlain, Teagan Clark, Dez Jenkins, Shellie Rock
- Murray High will be receiving a "Superior School" certificate for having entries in each performance event with Superior Ratings; MHS advisor is Mr. Will Saxton

OTHER MSH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- These students qualified to proceed to the National SkillsUSA Championships, June 21-26 in Kansas City, MO, competing in Video Product Development and Broadcast News: Amy Fairbrother, Brock James, Brian Phung, McKenna Schwab, Caity Swanagan, Steven Wellington; MHS advisor is Mr. Ryan Moffett

MURRAY SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Murray City Cultural Arts and the Murray School District will team up to present a Shakespeare Festival April 29 through May 1. A free green show in the Murray High Commons area will begin the festivities each night at 6 PM (excluding May 1), featuring a royalty procession and vignettes by Longview 6th grade students and a Punch and Judy puppet show presented by Hillcrest Junior High. Murray High drama students will present a sonnet "Idol" style competition that will involve audience voting at 7:30 PM, followed by Midsummer's Night Dream at 8 PM in the Little Theater. Tickets for the play may be purchased at the door for only \$3 as this program is partially funded by a ZAP grant. High school advanced drama students will also be presenting free improv and stage combat workshops for students in grades 5-9 on Friday, April 30 from 4 to 5:30 PM in the MHS Little Theater. Registration forms for the workshops are available from junior high and high school drama teachers, at the Murray Parks Office and will be sent home through 5th and 6th grade classes.

PTA PEOPLE – DON'T FORGET!

Murray Regional PTA Volunteer Appreciation Social, Tuesday, April 27th at 10 AM in the Main Room of the IMC Education Center. Recognition and food for great Murray PTA volunteers!

MURRAY SCHOOL DISTRICT ENCOURAGES EARTH DAY PARTICIPATION

While the world celebrates Earth Day this month, Murray City School District faculty, staff and students continue to participate through an ongoing commitment to a district-wide energy conservation program that has already achieved more than \$740,141.00 savings through a 22.7% reduction in energy use over 30 months. Since Murray District began the program, energy consumption has been reduced to the equivalent of 531 passenger cars removed from the road, or 75,630 trees planted. For Earth Day, Murray School District plans to continue its efforts, and invites the public to join in.

OTHER MURRAY SCHOOLS EARTH WEEK ACTIVITIES: A new "SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY GARDEN" has been created with involvement of students and teachers from Parkside Elementary School. The SLVHD (Salt Lake Valley Health Department) Environmental Health Division developed the community garden at their Murray location (788 East Woodoak Lane) and have partnered with the Parkside staff and students in a great win-win-win situation. Students and teachers will help with the garden maintenance over the next several months in exchange for using the garden as a hands-on, learning laboratory and a large portion of the resulting harvest in the fall. They "unveiled" the project at an event last week and will be highlighting efforts during Thursday's Earth Day Fair: April 22, 8 AM- 5 PM at the Environmental Health Facility in Murray (788 East Woodoak Lane, 5380 South). For more information on this activity, contact Pam Davenport, Communications Manager, Salt Lake Valley Health Department, phone 801-468-2757.

For more information about Earth Day and educational conservation resources:

www.earthday.org

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/holiday/earthday.cfm>

http://www.educationplanet.com/directory/Science/Environment/Ecology/Earth_Day

For general conservation information:

www.energystar.gov

<http://www.planetpals.com/>

www.michaelbluejay.com/electricity

MURRAY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB RECEIVES GRANT

KSL Television Story: Grant funds program to keep Utah teens in school

Every 26 seconds a student drops out of school in America. That statistic comes from the Boys and Girls Club in Murray, which is implementing a new program to keep Utah teens in school.

<http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=10386472>

TASTE OF MURRAY

Thursday April 29th is the "4th Annual Taste of Murray," hosted by the Olympus Ranch. Last year's event was standing room only. There are currently only 150 seats available and they are going fast. Today (Monday 4/19) is the last day to buy tickets at \$35 per seat; starting tomorrow (Tues 4/20), tickets will cost \$40 per person. To purchase tickets, go online to www.murraychamber.org

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES:

Free Electronic Field Trip to Bryce Canyon: Go on a field trip to one of Utah's greatest national parks without leaving the classroom. The National Park Foundation is inviting teachers from across the world to explore Bryce Canyon National Park with their classes on an electronic field trip on May 18.

"Discovering the Mysteries of Bryce Canyon National Park" will include two, hour-long live broadcasts from the park, interactive lesson plans and games. The program is designed for students in grades four through eight. (Salt Lake Tribune/Lisa Schencker)<http://cli.gs/8P2Tv6>

Go on May 18 to view FREE broadcast: <http://www.brycecanyoneft.org/>

Summer Opera Workshop for Teachers

July 26-30, 2010: Create and Produce an Opera with your Students

To be covered in this week-long summer workshop by Utah Opera's Paula Fowler and composer Roger Ames (from OPERA America):

- Introduction to the art form of opera using Humperdinck's "Hansel & Gretel" to explore how an opera is put together
- Provide experience with theatre games and music composition
- Direct working with collaborative groups to write a mini-opera as a teacher group
- Help in making plans for an opera project during the school year

Teachers will receive a set of curriculum materials to help them teach about opera, and to guide them lesson by lesson through the process of creating and producing an opera. The materials include lesson plans on and recorded excerpts from "Hansel & Gretel," an opera created with children in mind.

Curriculum guides will be provided free of charge to each teacher. This workshop is free and to be located in the Learning Center at Utah Opera Production Studios, 336 N 400 W, Salt Lake City. Various

credit options available, including graduate university credit for a small registration fee. For further info or to register by phone, contact Paula Fowler, pfowler@usuo.org, or call 801-869-9090.

2010 Elements of Transition Conference

Parents and general educators working with students with disabilities are invited to participate in this conference on April 29 & 30, 2010 at the Provo Marriot Conference Center. Keynote presenters: Becoming Leaders for Tomorrow (BLT) Young Adult Panel and Kelie Babcock, 2010 Miss Wheelchair Utah. Sessions will address, among other topics: Transition 101 (basic information); Job development and job coaching; Agency eligibility and services; Transition planning for students with Autism or TBI. For more information, call Becky Lewis 801-538-7874 or register online at updc.org

DISTRICT CALENDAR

See the Entire calendar online at http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/spotlight_events.shtml

4/19 MHS Softball at Fremont, 3:30 PM

4/20 Liberty Elem Kindergarten Orientation, 10 AM

4/20 MHS Boys Tennis vs Hunter at Home on Cottonwood HS courts, 3:30 PM

4/20 MHS Softball at Granger, 3:30 PM

4/21 McMillan Elem Kindergarten Orientation, 10 AM

4/21 MHS Renaissance handed outs, Commons, 2 PM

4/21 MHS Softball "Pink Game" at Home vs Olympus, 3 PM

4/22 MHS TEAM Services Day, AM

4/22 MHS Softball at Home vs Hunter, 3 PM

4/22-23 Murray Community Winter Series, Murray Dance Company in Concert, MHS, 7 PM

4/22-5/17 State CRT Assessments

4/24 MHS Softball "Swing For Life Hit-A-Thon," time TBA

4/24 Murray Community Winter Series, Murray Concert Band, MHS FREE, 7:30PM

4/27 MHS Renaissance MVP Breakfast, Commons & Auditorium, 6:30 AM

4/27 PTA Appreciation & Installation Social, IHC, 10 AM

4/27 MHS Softball at Cottonwood, 3:30 PM

4/29 MHS Softball at Home vs Cyprus, 3 PM

4/29 "Taste of Murray" yearly event, proceeds for MYCC scholarship fund; www.murraychamber.org

4/29-5/1 Murray Community Arts Series, A Midsummer Night's Dream, MHS, Green Show Free 4/29 & 30 only at 6 PM; play \$3 admission at 8 PM

JOIN US on TWITTER where we post daily updates! <http://twitter.com/MurraySchoolsPR>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MURRAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Contact Denise McDougal at the DO for more info, 264-7487; dmcdougal@murrayschools.org

Check online at http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/humanresources_employment.shtml

LICENSED OPENINGS:

- There are currently Intra-District teaching positions, not yet been open to outside applicants.

CLASSIFIED OPENINGS:

- Assistant Drill Advisor – Murray High, part-time with stipend
- Indian Mentor Advocate – Murray High, part time (4 hrs a wk)
- Summer Paint Crew
- On-Call Cook I

- District Level Pupil Transporter Instructor

The 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 801-264-7400, or email dwright@murrayschools.org