As I left the capitol in Springfield last week, the lawn was full of children who were visiting for the day. I was delighted to see students having fun and viewing the sites at our state capitol. Seeing these students brought back a memory to me of my own eighth grade class trip to Springfield. In light of the proposed legislation SB 1375 that mandates civics education, students who visit government institutions learn firsthand about what takes place. On behalf of Chairman Dunstan and other county elected officials, we encourage visits to the county government offices and our court system. Many elected officials are also willing to make classroom appearances, so feel free to contact them.

On April 18, the Regional Office of Education recognized 320 young authors at the annual Young Authors Conference. Thank you to all of the area teachers who volunteered for this event. Bob Kann, a children’s author and storyteller entertained the young authors and their families. Jennifer Ward, a recognized children’s book author provided a parent session. On May 12, area schools received recognition awards for recycling efforts at the Earth Flag Awards celebration. The projects designed in the TRASHformations session. On May 12, area schools received recognition awards for recycling efforts at the Earth Flag Awards competition were among the best I have ever observed.

Most schools are finalizing the year within the next two weeks. I realize there have been a fair number of classroom challenges this year with preparing for PARCC testing. If there are specific tips or issues that you would like to share, please forward them to the Learning Technology Center director, Karen Wolfe at kwolfe@ltcillinois.org. Karen will be hosting a PARCC Round Table at Lincoln Land Community College in Litchfield on May 28. Once again, the Madison County Regional Office of Education is proud that all schools in this region are fully recognized. Not all ROEs have the distinct pleasure to publicize that fact. The ROE recognizes the commitment made by school boards, administrators, teachers, and staff who make this level of education possible for students.

Leadership Council Honors Educational Excellence

The Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois welcomed a crowd of more than 400 for its 2015 Salute to Southwestern Illinois Awards Dinner on April 2, 2015, clearly indicating just how strongly regional leaders feel about the importance of a quality education in driving our region’s growth. The event paid special tribute to the five higher level educational institutions in Southwestern Illinois for their collective impact on the workforce and the economy, in addition to their exceptional growth over the past decade.

The annual awards program salutes those individuals and organizations that have displayed outstanding leadership and have positively impacted our region. This year was no exception. With the theme Growth Fueled by Educational Excellence, the event recognized the following as co-recipients of the 2015 Salute to Southwestern Illinois Award: Lewis and Clark Community College, Dr. Dale Chapman; Lindenwood University – Belleville, Dr. Jerry M. Bladick; McKendree University, Dr. James Dennis; Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Dr. Julie Furnst-Bowe; and Southwestern Illinois College, Dr. Georgia Costello.

During the awards presentation, it was noted that these fine institutions have captured headlines in recent years for their major investments, economic impact and various honors and awards recognizing them among the best in the country in a range of different categories. “There’s no question that each is a positive force within our region,” said Ellen Krohne, executive director of the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois. “When looked at collectively, the awards program salutes those individuals and organizations that have displayed outstanding leadership and have positively impacted our region.”

See Leadership, page 2
Madison School County Administrators Set to Retire

Evelyn Kelly
Madison
Superintendent

Evelyn Kelly will be retiring from Superintendent of Madison Community Unit School District 12 in December 2015 after 16 years of service. Mrs. Kelly began her career with Madison CUSD #12 in December 1999 as the Assistant to the Superintendent. Over the years, Mrs. Kelly has provided the district with professional and dedicated leadership, including leading the district through the consolidation of buildings and the loss of the roof on the district business office and high school classrooms. She has been successful in writing grants for the district to help provide funding for much needed programs for students and staff. Mrs. Kelly was active in her interactions with the students and parents by her attendance at numerous district and building level activities and celebrations.

In addition to taking time to relax and travel, Mrs. Kelly hopes to continue to work in the field, which will allow her to make an impact on the lives of young people.

“My years with the Madison CUSD #12 school district have become a major part of my life. When you dedicate your life, time and energy to a district like Madison you never really leave. It becomes a part of you and to become a part of it. I will truly miss the board, staff, students and the community.”

Over the years, Mrs. Kelly has also been involved heavily in the district and community through her volunteer efforts.

Mrs. Munson-Dewein is retiring from her position as an Elementary Principal at Eunice Smith School. She has completed twenty nine years of service to the students of the Alton District. Other district administrative assignments include Principal of JB Johnson Elementary and Assistant Principal of East Middle School. Mrs. Munson-Dewein has also served as Wellness Coordinator for the District and began her Alton career teaching 7th grade at North Middle School.

Laura Munson-Dewein
Alton
Principal

Prior to being hired by the Alton District she taught at St. Mary's in Alton and in St. Amant, Louisiana. Mrs. Munson-Dewein graduated in 1979 with a BAE from Arizona State University. Her Master's in Administration was received from SIUE.

While Mrs. Munson-Dewein was housed at North she was awarded the District's Extra Mile Award for her coordination of an after school program entitled "Prime Time". In Fall of 2013, she was honored by the Illinois State Board of Education with the "Those Who Excel Award".

Her retirement plans are to garden, get in shape, and travel. She also plans to continue to be involved heavily in the district and community through her volunteer efforts.

Mrs. Munson-Dewein reports that she has been blessed to work in the district in which she spent her Kindergarten through 12th grade years attending school. Retirement is bittersweet for her, because she will be leaving behind friends that she has bonded with, friends she has formed, and the delightful colleagues with whom she has worked.

Leadership, from page 1

Ed Hightower
Edwardsville
Superintendent

Dr. Hightower is retiring as the Superintendent of Edwardsville CUSD #7. He has served in the position since 1995. Before then he served as Assistant Superintendent and Principal for the Alton School District. He holds Bachelor’s, Master's and Specialist degrees from SIU Edwardsville and a Doctorate in Education Administration from St. Louis University.

His commitment to the district's teachers and students led to local and national recognition for his contributions to education. His awards as a school principal include the 1993 National Distinguished Principal's Award. Dr. Hightower has also made a lifetime commitment to SIUE, serving as Vice Chair of the SIU Board of Trustees, a member of the SIUE Alumni Association Board of Directors, and Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee.

In addition to his work in education, Dr. Hightower was a nationally-recognized, award-winning NCAA basketball official. But as much as he enjoyed basketball, Hightower made it clear that his work as Superintendent of the Edwardsville Community Unit School District was his top priority.

We wish you all a safe and relaxing summer!
Congratulations to the 2015 Retirees

Thank you for your years of dedicated service to the students of Madison County!

Marylouise Roderick - 16 Years
Teacher
North Elementary

Sherry Smith - 25 Years
Paraprofessional
West Elementary

Debra Thacker - 20 Years
Teacher
West Elementary

Robert Tucker - 26 Years
Teacher
Alton High School

Marjorie Wheeler - 23 Years
Parent Teacher
Early Childhood Center

Connie York - 23 Years
Psychologist
Special Ed. Center

Sondra Zerov - 22 Years
Teacher
Alton High School

Bethalto

Kevin Churchill - 25 Years
Teacher
Civic Memorial High School

Laurel Galeener - 21 Years
Librarian
District

Francis Nappier - 9 Years
Cook
Bethalto East Primary

Charles Patton - 30 Years
Bus Driver
Transportion

Mary Wieseman - 20 Years
Teacher
Trimpie Middle School

Fran Wyrsh - 10 Years
Paraprofessional
Civic Memorial High School

Collinsville

Geraldine Ayes - 6 Years
Health Attendant
Maryville Elementary

Nancy Becher - 31 Years
Teacher
Renfro Elementary

Marcia Bedard - 15 Years
Teacher
Collinsville High School

Christine Bell - 9 Years
Secretary
Collinsville High School

Mary Ann Blitzen - 16 Years
Teacher
Collinsville High School

William Craft - 20 Years
Teacher
Collinsville Vocational Center

Fred Dominick - 18 Years
Custodian
Maryville Elementary

Karen Doherty - 16 Years
Title I
Jefferson Elementary

Linda Jeeinnga - 11 Years
Teacher
Collinsville High School

Anna Musso - 41 Years
Teacher
Webster Elementary

Robert Reeves - 21 Years
Teacher
Collinsville Middle School

Maureen Schreiber - 6 Years
Teacher
Kreitner Elementary

East Alton

Leo James Mize - 19 Years
Behavior Modification Teacher
Eastwood Elementary

East Alton - Wood River

Sue Dawson - 20 Years
Guidance Counselor
EAWR High School

Edwardsville

Mary Burns - 15 Years
Media Specialist
Edwardsville High School

Betty Byrd - 26 Years
Secretary
Woodland Elementary

Susan Dietl - 22 Years
Teacher
Midway Elementary

Steven Emerson - 18 Years
Teacher
Nelson Elementary

Randolph Fox - 8 Years
Custodian
District

Deborah Gray - 25 Years
Teacher
Liberty Middle School

Dr. Ed Hightower - 19 Years
Superintendent
District

Mary Hunt - 20 Years
Teacher
Lincoln Middle School

Beth Jennings - 28 Years
Teacher
Glen Carbon Elementary

James Keliih - 35 Years
Custodian
Columbus Elementary

Tresa LaBoube - 20 Years
Teacher
Liberty Middle School

Carolyn Lautner - 14 Years
Head Cook
Midway Elementary

Cynthia Overby - 22 Years
Teacher
Edwardsville High School

Christine Prager - 18 Years
Social Worker
Hamel Elementary

Maggie Roney - 19 Years
Teacher
Glen Carbon Elementary

Carol Sachtiben - 17 Years
Teacher
Woodland Elementary

Linda Scherer - 17 Years
Psychologist
Edwardsville High School

Teresa Vinsinte - 29 Years
Social Worker
Liberty Middle School

Granite City

Danny M. Bone - 21 Years
Custodian
Mitchell Elementary

Dennis R. Burnett - 13 Years
Director Of Finance
District

Lynette A. Burnett - 7 Years
Sp. Ed. Coordinator
Early Childhood Center

R. Brad Eaverson - 24 Years
Director of Bdg. Services
District

Carla Elliott - 20 Years
Teacher
Maryville Elementary

Cathy D. Gaines - 18 Years
Secretary
District

Mary Ann Gamblin - 27 Years
Teacher
Coolidge Middle School

Hyland Q. Harris - 20 Years
Teacher
Coolidge Middle School

Gail L. Kindie - 25 Years
Executive Secretary
District

Frank J. McHugh - 18 Years
Guidance Counselor
Granite City High School

Steve E. Nikonovich - 22 Years
Custodian
Granite City High School

Deborah A. Passig - 20 Years
Paraprofessional
Granite City High School

Helen M. Robbins - 14 Years
Cook
Granite City High School

Nelda R. Sanders - 30 Years
Paraprofessional
Granite City High School

Lori D. Silva - 21 Years
Assistant Principal
Coolidge Middle School

Ricky C. Wickham - 20 Years
Teacher
Granite City High School

Dee A. Wright - 25 Years
Teacher
Prather Elementary

Mary Ann Young - 22 Years
OTT
Early Childhood Center

Highland

Shirley Bellm - 36 Years
Teacher
Highland Middle School

Jan Cryder - 21 Years
Teacher
Highland Primary/Alhambra Primary

Lynn Holtkamp - 38 Years
Bookkeeper
District

Steve Laxson - 29 Years
Asst. Principal / Athletic Director
Highland High School

Donna Munie - 36 Years
Secretary to Assistant Superintendent
District

Patti Swank - 29 Years
Teacher
Highland High School

Barb Tall - 27 Years
Teacher
Highland Middle School

Madison

Alice Farrar - 21 Years
Bus Driver
District

Don Kary - 18 Years
Teacher
Long Elementary

Evelyn Kelly - 16 Years
Superintendent
District

LaVarn Murray - 18 Years
Paraprofessional
Madison High School

Kim O’Dell - 26 Years
Teacher
Long Elementary

Sue Skoklo - 8 Years
District Secretary
District

Ray Stewart - 32 Years
Utilty Custodian
District

Sylvia Woodson - 19 Years
Paraprofessional
Madison High School

Roxana

Regina Branch - 27 Years
Paraprofessional
South Roxana Elementary

Regina Chappell - 26 Years
Food Service Director
District

Susan Edmon - 21 Years
Bus Driver
District

Pam Hale - 25 Years
Teacher
Central Elementary

Janet Hoehn - 15 Years
Accounts Payable
District

Candace Long - 30 Years
Support Services Secretary
District

Mary Morgan - 23 Years
Teacher
South Roxana Elementary

Kathy Sidwell - 28 Years
Teacher
Roxana Jr. High School

Rita White - 26 Years
Nurse
District

Triad

Roger Barr - 13 Years
Custodian
Marine Elementary

Kim Bietchet - 22 Years
Paraprofessional
Silver Creek Elementary

Susie Brundage - 25 Years
Secretary
District

Mark Bullard - 28 Years
Custodian
Henning Elementary

Georgann Burcham - 20 Years
Secretary
Henning Elementary

Debra Dachsteiner - 22 Years
Teacher
St. Jacob Elementary

Kathy Finley - 22 Years
Secretary
District

Roxanne Garber - 20 Years
Paraprofessional
Silver Creek Elementary

Diane Gibbs - 20 Years
Paraprofessional
Triad Middle School

See Retirees, page 5
Madison County Educators Achieve Honors

Kelly Baird
Edwardsville
Those Who Excel - Recognition

Liza Basden
Highland
Emerson Excellence in Teaching

Gene Birdsell, Jr.
Edwardsville
Those Who Excel - Excellence

Laura Garrett
Edwardsville
Those Who Excel - Recognition

Frank Graser
Bethalto
Those Who Excel - Merit

Megan Greenwood
Alton
Those Who Excel - Merit

Jenny Hanks
Bethalto
Those Who Excel - Excellence

Todd Hannaford
Bethalto
Those Who Excel - Merit

Anna Hartman
Alton
Those Who Excel - Recognition

Amy Heath
Granite City
American Chemical Society Teaching Award

Cindy Inman
Alton
Those Who Excel - Recognition

Jamie Jones
Alton
Teacher of the Year Finalist

Sara Keith
Alton
Those Who Excel - Recognition

Laura Kupinski
Wood River - Hartford
Emerson Excellence in Teaching

Jason Lyons
Bethalto
Those Who Excel - Merit

Karen Martin
Bethalto
Those Who Excel - Excellence

Amy McQuiggan
Granite City
Diamond Award National Speech & Debate Assn.

Toni Meiser
Bethalto
Those Who Excel - Recognition

Joe Michalski
Alton
Peabody Energy Leaders in Education

Mary Morgan
Roxana
Emerson Excellence in Teaching

Cari Mueller
EAWR
Emerson Excellence in Teaching

Brian Papa
Madison
Emerson Excellence in Teaching

Dr. John Pearson
EAWR
Outstanding Doctoral Capstone Award

Sarah Phelps
Triad
Emerson Excellence in Teaching

Richie Skirball
Granite City
BND 3A Boys Cross Country Coach of the Year

The Madison County ROE extends congratulations on a job well done!
If you are due to renew in 2015, you must register your license by June 30, 2015.

To update your account follow these easy steps:
1. Go to www.isbe.net
2. Click on ELIS
3. Click on Educator Access
4. Create an account or log in to your pre-existing account
5. Click “Click Here to Update Your PD/Employment Status” and edit if necessary
6. Click “My Credentials”
7. Check the year under “Registered Thru”
   a. If it is 2015, you must enter make sure you have entered your professional development if you have taught in an Illinois Public School in the last 5 years and click on “Registrations” to pay.
   b. If it is 2016 or higher, you must enter professional development as you receive it and register between April 1st and June 30th of that year.
Student Trade Show Highlights New Granite City CEO Program

The inaugural Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) program at Granite City High School hosted a trade show to highlight the entrepreneurial skills of their students. The trade show was held on April 30, 2015, at the Sam Wolf Granite City Campus of SWIC. Student businesses included homemade jellies and jams; to skateboard apparel; small engine repairs; wood furnishings; memory books; bakery items; technology assistance; beauty products and services; nutrition & supplement products; and a unique product - teddy bears "stuffed" with candy.

The area business community has welcomed and embraced this new program by providing our seniors with learning opportunities that extend far beyond the walls of a classroom. Throughout the year, students developed professionalism, problem solving, collaboration and communication skills, creativity, and most importantly the ability to interact with professionals. Through the network of community connections a level of excitement has been created helping students face new challenges and new opportunities in our community.

The class has had an opportunity to visit more than 50 area businesses as well as welcome over 50 guest speakers into their class throughout this school year, allowing the students to glean inspiring and innovative ideas. Under the leadership of Mrs. Karen Greenwald, CEO Teacher/Facilitator, the students organized, planned, and hosted a class business as well as their own individual business. CEO students completed three business plans, developed relationships with a network of business professionals, and gained greater awareness of professions, business, and services within their own community.

Granite City CEO is offered as an elective course in the business department, where students meet with their instructor/facilitator off campus for the first two periods of the day, meeting in various host businesses throughout the year. Students return to the high school campus for their remaining class periods. The Granite City CEO program is one of fourteen programs across the Midwest (which will grow to 28 programs in the fall) all under the umbrella of Midland Institute for Entrepreneurship in Effingham, Illinois.

Students Compete in the 2015 Junior and Senior Olympiads

This spring the Madison County ROE hosted the Junior and Senior Olympiads, on March 6 & April 23 respectively. Teams of four students competed in a variety of projects and activities designed to test their problem solving skills using minimal resources. Teams consisted of students who excel across the disciplines. If you are interested in sponsoring a team from your school or have any questions related to the Olympiads, please contact Anna Dyson, School Improvement Services at 692-5560 or adyson@roe41.org.

Junior Olympiad
1st - SS Peter & Paul - Team #1
2nd - Alton Middle - Team #1
3rd - Coolidge Middle - Team #2
4th - Trimpe Middle - Team #3
5th - SS Peter & Paul - Team #2

Senior Olympiad
1st - Collinsville H.S. - Team #2
2nd - Collinsville H.S. - Team #1
3rd - Highland H.S. - Team #1

Students created the tallest structure possible from a limited amount of paper that would support the weight of a brick.

Students collaborate to solve brain teasers.

Teams cooperate to launch and catch the highest number mini marshmallows.

Junior Olympiad Winner - SS Peter and Paul
Collinsville - Team #1
In a four phase relay race students were required to successfully transport pool noodles.

Senior Olympiad Winner - Highland Team #2
Students created the tallest structure possible from a limited amount of paper that would support the weight of a brick.

Billy Trindle presents his business - B & B Wood Furnishing.

Jamesha McClain displays her business - Stuffed.

Students created the tallest structure possible from a limited amount of paper that would support the weight of a brick.
Aligning math curriculum to the New Illinois Learning Standards can be a tremendous task for educators. After the publication of Ed Reports, Engage New York (Eureka Math) was announced as one of the math curricula that aligns to all math standards K-6. In this workshop, teachers will experience what these lessons would look like in a classroom. All components will be demonstrated throughout the day including: sprints, application problems, content development, problem sets, homework, parent helper charts, and an on-line program (RtI). In the afternoon, teachers will also work to create a visual presentation with the appropriate program for their classroom.

Presenter: Linda Bartlett
Building Reading Lives That Last June 18, 2015 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

With a focus on building reading lives that last, participants in this workshop will discuss the following:
- Strategies that enable students to move beyond surface-level comprehension and into deeper reading of difficult text
- Why teachers in all content areas should address reading motivation and recreational reading
- Understanding reading as a process, and how that helps improve student comprehension
- Understanding the importance of 2nd draft reading
- How writing deepens reading comprehension
- Utilizing the Common Core reading standards

Presenter: Kelly Gallagher
Learning from Lincoln: Leadership Practices for School Success Administrator Academy #1098 June 24, 2015 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Participants in this course will explore how Lincoln’s leadership practices and behaviors provide compelling guidance for today’s challenges of accountability, diversity, political conflict, team building, climate and economic hardship. Ten leadership qualities linking to leading others and school success will be highlighted. Participants will leave the session with a repertoire of strategies and insights they can apply immediately in their own workplace contexts.

Presenter: Marvin Warner
Writing in the Content Areas - Academic Notebooks August 4, 2015 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
September 16, 2015 9:00 AM - Noon

During this two day workshop, participants will discuss what writing looks like in their discipline. Participants will set up academic notebooks and learn how to introduce them to students. Participants will learn how to use academic notebooks as formative assessment.

Presenter: Chris Casher
Science Toolbox Sept. 10, Oct. 20, 2015 & Jan. 12, 2016 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

With a focus on building reading lives that last, participants in this workshop will discuss the following:
- Strategies that enable students to move beyond surface-level comprehension and into deeper reading of difficult text
- Why teachers in all content areas should address reading motivation and recreational reading
- Understanding reading as a process, and how that helps improve student comprehension
- Understanding the importance of 2nd draft reading
- How writing deepens reading comprehension
- Utilizing the Common Core reading standards

Presenter: Kelly Gallagher

Registration for all workshops and Administrator Academies is now available online at http://www.roe41.org/workshops-events/roe-workshop-online-registration

Participants may now pay online through Gov Pay. Simply follow instructions during the registration process.

**FREE SUMMER MEALS**
All Children 18 and Under Available to All Families

Breakfast: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Center for Educational Opportunities (old Freeman building)
201 Staunton Rd., Troy, IL. 62294

*In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

**Youth Mental Health First Aid Course**
A young person you know could be experiencing a mental health challenge or crisis. You can help them!
Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to young people showing signs of a mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professional, peer, social, or self help care. Anyone can take the 8-hour Youth Mental Health First Aid course, but it is ideally designed for adults who work with young people, ages 12-18 — teachers, coaches, leaders of faith communities, social workers, and other caring citizens.

July 31, 2015
November 6, 2015

Chestnut Health Systems, 50 Northgate Industrial Drive, Granite City, IL (sponsored by Madison County Mental Health Board)

For more information or to register call 618-877-4420.

**ROE to Host 41st Annual Appreciation Golf Tournament**
June 4, 2015
7:30 a.m.
Spencer T. Olin Golf Course
Alton, IL

There is still time to sign up your team!
4-person Scramble - $50 per player
One school employee required per team
Lunch and a catered meal at the end of the tournament will be provided, in addition to refreshments on the course.
For more information or to register contact Kelsy Burris at 618-296-4630 or kburriss@co.madison.il.us.
On April 18, 2015, 320 students were honored at this year’s Madison County Young Authors Conference. Students from Kindergarten through 8th Grade wrote books and competed in their local schools. School winners were then invited to attend the county conference. Each student was presented a certificate by Regional Superintendent Dr. Robert A. Daiber. Author/entertainer Bob Kann gave an entertaining and inspirational presentation to the students and their families. During a parent session, parents were able to talk directly with local author, Jen Ward about how they can encourage their children’s writing endeavors. Students met in grade level groups to share their books with their peers and do fun activities related to writing and reading.

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2015 Madison County Young Authors Conference

We are excited to announce that the Madison County Regional Office of Education is hosting a one week long Camp Invention open to students in first through sixth grades.

The camp will be held at Center for Educational Opportunities, located at 201 Staunton Road, Troy, IL 62294, June 15-19, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Camp Invention Curriculum features five high energy and fun-filled modules that include more than twenty exciting and challenging age appropriate activities. Each activity is designed by members of the National Inventors Hall of Fame. The activities incorporate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) concepts designed to stimulate creative thinking and problem solving abilities while performing various hands-on activities.

The links below contain all the details about Camp Invention and the registration process. Your child will not want to miss out on having an incredible time while getting turned on to the creative world of innovation and invention!

Due to the generous donations of local sponsors, tuition vouchers are available for a limited time to reduce the cost of Camp Invention from $220 to $75. If interested in these vouchers, please call The Madison County Regional Office of Education at 618-296-4530 prior to registration.