

YOUTH IN THE NEWS

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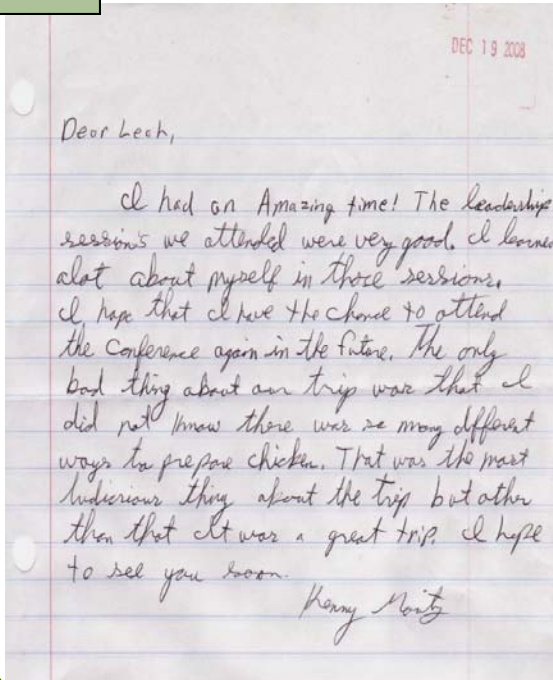
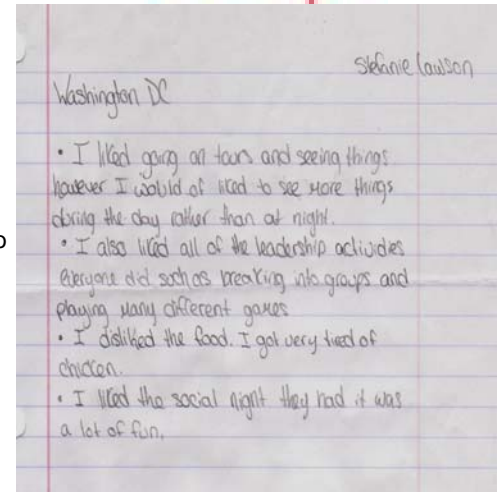
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD OF SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

TOP OF THE NEWS FOR STUDENTS OF 2008

Jobs for America's Graduates

In December the Youth Council Staff along with a JAG specialist had the opportunity to attend the JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) annual national leadership conference in Washington DC. We chaperoned six students from the Park Hills Area, Amanda Dalton, age 17, Kendra Chapman age 17 both from North County High School. Kenneth Moritz age 17 and Brittnae Pinson age 16 both from Central High School. Jake Smith age 17 and Stefanie Lawson age 17 both from West County High School. The youth had their days full with attending leadership sessions, meetings, and tours of the city. They had the opportunity to meet Kirsten Haglund 2008 Miss America, Kenneth Smith (President of JAG), Govenenor John Baldacci (state of Maine), and several others. The students visited Arlington National Cemetery where they had the opportunity to witness the changing of the guard and participate in a special ceremony of the wreath laying. The youth took part on a twilight tour of the Kennedy Center, Watergate, Iwo Jima Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, FDR Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Monument and the Korean War Memorial. They were also given the opportunity to tour the Unites States Capitol, the White House Visitors Center, Smithsonian Institute and the Holocaust Museums. Of all of the places visited Arlington Cemetery seemed to be have the most impact on the students. Most had a tear in their eye.

When we returned I asked each student to write a short paragraph about their experiences, what they liked and disliked, etc. I would like to share them with you.



JAG narrative by Brittnae Pinson

This past December I had the experience of a lifetime, to tour Washington DC with JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates). To see our nation's capitol and all the history made there, I was astonished in words that I can't describe. My heart was pounding with excitement the entire time I was there. Walking through Arlington Cemetery was the most upset I was during the entire trip; but it was an honor to be in the presence of all the soldiers.

Standing where Martin Luther King made his "I have a dream" speech, was the best part of my trip... Looking up and seeing the stars full of life, looking down seeing his name and remembering that day, looking forward seeing the Washington Memorial and what it stands for and looking back to see Lincoln staring at me. This experience has changed my life and my perspective on life for the future. This was my trip, the trip I will remember for the rest of my life.

Kendra Chapman

The trip to Washington D.C. was the best time of my life. I couldn't have asked for a better trip. Most of the people were very welcoming and treated me like a friend. I saw a lot of things I had only seen on television and in my history book. All of the sights we saw were more beautiful up close than I had imagined. Going to Washington D.C. was a once in a lifetime experience and I am so glad that I got the opportunity to go.

County	Caseload	# of Activities	DO prevention/ Alternative Schooling	Worksite learning/Paid internship	Occupational skills training	Leadership Development	Attainment
Bollinger	1 IS-9 OS	7	3 (Alternative Schools)	0	0	4	0
Scott	3 IS-6 OS	2	3 (Alternative Schools)	1	0	1	1(employed)
Pemiscot	11 IS-3 OS	4	2(Alternative Schools)	0	1	6	2(employed)
Cape	2 IS-13 OS	18	9(Alternative Schools)	7	0	11	1(employed)
Mississippi	6 IS-11 OS	3	4(Alternative Schools)	0	0	3	2(employed)
Dunklin	19 IS-7 OS	6	2(Alternative Schools)	0	0	10	3(employed)
New Madrid	6 IS-4 OS	2	1(Alternative Schools)	0	0	5	0
Stoddard	1 IS-15 OS	1	13 (Alternative Schools)	0	7	14	2(GED) 1(employed)
Perry	2 IS-10 OS	28	1(DO Prevention) 1(Alternative)	3	0	5	3(employed)
Madison	1 IS-10 OS	14	0	0	1	4	0
Iron	5 IS-16 OS	3	0	1	0	7	0
St. Gen	13 IS-19 OS	3	0	0	0	1	0
St. Fran	5 IS-17 OS	12	4(DO Prevention)	0	2	4	3(employed)

Definitions

IS: In School
OS: Out of School
D.O.: Drop out

- * The case load number reported was the **current** number of youth enrolled in December 2008.
- * Number of activities reported are group activities that were provided in the month of December
- * D.O Prevention as defined by the WIA act as tutoring, study skills training, and instruction leading to completion in secondary schooling
- * Leadership development as defined by the WIA act are opportunities which may include community service and peer-centered activities encouraging responsibility and other positive social behaviors as appropriate
- * Paid and unpaid work experiences may include job shadowing and/or internships
- * Attainment is defined as a youth successfully achieving a goal as identified as a barrier by the case manager upon enrollment

Ste Genevieve

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

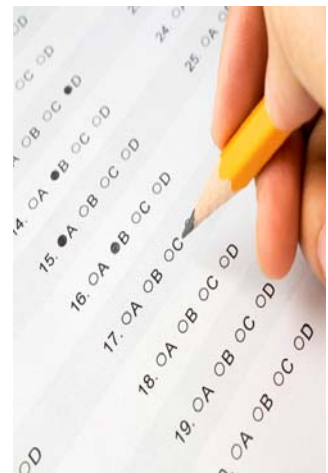
Nikki Shrum from Ste. Genevieve county began Mingo Job Corps on December 3rd. Since then she has taken her TABE test and has tested out of reading and is now working on her math and language areas in preparation for her GED test. Nikki completed job shadowing in medical technology, brick laying and welding. She chose medical technology as her trade with a goal to obtain her Certified Nursing Assistant license. On her holiday break she returned to the Ste. Genevieve EMAA office and gave a presentation to the Youth Advisory Council on her experiences. She told the group that attending the Job Corps tour in November with David Woods, case manager for Ste. Genevieve county along with the other youth is what "sold" her on the idea of enrolling in the Mingo Job Corps program. We all wish Nikki the best of luck with her future endeavors.



**Education
is not the
filling of a
pail, but
the lighting
of a fire**

Stoddard

This month Stoddard County is pleased to report that Grant Daniels has made significant progress with his GED program. Grant was enrolled in the program February 2007. Upon enrollment Grant was given the TABE test in which his score in Language and Reading was between 2.0 and 3.9. He has continually studied with great dedication. Grant tested again on December fourth. His Language and Reading score increased to be between 6.0 and 8.9. Grant is also one point away from completing a full level in math. Grant's Case Manager, Tammy Hutchison spoke with Grant's AEL instructor who reported that she is very impressed with how hard Grant has worked and he should be able to complete his GED within the next six months. We are all very proud of Grant and wish him the best of luck!!!



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OF SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

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Interesting facts of the Tomb of
the
Unknown Soldier



- For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, they must be between 5'10 and 6'2 and their waist size cannot exceed 30"
- Guards must commit to two years of guard, live in the barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives, and cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives
- After two years the guard is given a wreath pin. Currently there are only 400 presently worn
- The first six months of duty the guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in the cemetery. The guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred
- Every guard spends five hours per day getting their uniform ready
- The gloves they wear when guarding the tomb are wet, to ensure their grip on their gun
- The changing of the guard occurs every 30 minutes to one hour depending on the month of the year
- The guard takes 21 steps during his walk each way to allude to the 21 gun salute, which is the highest honor given to any military or foreign dignitary, he also pauses 21 seconds after his about face for the same reason
- The tomb has been guarded 365 days per year, 24 hours per day since 1937
- The remains of the the Vietnam Unknown were exhumed May 14, 1998. Based on DNA testing, scientist identified the remains as those of Air Force Lt. Michael Joseph Blassie, who was shot down near Air Loc, Vietnam in 1972. The soldiers family decided to remove him from the tomb and place him in his home town. Since then, it was decided that the crypt that contained his remains will remain vacant, forever.



Tomb of the Unknown
Soldier