



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Central Missouri

February 2010

Office: (573) 874-3677
www.bigsofcentralmo.org



Match of the Month



Erin Creamer loves being a Big Sister because “it’s very rewarding” and it gives her Little Sister, R-eionna (pronounced Arianna) who comes from a big family, a chance for some quality one-on-one time. “I just love picking her up every week,” says Erin, “she’s so excited!”

Erin and R-eionna do many different things such as watch movies, go to BBBS events and do activities to help R-eionna master the alphabet and learn numbers. They have been matched more than a year.

Erin decided to become a Big Sister after hearing a plea for mentors BBBS made to students in the School of Health Professions last year. She’s an Occupational Therapy major. Her roommate, Amanda Kamler, is also a Big Sister. Erin agrees the rewards from being a Big Sister are many, in addition she helps children in other ways including working as a volunteer at a special needs camp over the holidays.

The dedication of this MU sophomore from St. Louis is like all of our Big Brothers Big Sisters. You probably have a friend would love to be a “Big”, too. For more information call us at 874-3677 or visit our website, www.bigsofcentralmo.org.

Crime Prevention

Beginning in January Big Brothers Big Sisters will begin running a series of ads on KOMU to highlight the value of mentoring and how it can help reduce juvenile crime in Columbia. Several “Bigs” and “Littles” participated in this project. Viewers are also directed to a special website about the issue — www.Comokids.org — and there will be a public forum later this year. Funds for this were provided by the City of Columbia under a communications grant BBBS applied for last fall.



Dannie Weddle, a member of the US Marine Corp and driving force behind Toys For Tots, was honored at the Christmas Party for many years of helping BBBS provide toys and gifts for our Littles.

Learn To Swim

You can help your Little learn how to swim. Accompany them to swimming lessons put on by Columbia Parks and Recreation Department. BBBS will pay the registration fee. Many classes are available. For questions or to register contact Ryan Olson at 874-3677 ext. 213 or email Ryan.Olson@bbbs.org.

Big Fish Contest

Chris Ashton and his Little, Montoi, were excited about the bicycle Montoi won by catching the biggest fish during the Big Fish Contest. Chris works for Aflac Insurance. He and Montoi have been matched almost a year.



Win A Wii

Alberto Barba helped his Little Brother, Isaiah, win the Wii contest by completing four outdoor projects. Alberto works for VA Mortgage Center. He and Isaiah have been matched for over a year.



Sweetooth Bakery



Sweetooth Bakery, owned by Renae Nicholes, was the site of the recent Holiday Cookie Baking Party. Littles learned the elements of baking from “scratch” and then enjoyed rolling out and decorating their own cookie creations.

Giving: Making Our Work with Children Possible

Making a gift to support matching at-risk children with positive adult role model mentors here in Central MO by BBBS is easy. Simply select a course of action:

- Write and send a check to BBBS of Central Missouri, 800 N. Providence Rd., Ste.110, Columbia, MO 65203.
- Visit our website and select "Donate." This will take you to a secure site at which you can make a contribution
- Sponsor or even host a BBBS event (call for various business plans available).
- Designate BBBS of Central Missouri in your estate plan. Similarly, ask others to make a memorial gift to us in your name.
- Transfer gifts of appreciated stock or real estate, using your own financial planner.
- Contribute to us in honor or memory of a loved one.

And did you know that we offer Youth Opportunities Program tax credits at the 50% level? That's how you get half of your gift returned to you. Call us with any questions. 573-874-3677, ext. 209.



A J Klein and Kent Becker present Georgalu Swoboda with a check from an Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity fundraiser.

Tax Deductions for Bigs

It's that time of year again to begin calculating and filing your federal income tax. As a "Big" you are entitled to the following tax deductions:

- You may deduct \$.14 cents per mile incurred in picking up and driving the Little around.
- You may also deduct the cost of meals, movie tickets, museum admissions, etc. which you spend for the Little. You cannot, however, deduct the costs you incur for your own meals, tickets, etc.

Business of the Month

Big Brothers Big Sisters and Andy's Frozen Custard recently thanked KOHL'S as the business of the month. KOHL'S staff volunteers several times a year at BBBS events and the corporation then matches the volunteer hours with a donation through the Kohl's Cares for Kids program. Pictured are Amy Nelson from Andy's, from KOHL'S Becca Cuscaden and Kristy Gillilan, Tracy Soucup, local coordinator of Kohl's Cares for Kids, and Damon Young, BBBS.



March 19 & 20, 2010



February Events for Bigs & Littles



February is Black History Month

BBBS Events to Remember

Eat at D. Rowe's on Tuesdays in February and they will donate 5% of the gross sales to Big Brothers Big Sisters

Help out at the Central Missouri Humane Society. Volunteer training for Bigs / Littles will be Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 6 - 8pm at the Humane Society on Big Bear Boulevard.

Volunteer at the Central Missouri Food Bank on Saturday, Feb. 20, from 1 - 3pm. RSVP to your match-support specialist by Thursday, Feb. 18.

Saturday Morning Science

Entertaining one hour science talks at 10:30am @ Monsanto Auditorium, corner of Rollins and College Ave. FREE, all ages welcome, no science background needed.

Free continental breakfast served before the talks at 9:30am.

Saturday, Feb. 13 — A Brief History of Energy
Saturday, Feb. 20 — Help! Where Am I?
Saturday, Feb. 27 — Do We Really Need to Sleep?

Mark Your Calendar

Columbia, Mexio, Moberly – Feb. 15
NO SCHOOL – President's Day

Columbia – Feb. 19
NO SCHOOL – Teacher's Work Day

Columbia – Feb. 26
NO SCHOOL – Parent Teacher Conferences

Mexico – Feb. 26
NO SCHOOL – Teacher's work day



Sports at Mizzou

Basketball (Men's) — Mizzou Arena
Wednesday, Feb. 17 — Tigers vs. Texas @ 8pm
Wednesday, Feb. 24 — Tigers vs. Colorado @ 6:30pm

Basketball (Women's) — Mizzou Arena
Saturday, Feb. 13 — Tigers vs. Nebraska @ 1pm
Tuesday, Feb. 23 — Tigers vs. Colorado @ 6:30pm

Gymnastics
Friday, Feb. 19 — Tigers vs. Oklahoma @ 6:30pm
Friday, Feb 26 — Tigers vs. Illinois State @ 6:30pm

Sports at Columbia College

Basketball (Men's) — Southwell Complex
Tuesday, Feb. 16 — Cougars vs. Hannibal-LaGrange College @ 7:30pm
Thursday, Feb. 25 — Cougars vs. Harris-Stowe Univ. @ 7:30pm

Basketball (Women's) — Southwell Complex
Saturday, Feb. 13 — Cougars vs. Stephens College @ 2pm
Tuesday, Feb. 16 — Cougars vs. Hannibal-LaGrange College @ 5:30pm
Thursday, Feb. 25 — Cougars vs. Harris-Stowe Univ. @ 5:30pm

Sports at Stephens College

Basketball (Women's) — Silverthorne Arena
Tuesday, Feb. 16 — Stephens vs. McKendree College @ 7pm
Saturday, Feb. 20 — Stephens vs. William Woods @ 2pm