



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Central Missouri

March 2009

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

Match of the Month



Big Sister Erin Daugherty and her Little Sister Travionna say they're both tom boys, so having fun outside comes easy!

Travionna, what is your favorite thing to do with your Big Sister, Erin?

That's easy! Everything!

What do you like best about Erin?

I like everything. She's fun! I like that she spends time with me, and I don't have to stay at home.

What has Erin taught you?

A lot!

Did you know Erin is a Champion Water Skier?

No comment...just a BIG Smile!

Erin What's your favorite activity with Travionna?

We're going to have a blast going outside when the weather warms up.

What has Travionna taught you?

She's taught me to how to "just hang out", prioritize my time, and also how to paint a dog bowl. wzBeing a Big Sister is a "neat" thing to do.

What's the best part about being Travionna's Big Sister?

I enjoy the conversations. She's like having a new friend.

Music - Fashion - Fun!

Benefit Musical Fashion Show
for Big Brothers and Big Sisters at
Hazel Kinder's Lighthouse Theater
Fashions by Calena's in Holts Summit
"The speciality store with a personal touch."
MUSIC, FASHION, FOOD AND FUN!
ALL THE INGREDIENTS FOR A GREAT NIGHT OUT!
for info call 573-896-5091 or 573-474-4040
Buy Tickets on line, www.lighthouseheater.com
Saturday, March 7 @ 7:30
Tickets \$10.00
Take I-70 to the Millersburg exit #137 turn South,
go left on Lindberg. We are next to Artichoke Annies
Use this invitation for a 20% discount on all regular priced items



Laugh! Have A Lot of Fun!!
Be A Part of Bowl For Kid's Sake
Presented by Mid City Lumber
Mark Your Calendar — March 13, 14, 15 — 2009
Bowl For Kid's Sake Town & Country Lanes in Columbia. You can still get a team together and have a great time, and raise funds for our mission of matching at-risk children with mentors. And your dollars stay right here.
Registration is as easy as visiting our website,
www.bigsofcentralmo.org.



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Bowl for Kids' Sake
Columbia: March 13 - 15
Moberly: April 17 & 19

Thank You!

Thanks to the MU Athletic Department for their continued support and recent donation of tickets to the Beauty & The Beast Wrestling / Gymnastics tournament.



BBBS Staff members Lisa Eimers, Megan Widmer, and Tina DeClue are all smiles accepting a donation from Amy Nelson and Andrew Luley of Andy's Frozen Custard. Andy's is an important partner with BBBS and we thank them for their continued support and generating much-needed awareness.

Being A "Big" Has No Age

Ever wonder the age group of others right here in Central Missouri who currently are "Bigs"?

10% are 16-18
41% are 19-21
38% are 21-35
6% are 36-50
5% are 50+ (and that includes an 85-year old!)

Pat yourselves on the back for not only thinking about being a Big Brother or Big Sister but for becoming one. National statistics Show 63% of Americans thought mentoring youth was personally important, but only 17% actually followed through and donated their time to become mentors. If you have a friend who's "been thinking" about becoming a Big, encourage them to Just Do It!

Ideas for Bigs

Often Big Brothers and Big Sisters are looking for activities to do with their Littles. Many websites are sources of low-cost, seasonal art activities. Many are downloadable and printable. Take a look:

<http://crafts.kaboose.com>
<http://www.allfreecrafts.com>
<http://www.craftideas.info>
<http://www.acrivityvillage.co.uk/>
<http://www.mycraftbook.com>
<http://familycrafts.about.com>

Making a Difference

I can't see that I am making any difference in my Little's life. He seems to have the same behavior and attitudes as when we first met.

The difference you make today may not be immediately apparent. That does not mean your efforts are wasted. Have patience. The payoff is great, as many a Big who has been there will tell you.

Talk with your Little about changes...changes you are making in your life, and what positive changes they'd like to make in theirs. Sixty-three percent of people are faithful to their own resolutions so why not give it a try with your Little Brother or Little Sister.

Here are some suggestions to help keep your resolutions:

- Think small (or at least doable). Smaller goals that lead to big changes have a greater chance for success.
- Talk to your Little about what it will take to achieve your goal. If the two of you choose a mutual goal – perhaps to exercise or to read more – you could choose active activities or reading together.
- Make a list of pros and cons of the resolution. Refer to it when you are together to help motivate the two of you to stick to your goals.
- Take tiny steps. Track your progress. Small, bite-sized goals are easier to digest. And don't forget to celebrate each milestone.

If you remain dedicated and continually set a positive example, rest assured your Little will enjoy the many benefits this relationship can bring. These include a more positive attitude toward school, enhanced relationships with family members and peers, and a greatly reduced likelihood of becoming involved with drugs or alcohol.

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. If you have registered for an event of ours in the last year on our website, your information has been stored securely and will “auto fill” if you so choose!
- 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. When you give, for example, \$5,000, you complete a form that we send to the Dept. of Economic Development. You then receive, in this example, \$2,500 of your gift back on your taxes. Plus, you still get to take the charitable tax deduction on your gift – in addition to this 50% refund. It’s true. Call us with any questions you may have about this: 573-874-3677, ext. 209.



Tax Deductions Available for Bigs

It’s that time of year again to begin calculating and filing your federal income tax. BBBSA is pleased to inform you that Bigs 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. However, you cannot deduct the costs you incur for your own meals, tickets, etc.

While BBBSA encourages quality time rather than money spent on the Little to be most important in the relationship, we trust that you will find the above information useful.

Staff News

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri welcomes new staff member Justin Light, a match support specialist with the School-Based Program; and recognizes Megan Widmer’s move from the Community-Based Program to School-Based. We also have new interns, Jade Depue, in Community-Based and Ashlee DeWitt in School-Based.

Help Prevent Child Abuse

You can help prevent child abuse by proudly displaying the official Children’s Trust Fund license plate on your vehicle. Ten thousand active CTF plates equates to \$250,000 annually that will be distributed back into local prevention programs throughout the state and support CTF grant activities. For more information about getting your personalized CTF plate call 573-751-5147, 1-888-826-KIDS (5437) or email ctf@oa.mo.gov



March Events for Bigs & Littles



Events at Daniel Boone Regional Library

Design a Bookmark Contests—During March

Design a bookmark for Daniel Boone Regional Library's upcoming Summer Reading program. The kids' theme is "Be Creative." Get an entry form online at www.dbrl.org Entry deadline is March 31. One entry per person.

TRYPs—Saturday—March 7—11am-noon, Program Room, Children's Area.

This month's theme: Trucks, Trains and Planes. At this free workshop, ages 12 and younger will participate in original plays, improvisation, sing-alongs, puppetry and poetry.

Reading to Rover—Saturday, March 7—2-4p.m.; Monday, March 9, 5:30-7:30p.m., Program Room, Children's Area.

This is a fun and unique way to help improve children's literacy skills. Your Little will read for 15 minutes to a dog from Ann Gafke's Teacher's Pet Therapy Dogs

NASA's Missions to the Solar System—Wed. March 11, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Program Room, Children's Area

NASA education specialist Patrick Daugherty will give an audio/visual presentation and kids will get to create their own take-home solar system models. Cosponsored with the Missouri NASA Education Program. Ages 6-10 with adult. **Registration begins Tuesday, March 3.**

Night of the Dragons—Tuesday, March 17—6:30-7:30p.m., Program Room, Children's Area

An evening of dragon adventures awaits children ages 7-11. Share stories, play games and create dragons to take home. **Registration Now.**

Eric Vaughn's Magic & Illusion Spectacular—Tuesday, March 24—11a.m., 2p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Program Room, Children's Area
Magic and mystery are coming to Columbia. Be totally mystified as Eric Vaughn and his wife Kelly present their award-winning magic routines, illusions and audience-participation tricks. Squeaky "The Amazing Chihuahua" will perform outlandish antics you have to see to believe. **Registration begins Tuesday, March 17.**

School Dates to Remember

Columbia

03/23 to 03/27 — Spring Break

Moberly

03/20 to 03/23 — Spring Break

Mexico

03/13 to 03/16 — Spring Break

Sports at Columbia College

Softball

Wed., Mar. 18 — Cougars vs. Stephens College @ 2pm

Tuesday, Mar. 31 — Cougars vs. Hannical-LaGrange @ 2pm

MU Spring Break - March 23 - 27

Events Around Columbia

MUSICAL FASHION SHOW — A benefit for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri

Hazel Kinder's Lighthouse — Saturday, March 7, 7:30pm
Buy tickets online at www.lighthouse theater.com

COLUMBIA KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW — SAT-SUN, MARCH 7-8
Boone County Fairgrounds

BOWL FOR KID'S SAKE — March 13-15 @ AMF Town & County Lanes. Please register now at www.bbbsofcentralmo.org.
All proceeds benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri

MU BIG OUTDOORS — Sunday, March 29 — 2pm American Legion Park

Free Movies at Forum 8 Theater in Columbia

For All Ages — Movies @ 10 & 11 a.m. Saturday & Sunday

March 7 & 8 — Space Chimps

March 13 & 14 — Madagascar 2

March 21 & 22 — Igor

March 28 & 29 — Kung Fu Panda

April 4 & 5 — Horton Hears a Who

Sports at Mizzou

Baseball — Taylor Stadium

Wednesday, Mar. 4 — MU vs. Western Illinois @ 6:30pm

Friday, Mar. 6 — MU vs. Ball State @ 6:30pm

Saturday, Mar. 7 — MU vs. Ball State @ 2pm & 5pm

Sunday, Mar. 8 — MU vs. Ball State @ 1pm

Tuesday, Mar. 10 — MU vs. Western Illinois @ 6:30pm

Wednesday, Mar. 18 — MU vs. SIU-Edwardsville @ 6:30pm

Friday, Mar. 20 — MU vs. Texas A&M @ 2pm

Saturday, Mar. 21 — MU vs. Texas A&M @ 1pm

Sunday, Mar. 22 — MU vs. Texas A&M @ 6:30pm

Tuesday, Mar. 24 — MU vs. UI-Chicago @ 6:30pm

Wednesday, Mar. 25 — MU vs. UI-Chicago @ 4pm

Softball

Wednesday, Mar. 4 — MU vs. SIU Edwardsville @ 2pm & 4pm

Wednesday, Mar. 11 — MU vs. Northern Iowa @ 3pm

Wednesday, Mar. 18 — MU vs. Western Illinois @ 2pm & 4pm

Saturday, Mar. 21 — MU vs. Texas @ 2pm

Sunday, Mar. 22 — MU vs. Texas @ 12pm

Coming in April

Black & Gold Game — April 18

Cooking With Bigs

Mentor/Mentee Luncheon