Upgrades to the Moberly campus

By George Thornburg
Express Staff

MACC’s main campus might seem overly quiet since the concrete saws, jackhammers, skid loaders, and gravel trucks took their leave. What they left behind is quite remarkable for the two months they were here.

The new wheelchair accessible ramp on the west side of the main building in Moberly is complete, along with a patio area near the cafeteria. Prior to this, the only wheelchair accessible entrance to the main building was through the theatre wing.

The $200,000 project was paid through the MACC’s general fund. MACC’s Eric Ross, plant operations coordinator, oversaw the project.

“When this school was built in the 1930’s, handicap accessibility was not an issue,” said Eric Ross.

This, of course, is a thing of the past, and the improvements are one small step toward equal rights and opportunities.

The project stayed close to the construction timeline scheduled to begin July 1 and end by September 30.

Dan Sannings, Verslues Construction superintendent of Jefferson City said, “Everything for the most part stayed on track. The toughest thing was getting the ramp at an ADA approved grade.”

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, or ADA, is a civil rights law that was passed that protects Americans with disabilities against discrimination. The ramp falls under Title III, Public Accommodations that has specific measurements that must be followed to install the ramp.

The patio area consists of four picnic tables, which seat between 16 to 20 people and a door, which leads directly into the cafeteria. The patio brings a nice escape for students from the long hours inside the classroom.

Other upgrades included stamped and stained concrete walls and additional foliage to the area. It will be hard to remember the parking area that existed previously.
Online Tutoring

By Nathan Smith
Express Staff

It’s every student’s goal to raise his or her grade or to maintain a high grade in a class. To do this, many students turn to tutors when help is needed. Often though, students busy with class and jobs find it difficult to match that schedule up with a tutor; this is where an online tutor helps many students.

Online tutoring gives students the freedom to access tutors wherever they are. Students who are not on the main campus but have access to a computer and the internet can benefit by have greater access to tutors on the Moberly campus.

A schedule for online tutors is listed on the MACC homepage under services - virtual tutor room.

Hannibal director, Wendy Johnson, said, “This page is generalized. If you would like to see about setting up a more specific time with a tutor, a student only needs to contact Ashley Stamp at the Moberly campus Learning Center.”

The phone number for the Learning Center is 800-622-2070 extension 11310.

Students who are interested in becoming a tutor either online or on campus should talk to their campus director and fill out a work study form. An advisor meets with the individuals who apply to discuss the qualifications to tutor.
Sometimes change is needed

By Kaylee Spotswood
Express Staff

As of fall of 2011, there have been four major changes that have given students more boundaries for the A+ scholarship.

The A+ scholarship is a program that helps students achieve their goal of going to college. The requirements a student must complete in high school to receive an A+ scholarship are maintaining a 2.5 GPA, having at least 95% attendance, 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring, and being a U.S. citizen.

Last fall, two of the four changes in A+ were made. The first change was the full time student status requirement for an A+ student. The student must be enrolled and must attend the full time courses required for his or her degree. The full time status is determined by credit transferred and attended hours. The second change that occurred during this time was A+ only covers the cost of completed courses. For example, if a student were to take a class and decide to drop it in the middle of the semester, A+ won’t pay for that class.

“When an A+ student enrolled and then dropped, the state was paying for it. That was costing our state and our taxpayer’s money,” stated Amy Hager, director of Financial Aid.

The last two changes were created this past spring. The first change states, in this order, that a student is only eligible for 48 months (four years) after high school graduation, or if the student completes a maximum of 105% of the credit hours required for the program they’re in, or shows a receipt of an associate’s degree.

“That’s just to make sure students are buckling down completing degrees and using the A+ program for its intended purpose. Students were enrolling in multiple degrees to stretch out their eligibility because they couldn’t complete a degree, so they would change their degree. A+ was paying for more credit hours than they needed to,” said Hager.

A+ won’t pay for more than 105% of a student’s completed credit hours. For example, if the program a student is in requires 64 credit hours, the maximum amount of credit hours that student can take, that A+ will pay for, is 67 because that’s 105% of 64. After those credit hours, A+ will no longer fund any extra classes.

The fourth and final change that has taken place is that A+ students are now expected to meet the satisfactory academic policy (SAPPolicy), just like the students who receive financial and federal aid.

“The state required that A+ students maintain the college’s academic progress policy as well as maintain that 2.5 GPA” according to Hager.

According to the Dept. of Higher Education’s website, there will be changes made in 2013 as well. Graduates of 2013 and beyond must complete and pass an Algebra 1 End of Course exam to stay in the A+ program. Also, the 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring will now include job shadowing, and students may start to receive 50% off books.

According to Hager, “When the Department of Higher Education took the program over in August 2010, they were faced with our state’s economic climate; there’s limited funding, and there were more students becoming eligible for the A+ program. There had to be some tightening down of the funding and making sure that students were actually using that state funding for what it was intended to do, which was finance education degrees at community colleges.”

For more information about the current and upcoming changes in the A+ program, visit the Dept. of Higher Educ. website at www.dhe.mo.gov.

Freedom To Vote

By Katy Thompson
Express Staff

Americans place a high value on their freedom of choice. We relish making our own choices on which school to attend, what car to drive or what kind of phone to purchase. Yet, three out of four registered Missouri voters were complacent about who makes legislative decisions for them.

According to the Randolph County Clerk’s office website, that kind of turn-out is not unusual. In August, the issues before Missouri voters were a constitutional amendment and selection of party candidates running for our highest offices.

In today’s hectic lifestyle, many may not find the time to practice their civic duty but have opinions about the decisions made by our current leadership. If everyone with an opinion votes, we would see real democracy in action. Some may say they prefer to vote “only in the important elections.” What could be more important than how we conduct ourselves in our schools and who we choose to represent us?

The media blitz surrounding a candidate while running for office, the political red herrings dished out at debates, and the convolution of national issues may overwhelm the average voter. It is imperative that Americans discern the heart of the issues, educate themselves as to who best represents the ideals they hold dear and who will enact policies to improve the current situation.

Abraham Lincoln once said, “America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.” Today the most destructive act is one of apathy. Not voting is also making a choice, but a forfeit of your voice.

Citizens wishing to cast their opinions on Nov. 6 have until Oct. 10 to register to vote in this election. In Randolph County, you may register at several locations, including Little Dixie Regional Library, the City Clerk’s Office, the Division of Family Services, the License Bureau, the Randolph Co. Health Department, or on the Secretary of State’s website by using the link www.govotemissouri.com. Students should register using their current address while attending college, or they can still participate using an absentee ballot if registered with a different home address. See you at the polls.
Coming full circle

The Learning Center's new and old location

By Donna M. Monnig
Express Staff

Many MACC students were surprised when they returned this fall to discover that the Learning Center was gone. Their dismay was premature as many soon discovered that the Learning Center had merely been moved. MACC’s Kate Stamper Wilhite Library is both the new and old location of the Learning Center.

When it was first established in 1987, the Learning Center was housed in what is now the library computer room. In 1990 it was moved out of the library into room 235.

According to Learning Center Coordinator, Ashley Stamp, the reason for this most recent move was because, “We wanted to have a more open space that was more technologically savvy. Our other space was very outdated.”

With 15,000+ student visits [not individual students] per year, it is easy to see why a larger space was needed. The Learning Center, at MACC’s main campus, is an integrated study area with both Macintosh and Windows based computers. It employs professional and CRLA certified peer tutors to help students, free of charge, in a variety of subjects. Many of the Learning Center’s services are available to all of MACC’s campus’ through virtual tutoring and online resources. It’s easy to see why so many of MACC’s students use the Learning Center.

According to Stamp, the Learning Center was once again combined with the library. “We noticed the trend moving toward a resource center, where students have a one-stop-shop with similar services offered in one place.” Stamp added that the library was a natural fit.

The Learning Center’s previous location is being renovated to create space for two new classrooms. One is already in use.

There has been some confusion as to where the library’s computer access is now that the Learning Center has made use of the main room. Library services and computers are located in two separate rooms behind the reference desk.

Student Vince Smith said, “I think they should have a better sign showing where the actual library is. I didn’t know it [the computer room] was there until recently.”

The Learning Center’s move back into the library is permanent, bringing it full circle.

Ashley Stamp stated, “We’re excited to be able to provide students with the best resources for achieving their academic goals.”

MACC students work and study

By Mariah Maiden
Express Staff

According to the MACC web site, work study programs offer students an opportunity to become more organized and manage their time more efficiently.

Studies show that students who work an average of fifteen hours or more a week have higher grade point averages, graduate at a faster rate and are less likely to drop out (macc.edu). This program also offers a work reference on a student’s resume.

Students who are interested in the program may qualify by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), being enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours, be degree seeking at MACC, making satisfactory academic progress and completing a supplemental FWS application at the financial aid office.

The Financial Aid office reviews applications to determine a student’s eligibility and if approved, the student receives an award letter showing a work-study award of $1; this is not the amount of work study, but rather a code used by the financial aid office. The application is submitted to all departments with openings. Students may also checkmark departments on the application; these are given priority. Supervisors in each department are responsible for interviewing all potential applicants. It is important that students have their class schedule and any other pertinent information in order to prepare a work schedule.

Former MACC student, Catherine Carmean, took part in the work study program. Carmean worked as the student secretary at the Moberly campus; one of her responsibilities in the program was to do payroll, which is now a responsibility in her current position at the Holy Rosary church in Monroe City, Missouri.

Carmean stated, “I learned a lot while involved in the program and apply what I learned in the program to my current job.”

The program is like any other job. Before beginning work, all federal and state employment forms need to be completed. The supervisor works out any details necessary in order to create a work schedule that also works around the student’s school schedule. Students are paid for every hour worked. The rate of pay is Missouri’s minimum wage.

Pay dates are the 15th and 30th of every month, and students work between 5 and 19.75 hours per week each semester.

Jobs are posted on the bulletin board in the Financial Aid office. For more information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 660-263-4100 ext. 11298 or call 1-800-622-2070.

A work study application may be found at: http://www.macc.edu/index.php/types/college-workstudy
A Blessed Union of Souls

By Katy Thompson
Express Staff

Artifacts of matrimony are evidence of a life shared; the keepsakes that celebrate the union of two who join for their mutual benefit. Artifacts of Matrimony, the fall opening show at the Graphic Arts/Fine Arts Gallery, displays more than your typical union between man and woman. It is the union of a whole community of men and women as the first collaboration between the Fine Arts Program and the Moberly Area Community College Alumni Museum.

It offers a look into what Mary Weidner refers to in her Artist’s Statement as “life’s passages, its quandaries, and the repetitive patterns of behavior that link generations.”

Weidner, a professor of art at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburg, Pa. and a nationally recognized artist, was selected by the GAFA Gallery director Felicia Leach to display several of her individual paintings, multiple panel narratives, and mixed media pieces for the exhibit. Leach recognized that Weidner’s focus on domestic life with storylines of the family, her family ties to Missouri, and her Expressionistic style with bold use of color would complement another display that illuminated the historical connections of alumni in the community.

“We wanted to incorporate the history of the college with fine arts and give the community the opportunity to see a great artist we would not otherwise experience here in Moberly,” said Scott McGarvey, director of alumni services. McGarvey and Leach’s cooperative efforts have resulted in a show like no other exhibit offered by artist or the museum.

The ten dresses on display were graciously on loan from members of the MACC Alumni Association who answered the call for not only gowns, but also the accoutrements (accessories), and other wedding artifacts. The accompanying photos show each bride, from the glamorous satin of the 40s to the clean modern look of the new millennia, as nearly every decade was represented in over a 60-year span. The placards give the alum’s graduation year at MACC and the date of their blessed union.

Guests at the public reception held Sept. 7 enjoyed wedding punch served with snacks for dipping in the chocolate fountain, as well as wedding cake baked by Marilyn Black. Silk floral arrangements were donated by The Petal Pusher and Lynn’s Country Floral.

Students, alumni, faculty, staff, and art-loving residents of the community enjoyed the show, whether they came because they had heard stories of tracking down dresses and various alumni, to view the artwork, or simply for the chocolate fountain.

MACC student Suzanne Luntsford was struck by the unique presentation of the exhibit; her favorite piece was the painting Bath Time by Mary Weidner.

Lynn Walker, an MACC staff member who came to see the dresses and to look for the alumni she knows said, “This is a really great idea - a fun idea.”

Amy Renaud, art-lover at large, found the gown from 1966 to be her favorite and especially liked First Child of Weidner’s work. “It’s really hard to pick just one to say that’s my favorite,” Renaud mused. “I really like ‘Uncle Jim Had One Eye’ and can really relate to ‘The Nap’ since I used to nap with my dad like that… but overall I find First Child the strongest piece here. It just has so many emotions wrapped up in that experience.”

Such a response is exactly what Weidner was hoping to evoke as expressed in her artist statement: “As a visual artist, I employ the medium of paint to probe the uniquely personal and inherently universal experiences of familial life.”

Guests were cordially invited to share in the happiness of the MACC Alumni Museum and the Fine Arts Program, peruse the paintings, appreciate the classic fashion, sign the guestbook and celebrate with family this “blessed union of souls”.

Thank you to Mary Weidner of Carnegie Mellon University- Falecia Leach. Also a thank you to Jennifer Schulte, Amy Price of Maurices, and Stephens College for the use of all dress forms. “The College is very grateful to the alumni who entrusted us with their memories to share with the community.”-Scott McGarvey
Kirksville’s night life at a new level

By Michael Smith
Express Staff

In a small town like Kirksville, it can often be difficult to find a venue that supports the arts and a place to hold concerts or different events. The Aquadome, located on Main Street at the edge of the square, is just that place.

Local and regional bands hold live concerts, weekly potluck dinners, poetry readings, open mic nights, and the center can be rented out for other events such as parties and raves.

“The Aquadome is a great venue to hold any type of gathering; it is inexpensive to rent out and is a great place to raise money for a philanthropic cause through an event,” says Faith Martin who works for KTRM, Truman State’s University Radio, and who hosted an event at the Aquadome last spring to raise money for KTRM Kirksville.

Over the summer The Aquadome was renovated; new paint now lines the walls and floors. There is a full kitchen, and the upstairs is in the process of a renovation. The center has a large main room which can be used as a dance floor with room for a DJ booth. Another room that has a bar and is a place for a concert on a smaller size. The upstairs is a fairly large unfinished space with a different kind of vibe than the rest of the building.

“It is awesome to listen to bands perform upstairs; it gives a certain flavor you can’t really find anywhere else in a place like rural northern Missouri,” says Stack.

According to the Aquadome’s Facebook page, it continued page 8
Back to school:

Numbers of non-traditional students grow.

Editorial By Michelle Frueh
Express Staff

Have you ever asked yourself, is this where I wanted to be when I reached adulthood?

This question has probably crossed many minds. Why not go back to school? In this day and age there seems to be a lot of nontraditional students attending community colleges. Just look around. There are a few community colleges. Just seems to be a lot of nontraditional students.

In this day and age there are many students who have crossed many minds. "I wanted to be when I reached adulthood," one former student said. "I had been working for years and now I want to go back to school." This student is not alone. Many people have had the same thoughts. "It is the only one he has tried," said a former student of MACC. "And now he is living at home and doesn't have some of the responsibilities that Johnson does." When Johnson was at MACC and also has a full time job. The difference is she is still living at home and doesn't have some of the responsibilities that Johnson does. She doesn't have to worry about a sick child or how the bills are going to get paid. Tara Craig is a full time student at MACC and also has a full time job. The difference is she is still living at home and doesn't have some of the responsibilities that Johnson does. She doesn't have to worry about a sick child or how the bills are going to get paid. Tara Craig is a full time student at MACC and also has a full time job. The difference is she is still living at home and doesn't have some of the responsibilities that Johnson does. She doesn't have to worry about a sick child or how the bills are going to get paid. Tara said the hardest thing about going to college was "going to school and working and not having the time to spend with her friends, and while they are all going out having fun, a lot of times I'm stuck at home doing homework."

Craig said that after she graduates from MACC with an AA she will be transferring to a different college but not sure which one or what she wants to go to or what she will be doing.

It seems that everyone student has struggles in some areas, but the differences in their views on college life are totally different. Some worry about not having time to spend with their friends while others worry about paying bills and family. There seems to be difficulties on both ends of the spectrum, not to say that one is harder than the other. As for Johnson and Craig, they both want the same outcome from all the time and hard work they have invested in their education--a chance to work, make a good living in this competitive job market, and a balance between family and life.

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Greyhounds and Lady Greyhounds scrimmage

The Moberly Greyhounds and Lady Greyhounds showcased their talents in a scrimmage on Sept. 25 at Johns-Fitzsimmons Arena. Each team played 20 minutes with clock running in front of a large audience of Hounds fans.

The annual Booster Club picnic followed the exhibition scrimmage. The 2012-13 Greyhounds are led by head coach Pat Smith. Smith coached the Greyhounds from 2001-2004 and led the teams to two national tournament appearances. He coached at Trinity Valley Community College in Athens, TX from 2006 until returning to Moberly in 2012.

Assistant coaches for the Greyhounds are Andre Bell and Eric McCrary. Bell played under Coach Pat Smith at Bemidji State University and also served as Asst. Coach at Trinity Valley Community College.

McCrary played at Mineral Area Community College and Southwestern IL Jr. College and SMSU. He recently served as an assistant coach at Mineral Area Community College.

The Greyhounds will begin the basketball season on Sat. Oct 6 at the St. Louis Community College Jamboree. New recruits fill the roster. Two returning Greyhounds are TJ White and Michael Luscombe.

The Lady Greyhounds, with 2nd year head coach, Chad Killinger, will begin their season on Sun. Oct. 7 in the Heartland Jamboree in Overland Park, KS. The Lady Hounds overall record 17-14 and 6-6 in Region play last year was a 10-win improvement over the previous season. Alex Wiggs, Asst. Coach, returns as assistant coach for the Lady Hounds. He has been an assistant coach at Moberly for three years. The Lady Hounds are also made up new faces. Returning are sophomres Shanavian Holden and Morgan Vetter.

The Greyhounds, Lady Greyhounds, and MACC cheerleaders also participated in Moberly’s Homecoming parade in September.

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<td><strong>Men's</strong></td>
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<td>10/6 St L CC Jamboree at St Louis TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/14 Ballstars Jamboree @ Warrensburg TBA</td>
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<td>10/24 Columbia College @Home 7 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Women's</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/7 Heartland Jamboree @ Overland Park TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/21 SWIC Jamboree at Belleville IL TBA</td>
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<td>10/25 Missouri-StL @ StL 6 p.m.</td>
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Kirkville's Night Life continued from pg 7

aims at serving Kirkville as a center for music, art exhibitions, social activism and workshops. It is run by members of the community intent on encouraging free-thinking. It is a non-profit, hate-free, arts, music and community venue in Kirkville.

The next time you and your friends find nothing to do on a Friday night, definitely try out The Aquadome. It is usually free or very inexpensive and it’s a great place to have fun and meet new people! It is an up and coming gem in Kirkville!