

My Life

By Jasmone Ward

My name is Jasmone Ward. I am eighteen years old. I'm the second oldest on my Mom's side. I'm dark skinned, thin, and I have brown eyes. I'm a funny person because I like to make people laugh. I'm a helpful person because I help people who need it. Last, I'm a neat person because I keep my room clean. In summary, my motivation in life is to graduate from high school and go to college.

SIUE East St. Louis Charter School
601 James R. Thompson Boulevard
East St. Louis, IL 62201-1129



INSIDE VIEW

THE SIUE EAST SAINT LOUIS CHARTER SCHOOL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2005

SIUE East St. Louis Center for
the Performing Arts
&
SIUE East St. Louis Charter School

Present

A Colored Funeral

Written and Directed by Gregory Carr



May 20, 2005
7:00 P.M.

At the
E. St. Louis Higher Education Campus
601 James R. Thompson Boulevard
Building D, Multipurpose Theater

Cost: \$10 for Adults
\$5 for Students & Seniors 55 and
older

Tickets can be purchased at the
East St. Louis Higher Education Campus,
Building A, Suite 1055 or call
LaKisha Perkins-Mosley at (618)482-6908
for more information.

Sponsored in part by a grant from
The Illinois Arts Council.

Charter School Student Salutes His Father at “Donuts for Dads” Event

Some may agree that oftentimes dads are labeled as being absent fathers, dead beat dads, or even missing in action. Well, recently, at the “Donuts for Dads” event, Charter School student, DeMario Brown, made a statement, a positive statement about his dad...a father who is present and accounted for. Demario read to his father a piece that he wrote in his Language Arts class explaining how important his father is to him. Following is DeMario's writing.

A Writing
By DeMario Brown

What my father means to me is a man who has always been there for me, a man who put clothes on my back and food on the table, a man who got me the things I needed. My father is the one who reared me to grow up to be a good man in life. He is the one who influenced me to stay off the street and to stay away from drugs and alcohol. My father taught me a lot of great things to do in life. He taught me how to ride a bike and how to tie my tennis shoes. He taught me to have good manners. He taught me to have good hygiene. He showed me how to play basketball, which I am really good at. He instructed me on how to drive a car and to be a gentleman and to never hit women. My father urged me to go to church and to worship God because God is the only one who was not going to ever leave or forsake me in life no

matter what. My father is like a friend to me. My father and I do almost everything together. We go to the movies and to the gym and lift weights and play basketball together. But one of the main things is I would like to be successful when I am an adult. I want to be a great father like my dad was to me while I was growing up.

Attendance is Important...

As summer approaches and the school year draws to a close, oftentimes students feel a need to take an early vacation. Students, please know that your attendance is critical until the last day of school; attendance is also part of your final grade.

Chasity Love Newspaper's Outstanding Senior

The Belleville News Democrat Newspaper presented its 17th Annual Academic for Excellence Award program on May 2, 2005 at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. The affair was a dessert reception. Chasity Love represented the Charter School and received a certificate as an Outstanding Senior.

Thanks to our Student Teachers

The Charter School wishes to thank all of the student teachers who worked diligently with their supervising teachers. Mr. Frederick Johnson, Jr., Elizabeth Snow, and Karla Koszykowski have completed their student teaching requirements. We wish them well as they continue to pursue their teaching careers.



Charter School Students Accepted at MEDPREP

The following students have been invited to attend MEDPREP at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The program's objective is to entice and encourage students of color to pursue a career in the medical field. Students must be completing their freshman year, have good grades, be interested in science, be teacher recommended, and be well behaved. Students are Deidre Powell, Shavon Rogers, Terrion Johnson, Crystal Stepney, Christina Morgan, Jayde Elliot, Retunda Jackson, Sarah Tucker, and Brittany Bean.



Charter School Student Accepted in ACES

Daryus Wilkes, Class of 2007, has been accepted to participate in the Research Apprentice Program I (RAP-I). This program is sponsored by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign—College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES). RAP-I is an intensive three-week exploration and academic enrichment experience on the U. of I. Urbana-Champaign campus. The program focuses on math, science, communications, computers and technology skills, and career pathways related to the food, human and environmental science fields. Successful applicants had to rank in the top 33%, have a B average, be intellectually curious, cooperative, and self-motivated; and be interested in careers which require the application of math and science. Congratulations, Daryus!

dren for school.

There are a multitude of shows that prepare children for school. One show is Barney; it teaches children exercise by playing on obstacle courses. It also teaches arts and crafts by making pictures and coloring them. Another show is Dora the Explorer; it teaches children Spanish words and numbers like uno, dos, and tres. It also teaches computer skills by asking children to make choices using a mouse pointer. Between the Lions teaches reading by reading short stories and books. It also teaches pronunciation by pronouncing words so that children may understand them. Television teaches children a lot and can be informative at times.

Television informs people about a lot of things. Channel Eleven News talks about the weekly forecast and tells locals what happens locally. The Discovery Channel talks about plants and how to care for them. It also talks about animals and their living habits. The History Channel talks about important people and events in the past. Not only does TV inform it also entertains.

Television can be entertaining in lot of ways. ESPN is a channel that shows sports like football. It also shows basketball and how it is a team sport that requires cooperation with the next person. TRL is a show that presents music videos and teaches dance moves daily. HBO specializes in movies and boxing events.

In conclusion, television is not always bad. It does other things besides corrupt people's minds.

All About Me

By Shawn Morrison

My name is Shawn Morrison. I am seventeen years old. I am the third child on my mother's and father's side. I am a male; I have brown eyes and black hair.

I am 5'9", I weigh 175 pounds. I am a person who loves to help people. Whenever I see someone who needs help I help them. I am also an honest person. If I see someone drop something, I will tell them. In addition, I am a respectful person. I give respect to everyone I talk to. I never curse people out. In conclusion, my motivation is to finish high school and receive my diploma.

A Pretty Good Person

By Edwin Jones

My name is Edwin Marquis Jones. I am eighteen years old. I am the younger child. There are only my sister, Relexian, and me. I am tall, brown skinned, and have short black hair. I am an outgoing person because I always go places; I never stay at home. I am an outspoken person because I comment on everything even when it's none of my business. I am a giving person. I love to give money to people who need it. In conclusion, my motivation is money because if I focus on my education, I know my money will be my reward.

My Name is Aaron

By Aaron Donald

My name is Aaron Donald. I am twenty years of age. I am the oldest child on both my mom and dad's side. I have seven siblings. I am 5'8". I weigh 160 lbs. I am brown skinned. I have a low haircut, and big eye lashes. I am nice. I always ask if I can help someone out. I am honest. I always try to be truthful to my mom and friends. Moreover, I have self-control. I always manage my behavior in a positive way. In conclusion, my motivation is my father. He is a hard working father and a role model. I hope to be more like him in the future.

was still living at that residence. The lady did not have proof for her case. The man said that she was lying. Judge Judy could not award her any money. She told the lady that she was supposed to have evidence and a contract. She gave her good advice. Cops is another program that teaches people moral behavior. It makes the viewers aware of what not to do. During one show the police officer was trying to pull someone over, but it turned into a highway speed chase. The man was stopped after he ran into another vehicle. The man was only going to get a ticket, but his punishment was severe because of his actions. This shows viewers to do what is right. Cops helps individuals to know to abide by the law. A man was arrested for drinking and driving. He was breaking the law. He could have seriously harmed someone. The Maury Show is positive and it teaches people moral behavior. The Maury Show is about every day problems. For example, Maury has shows about people with birth defects facing society and those who have out of control teens. This show teaches individuals how to value life. For instance, Maury had a corrections officer to take the teenagers to jail. His reason for doing this is to help teens realize how life will be if they keep making wrong decisions. Being generous and giving is what television teaches the public.



Television teaches the public how to be giving and generous. The Oprah Winfrey Show is an example because she gives away cars and homes to people who have had financial problems. Home Delivery is another program that is giving because they build homes for people who have had a problem in their lives. One episode was about a fifteen year old girl who was single parent. She was rearing triplets. Home Delivery took her on a shop-

ping spree. They also redecorated the babies' room and gave her a year's supply of diapers. While You Were Out is a program that fixes things for people who never had the time to do it themselves. For example a man wanted to fix his children's playroom, but he did not have the time to do it because he worked a lot. While You Were Out came to his house and did it for him. They were very generous. Finally, television entertains the viewers.

The viewers are entertained by television. A show that entertains people is Fear Factor. This show is full of action and excitement because the contestants eat insects, bug and weird animal parts. They do dangerous stunts. It also keeps people wondering what is going to happen next. For example, something exciting would be happening, and the show would go to a commercial. This leaves the people anxious to know what is going to happen next. The Dave Chappell Show is a program that entertains people because he tells jokes. Dave Chappell does stand up comedy on his show. He jokes about issues pertaining to celebrities. The show is also funny because he does skits. For example, after he tells a joke, he shows a clip that he put together pertaining to his jokes. Cheaters is a program that entertains because people are caught cheating on their spouses which keeps the viewers in a curious and happy mood.

In conclusion, television can be positive in a lot of ways. It teaches moral behavior and generosity. It also entertains the viewers.

Three Reasons TV Is a Good Influence

By Tydon Woolens

Most people enjoy television. Television is a good influence. It prepares chil-

Charter School Student Received Citizenship Award

The East St. Louis Board of Elections recently presented its annual Citizenship Award to outstanding students. DeMario Brown, Class of 2005, was nominated by the Charter School to be the recipient.



Jamila Ajanaku – May 17
 Brian Riley – June 16
 Ledora Williams – August 6
 Doris Adams – August 12

Please note!!

Due to starting school a week late, the last day of school for Charter School students is Wednesday, June 8. Students will be dismissed at 11:00 am. on this day.

Charter School Graduation

Commencement exercises for the SIUE East St. Louis Charter School Class of 2005 will take place Wednesday, June 1, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. It will be held in the Multi-purpose Room of Building D, East St. Louis Higher Education Campus, 601 James R. Thompson Boulevard, East St. Louis, Illinois.



Recruitment Time

The SIUE East St. Louis Charter School is accepting applications for the 2005/2006 school year. Students must be between the ages of 14-19 and reside in the district 189 area.

Important Dates

May 17.....Senior Dinner Theatre
 May 18.....Faculty In-service
 Dismissal at 11:00a.m.
 May 19.....Malcolm X's Birthday
 No School
 May 20.....Charter School play
 A Colored Funeral
 Dismissal at 11:00a.m.
 June 1.....Graduation
 June 8.....Last day of School

Congratulations to our Seniors

On behalf of the SIUE East St. Louis Charter School staff, we commend you on your hard work that got you to this point. Graduation commemorates the close of another chapter in your book of life. However, as this one closes another one opens. We encourage you to give your very best, dare to be powerful, use your strength in service of your vision, and always remember it is not the load that you carry; it is how you carry the load...take time to turn obstacles into opportunities.

Following is a list of students in the Class of 2005 and where they will be heading after graduation.

DeMario A. Brown ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Brandonn K. Butchee ~ Workforce
Ramires J. Castillo ~ Southwestern Illinois College
George R. Dozier ~ Workforce
LaRhonda M. Duncan ~ Workforce
Keisha Marie Green ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Myiesha R. Holt ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Dominique L. Ingram ~ Workforce
Erica L. Johnson ~ Chicago State University
Jessica M. Johnson ~ Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Terrance A. Johnson ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Edwin M. Jones ~ Workforce
Shakauna G. Jones ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Christina A. Lewis ~ Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Chasity B. Love ~ Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Ashley S. Moore ~ Southwestern Illinois College



Carla T. L. Moore ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Shawn D. Morrison ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Kennard J. Perkins ~ Workforce
Temeka V. G. Rucker ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Christopher D. Rushing ~ Southwestern Illinois College
Jasmone R. Ward ~ Southwestern Illinois College

This issue of "Inside View" is devoted to student writings. Many students have written poems, short stories, and essays on a number of topics. Please take some time and read our student's work.

All About Me

By Ramires Castillo

My name is Ramires Castillo. I am seventeen. I am my dad's first child but my mother's second child. I am 5'6", weigh one hundred ninety pounds. I am also caramel skinned. I am shy. The proof is I don't talk a lot. I am respectful. The proof is I say no sir, yes sir. I am determined. The proof is I'm still living. In conclusion, my motivation is to stay alive for my grandmother and my family.

The Niagara Movement

By Chasity Love

The Niagara Movement was founded in 1905. The movement was under the leadership of Dr. William DuBois, the first African-American to earn a doctorate degree from Harvard.

Dubois and several other activists met at Niagara Falls on the Canadian side for a meeting. They had to meet on the Cana-

Problems Female Teenagers Face

By Catherine Jackson



Many teenagers endure problems. However, females encounter many more. After interviewing five teenage girls, they all agreed school to be a major issue in their lives.

A major issue in teenage females' lives is school. The girls stated that balancing school, work, and family is an almost unmanageable task. Teachers seem to expect too much and disregard that students have other classes. For example, girl number five acknowledged having three book reports, an essay, and two chapter outlines due on the same day. Girl number one stated having weekly exams in English, so other classes did not get much focus. Also, every student has four major classes plus electives and no time if they work or participate in sports. That is just one problem teenage girls face, but they could have more serious problems at home.

The more serious of a lady's problems could happen in their own homes with abusive parents or step parents. Two young ladies remembered being touched in very inappropriate ways as children. The first young lady interviewed was actually taken from her home because she was repeatedly sexually and physically abused by her stepfather. Teenage female number four even revealed that the physical abuse in her home became so unbearable she ran away and never plans to return. "The abuse was endless," said the fifth teenager, abusive stepfathers came and went after her father's death. If it was not verbal, it was physical; if not physical, it was sexual. A young lady's problems are endless, and sex is also a big conflict in a teenage girl's life.

Another big conflict in a teenager's life is sex. As young ladies, an encounter with sex seems inevitable. One young lady said she had a steady boyfriend since middle school, but when sex became an issue in high school, their relationship became a thing of the past. Also, the third lady interviewed stated having an intimate relationship with a man five years older than she. He attempted to rape her after she had told him no. More importantly, the first teenager interviewed had to have an abortion because her stepfather had raped her repeatedly.

In conclusion, female teenagers encounter many problems with school, parents, or sex. Consequently, all a young lady can do is try to be safe and seek guidance.

The Positive Influence of Television

By Asia Gray

Many people watch television. It can be positive in a lot of ways. One way television can be positive is because it teaches people moral behavior.

Moral behavior is one positive thing television teaches. Judge Judy is a positive program because she judges the case. One example is when a female defendant was involved in an altercation with a female plaintiff because her boyfriend had the plaintiff in her car. The defendant pulled the girl out of the car and started beating her. The lady who was getting beat did not know the man had a girlfriend. She thought that the car was his. Judge Judy told the defendant that she was wrong and that she should have questioned her boyfriend before putting someone in the hospital. This is how she judges her case. Judge Judy gives advice about how to handle situations more wisely. For example a couple was living together; when they broke up the woman had a high phone bill in her name. She said she moved out, and he agreed to pay all the bills because he

University, to experience how college life is. I also went go-cart racing and to a club called The Flamingo. I believe this was the best memory for me because I saw many of my relatives from different places.

My Best Memory

By Destiny Johnson

My best memory would have to be the first time that I had ever been to Chuck-E-Cheese. I was seven years old, and I was very excited. It was my birthday, and I couldn't wait to play. When we arrived, I remember taking off my shoes and putting them into the slot. There was a gigantic pit full of balls of every color. I must have played in the pit for hours. I was really happy because this was my day, and everyone's focus was on me. Tossing balls from left to right made me a little tired. I decided to take a pizza break. This place had the best pizza imaginable. I'll never forget this place. Out of all my memories this one is the best.

My Best Memory

By Asia Gray

My best memory is when I was nine. We went to camp with Girl Scouts for two weeks. We went to a lake resort. My cousins, mother, and a lot of my friends went with me. I participated in many events. I went horseback riding, fishing, and camping. We had so much food. I ate until I threw up. Later on in that week, I participated in a talent show. I won because I sang "beautiful," and I was brave. I was the youngest contestant. I can't believe I didn't cry. I took a lot of pictures there; now I look at them and wish I were there, still young, still nine, and still having fun. Being at the camp was a great experience, and this is why it is my best memory.

My Best Memory

By Victoria Ivy

My best memory was when I was about fourteen years old. It was the winter season. My family and I went on a vacation to Florida. My vacation was exciting because we had ridden on an airplane to get there. It also was exciting because



when I got there I expected it to be cold, but it was about ninety degrees. I was very relieved that it was warm outside because I wanted to join in outside activities. We went swimming and played volleyball all afternoon. After all the fun and games we went out to eat at a fancy restaurant. During the rest of my vacation we played games, went sightseeing, and went to fancy restaurants. Out of all my memories this was the best because I experienced a lot of things and had a lot of fun.

My Best Memory

By Tydon Woolens

When I was fifteen years old my best memory occurred, and it was Christmas Day. I opened all my presents and saved one for later. I didn't know what it was, but it was huge. After an hour of opening the little stuff and cleaning up the wrapping paper, I opened the big box. It was a motorized scooter. I drove it through the house. It had already gotten dark by the time I opened the present, so my mom told me not to go outside with it. I was disobedient and did it anyway. I didn't get caught, so I wasn't punished. I enjoyed that Christmas a lot.

dian side because no hotels in America would let them register because they were Black. The people who contributed to the Niagara Movement were not just Black people, but there were white people, also. They were meeting to establish a plan for different actions and demands. They wanted the United States to recognize the following issues in relationship to Black people: manhood suffrage, end to segregation and violence against Blacks, access to public accommodations, and equal economic and educational opportunities. In 1906, the Niagara Movement was incorporated into the District of Columbia. The movement lasted for only a few years; however, the impact was tremendously great. After the horrible race riot in Springfield, Illinois in 1906, several prestigious white activist joined some of the former Niagarites to form the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the NAACP, in 1909. They wanted to reach many of the goals the members of the Niagara Movement wanted to accomplish. Dr. William DuBois became the leading official of the new organization and the editor of their journal, *Crisis*.

This Niagara Movement made the way for past and future campaigns. If it had not been for this organization, then there may have not been a Civil Rights Movement or any other nonviolent protests. If our ancestors of this movement would not have worked so hard for equal civil rights, then today's Blacks probably would not have the right to vote or have the right to attend desegregated schools.

The Niagara Movement made Blacks everywhere stand up for their beliefs. This movement opened the eyes of people nationwide. The unequal treatment of Black people was not being recognized. Finally, laws were passed to address the inequality, and attitudes changed for the better.

Colors

By Melisa Naeger

*The sky is blue
The grass is green
But you and I
Are in between
We are white, black
And more*

*But there is
A bigger score
Colors don't matter
They just give us
Perception
To see things in
more
Than one way
So why do we
fight*



*Because we are of
Different colors
Inside we're just
Like each other
Does it matter that
Much that we judge each other
In one second
Can we get along well,
I guess it depends
On what kind of person
You want to be
I'm a mix of white
And tan
You may be
Brown or black
But that's just the
Color of our skin yet
We're still friends
No matter what
Others say*

My Grandmother

By Ramires Castillo

When I was born
I saw a special person
Even though you are gone in flesh
I still feel your presence
I wonder day and night
Will I ever see you again

My grandmother, you are my true motivation
 Why I am live today
 I know there is no one in this world
 Who protects me like you
 My grandmother, you are a truly wonderful person
 My grandmother, I honor you and love you ,my grandmother.

TO MY UNCLE

By Jasmone Ward

How do I say goodbye
 To an uncle I love so dear
 Why would I say goodbye
 When I know I want you here

I love you Uncle Shaun
 My words just can't explain
 It hurts so deep inside
 I just can't stop the pain

You were a wonderful man
 So happy, so kind, so free
 You were my Uncle Shaun
 An uncle just for me

I hope I see you someday
 But until then I will love you always.

GRANDMOTHER

By Shawn Morrison

YOU ALWAYS MAKE THE TIME
 TO LISTEN AND UNDERSTAND

AND WHEN I NEED A FRIEND
 YOU OFFER A HAND

AND I THANK YOU
 FOR YOUR LOVE AND SUPPORT
 YOU HELP GUIDE MY WAY

YOU ARE A BLESSING
 I GIVE THANKS FOR YOU EVERY DAY!

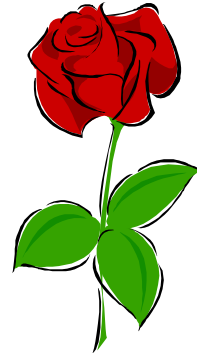
A POEM FOR MY MOMMA

By Keisha Green

I hold so dear my mother;
 She's very close to my heart
 She's all my pride and joy;
 We can never be apart.

She knows when I have problems;
 She knows when I am down.
 She's always there to perk me up;
 She takes away my frown.

I can never hurt her badly,
 And I know she'd never hurt me.
 I give her love the best I can,
 And she returns the same to me.



PROUD

By Christopher Rushing

I'm proud because I'm black.
 I'm handsome
 Because I'm a man.
 I have self-esteem
 Because I write.

I believe everything that I am—
 That's why I achieve at what I do best
 Writing, of course.

From Here to There

By Catherine Jackson

I've come a long way to get where I am
 Around the swings and through the playground
 It's been very hard yet I'm almost there
 I've followed the rules and always played fair
 My journey of a lifetime, from here to there that is
 It's one I won't soon forget enjoying my days at school (A.K.A. my wonder years)

Am I Ready?

By Catherine Jackson

More than twelve years of school behind me, when I'm glancing at my past
 To continue is what I hope for
 new teacher, new school, new class
 Graduating with honors has always been one of my dreams
 Making perfect A's or passing with B's or C's
 When leaving this high school college is where I shall go
 Am I Even Ready?
 Only time and grades shall show

Thinking

By Catherine Jackson

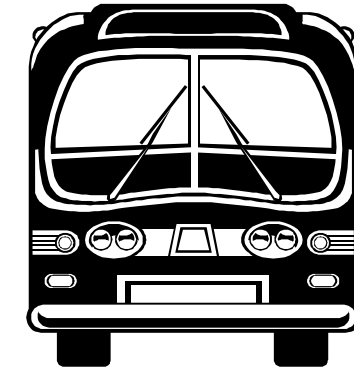
I'm living in today yet I think about tomorrow
 What days are here to come, what purpose should I follow
 Everyone has an opinion, to whom should I listen I do not know
 I'm learning to be a better person time will tell me while I grow
 I have many tasks to complete and getting better everyday
 Yet each day is a challenge and I anticipate someone getting in my way

Back of the Bus

By Chasity Love

Why do young black teens run to the back of the bus?
 Knowing all about the racial discrimination from the past
 And the struggle our ancestors had for us
 Young black teens are history ignorant and street smart
 Knowing more about 357's and weed
 Instead of equal rights and Rosa Parks
 Miss Parks felt it was time for a change
 So she said what she had to say and took

a stand
 That's how she changed history
 When she stood up to that cruel racist white man



Knowing all about the brutal fights and sit-ins they experienced for us
 Knowing that blacks were not allowed in the front
 But only in the back of the bus

Young black teens do not think about

the reasons

Why Rosa Parks did not give up her seat
 They do not understand her feet were tired
 And she was tired of blacks getting brutally beat

I admit she was not the only one to change the past

But she was one of the special few
 Who struggled and made a great effort
 For blacks to be free at last

So the next time you get on the bus,
 Don't sit in the back but in the front
 And think about all the people who contributed
 To Black History Month

My Best Memory

By Ashley Chevis

My best memory was when I went on my summer vacation. I was fifteen years old. I went to Columbus, Mississippi for the summer. I went to visit my family. While being with my family we talked and did lots of fun activities. I was very excited to see my family. I was especially delighted to see my grandparents because we are very close. While out of town I did very animated activities, such as going to my cousin's college, which is Jackson State