



College of Education

Announcements

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News & Events

On Sunday, Nov. 8, a team of people from across the University of Montevallo will participate in the *2009 Out of the Darkness Walk* at Heardmont Park. This 5K (3.2 mile) walk is meant to draw attention to the growing problem of suicide in our society and how it can be prevented. The team already has 33 members registered for the walk and has raised close to \$1,000 to help fund research and support for family members affected by suicide. Registration at the event starts at 2 p.m., and the walk starts at 3 p.m. To sign up and participate, visit www.outofthedarkness.org/ and type in the team name, "Illuminating Montevallo," in the Participant/Team Search box, or contact team captain **Megan Reichert** at mreicher@forum.montevallo.edu. Fund-raising is encouraged, but not required, so don't let that hold you back. I plan to participate and I would love to share a Sunday afternoon walk with you! I hope you will support the cause, as well as our Counseling faculty and students who are instrumental in organizing the UM team!

Congratulations to our **Shelby County School District partners!** On October 28 a district accreditation team from AdvancED declared the system a quality school system. AdvancED is an organization that awards accreditation to schools throughout the country. As part of the process, the accreditation team interviewed 491 board members, administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, community members and students! One middle school student said, "You know, our teachers don't do what's easy and best for them. They do what's best for us." How fortunate we are to be associated with a strong local school system!

Future Falcons Day was a huge success on Thursday, October 29! 103 eighth-graders from Montevallo Middle School and their teachers visited our campus for a day of concerts, scavenger hunts, classroom presentations, athletic games, and lunch in the cafeteria. Special thanks to **Mrs. Wanda Gothard, Dr. Hollie Cost**, UM faculty and staff members, and UM students who helped to make this event possible! Our Montevallo Connection with the community and our local schools is strong and growing because of your efforts.

Special thanks to **Dr. Glee Whitsett, Dr. Mike Nevett, Dr. Linda Cundiff**, and **Dr. Donna Burnett** who represented well the COE at the October Admissions Office Scholarship Reception for prospective students at the Wynfrey Hotel! We learned a secret about Linda and Donna....they are not "above" stealing student recruits from others! Ha! We also learned that Mike is a good salesman for elementary education as well as for kinesiology! Thanks to all for your efforts!

Dr. Jackie Nuby was on campus yesterday---walking! We were so proud to see her up and about only five weeks after her knee replacement surgery.

She is scheduled to have the other knee replaced on Monday, November 9, so your thoughts and prayers are still needed. If everything proceeds as planned, then Jackie will be back with us at the start of spring semester.

Retired professor, **Dr. Fran Andrews** will have major back surgery on November 5, 2009 at UAB. The surgeon is very positive about the outcome and indicated that he anticipated about a 90% improvement. The surgery is anticipated to take approximately 12 hours. Fran will be in ICU for several days, in the hospital about a week, and at least one or two weeks at Spain Park Rehab Center. Her Aunt Margaret will be staying here with her until she can drive again. Please keep Fran in your thoughts and prayers! It's going to be a challenging month for her.

We're so happy for **Michelle Mayfield** who completed her final medical treatment this past week! We love the new short hair-do, Michelle!

In the Spotlight

Did you know that **JiJi Lawley** recently implemented a social studies inquiry project with a group of 5th graders at Montevallo Elementary? The students researched information about community recycling programs, surveyed city residents, analyzed the data, and made a formal presentation to the City Council on October 26! The students' work was instrumental in the city's decision to donate \$500 in support of the school's recycling efforts. In addition, their data will be used to inform the City Council as they move forward with plans to establish city-wide recycling that will benefit the entire community. Bravo to JiJi for modeling and promoting civic-mindedness in young learners!

Did you know that **Leisa Creel** is taking advantage of our Live Classroom Observation grant by partnering with a teacher at Chelsea Park Elementary to watch her teach reading from a distance? Leisa's ED 410 (Teaching of Reading) students will be able to observe theory in action as they sit in their college classroom! Special thanks to Leisa, **Joe Walsh**, and our Chelsea Park partners for facilitating this distance technology project!

Thanks to **Dr. Don Ratchford** who will convene his ED 447 Instructional Technology class in our Digital Café for an Admissions Office photo opportunity on Tuesday, November 3! I understand that Don is also working to re-allocate some of our old computers to the City of Montevallo Senior Center so that his classes can work with the older adults in our community to develop technology skills. Thanks to Don for his efforts to enhance his course and our community!